

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

WSBA ENTITY ANNUAL REPORT FORM

FY 2023: October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023

The mission of the Washington State Bar Association is to serve the public and the members of the Bar, to ensure integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice.

Instructions: In accordance with the WSBA Bylaws, Committees, Other Bar Entities (excluding Regulatory Boards¹), Councils, and Sections must submit an annual report to the Executive Director. The information below should reflect the activities and outcomes from the fiscal year FY2023 (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023). Information in the annual report will be provided to the Executive Director and Board of Governors, and may be published for other purposes, such as *Bar News*, volunteer recruitment messaging, and other WSBA activity-based reporting.

It is recommended that completion of the annual report be a collaborative effort with members of your entity, the BOG liaison, and the staff liaison.

Submission Deadline is Friday, October 13: please submit by emailing barleaders@wsba.org or requesting that your staff liaison submit the report internally.

Name of Entity:	Environmental and Land Use Law Section
Entity Size: <i>Total Number of Entity/Section Executive Committee Positions</i>	12
Chair or Co-Chairs:	Chair: Donya W. Burns
Staff Liaison: <i>Include name, job title, and department if known</i>	Carolyn MacGregor
Board of Governors Liaison(s):	Lauren Boyd, District 3 Serena Sayani, District 7S
Purpose of Entity: <i>May be stated in Bylaws, Charter, Court Rule, etc.</i>	
The ELUL Section is a formal association of attorneys who share a common focus and interest in the practices of environmental and land use law. Our Section represents a diverse membership with individuals, drawn from law firms, solo practice, government, private industry, and public interest groups, who often represent sides of an issue, but who are all committed to civil and professional cooperation for the benefit, protection, and enhancement of our communities and Washington State.	

October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023 (FY23)

Accordingly, our Section aims to provide opportunities for the exchange of ideas surrounding environmental and land use law.

Strategy to Fulfill Purpose:

ELUL section activities fulfill the Section’s purpose in the following ways: -- We host educational (CLE) events and gatherings for lawyers, law students, and professionals. We make an effort to include the presentation of differing opinions in our CLEs, so that we can educate each other on various sides of land use or environmental issues and legal positions. Our educational events also frequently include a “view from the beach,” which provides practitioners with insight into what our court and administrative judges need and wish to see to effect justice. – We keep our membership up-to-date about Section events and developments in our practice areas through the use of our website (blog), social media accounts (Facebook and LinkedIn) and our email Listserv. – We share information about bills in the Washington Legislature that are relevant to environmental and land use law on a regular basis. – We co-host networking events for law students and practitioners to support law students’ interest in our practice areas. We also support law students with fellowship and scholarship awards. Not only does this expose students to the field, but it promotes involvement by attorneys and furthers civility and professionalism by creating an environment of inclusion and open communication. – We offer social and networking events designed to support camaraderie and the Bar’s professional networking needs.

How does the entity’s purpose help further the mission of the WSBA “to serve the public and the members of the Bar, to ensure integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice”?

The ELUL Section furthers WSBA’s mission to serve the public and members of the bar by supporting communication and collaboration between them. In practice, the ELUL Section supports this communication through our newsletter (blog) and events, which are open to anyone – members and the general public. We also provide regular email updates on legislative bills during the legislative session, which are shared as a member benefit. The ELUL Section ensures integrity of the legal profession by providing educational opportunities and opportunities for civil discourse on ethics and environmental and land use legal issues. Due to our membership’s differing perspectives on the legal issues surrounding our practices areas, professionalism is essential to our Section’s continued success in supporting communication and collaboration. Our educational events also frequently include a “view from the beach” to provide opportunities for the court and administrative judges to share insights with practitioners.

2022-2023 Entity Accomplishments:

-- A successful 2023 ELUL Midyear Conference, held over 3 days at Icicle Village Resort in Leavenworth, Washington. – Heavily attended law school mixer (approximately 60 law school students and Section members), held in April 2023. – Held a law school writing competition, providing awards to two authors that wrote articles about land use or environmental law issues. – Provided summer scholarships to subsidize the incomes of law students working in government or nonprofit summer jobs.

Looking Ahead: 2023-2024 Top Goals & Priorities:

1	Commitment to make ELUL CLEs accessible for all Section members, regardless of practice or geographic location.
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2	Active engagement in law school outreach, provide scholarships, and provide law students with networking opportunities with experienced practitioners.
3	Increase utility of and current content on blog.
4	Decrease expenses and increase revenue to balance the Section budget.
5	Provide timely legislative updates on all bills that affect environmental and land use practitioners.

Please describe how this entity is addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion:
How have you elicited input from a variety of perspectives in your decision-making? What have you done to promote a culture of inclusion within the board or committee? What has your committee/board done to promote equitable conditions for members from historically underrepresented backgrounds to enter, stay, thrive, and eventually lead the profession? Other?

The ELUL Section is always pleased to support new and incoming attorneys. The Section provides law student fellowships to students working on an internship position each year. The past three years, the Section has increased the number and amount of the grants to provide additional support for new members of the profession. Additionally, the Section provides for scholarship funds to support attendance at our annual Midyear Conference by attorneys working in government and non-profit jobs. Our Section is committed to including diverse topics for our CLEs—for example, the 2022-2023 year saw presentations on tribal law, environmental justice, and differing perspectives on land use regulations.

Please share feedback regarding the support and engagement provided by WSBA.
For example:

- *Quality of WSBA staff support/services, including technology solutions*
- *Involvement with Board of Governors, including assigned BOG liaison(s)*
- *Ideas you have for ways WSBA can continue to strengthen/support your entity.*

We have established good working relationships with our WSBA partners. WSBA staff has been particularly helpful in addressing budgeting issues and helping to plan our 2023 Midyear Conference. We include WSBA staff on our meeting and event invitations, and regularly communicate any updates for our Section. We are interested in upgrading the level of communications between the Board of Governors and the ELUL Executive Committee. We tried over the course of several months to engage with our BOG liaisons, but weren't able to establish a connection.

SECTIONS ONLY: Please quantify your section's 2022-2023 member benefits: <i>For example:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>\$3000 Scholarships, donations, grants awarded;</i> • <i>4 mini-CLEs produced</i> 	6 (articles)	Newsletters/publications produced
	2	Mini-CLEs produced
	1 3-day Midyear Conference	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with WSBA

	0	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with <i>non</i> -WSBA entity
	4, including 2 events for law school students and new attorneys, and 2 Section members receptions.	Receptions/forums hosted or co-hosted
	7 scholarships, fellowships, awards	Scholarships, Donations, & Grants
	3, including networking event and 2 writing contest awards to law students	New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits
	0	Other (please describe): Click or tap here to enter text.
SECTIONS ONLY: Please quantify your section's 2022-2023 legislative activity.	280	Bills Reviewed
	280	Bills tracked
	0	Comments proposed
	0	Bills proposed/drafted
Entity Detail & Demographics Report: To Be Completed by WSBA Staff		
Number of Entity Members/Section Executive Committee Members:		12
Number of Section Members: <i>As of September 1, 2023. Note: The Section Membership year runs on the calendar year.</i>		769
Number of Applicants for FY24 Positions: <i>October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024</i>		9
Do you have vacant positions for the coming year, FY24?		No

FY23 Budgeted Direct Expenses: <i>As of September 30, 2023.</i> <i>For Sections, this does not include the Per-Member-Charge.</i>	\$40,055
FY23 Total Direct Expenses: <i>Draft estimate as of Dec. 1, 2023</i> <i>For Sections, this does not include the Per-Member-Charge.</i>	\$36,688

ⁱ Supreme Court Boards (Access to Justice Board, Disciplinary Board, LLLT Board, Limited Practice Board, MCLE Board and Practice of Law Board) provide annual reports to WSBA to support its responsibility under [GR 12.3](#), to provide oversight and monitor compliance with applicable rules and orders. Boards have the option to use the WSBA template or to share their annual reports to the Washington Supreme Court.