

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF KITTITAS
STATE OF WASHINGTON**

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-001

AN ORDINANCE TERMINATING THE KITTITAS COUNTY TIMBER LAND CLASSIFICATION UNDER CHAPTER 84.34 RCW AND MERGING IT WITH THE DESIGNATED FOREST LAND PROGRAM UNDER CHAPTER 84.33 RCW, AND AMENDING KITTITAS COUNTY CODE SECTION 4.08.020

Whereas: Senate Bill 6180, which was passed by the Washington State Legislature during the 2014 legislative session, and RCW 84.34.400 provide county legislative authorities with the option to merge its Timber Land classification (also known as Current Use Timber) under Chapter 84.34 RCW with its Designated Forest Land program under Chapter 84.33 RCW; and

Whereas: the Board of County Commissioners finds it is in the public interest to terminate Kittitas County's Timber Land classification under Chapter 84.34 RCW and merge it with its Designated Forest Land program under Chapter 84.33 RCW;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, the Kittitas County Timber Land classification under Chapter 84.34 RCW is hereby terminated.

BE IT ALSO ORDAINED, any land in Kittitas County classified as Timber Land under Chapter 84.34 RCW is now classified as Designated Forest Land under Chapter 84.33 RCW, and is no longer considered to be Timber Land for the purposes of Chapter 84.34 RCW as of January 1, 2015. The Kittitas County Assessor will notify, by certified mail, each owner of land classified as Timber Land under Chapter 84.34 RCW of this merger.

BE IT ALSO ORDAINED, the date any property was classified as Timber Land is considered to be the date the property was classified as Designated Forest Land.

BE IT ALSO ORDAINED, when Designated Forest Land is removed from designation, only compensating tax will be collected, in accordance with RCW 84.33.140(12), unless otherwise provided by law.

BE IT ALSO ORDAINED, all applications for Designated Forest Land and program administration will be processed by the Kittitas County Assessor's Office.

BE IT ALSO ORDAINED, Kittitas County Code Section 4.08.020 shall be amended to remove reference to the timber land current use classification and shall read (deletions to this text are shown by ~~strikeout~~) as follows:

4.08.020 Open space use and ~~timber land use~~ classification applications.

Commencing January 1, 1990, the county board of commissioners is hereby authorized and required to collect a nonrefundable processing fee of \$300.00 for each open space current use classification application ~~and for each timber land current use classification application~~, as contemplated by RCW 84.34.030 as amended.

BE IT ALSO ORDAINED, the Information Technology Department is charged with incorporating and updating the amendment authorized herein on the Kittitas County web page.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, the Prosecuting Attorney's Office is charged with correcting any scrivener's errors arising out of the amendment process. No further authorization will be needed from the Kittitas Board of County Commissioners for the Prosecuting Attorney's Office to effect correction of scrivener's errors relating to this Ordinance.

ADOPTED this 6th day of January 2015, at Ellensburg, Washington.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Gary Berndt, Chairman



Obie O'Brien, Vice-Chairman



Paul Jewell, Commissioner





Clerk of the Board