



World Land Trust Trustee Role Description

Background

The world is facing interlinked biodiversity and climate crises and a sixth mass extinction event, with up to half a million species under urgent threat of extinction in the coming decades. The most critical threat to biodiversity is the ongoing loss and degradation of natural habitat, with more than half of the world's terrestrial area now dominated by human land uses.

World Land Trust (WLT) works to directly tackle this threat on the ground, by bringing land into conservation in partnership with local conservation organisations and groups who are best placed to ensure its ongoing management and protection. This simple approach has underpinned WLT's work for the last 30 years, and over this period WLT has directly brought nearly 900,000 hectares (2.2 million acres) of land into long-term protection and a total area with co-funders of more than 2 million hectares (5.1 million acres). In addition, WLT supports programmes to restore habitats and sequester carbon.

Currently, WLT supports 30 project partners in more than 20 countries, primarily across Central and South America, Africa and Asia. Species protected in WLT supported reserves include African and Asian Elephants, Western Lowland Gorillas, Bornean Orangutans, Jaguars, Spectacled Bears, and countless species of birds, amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates and plants.

We are at a critical juncture, and WLT has an ambitious growth plan to capitalise on the surge of public concern about the threats to our planet.

WLT Trustee Role

The Trustees of World Land Trust (WLT) form the governing body of the charity and combine the responsibilities of trustees as laid down in the Charity Act 2011 and of company directors as laid down in the Company Act 2006. As a member of the Board of Trustees, you will share the collective responsibility for directing the affairs of WLT, ensuring that it is solvent, well-run, and delivering the charitable outcomes for which it has been set up. You will be committed to ensuring that WLT's governance is of the highest possible standard.

Your legal duties, as laid down in the Charity Act, include:

- ensuring that WLT carries out its objects for the public interest;
- complying with WLT's governing document and statutory requirements;
- acting in WLT's best interests;
- managing WLT's resources responsibly;
- acting with reasonable care and skill;
- ensuring that WLT is accountable.

In exercising your collective responsibility your primary duty in all cases will be to act in the best interests of the Charity. You will not act independently or outside of any specific responsibilities delegated to you by the Board of Trustees and formally recorded in minutes.

In addition, the Companies Act 2006 requires you to:

- exercise independent judgment;
- avoid conflicts of interest;
- refrain from accepting benefits from third parties;
- declare an interest in any proposed transaction or arrangement.

As well as exercising your statutory duties, it is expected that as a Trustee you will:

- endeavour to attend all Board meetings;
- be familiar with WLT's governing document and any rules or bye laws;
- use any specific knowledge or experience you have to help the Board of Trustees reach sound decisions;
- assist the WLT executive with advice as requested;
- keep informed about and support as appropriate the activities of the organisation.

Your initial term of office as a Trustee and Member of WLT will be 3 years from the date of your appointment. You will then be eligible for re-nomination for a further term of 3 years. At the end of this initial six-year term, you will be eligible to be nominated for re-appointment after an interval of at least two years. You may serve a maximum of twelve years as Trustee, unless elected as Chair of Trustees during the final three years of service.

As a Trustee, you will also be a Member of WLT, with the rights, liabilities and obligations attached to Membership:

- Liability of Members is limited to a sum not exceeding £10 in the event of WLT being wound up;
- Attendance at Annual General Meeting (AGM) and general meetings of the Charity;
- Right to vote on ordinary resolutions and special resolutions on matters including: Nomination and election of Trustees;
- Removal of Trustees;
- Nomination and election of Honorary President and Vice President;
- Changes to the governing document (Charity Act, Companies Act);
- Changes or additions to, or repeal of, rules or bye laws of WLT.

You should be aware that as a Member of the charity you owe a fiduciary duty to act in the best interests of the charity when exercising your voting rights.

Your Membership of WLT will expire with your term of office as Trustee.

To apply

To apply, please send in a full CV, which must be accompanied by a covering letter explaining how your particular expertise and experience matches our requirements. Please ensure you fulfil the formal qualifications and requirements specified in the job description before applying.

Completed applications should be sent to: Tracey White, Executive PA, tracey.white@worldlandtrust.org or by post to World Land Trust, Blyth House, Bridge Street, Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8AB.

Closing date for applications: 0900 hrs on Wednesday 24 November 2021. It is expected that interviews will be held remotely week commencing Monday 13 December 2021.

Please note that the closing date given is a guide. We reserve the right to close the vacancy once we have received sufficient applications. No agencies or advertisers please.