



SECTIONS

## WSBA Section Annual Report for 2010-2011

(Period of October 1, 2010 – September 30, 2011)

Due September 30, 2011

**Section:** Environmental and Land Use  
**Submitted by:** Jill Guernsey  
**Section position:** Chair, FY 2011  
**Date submitted:** September 30, 2011

*Note.* If possible, please limit your report to one page. The following outline is provided as an example of possible areas to address; however, feel free to modify as appropriate for your section.

### 1. Section highlights and accomplishments in 2010-2011.

- The 2011 ELUL Section Midyear Meeting and Seminar was held at the Alderbrook Resort in April and included 10.75 CLE credits for Washington attorneys. The evaluations indicated that this was the best seminar the Section has presented in years. The success and quality may be attributed not only to the hard work done by the Co-Chairs, but also to the fact that several of our Executive Committee members, all seasoned practitioners, made presentations along with other terrific speakers.
- The Midyear was also a financial success, netting the Section more than \$6,800.00. Compared to past years, this is a remarkable improvement.
- The number of Section members (including subscribers) has increased this year, despite the fact that dues were raised from \$25.00 to \$35.00. Considering the state of the economy we believe that our membership count shows that the members recognize the value we provide, both in terms of networking, our newsletter, and our seminars.
- In addition to the Midyear, we continued to offer three Mini-CLEs on topics of current interest to our membership. Our December Mini-CLE also provides two hours of Ethics credits.
- New this year was a “meet and greet” event with law schools in our state. Both attorneys and law students attended in a casual setting to talk about land use and environmental law. This networking opportunity proved to be very successful and will likely be repeated in coming years.

### 2. Section priorities, including new goals, for upcoming membership year 2011-2012.

In response to a survey of our membership we are changing the Annual Midyear Meeting and CLE to a 2-day format, and we are moving to an electronic version of our Quarterly Newsletter. We will be seeking feedback from our members throughout the upcoming year to ensure they are satisfied with these changes.

### 3. Current benefits for section members.

- Our Section Newsletter continues to be popular with our membership
- Our Annual Midyear Meeting and CLE has traditionally been a significant benefit to our membership and is well-attended by attorneys throughout the State.
- Our Mini-CLEs continue to be well-attended by our membership.
- Networking opportunities are provided for members throughout the year.

**4. Section community involvement and special financial designations.**

- We are working with all three Washington law schools to encourage their students and new admittees to join the Section and get involved in the practice of land use and environmental law.
- We offer scholarships to members and students who cannot afford to attend our CLE programs. Scholarships are provided by generous donations from private law firms.

**5. Collaboration/partnerships with other sections and bar-affiliated groups. *For example:***

- This year we formed a standing committee with the ADR Section to encourage mediation of land use matters.

**6. Section relationship with WSBA staff and the Board of Governors.**

- Our Section has been an active participant in WSBA Section meetings with Staff, where we work together to improve and support Sections and the programs we provide to our members.
- The WSBA staff support/services provided to ELUL has been exceptional this year and we look forward to a great relationship in the future.
- Recent improvements include the WSBA website update and the increased ability to tailor our website to our Section's needs.

**7. Additional information, comments and suggestions.**

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