

Washington State Climate Commitment Act

**Application for Direct
Environmental Benefits Status &
Demonstration of No Significant
Adverse Environmental Impacts**

Form ECY 070-723



Publication Information

This document is available on the Department of Ecology's website at:
<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/ECY#####.html>

Contact Information

Air Quality Program

Ecology Headquarters
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Email: CCAOffsets@ecy.wa.gov
Website: <https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Contact-us>

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| Ecology Staff Use Only | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Date Application Received: | OPR Tracking Number: | Date Application Reviewed: |
| | | |

Section 1.0: OPO/APD Contact

The person completing this form should be an Offset Project Operator (OPO), Authorized Project Designee (APD), or holder of offset credits and may differ from the Compliance Instrument Tracking System Services (CITSS) account representative signing the form. This contact person is the person Ecology staff will contact with any questions regarding this application.

Contact Person:

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| _____ | _____ |
| Telephone Number: | Email Address: |
| _____ | _____ |

Section 2.0: Offset Project Information

Offset Project Name:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| _____ | _____ |
| OPR Project ID# (if known): | Ecology Project ID# (if applicable): |
| _____ | _____ |

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| _____ | _____ |
| Offset Project Operator (OPO): | Authorize Project Designee (APD): |
| _____ | _____ |

Compliance Offset Protocol:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock Projects | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Forest Projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Forest Projects | <input type="checkbox"/> Ozone Depleting Substances Projects |

Section 3.0: Environmental Benefits Determination

WAC 173-446-595(1) states that certain offset projects are presumed to provide direct environmental benefits in the state. If your offset project meets any of the following criteria, a response to Section 4.0 is NOT required.

Criteria for presumed direct environmental benefits determination (mark any that apply to this project):

- U.S. Forestry project that is located within the state of Washington
- Urban Forestry project that is located within the state of Washington
- Ozone Depleting Substances project that involves the destruction of pollutants sourced from Washington state
- Livestock project that is located within the state of Washington

Section 4.0: Environmental Benefits Documentation Summary

Summarize the documentation you are providing to support this application for determining that this offset project provides Direct Environmental Benefits to the state of Washington, including a list of all supporting data, information, and reports. Specify whether you are relying on WAC 173-446-595 (2) (a)(i), -595(2)(a)(ii), or both for this application. Attach all supporting documentation to this form.

Section 5.0: Demonstration of No Significant Adverse Environmental Impacts

Pursuant to WAC 173-446-500(1)(f) and -500(2), all Ecology offset credits must be generated from offset projects that will not produce significant adverse environmental impacts after mitigation. Please attach an explanation of how your offset project will not create any significant adverse environmental impacts.

If your offset project was subject to review under the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), please provide all SEPA documentation related to your project. If your offset project was not subject to SEPA, please identify any adverse environmental impacts associated with your project and either explain why the impacts are not significant or describe all mitigation requirements that will reduce the adverse impacts to the point that they are not significant.

Below is a list of the types of adverse impacts we have identified as possible causes of concern for the types of offset projects that can be implemented under the offset protocols Ecology has adopted. The questions embedded in the list are intended to assist you in evaluating whether particular adverse impacts may be significant and whether they can be mitigated. Please use this list to inform your analysis. If your analysis identifies that a significant adverse environmental impact may occur, please indicate how you will mitigate this risk. In addition to the specific adverse environmental impacts outlined below, you must also provide information on any other adverse environmental impacts that you determine could occur from your project.

Livestock Projects

1. Noise
 - a. What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?
 - b. What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? What hours noise would come from the site?
 - c. What types of measures can be implemented to reduce or control noise impacts?
2. Odor
 - a. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your project?
 - b. What types and levels of air emissions and/or odor would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis?
 - c. What types of measures can be implemented to reduce or control odor, emissions, or other impacts to air?

3. Historic and cultural preservation

- a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the project site that are over 45 years old and that are either listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers?
- b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of indigenous or historic use or occupation on or near the project site? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the project site? Have any professional studies been conducted at the site to identify such resources?
- c. Have you consulted with Tribes and/or the department of archeology and historic preservation to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historical resources on or near the project site? Have you reviewed relevant archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.?
- d. What types of measures can be implemented to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources? Do you have plans for the above and do you need any permits?

4. Transportation

- a. Are there public streets or highways serving the project site or affected geographic area? If not, how will the existing street system be accessed from the project site?
- b. Is the project site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?
- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project require? How many would the project eliminate?
- d. Will the project require any new construction or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways?
- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation?
- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? When would peak volumes occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles)? What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?
- g. Will the project interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and/or forest products on roads or streets in the area?
- h. What types of measures can be implemented to reduce or control transportation impacts?

Ozone Depleting Substances Projects

No potential significant adverse environmental impacts were identified in Ecology's SEPA analysis for this project type.

U.S. Forest Projects – Avoided Conversion Projects

1. Land and Shoreline Use

- a. What is the current use of the project site and adjacent properties? Will the project affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties?
- b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the project, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?
- c. Will the project affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting?
- d. What is the current zoning classification of the project site?
- e. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the project site?
- f. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the project site?
- g. Has any part of the project site been classified as a critical area by the city or county?
- h. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?
- i. What types of measures can be implemented to avoid or reduce displacement impacts?
- j. What types of measures can be implemented to ensure the project is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans?
- k. What types of measures can be implemented to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and working forest lands of long-term commercial significance?

U.S. Forest Projects - Reforestation Projects

1. Plants

- a. Are any of the following types of vegetation found on the project site?
 - deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
 - evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
 - shrubs
 - grass
 - pasture
 - crop or grain
 - Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
 - wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
 - water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
 - other types of vegetation
- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?
- c. Are there any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the project site?
- d. Can landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures be implemented to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site?
- e. Are any noxious weeds or invasive species known to be on or near the project site?

2. Animals

- a. What types of birds and other animals have been observed on or near the project site or are known to be on or near the site?
- b. Are there any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the project site?
- c. Is the project site part of a migration route?
- d. What types of measures can be implemented to preserve or enhance wildlife?
- e. Are any invasive animal species known to be on or near the project site?

U.S. Forest Projects – Improved Forest Management Projects

No potential significant adverse environmental impacts were identified in Ecology's SEPA analysis for this project type.

Urban Forest Projects

1. Historic and cultural preservation
 - a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the project site that are over 45 years old and that are either listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers?
 - b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of indigenous or historic use or occupation on or near the project site? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the project site? Have any professional studies been conducted at the site to identify such resources?
 - c. Have you consulted with Tribes and/or the department of archeology and historic preservation to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historical resources on or near the project site? Have you reviewed relevant archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.?
 - d. What types of measures can be implemented to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources? Do you have plans for the above and do you need any permits?

Section 6.0: Certification of No Significant Adverse Environmental Impacts

In signing this form, I certify under penalty of perjury of the laws of Washington that the offset project identified on this form will not produce significant adverse environmental impacts after mitigation.

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, accurate, and complete. I further certify that I am an Account Representative of the holder of offset credits.

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| Signature: | Printed Name: |
| Title: | Date: |

Background for Application for Direct Environmental Benefits Status & Demonstration of No Significant Adverse Environmental Impacts

WAC 173-446-595 allows an Offset Project Operator (OPO) or Authorized Project Designee (APD) of a new offset project, or an OPO, APD, or holder of offset credits for an existing offset project, to submit information to the Department of Ecology to enable a determination of whether an offset project provides direct environmental benefits in Washington. This form is designed to help OPOs, APDs, and holders of offset credits to provide information as specified in WAC 173-446-595.

Pursuant to WAC 173-446-500(1)(f) and -500(2), an offset project must not produce significant adverse environmental impacts after mitigation. In addition to enabling a determination of direct environmental benefits, this form is intended to help OPOs, APDs, or holders of offset credits to comply with this requirement.

Where to Submit Information Contained in This Form

All applications must be filled out completely, and the required supporting documentation must be attached and sent to CCAOffsets@ecy.wa.gov. If you have questions regarding the completion of this form, contact Jordan Wildish at (360) 280-6488 or CCAOffsets@ecy.wa.gov.

Section 1.0: OPO/APD Contact

- List the person who Ecology offset staff should contact with any questions about this form. The person should be an employee, officer, or representative of the OPO or APD for new offset projects or a representative of the OPO, APD, or holder of offset credits for existing offset projects. Ecology offset staff will use this person as our primary contact person as we evaluate the application for direct environmental benefits status and no significant adverse environmental impacts.

Section 2.0: Registry Staff Information

- Provide the offset project's name and, if available, its identification numbers. Both the approved Offset Project Registry (OPR) and Ecology issue identification numbers.
- Provide the names of both the OPO and APD.
- Indicate both the OPR with which the offset project is listed, and the Compliance Offset Protocol under which the offset project is listed. Also provide the protocol version.

Section 3.0: Environmental Benefits Determination

- Projects which are located in whole or in part in Washington, or for which any of the Ozone Depleting Substances destroyed by the project are sourced from Washington, may simply check the appropriate box in Section 3.0 and skip Section 4.0.

Section 4.0: Environmental Benefits Documentation Summary

- For projects located entirely outside of Washington, the OPO/APD may submit information to enable a determination of whether the project provides direct environmental benefits in Washington. The basis for such determination is that the offset project provides for the reduction or avoidance of emissions of any air or water pollutant that is not credited pursuant to the applicable Compliance Offset Protocol. In accordance with WAC 173-446-595(2)(b), the OPO/APD may submit the following information supporting a claim that the offset project provides direct environmental benefits in the State:
 - Scientific, peer-reviewed information or reports demonstrating that the offset project or offset project type results in this type of reduction or avoidance of any pollutant in the state of Washington;
 - Governmental reports from local, regional, state, or national environmental, health, or energy agencies, or multinational bodies (such as the intergovernmental panel on climate change) demonstrating that the offset project or offset project type results in this type of reduction or avoidance of any pollutant in the state of Washington; or
 - Monitoring or other analytical data demonstrating that the offset project or offset project type results in this type of reduction or avoidance of any pollutant in the state of Washington.
- Provide a summary of the supporting documentation being provided, including a list of all data, information, and reports. The summary may be typed into the space provided or separately attached. Attach all information supporting the application to this form when submitting to Ecology.

Section 5.0: Demonstration of No Significant Adverse Environmental Impacts

- Pursuant to WAC 173-446-500(1)(f) and -500(2), all Ecology offset credits must be generated from offset projects that will not produce significant adverse environmental impacts after mitigation. All projects, whether or not they are located within Washington state, must complete this section.

- If your offset project was or will be subject to the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), please provide all SEPA documentation related to your project. If your offset project is not subject to SEPA, please identify any adverse environmental impacts associated with your project and either explain why the impacts are not significant or describe all mitigation requirements that will reduce the adverse impacts to the point that they are not significant.
- Please attach a separate analysis to demonstrate that your project will not produce significant adverse environmental impacts after mitigation. Please use the list of types of potential adverse impacts that we have identified to inform your analysis, and include any other adverse environmental impacts that you determine could occur from your project. Please refer to Ecology's SEPA analysis of the Chapter 173-446 WAC, Climate Commitment Act Program Rule for more information on the specific potential adverse environmental impacts identified in Ecology's analysis.

Section 6.0: Certification of No Significant Adverse Environmental Impacts and Application for Direct Environmental Benefits

- The individual signing this Certification of No Significant Adverse Environmental Impacts and Application for Direct Environmental Benefits must be registered in CITSS as the OPO's Primary Account Representative (PAR) or Alternate Account Representative (AAR) for new offset projects, or registered in CITSS as the OPO's or offset credit holder's PAR or AAR for existing offset projects, or a holder of these offset credits.
- Provide the individual's signature, printed name, corporate title, and date signed.