



**TRUST LAND TRANSFER - PROVISIO
PHASE 2 WORK GROUP CHARTER
APPROVED 03/09/22**

Background

The overall purpose of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Trust Land Transfer (TLT) tool is to address two trust land management needs: to transfer out of economically under-performing state trust lands and acquire funds to purchase replacement lands with higher long-term income producing potential; and to conserve lands that have high ecological or social values.

As part of the 2021-23 Capital Budget (SHB 1080 Sec. 3333), the Washington State Legislature directed DNR to convene a work group of state trust land beneficiaries and stakeholders to develop recommendations for the way TLT proposals are developed and implemented. This work is being completed in two phases by two different work groups.

DNR convened the Phase 1 Work Group in July 2021. Over nine meetings, this Work Group collaborated on building a framework for revitalizing the TLT Tool. The framework and topics needing further discussion were summarized in the December 1 report to the Legislature, "Revitalizing the Trust Land Transfer Portfolio Management Tool." DNR provided this report to the Legislature on December 1, 2021.

DNR established the Phase 2 Work Group in January 2022, consistent with the legislative report. The goal of this phase is to complete all revitalization work on the TLT tool.

Purpose

The Phase 2 Work Group will work with DNR to a) address remaining topics in the TLT process described in Part 3 of DNR's 2021 TLT legislative report such as finalizing the best interests of the trust and prioritization criteria for nominated parcels; and b) identify legislative, policy, and/or procedural changes needed to complete DNR's revitalization of the TLT tool.

Phase 2 Work Group Member Commitments

- Members will be asked to develop an understanding of state trust lands, including DNR's fiduciary responsibilities, as well as other values and interests associated with state trust lands such as economic benefits, conservation, climate resilience and mitigation, recreation, working lands, and beneficiary interests. Members also will be asked to develop sufficient understanding of TLT, the Natural Areas Program, community forests, the Land Bank, issues surrounding county taxing districts, and other pertinent topics to discuss, make recommendations for, and vote on revitalization of the TLT tool.
- Members will be asked to work collaboratively with individuals of diverse interests to revitalize the TLT tool as described under "Project Authority" in this charter.
- Members will be asked to partner with DNR in communicating the new TLT tool to beneficiaries and stakeholders.
- Members will attend and actively participate in the first meeting of each month from January through May, and the first and second meeting in June. In the event a member cannot make one of these meetings, observers are allowed to attend the meeting and collect information for the work group member. Members are also strongly encouraged to attend the second meeting of the month as described under "Work Group Member Time Obligation/Estimate" in this charter. DNR will attempt to schedule all meetings at times work group members are available.
- Members will be asked to share their perspective on issues being considered by the Phase 2 Work Group, as well as to have conversations, or listening sessions, about this project with



people with different lived experiences and to bring back to the work group a collective voice about what they heard. Members will be asked to understand and solve for other interests in the group, in order to create solutions that address a diversity of perspectives.

- Members will be asked to be creative and forward thinking, while recognizing that the future is uncertain, which may result in new information and/or opportunities.
- Members agree to use a consensus-based, decision-making process.
- Members agree to work within this charter set forth by DNR and the ground rules agreed upon by the Phase 2 Work Group.

Work Group Member Time Obligation/Estimate

- Attend, at a minimum, the first meeting of each month from January through May and both the first and second meeting in June, for a total of seven meetings. Members are also strongly encouraged to attend the second meeting of the month in February through May. In general, DNR will introduce new topics in the first meeting of the month, and discuss the topics in more detail and request feedback on recommendations for those topics in the second meeting of the month. All meetings will vary in length from ~2-4 hours and will be conducted virtually. The Phase 2 Work Group will vote on recommendations at the first meeting of each month from March through May and both meetings in June. Estimated number of meetings to implement the pilot will be determined at the May and June meetings, when the Phase 2 Work Group discusses it in more detail.
- Meet and have conversations with others about this project outside of the Phase 2 Work Group meetings, and compile and relay information from these conversations to the Phase 2 Work Group.
- Review the materials provided prior to each meeting and be prepared to discuss that month's topic.

Project Authority

DNR is convening the Phase 2 Work Group for the specific purpose of working with DNR to a) address remaining topics in the TLT process described in DNR's 2021 TLT legislative report, such as finalizing the best interest of the trust and prioritization criteria for nominated parcels, and b) identify legislative, policy and/or procedural changes needed to complete DNR's revitalization of the TLT portfolio management tool.

The Phase 2 Work Group also will work with DNR to integrate these topics into a pilot project to implement the revitalized TLT tool. This pilot project will address a limited set of parcels. DNR will make eligibility determinations for these parcels and the Phase 2 Work Group will prioritize them according to criteria established by the Phase 2 Work Group. The prioritized list will be presented to the Board of Natural Resources and offered to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) in September (date to be determined by OFM) as part of a capital budget request for the 2023-25 biennium.

The Phase 2 Work Group will share lessons learned from the pilot process with DNR, and these lessons will be incorporated into the full implementation of the TLT tool for the 2025 legislative session.

Sideboards

Recommendations for the revitalized TLT tool must:

- Be consistent with all laws and policies, including those guiding DNR's responsibilities to trust lands and beneficiaries, except for any statutory changes proposed by this work group specific and limited to the TLT tool.
- Include and address diversity/equity/inclusion and environmental justice considerations.
- Be feasible to implement with existing agency resources, or include a proposal for additional, necessary resources.



- Be provided to DNR in a timely manner (agreed upon by the DNR and the Phase 2 Work Group) to be considered for a 2023 legislative request. If consensus is not reached by the Phase 2 Work Group in a timely fashion, both majority and minority recommendations will be submitted to DNR for consideration.

Ground Rules

- Respect each other's views and ideas despite differences.
- Be supportive rather than judgmental; address the process, not the individual.
- Be a team player, question and participate.
- Share your knowledge, experience, time, and talents.
- Keep to the current topic.
- Handle conflicts openly and productively.
- Extend general courtesies to the speaker.
- Request an example if a point is not clear.
- Silence equals support, so voice your concerns.
- Value the time of work group members and their contributions to this effort.