

**WWRP Definition of Farmland in the Farmland Preservation Category**  
**Adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board**  
**April 27, 2016**  
**Resolution 2016-14**

**PARCELS ELIGIBLE IN THE WWRP FARMLAND PRESERVATION CATEGORY**

This policy applies to each parcel included in a grant application to the WWRP Farmland Preservation category.

**1. State Law Defines “Farmland” in WWRP<sup>1</sup> the Same as “Farm and Agricultural Land” or “Farm and Agricultural Conservation Land” in the Open Space Tax Act.<sup>2</sup>**

The director will ensure each parcel protected with funds from the WWRP Farmland Preservation Account meets the definition of farm and agricultural land or farm and agricultural conservation land in the Open Space Tax Act.

**2. Applicants Must Provide Documentation that Parcels Meet Eligibility Requirements.**

Applicants must provide documentation that each parcel in a grant application is classified as farm and agricultural land or farm and agricultural conservation land in the Open Space Tax Act. Acceptable forms of documentation are a written document from the county assessor, a current property tax notice, or a recent title report that shows the classification as an encumbrance on the property. The director relies on documentation provided by the applicant to make a determination of eligibility.

If a parcel is not classified as farm and agricultural land or farm and agricultural conservation land, an applicant may seek an informal or preliminary determination from the county assessor that the parcel could be classified as farm and agricultural land or farm and agricultural conservation land in the Open Space Tax Act. Acceptable documentation are a letter from the county assessor or the county assessor’s approval of an application for farm and agricultural land or farm and agricultural conservation land classification.

The property owner is not required to participate in the Open Space Tax Act. However, meeting the definition of farm and agricultural land or farm and agricultural conservation land is required for the life of the conservation easement as stated in section 3 of this policy.

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<sup>1</sup> RCW 79A.15.010(4)

<sup>2</sup> RCW 84.34.020(2)

### **3. Eligibility is Determined at the Application Due Date.**

To be eligible for grant funding, the applicant must demonstrate that each parcel in the grant application meets the definition of farm and agricultural land or farm and agricultural conservation land in the Open Space Tax Act by the application due date. The director may extend the deadline up until the date of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board meeting when it approves the ranked list of projects. Parcels must continue to meet the definition of farm and agricultural land or farm and agricultural conservation land for the life of the conservation easement.