

BEFORE THE SKAGIT COUNTY HEARING EXAMINER

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION

Applicant: Jerry Burns and Denise Sparrow

Address: 7759 Pinelli Road
Sedro Wooley, WA 98284

File No: Current Use Open Space Farm and Agriculture Conservation
Land #7-2018

Request: To transfer a 35.0 acres from Farm and Agriculture to
Current Use Open Space Farm and Agricultural Conservation

Location: Portion of NW1/4SE1/4 Sec.8, T35N, R7E, W.M..

Assessor's Nos: Portion of P42297

Public Hearing: After reviewing the report of the Assessor's Office, the Hearing
Examiner conducted a public hearing on June 27, 2018.

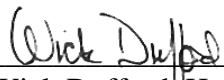
Recommendation: Approval

FINDINGS

1. Jerry Burns and Denise Sparrow request the transfer of property from Farm and Agriculture to Current Use Open Space Farm and Agricultural Conservation. The applicants are owners of the property.
2. The property is located in a portion of NW1/4SE1/4 Sec. 8, T35N, R7E, W.M.
3. The property was previously used for llamas, cattle and horses. More recently growing hay and Christmas trees have been tried
4. The applicants' efforts to grow Christmas trees have been frustrated by extensive damage from elk, but he hopes eventually to solve this problem and create a successful Christmas tree operation.
5. The land was previously classified under RCW 84.34.020(2) but no longer meets the requirement for gross commercial agricultural income. The request is to place 35 acres in conservation status, preserving the option to return the land to Farm and Agriculture at some future time.
6. The hearing was held after due notice. There was no public testimony and there were no written comments.
7. The Examiner finds that the property meets the definition of the classification sought.
8. The Staff recommends approval. The Examiner concurs with Staff.

RECOMMENDATION

The Examiner recommends approval of the application.



Wick Dufford, Hearing Examiner

Date: July 10, 2018

Copies transmitted to Applicant, Assessor's Office and County Commissioners:
July 10, 2018

Attachment: Staff Report and Exhibits