# EXAMPLE Baseline Inventory Outline

1. **Introduction**
   1. Location
      1. property name, county, state
      2. legal description
      3. property size
      4. name of quad map, series, coordinates of property
      5. driving directions
   2. General property description
   3. Purpose of conservation easement
      1. critical elements to be protected
      2. other reasons (habitat preservation, unique or unusual ecological features, etc.)
   4. How conservation easement will preserve critical elements (be brief). Examples include: limiting development (subdivision, or house building), limiting timber harvest, agricultural practices (livestock grazing, equipment access).
2. **Natural Resources Inventory**
   1. Geology and soils–Describe
   2. Climate (if appropriate)
   3. Water resources
      1. surface hydrology (describe)
      2. water quality
      3. special classifications or descriptions (i.e., wetlands designation)
      4. water quantity
   4. Vegetation–identify and list
      1. describe habitat types and existing vegetation
      2. types of species (deciduous, coniferous, shrubs, grasses, etc.)
      3. density of existing vegetation
      4. rare plants[[1]](#footnote-1)
      5. noxious, non-native, or invasive plant species
   5. Fish and wildlife
      1. Important species, list and explain importance/status
         1. mammals
         2. fish
         3. birds
         4. reptiles
         5. amphibians
         6. invertebrates
      2. Describe and indicate on map critical life history habitats (e.g., critical spawning habitat for salmonids, eagle nest) if applicable.
3. **Historic Land Use**

The conservation easement probably will restrict land-use practices of the grantor. It is therefore very important that all land-use practices, past, present, and allowed under the terms of the conservation easement, be accurately recorded in the baseline report.

* 1. Describe past land use and its effects on the natural resources of the property.
  2. Describe present land use and the effect on the natural resources on the property.
  3. List all significant human‑made structures and improvements on the property and information and the location of any known archaeological sites.

1. **Existing Land-Use Plans**
   1. Reference appropriate federal, state, local, or private plans or studies that identify specific uses or needs for the property. Include current zoning or other land-use designations.
   2. Indicate on maps and photographs all human‑made structures and improvements such as buildings, fences, power lines, irrigation ditches, roads, ponds, etc.

### Graphics

* U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle map with property lines and topographic features (1:24,000, 7.5minute series).
* U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle map indicating existing human-made structures or incursions, important species habitat locations and features, rare (plant and animal species locations, distinct natural or archeological features (1:24,000, 7.5 minute series).
* Property base map (parcel or tax assessors) with property lines.
* Aerial photograph with property lines.
* Back and white photographs to illustrate inventory features. Locate point and direction of photograph on property base map (picture point) and record date, time of day, and weather conditions. Color photographs will fade over time.

1. Contact Washington Department of Natural Resources’ Natural Heritage Program [↑](#footnote-ref-1)