

Western Construction Specialists Land Use Policy

Processes and Management Approach

1. Commitment to International Standards:

- WCS adheres to the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) to ensure respect for land, forest, and water rights.
- We uphold the principle of **Free**, **Prior**, and **Informed Consent (FPIC)** in all interactions with indigenous communities or stakeholders affected by land use.

2. Land Use Assessment:

- Before initiating any project, WCS conducts comprehensive assessments to evaluate the potential impact on local communities and their access to land, forest, and water resources.
- Environmental and social impact studies are carried out to identify and mitigate risks of displacement or resource appropriation.

3. Stakeholder Engagement:

- WCS actively engages with local communities, indigenous groups, and other stakeholders to understand their needs, concerns, and rights.
- We ensure meaningful consultation and seek agreement before proceeding with any land use that may affect community resources.

4. Strict Adherence to Legal Requirements:

- All land acquisition and use are conducted in compliance with local, state, and federal laws, including permitting and zoning requirements.
- Agreements are documented and verified to prevent disputes or unauthorized activities.

5. Avoidance of Displacement:

 WCS avoids operations that could lead to forced displacement. If relocation is unavoidable, we ensure it is conducted lawfully, ethically, and with fair compensation.

6. Grievance Mechanisms:

- o Communities and individuals have access to grievance mechanisms to report concerns related to land use or potential violations.
- Reported issues are promptly investigated, and corrective actions are taken as necessary.

Monitoring and Accountability

• **Internal Oversight**: WCS management regularly reviews land use decisions to ensure compliance with ethical standards and legal requirements.



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Environmental Protections: Resource conservation and sustainability practices are integral to project planning and implementation.

• **Continuous Improvement**: Lessons learned from past projects inform updates to policies and practices to prevent future risks.

Commitment to Ethical Land Use

WCS is committed to protecting the rights of communities and stakeholders, ensuring that land, forest, and water resources are used responsibly, sustainably, and in a manner that respects human rights and the environment.