

Trust Land Transfer Program Parcel Application Cover Sheet

Date:

Name of parcel:

County/counties in which parcel is located:

Contact Information

Provide the contact information as indicated below. All fields are required unless otherwise indicated.

A receiving agency can also serve as an applicant, in which case the receiving agency primary contact name and applicant name would be the same. The primary contact person at the receiving agency does not need to be the same person who signs the receiving agency's letter of intent.

➤ Applicant

Name:

Professional affiliation (if any):

Job title (if any):

Mailing address*:

Best phone number to reach you:

Email address:

**Optional*

➤ Receiving Agency

Name of receiving agency:

Mailing address:

Primary contact name:

Job title:

Primary contact phone number:

Primary contact email address:

Trust Land Transfer Program Parcel Application

Fill out this application to nominate a parcel of state trust lands for the Trust Land Transfer (TLT) Program. All fields are required.

Submit the following with your application:

- A map of the proposed parcel. Include section boundary lines for geographic reference so that DNR can map the parcel in its GIS data system.
- A letter of intent from the receiving agency to accept and manage the parcel (required). The letter must be signed by someone at the receiving agency who has the authority to accept the transferred parcel.
- Letters of support from the community, receiving agency, advocacy groups, neighborhood associations, or others. Letters of support are optional but strongly recommended. If you need more time to obtain letters of support, they can be submitted separately from your application. Letters should be sent to dnrtltprogram@dnr.wa.gov no later than April 1, 2026.

Submit this application, including the cover sheet and attachments, to dnrtltprogram@dnr.wa.gov by 5 p.m. September 30, 2025. Make sure the application is signed by both the applicant and the primary contact at the receiving agency. The primary contact does not have to be the same person who signs the receiving agency letter of intent.

Please do not send attachments that are not specifically requested in this application, such as photos, fact sheets, press releases, or other materials. These additional attachments will not be reviewed or provided to the advisory committee for use in scoring. If your parcel is considered eligible for the TLT program, you will be asked to present to the advisory committee; you may use photos in your presentation.

For more information on the TLT program and instructions for filling out this application, visit www.dnr.wa.gov/managed-lands/land-transactions/trust-land-transfer.

Part A: Parcel, Applicant, and Receiving Agency Names

Date:

Name of parcel:

Applicant name:

Name of receiving agency:

Name of primary contact at receiving agency:

Part B: Parcel Information

Parcel Location and Zoning

If the entire parcel is in one county, fill out the top three lines only. If the parcel crosses county boundaries, provide information for the portion of the parcel that is located in each county.

County in which parcel is located:

Township and range:

Current zoning:

County in which parcel is located:

Township and range:

Current zoning:

County in which parcel is located:

Township and range:

Current zoning:

Estimated total number of acres in proposed parcel:

Parcels that are worth \$15 million or more, or have with 4,500 or more total acres, require a pre-application meeting with DNR and the receiving agency. This meeting must take place before July 1, 2025.

If your parcel meets this criteria, indicate the date on which the meeting occurred:

Parcel Description

Describe the topography. For example, is the parcel flat, hilly, or mountainous?

What is the dominant vegetation type (for example, forested, grassland, shrub-steppe)? If forested, is the entire parcel forested, or does the parcel have a mix of forest and open areas?

Are there barns, boat launches, public restrooms, or other facilities on the parcel? If yes, describe. If the parcel has been leased for agriculture or other uses, describe any improvements made by the lessee, if known.

Describe any unique physical features of the parcel, such as local landmarks or water bodies.

Part C: Prioritization Criteria

In the following section, applicants will address the prioritization criteria that the advisory committee will use to prioritize the parcels for transfer¹. Answer all questions succinctly. The advisory committee will use the answers you provide in this application to score your parcel. Refer to the [prioritization criteria summary](#) for information on how each criterion is scored.

DNR records and files are subject to the Public Records Act ([RCW 52.46](#)). In addition, DNR will post applicants for eligible parcels on its website. **Do not include any confidential or sensitive information in your application that cannot be made public.** For example, do not provide specific location information for rare or unique plants or specific descriptions and location information for archaeological sites, artifacts, or other sensitive cultural resources.

To protect personal contact information such as email addresses and phone numbers, the cover sheet on this application will be removed before the application is posted.

➤ ***Criteria One: Community Involvement and Support***

This criterion gauges the level of community involvement and support for the proposed transfer. This criterion does not address Tribal support. As noted above, Tribal support is assessed through a separate process.

When scoring your parcel for this criterion, in addition to the information in your application, the advisory committee also will consider letters of support from local citizens, local organizations, local elected officials, interest groups, volunteers, public agencies, and others. These letters are optional but strongly encouraged. You may provide these letters to DNR with your application, or send them to DNR separately from your application by April 1, 2026.

¹ Some deed restrictions will be placed upon the parcel when it is transferred. Restrictions may include mineral reservations (RCW 79.11.210), ability to purchase road access (RCW 79.36.370), specific easement reservations to protect remaining state trust lands, and/or restrictions on future, permitted uses of the property for the grantee (receiving agency), and their successors (in the event the parcel is conveyed to a new owner, or the receiving agency changes its name). Use restrictions will be based on the specific legislation that authorizes and funds the transfer. DNR may also consider a DNR proprietary use and management restriction on the parcel associated with DNR's *State Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan* (HCP). DNR will consult the intended TLT recipient on any proposed, proprietary HCP encumbrance language prior to the completion of the transfer.

Has the community been provided an opportunity to learn and share thoughts about the proposed transfer? If so, describe efforts made to engage with the community.

Describe the level of involvement and support from the community for the transfer, including local residents, local organizations, local elected officials, interest groups, volunteers, public agencies, and others.

Explain any known opposition to the transfer and any efforts to mitigate or address those concerns. Please explain why the transfer should move forward despite community opposition.

Describe any outreach efforts made specifically to overburdened communities, underserved populations, or vulnerable populations, and summarize any feedback received from these groups.

➤ **Criteria Two: Ecological Values**

Ecological values are the water, minerals, biota, and other factors that make up natural ecosystems and support native life forms. Examples of high ecological values include but are not limited to the following:

- Habitat for fish and wildlife species, including federal or state endangered, threatened, or sensitive species; and/or wide-ranging migratory species, especially winter range for these species.
- Opportunities to create larger blocks of high-quality habitat.
- Federal or state endangered, threatened, or sensitive plant species.
- Forests that meet the definition of old growth in DNR's *Policy for Sustainable Forests*
- Other ecological traits that make this parcel significant on a global, regional, state, ecosystem, or watershed level.

Describe the specific ecological values of the proposed transfer. Include the ecological and biological quality of wildlife habitat and the habitat's role in supporting these species. If discussing endangered, threatened, or sensitive plant species, do not provide specific location information.

Describe the proximity of this parcel to other conserved areas (public, private, or Tribal). Will this transfer create larger blocks of quality habitat?

Is the agency able to manage, monitor, and protect the ecological values of the parcel once it is transferred? How would the parcel fit within the agency's long-term management plans?

➤ **Criteria Three: Economic Values**

This criterion addresses the potential positive or negative economic effects of the proposed transfer on local economic industries and the extent of those effects. Examples of economic industries include but are not limited to the following:

- Local recreation
- Local tourism
- Forest products
- Non-forest products
- Local public services
- Shellfish
- Agriculture

In your answer, do not address present or future effects to local industries of ceasing DNR's trust management activities on the parcel, such as timber harvest or leases for agriculture, grazing, or other uses. If a parcel is nominated for this program, chances are that few, if any, of these activities are occurring there now, and the potential for these activities occurring in the future is low. DNR assesses this potential in detail when it conducts the Best Interests of the Trust analysis.

Instead, address the potential economic implications (positive or negative) of the parcel becoming a park, open space, green space, natural area, resource-based recreation area, or similar designation. For example, will the transfer:

- Attract more visitors to the area, who will spend money with local businesses?
- Provide additional protection of water resources, which will protect a local fish or shellfish industry?
- Affect agriculture, timber harvest, grazing, or other revenue-generating activities currently occurring on adjacent or nearby private properties?
- Affect future development plans in the local area?
- Affect the delivery of public services, such as water pipelines, communications towers, electrical transmission lines, or other infrastructure?

Describe the positive economic values of this transfer.

Describe the negative economic values of this transfer and any potential strategies to mitigate those effects.

➤ Criteria Four: Public Benefits

A public benefit is something that has a positive effect on the general public or one or more groups of people. Examples of public benefits include but are not limited to the following:

- Park, open space, nature preserve, or similar designation
- Opportunities for resource-based recreation that are scarce or unavailable in the local area
- ADA-accessible recreation opportunities
- Distinctive scenic or aesthetic features
- Documented archeological, non-tribal cultural, or historically significant sites (indicate if these features are present but do not describe them or indicate their location)
- Scientific research or outdoor education opportunities

Describe the current public benefits provided by the parcel, including any existing recreational uses.

Describe the public benefits that the transfer would create. For example, would the transfer of this parcel expand existing public recreational access to the parcel or provide new access?

Identify the communities that would be served by the parcel, including any overburdened community, underserved population, or vulnerable population that might receive direct public benefits from this transfer.

Describe how the proximity of the proposed transfer to these communities may increase the benefits you describe.

Are there any publicly reviewed or adopted plans that support the need for the public benefits identified? Provide a link to these plans if available.

➤ **Criteria Five: Tribal Outreach**

DNR will conduct Tribal outreach as part of the evaluation process, but proponents are encouraged to also do so as they build their applications. To score highest in this category, applicants should provide letters of support from Tribes along with their letters of community support. Those letters will be accepted until April 1, 2026.

Have you conducted outreach to any affected Tribes regarding your proposal? If so, what feedback, if any, have you received, and how have you implemented it into your application?

Part D: Receiving Agency

How will the receiving agency manage this parcel? Will the parcel be managed as a park, open space, green space, nature preserve, or similar designation? Include information on how you will preserve the parcel's ecological values and public benefits. If the parcel is forested, describe plans (if any) to maintain or improve forest health and reduce wildfire risk.

Is there a comprehensive or landscape management plan that would apply to this parcel once it is transferred? If yes, include a hyperlink to the plan, if available.

Has the acquisition of this parcel been identified in planning documents as a priority? If yes, briefly explain why.

How will the receiving agency fund the management of this parcel?

Part E: Summary Statement

In 300 words or fewer, summarize why this parcel is a good candidate for the TLT program.

Part F: Signatures

The information in this application is true to the best of my knowledge.

➤ *Applicant*

Signature

Date

Job Title (if any)

Professional affiliation (if any)

➤ *Receiving Agency*

If the receiving agency is acting as the applicant, check this box and leave the rest of this section blank.

I have reviewed this application and the information is true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature

Date

Job Title (if any)

Professional affiliation (if any)

Part G: Glossary

Old-growth forest: Per DNR's Policy for Sustainable Forests, forest stands of at least 5 acres that are in the most structurally complex stage of stand development, sometimes referred to as the fully functional stage of stand development, with a natural origin date prior to 1850, generally considered the start of European settlement in the Pacific Northwest. Examples of structural complexity include multiple canopy layers, snags, gaps in the forest canopy, and fallen trees on the forest floor.

Overburdened community: A geographic area where vulnerable populations face combined, multiple environmental harms and health impacts, and includes, but is not limited to, highly impacted communities as defined in RCW 19.405.020 (ESSSB 5141 Sec. 2 (11)). "Highly impacted community" means a community designated by the department of health based on cumulative impact analyses in RCW [19.405.140](#) or a community located in census tracts that are fully or partially on "Indian country" as defined in 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1151.

Underserved populations: Populations who face barriers in accessing victim services, and includes populations underserved because of geographic location or religion, underserved racial or ethnic populations, populations underserved because of special needs (such as language barriers, disabilities, alienage status, or age) and any other population determined to be underserved by the Attorney General or the Secretary of Health and Human Services, as appropriate ([34 USC § 12291\(a\)\(39\)](#)).

Vulnerable populations: Population groups that are more likely to be at higher risk for poor health outcomes in response to environmental harms (ESSSB 5141 Sec. 2 (14)). "Vulnerable populations" includes, but is not limited to: (i) Racial or ethnic minorities; 11 (ii) Low-income populations; 12 13 (iii) Populations disproportionately impacted by environmental harms; and 14 15 (iv) Populations of workers experiencing environmental harms.