



CO00037379

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL  
Snohomish County, Washington

ORDINANCE NO. 09-132

RELATING TO TAXATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF OPEN SPACE,  
AGRICULTURAL, AND TIMBERLANDS; INCREASING APPLICATION FEES;  
AMENDING SCC 4.28.070; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, Chapters 84.34 RCW and 4.28 SCC provide for classification and assessment of certain lands to promote preservation of open space and the use and enjoyment of natural resources; and

WHEREAS, RCW 84.34.030 authorizes counties to impose reasonable processing fees for open space classifications and reclassifications; and

WHEREAS, charging a reasonable processing fee that supports the actual cost of processing applications for open space classifications and reclassifications is in the best interests of the County; and

WHEREAS, the processing fee imposed by this ordinance does not exceed the actual county processing costs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED:

Section 1. Snohomish County Code Section 4.28.070 last amended by Amended Ordinance No. 06-061 on August 1, 2007, is amended to read:

**4.28.070 Application standards.**

(1) Applicants for ~~((either))~~ open space-general classification or timberland classification, or any reclassification, shall submit the following to the assessor's office:

(a) A completed application form.

(b) A legal description of the subject property.

(c) A detailed site plan of the subject property at sufficient scale to show any existing or proposed development, roads, easements and trails. Critical areas described in chapter 30.62A SCC, including streams, wetlands, lakes, marine waters, and their associated buffers must also be shown together with any other salient features which may be appropriate to include depending on which criteria have been claimed by the applicant. If open space or timberland classification is being sought on a portion of the property, the site plan must clearly delineate (with specific dimensions) the portion of the property for which the classification is requested. (Developed portions of the property are generally not eligible for timberland classification; exceptions to this include roads and

1 trails.)

2 (d) A vicinity map.

3 (e) A non-refundable fee of (~~(\$100.00)~~) \$500.00.

4 (2) In addition to the requirements of subsection (1), applicants for open  
5 space-general classification shall also submit an "open space checklist" in which  
6 the applicant discloses the designation criteria he/she wishes to claim as being  
7 met on the subject property.

8 (3) In order to properly evaluate the degree to which an applicant for  
9 timberland classification is managing the timber resources on his property and to  
10 insure that the property is truly "primarily devoted to the growth and harvest of  
11 forest crops," it is deemed necessary that the following information be submitted  
12 to the assessor's office when application is made:


13 (a) Applications for timberland classification on parcels containing less  
14 than 20 contiguous acres under a single ownership or management shall be  
15 accompanied by a detailed forest management plan, prepared with the  
16 assistance of a professional forester whose signature and capacity is noted on  
17 the plan. This plan shall show how the subject property will be managed to  
18 provide for the long-term commercial productivity of the timber resource on the  
19 site and shall detail projected cutting and reforestation methods.

20 (b) Applications for timberland classification on parcels of 20 contiguous  
21 acres or more under single ownership or management shall include either a  
22 forest management plan, as detailed above, or a detailed statement by the owner  
23 which addresses the same issues.

24  
25 Section 2. **Effective date.** This ordinance shall take effect January 1, 2010.

26  
27 PASSED this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2009.

28  
29 SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL  
30 Snohomish County, Washington

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32 \_\_\_\_\_  
33 Chairperson

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35 ATTEST:

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37 \_\_\_\_\_  
38 Clerk of the Council, *asst.*

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40  APPROVED


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42  EMERGENCY

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ORDINANCE NO. 09-132  
RELATING TO TAXATION AND CLASSIFICATION  
OF OPEN SPACE, AGRICULTURAL, AND TIMBER-  
LANDS, INCREASING APPLICATION FEES, ETC. - 2

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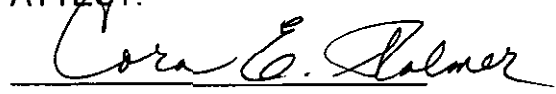
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DATE: 12/11/09

  
County Executive

AARON E. GORDON  
County Executive

ATTEST:

  
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Approved as to form only:

  
\_\_\_\_\_ Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

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