

BEFORE THE SKAGIT COUNTY HEARING EXAMINER

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION

Applicants: Michael and Terri Liberski

Address: 60789 State Route 20
Marblemount, WA 98267

File No: C/UTRTMB #5-2005

Request: To include approximately 19.48 acres in the Current Use Timber Program.

Location: Off of Highway 20 in the Marblemount area, within portions of Govt Lots 4 & 5, Sec 6, T35N, R11E, W.M.

Assessor's Account No: P101144

Public Hearing: After reviewing the report of the Assessor's Office, the Hearing Examiner conducted a public hearing on October 26, 2005.

Recommendation: Approval

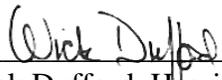
FINDINGS

1. Michael and Terri Liberski have filed an application to include approximately 19.48 acres to the Current Use Timber Program. They are the owners of the property.
2. The property is located off of Highway in the Marblemount area, within portions of Govt Lots 4 & 5, Sec. 6, T35N, R11E, W.M. The property is part of a 20 acre parcel from which a home site has been subtracted.
3. Four stands of timber on the site have been identified. Stand 1 (about 7 acres) consists of 40-50 year old Douglas fir, western hemlock and red alder. Stand 2 (about 2.5 acres) is eight year old red alder, cottonwood and Douglas fir. Stand 3 (9 acres) is planted in Douglas fir about 6 to 15 feet high but situated largely on rocky compacted river gravels making for slow growth. Stand four (1/3 acre) was harvested in the late 1990's and replanted to Douglas fir.
4. The applicants have submitted a Timber Management Plan prepared by a professional forester. The immediate goal is to maintain the forested acreage with some thinning for fire suppression purposes. The long term goal is to improve a mixed conifer/alder forest for eventual commercial harvest.
5. The Staff Report and Exhibits submitted by the Assessor's Office are attached hereto and incorporated herein.
6. The hearing was held after due notice. There was no public testimony. There were no written comments.
7. The Examiner finds that the property meets the definition of the classification sought. See RCW 84.34.020.
8. The Staff recommends, and the Examiner concurs with, the following condition:

At the time of harvesting, the applicant shall comply with all the requirements of the Department of Natural Resources in regard to harvesting of timber.

RECOMMENDATION

The Examiner recommends approval of the application, subject to the condition set forth in Finding 8 above.



Wick Dufford, Hearing Examiner

Date: January 5, 2006

Copy Transmitted to Applicant: January 5, 2006