

BEFORE THE SKAGIT COUNTY HEARING EXAMINER

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION

Applicants: GMN Investments, LLC
c/o Morris Nilson

Address: 23145 Gunderson Road
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

File No: C/UTRTMB#6-2008

Request: To transfer 14.80 acres into the Current Use Timber Program.

Location: East of Gunderson Road and west of East Fork of Nookachamps Creek, within a portion of E1/2 SW1/4 Sec. 4, T34N, R4E, W.M.

Assessor's No: Portion of P24660 and P24678

Public Hearing: After reviewing the report of the Assessor's Office, the Hearing Examiner conducted a public hearing on January 7, 2009.

Recommendation: Approval

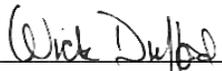
FINDINGS

1. GMN Investments, LLC (c/o Morris Nilson) has filed an application for the transfer of approximately 14.80 acres of forest land into the Current Use Timber Program. The LLC owns the property.
2. The property lies east of Gunderson Road and west of the East Fork of Nookachamps Creek within a portion of E1/2 SW1/4 Sec. 13, T34N, R4E., W.M. The forest land is comprised of portions of P24660 and 24678. The property address is 23183 Gunderson Road.
3. The property consists of a total of 18.93 acres, of which 1 acre is a homesite and shop area, 3.13 acres is a field, and 14.8 acres is the subject forest land.
4. The forested area is made up of one stand of timber dominated by Douglas Fir and Western Red Cedar, aged about 100 years. Some 50-year-old hardwoods are mixed in. The last known harvest was in 1905. The current stand is the result of natural reforestation.
5. The goal is to maintain the stand of trees for eventual harvest while providing wildlife habitat, watershed management and the opportunity for recreation.
6. A Timber Management Plan was prepared by David N. Anderson, Forestry Consultant. The plan appears to comply with RCW 84.34.020 and RCW 84.34.041.
7. The Staff Report and Exhibits submitted by the Assessor's Office are attached hereto and 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, 2009

Copies transmitted to Applicants: January _____, 2009