

BEFORE THE SKAGIT COUNTY HEARING EXAMINER

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION

Applicants: Jeffrey and Diana Holmes

Address: 12267 Marine Drive
Anacortes, WA 98221

File No: Current Use Timber APP#04-2010

Request: To include approximately 15.2 acres in the Current Use Timber Program.

Location: 13776 Gibraltar Road

Parcel No: P20176

Public Hearing: After reviewing the report of the Assessor's Office, the Hearing Examiner conducted a public hearing on January 12, 2011.

Recommendation: Approval

FINDINGS

1. Jeffrey and Diana Holmes have filed an application for inclusion of approximately 15.2 acres in the Current Use Timber Program. They are the owners of the property.
2. The property is located at 13776 Gibraltar Road. It is within Tract 2 of Short Plat #28-86. The parcel number is P20176.
3. The property has been managed as forest land in the past. The applicants have owned it since 2007.
4. The stand of timber on the property consists of an uneven-aged mixture of native conifers and native hardwoods. Species include Bigleaf Maples, Douglas Fir, Western Red Cedar, Western Hemlock and Red Alder. The last harvest was on the western portion (about 2.5 acres) in 1995. This area was reforested naturally.
5. The intention of the owners is to retain the integrity of the property by maintaining the stand of trees, while providing wildlife habitat and watershed management. The object is to provide for future economic returns through good forest management.
6. A Timber Management Plan was prepared by David Anderson, Forestry Consultant. The plan appears to comply with RCW 84.34.020 and RCW 83.34.041.
7. The Staff Report and Exhibits submitted by the Assessor's Office are incorporated herein.
8. The hearing was held after due notice. There was no public testimony and there were no written comments.
9. The Examiner finds that the property meets the definition of the classification sought.
10. The Staff recommends approval. The Examiner concurs with Staff.

RECOMMENDATION

The Examiner recommends approval of the application, subject to the following condition:

At the time of harvesting, the applicants shall comply with the requirements of the Department of Natural Resource in regard to the harvesting of timber.



Wick Dufford, Hearing Examiner

Date: January 27, 2011

Copies transmitted to Applicants: January 27, 2011