



Conservation Policy Intern

Location: This is a hybrid position with some weekly work in-person at the Seattle office and the option to work remotely the rest of the time. Applicants located in the Puget Sound region, who can meet in-person on a regular basis, will be given priority.

Schedule: 15 weeks, approximately 10 hours per week

Compensation: \$20/hour

Structure: This position reports to the Program Coordinator and Executive Director

Deadline: Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, priority will be given to applications received by December 11th. The position will remain open until filled.

Position Overview: The Washington Association of Land Trusts is seeking candidates for a **Conservation Policy Intern**. The Washington Association of Land Trusts (WALT) is a statewide coalition of 34 nonprofit land conservation groups working to permanently protect Washington's habitat, working lands, waterways, and wildlife. We lead coalition efforts to advocate for policies that affect conservation work statewide and we provide trusted expertise from practitioners to policymakers and government agencies. We support robust funding of State and Federal natural resource programs and work to establish new funding tools to help land trusts protect the places we love across WA. WALT also provides educational programs such as our conference Northwest Land Camp, regional retreats, trainings, and regular opportunities for land trusts to learn from and collaborate with each other.

This internship provides a unique opportunity to gain experience in the realm of policy analysis, advocacy, and communications. We are hoping to hire an intern to begin work in January 2025 to assist in both State and Federal policy tracking and advocacy. This intern may provide assistance on communications and our diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice (DEIJ) initiative. The intern will also have the chance to provide input on projects and areas of interest that align with their academic and professional goals.

Responsibilities:

- Tracking state and federal policy bills, monitoring key hearings (can be done virtually with the option to visit Olympia), and analyzing new legislation
- Supporting logistics and planning for WALT's annual Advocacy Day

- Drafting written materials for advocacy and policy updates for members, with other general communications support as needed (social media, website, email)
- Assisting in developing new policy proposals and strategies to advance conservation policy
- Supporting WALT programming for member organizations on DEIJ, conservation and land stewardship practice, nonprofit management, and more

Desired Qualifications:

We recognize that a great candidate for this position may not precisely meet all of the qualifications and core competencies listed below, but may have transferable skills. If you believe you're the right person for this job, we encourage you to apply.

- An interest in Washington State and/or Federal land conservation policy.
- Excellent written and interpersonal skills with high attention to detail
- A commitment to WALT's mission and vision with a personal belief in the importance of voluntary, community-based land conservation.
- Demonstrated interest in advancing justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion.
- Knowledge of digital communications, social media, and web content creation.
- Experience or skills in policy analysis, advocacy, or organizing a plus.
- Project management and/or event planning experience a plus.

About WALT

We are a small, tight-knit team in a hybrid work environment, often working remotely, but meeting at least once weekly in-person for collaboration at our office in downtown Seattle. We also travel to Olympia during the legislative session as needed and do outings to visit our members' inspiring conservation projects. The Washington Association of Land Trusts is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to an inclusive work environment and to cultivating a staff team representing the full diversity of the communities in which we live and work. We seek to recruit, develop, and retain talented people from a diverse candidate pool.

To Apply: Please send your resume and cover letter to jobs@walandtrusts.org. Projected start date of this internship is the week of January 13 to align with the beginning of the WA State Legislative session. Finalists will be asked to provide two professional references. Applications submitted by December 11th will be given priority, however, we will review applications on a rolling basis until the position is filled.