

# PUBLIC BENEFIT RATING SYSTEM



The goal of a successful PBRs should be to facilitate the maintenance, preservation, and conservation of community open space resources.

## SUMMARY

- Background
- Overview PBRS
- PBRS Application Process
- WA State Integrated Forest Management Plan
- Drainage Area
- Adjacent Properties
- Findings & Conclusions



## BACKGROUND

- PBRS update is a 2022 work plan priority
- Expansion of Rural Forest Lands / Woodlots
- Addition of Drainage Areas
- Addition of Adjacent Properties



## OVERVIEW OF PBRS



- 1970 State Open Space Taxation Act (RCW 84.34) authorizes counties to establish a Public Benefit Rating System
- Encourage the preservation and conservation of open spaces
- Provide a reduction in property taxes (20%-90%)

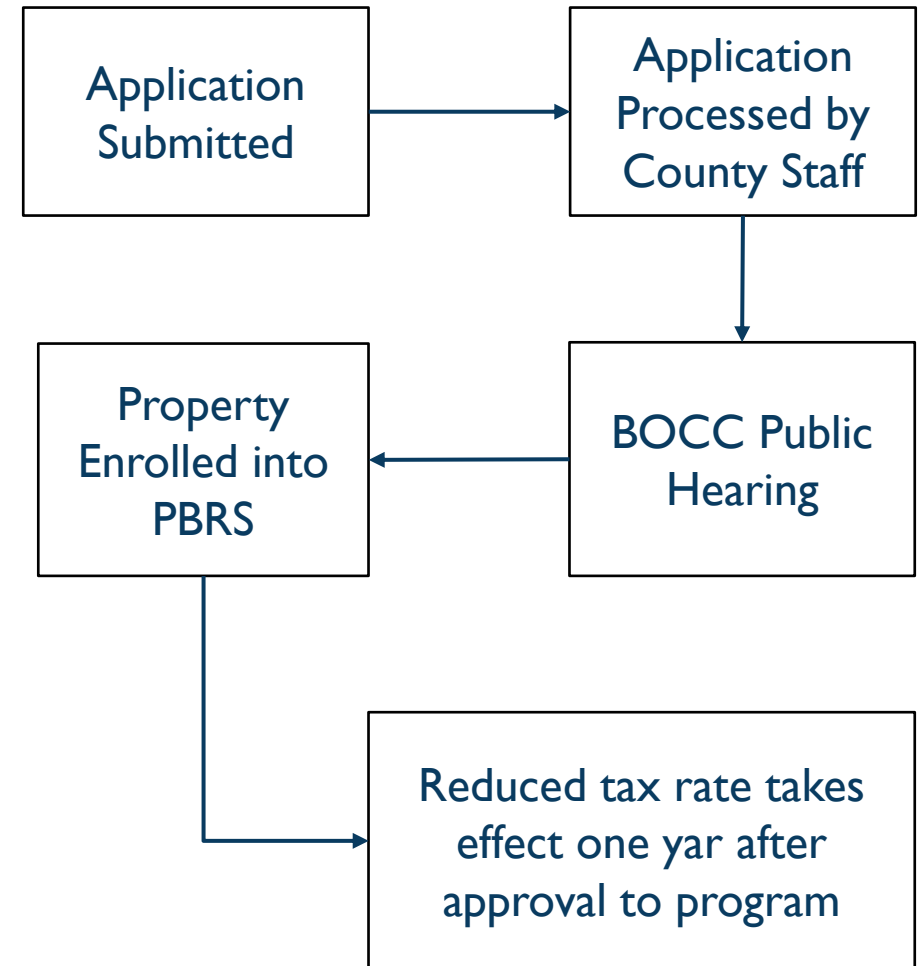


## PBRS APPLICATION

- Property must be:
  - Five acres in size
  - Contain one open space priority resource
- Type IV decision
- Annual notarized affidavit

### Island County PBRS

93 Parcels – 1,176 acres





## WA STATE INTEGRATED FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

- Rural Forest Lands/Woodlots
  - High Priority / 5 points
  - Greater than 2 acres
  - Less than 5 acres
  - Timber Management Plan





## WA STATE INTEGRATED FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

- Does not support all small forest landowners
- Integrated Forest Management
  - Timber Management Plan
  - Forest Stewardship Program
  - High Priority Resource – Five Points





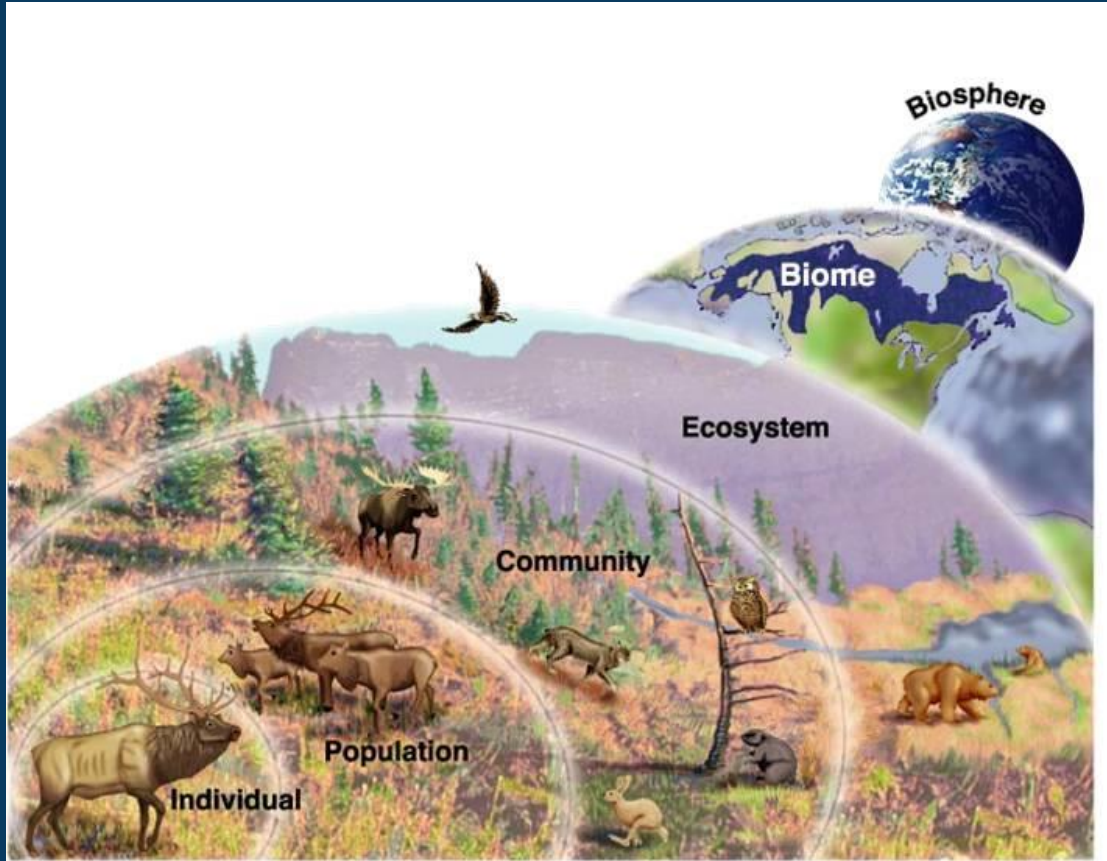
## DRAINAGE AREA

- Provides an additional option for those enrolled in PBRS who may be impacted by excessive stormwater
- Requires an approved Drainage Plan
- Bonus System – Five Points





## ADJACENT PROPERTIES



- Encourage the protection of larger, better-connected open spaces
  - Significant Fragmentation – Zero points
  - Slight Fragmentation – Three points
  - No fragmentation – Five points



## FINDINGS & CONCLUSIONS

- Replace the Rural Forest Lands/Woodlots category with Washington State Integrated Forest Management Plan
- Permit landowners to designate portions of their land as a drainage area
- Create a Properties Adjacent to a Public or Current Use Classified Land bonus system

