

8809210045

OPEN SPACE TAXATION AGREEMENT

RCW 84.34

JERRY MAINTURFF

(TO BE USED FOR "OPEN SPACE" OR "TIMBER LAND" CLASSIFICATION ONLY)

This Agreement between Donald Van Polen  
2020 Bulson Rd. Mt. Vernon, WA 98273  
hereinafter called the "Owner", and Skagit County

hereinafter called the "Granting Authority".  
Whereas the owner of the following described real property having made application for classification of that property under the provisions of RCW 84.34:

Assessor's Parcel or Account Numbers: 163304-2-001-0004  
Legal Description of Classified Land: Sec 16 TWP 33 RGE 04 N 1/2 N 1/2 SW 1/4 NW 1/4

And whereas, both the owner and granting authority desire to limit the use of said property, recognizing that such land has substantial public value as open space and that the preservation of such land constitutes an important physical, social, esthetic, and economic asset to the public, and both parties agree that the classification of the property during the life of this Agreement shall be for:

OPEN SPACE LAND       TIMBER LAND

Now, therefore, the parties, in consideration of the mutual covenants and conditions set forth herein, do agree as follows:

1. During the term of this Agreement, the land shall only be used in accordance with the preservation of its classified use.
2. No structures shall be erected upon such land except those directly related to, and compatible with the classified use of the land.
3. This Agreement shall be effective commencing on the date the legislative body receives the signed Agreement from the property owner, and shall remain in effect for a period of at least ten (10) years.
4. This Agreement shall run with the land described herein and shall be binding upon the heirs, successors and assigns of the parties hereto.
5. Withdrawal: The land owner may withdraw from this Agreement if after a period of eight years the land owner makes a withdrawal request, which request is irrevocable, to the assessor. Two years from the date of that request the assessor shall withdraw the land from the classification, and the applicable taxes and interest shall be imposed as provided in RCW 84.34.070.
6. Breach: After land has been classified and as Agreement executed, any change of use of the land, except through compliance with items (5) or (7) of this Agreement, shall be considered a breach of this Agreement, and subject to applicable taxes, penalties and interest as provided in RCW 84.34.080 and 84.34.108.
7. A breach of Agreement shall not occur and the additional tax shall not be imposed if the removal of designation resulted solely from:
  - (a) Transfer to a government entity in exchange for other land located within the State of Washington;
  - (b) A taking through the exercise of the power of eminent domain, in anticipation of the exercise of such power;
  - (c) Sale or transfer of land within two years after the death of the owner of at least fifty percent interest in such land.
  - (d) A natural disaster such as a flood, windstorm, earthquake, or other such calamity rather than by virtue of the act of the landowner changing the use of such property.
  - (e) Official action by an agency of the State of Washington or by the county or city within which the land is located which disallows the present use of such land.
  - (f) Transfer to a church and such land would qualify for property tax exemption pursuant to RCW 84.36.020.
  - (g) Acquisition of property interests by State agencies or agencies or organizations qualified under RCW 84.34.210 and 84.04.130 (See RCW 84.34.108 (5g)).
8. The county assessor may require classified land owners to submit pertinent data regarding the use of the land, and such similar information pertinent to continued classification and appraisal of the land.

**OPEN SPACE LAND MEANS :**

- (a) Any land area so designated by an official comprehensive land use plan adopted by any city or county and zoned accordingly, or
- (b) Any land area, the preservation of which in its present use would (i) conserve and enhance natural or scenic resources, or (ii) protect streams or water supply, (iii) promote conservation of soils, wetlands, beaches or tidal marshes, or (iv) enhance the value to the public of abutting or neighboring parks, forests, wildlife preserves, nature reservations or sanctuaries or other open space, or (v) enhance recreation opportunities or (vi) preserve historic sites, or (vii) retain in its natural state tracts of land not less than five acres situated in an urban area and open to public use on such conditions as may be reasonably required by the legislative body granting the open space classification.

**TIMBER LAND MEANS:**

Land in any contiguous ownership of five or more acres which is devoted primarily to the growth and harvest of forest crops and which is not classified as reforestation land pursuant to Chapter 84.28 RCW, or as forest land under Chapter 84.33. Timber land means the land only.

**STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL TAX, INTEREST AND PENALTY DUE UPON REMOVAL FROM CLASSIFICATION UNDER RCW 84.34**

1. Upon removal, an additional tax shall be imposed which shall be due and payable to the county treasurer 30 days after removal or upon sale or transfer, unless the new owner has signed the Notice of Continuance. The additional tax shall be the sum of the following:
  - (a) The difference between the property tax paid as "Open Space Land" or "Timber Land" and the amount of property tax otherwise due and payable for the seven years last past had the land not been so classified; plus
  - (b) Interest upon the amounts of the difference (a), paid at the same statutory rate charged on the delinquent property taxes.
  - (c) A penalty of 20% shall be applied to the additional tax if the classified land is applied to some other use, except through compliance with the property owner's request for removal process, or except as a result of those conditions listed in (2) below.
2. The additional tax, interest and penalty specified in (1) above shall not be imposed if the removal resulted solely from:
  - (a) Transfer to a government entity in exchange for other land located within the State of Washington.
  - (b) A taking through the exercise of the power of eminent domain, or sale or transfer to an entity having the power of eminent domain in anticipation of the exercise of such power.
  - (c) Sale or transfer of land within two years after the death of the owner of at least a fifty percent interest in such land.
  - (d) A natural disaster such as a flood, windstorm, earthquake, or other such calamity rather than by virtue of the act of the landowner changing the use of such property.
  - (e) Official action by an agency of the State of Washington or by the county or city within which the land is located which disallows the present use of such land.
  - (f) Transfer to a church and such land would qualify for property tax exemption pursuant to RCW 84.36.020.
  - (g) Acquisition of property interests by State agencies or agencies or organizations qualified under RCW 84.34.210 and 84.34.130 (See RCW 84.34.108(5g)).

**AFFIRMATION**

As owner(s) of the land described in this application, I hereby indicate by my signature that I am aware of the potential tax liability involved when the land ceases to be classified under provisions of RCW 84.34. I also declare under the penalties for false swearing that this application and any accompanying documents have been examined by me and to the best of my knowledge it is a true, correct and complete statement.

Signatures of all owner(s) or contract purchaser(s)

*Donald P. Van Pale*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
*Frances Jane Pale*  
 \_\_\_\_\_

All owners and purchasers must sign.

**FOR LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY USE ONLY**

Date application received July 5, 1988 By Grace Roeder  
 Amount of fee collected \$ 30.00 Transmitted to \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR GRANTING AUTHORITY USE ONLY**

Date received August 3, 1988 By Roberte Schofield  
 Application approved  Approved in part \_\_\_\_\_ Denied \_\_\_\_\_ Owner notified of denial on \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date fee returned \_\_\_\_\_ Agreement executed on \_\_\_\_\_ Mailed on \_\_\_\_\_

8809210045

VOL 777 PAGE 624