

# WRIA 32 PHASE IV YEAR 3 ROUND 2 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING GRANT APPLICATION

## APPLICANT / ORGANIZATION

Applicant Signature		Official Contact	Beth Thiel
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Project Name	Conservation Easement Seminar		
Project Location	WWCC Water and Environment Center	County	Walla Walla/Columbia/Umatilla
Sub-Watershed/Stream Names			

## SUMMARY of PROJECT

### DESCRIPTION

Blue Mountain Land Trust would like to sponsor a two part seminar to explain the legal and financial aspects of conservation easements. The first part of the seminar will be directed towards landowners within the basin and the second part will be a continuing legal education course directed at area attorneys, estate planners, and accountants who are landowner advisors.

### BENEFITS (what issues will this funding address)

Conservation easements represent a powerful means to permanently conserve important natural resources for all future generations, while leaving land in private ownership. These natural resources include wetlands, riparian habitat and working farms and ranches. Financial incentives exist in the form of tax benefits and direct compensation for the conservation of natural resources on private lands. Blue Mountain Land Trust would like to ensure landowners and their advisors are aware of the Conservation Easement tool and its financial benefits to the landowner as well as the benefits to the community.

**STATUS** (is the proposal currently underway, have any agreements, approvals or preliminary measures been completed?)  
BMLT has identified a location to hold the seminar. BMLT has also identified an attorney experienced in performing continuing legal education courses specific to conservation easements as well as leading discussions on the topic with local landowners.

**CONTEXT** (Explain the relevancy of this project to the Watershed Plan and if applicable the Walla Walla Subbasin plan , Snake River Salmon Recovery plan, etc.)

Listed as a tier one action in the community supported actions table of the detailed implementation plan is the task of managing rural and residential land use and development by protecting Critical Areas near the Walla Walla River, Coppei Creek, and Mill Creek. Conservation Easements are one means by which to achieve this goal. Conservation Easements are also listed as a recommended measure to protect habitat in the Subbasin plan and the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan. However, this is a relatively new concept to many landowners. When the landowners are unsure about the process, they often turn to their advisors. Many of the advisors in the Walla Walla Basin

are interested in learning more about conservation easements and their potential benefit to the community and their client.

**Additional partners: agencies, landowners, volunteers?**

Volunteers from the BMLT board of directors, the William A Grant Water and Environment Center, and the attorney instructing are all making contributions to make this seminar possible.

**Please list affected landowner(s): Federal, Local, Private, State, or Tribal:**

Primarily Private landowners are affected.

**For each landowner explain the agreement that is in place (agreements must be in place for project consideration)?** N/A

**When known and as necessary, identify the staff, consultants, and subcontractors that will be designing and implementing the project, including their names, qualifications, roles and responsibilities. If not yet known, describe the selection process.**

Beth Thiel, BMLT staff, will be helping to coordinate the seminar along with Tom Williams, area farmer, trained attorney and BMLT board member. Other board members are available to assist as needed. Konrad Liegel has agreed to be the instructor. He is considered one of two legal authorities in conservation law in the state of Washington. Jaime Clark with the Water and Environment Center has offered the use of the WWCC facility to hold the event.

**PROJECT FUNDING/BUDGET**

*(Other state funds will not be acceptable as match)*

2008-9 Project Implementation Funding requested in this application: **\$ 4,200**  
 Total sponsor match/in-kind cost share contribution (10% required): **\$ 750**  
 Total cost of project (match & project implementation funding requested): **\$ 4,950**

BUDGET BY ELEMENT	Requested	Match	Total
1. SALARIES	\$ 600		\$600
2. BENEFITS	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$0
3. CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$ <u>1900</u>	\$ <u>300</u>	\$ <u>2200</u>
4. TRAVEL	\$ <u>700</u>	\$0	\$ <u>700</u>
5. EQUIPMENT	\$0	\$ <u>300</u>	\$ <u>300</u>
6. GOODS/SERVICES	\$ <u>550</u>	\$ _____	\$ <u>550</u>
7. OVERHEAD	\$ <u>450</u>	\$ _____	\$ <u>450</u>
8. IN-KIND	\$ _____	\$ <u>150</u>	\$ <u>150</u>
 TOTAL BUDGET BY ELEMENT	 \$ <u>4,200</u>	 \$ <u>750</u>	 \$ <u>4,950</u>
 TOTAL REQUEST FOR FISCAL YEAR (09)		 <b>\$<u>4,200</u></b>	

**PARTNERSHIPS: COST SHARE and LANDOWNERSHIP**

Matching Funds or In-Kind Contributions					
Individual/ Organization	Description	Cash cost share or In- Kind	Secured or pending	If pending, until when?	\$ Amount/Value
WWCC water and environment center	Facility	In kind	Secured		300
Tom Williams, Tom Scribner, Sue Parrish	Donated time	In Kind	Secured		150
Konrad Liegel	Donated time	In Kind	Secured		300
J. Braughton	Donated Time	In Kind	pending		200
Estimated Project Cost share (must be 10% of total project cost):					950

## SCOPE OF WORK

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**PROJECT TITLE: Conservation Easement Seminar**

**PROJECT GOAL: To Educate area landowners and their legal and financial advisors about the use of conservation easements**

**PROJECT PURPOSE/NEED: Conservation easements provide a cost effective, permanent, voluntary means to conserve natural resources for future generations. It is important that area landowners and their advisors understand the legal and financial aspects of this method of conservation. We request funding to bring a highly qualified professional in WA State to give a 2 part seminar, one geared toward landowners and the other geared toward their professional advisors.**

### TASKS

#### **Task 1. Fix Topics**

**ACTIONS:**

through research and committee meetings, we will decide on most pertinent topics for 1-2 hour landowner discussion and a 3 hour continuing legal education course

**DELIVERABLES:**

- Final draft of landowner session agenda and finalization of WA State Bar association continuing legal education course requirements.

**COMPENSATION:**

- \$350

#### **Task 2. Final printing and preparation of materials and arrangements**

**ACTIONS:** Finalize the landowner agenda and create advertisements, brochures and printed materials for the classes

**DELIVERABLES:**

- final printed materials

**COMPENSATION:**

- \$900

#### **Task 3. Hold Seminar**

**ACTIONS:** Final preparations and arrangements for presenter and venue and completion of 5 hour seminar

**DELIVERABLES:** copies of surveys given to class participants requesting their feedback

**COMPENSATION:** \$2,950