



Environmental Justice Assessment Checklist

COVER SHEET

An environmental justice assessment (EJA) is an opportunity to assess the potential environmental justice impacts of an agency action. Developed in collaboration with the HEAL Interagency Workgroup and the Environmental Justice Council, this checklist is designed to meet the environmental justice assessment requirements established under Washington’s [Healthy Environment for All \(HEAL\) Act](#). Each agency mandated within the HEAL Act has a version of this template with an accompanying guidance document to specifically address individual agency needs and processes.

1. Primary agency staff contact(s)	Brian Considine, Legislative Director
2. Secondary agency contact(s), if applicable	Olgy Diaz, Deputy Legislative Director
3. Description of proposed significant agency action (SAA)	This Agency Request Legislation would direct the Department of Enterprise Services to establish a new memorial for fallen firefighters on the Capitol Campus.
4. Date EJA was initiated	TBD
5. Type of SAA (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> The development and adoption of significant legislative rules as defined in RCW 34.05.328 . <input type="checkbox"/> The development and adoption of any new grant or loan program that a covered agency is explicitly authorized or required by statute to carry out. <input type="checkbox"/> A capital project, grant, or loan award by a covered agency of at least \$12,000,000 or a transportation project, grant, or loan by a covered agency of at least \$15,000,000. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The submission of agency request legislation to the office of the governor or the office of financial management for approval. <input type="checkbox"/> Programs requiring the labor of vulnerable and/or incarcerated populations. <input type="checkbox"/> Any other agency actions deemed significant by a covered agency consistent with RCW 70A.02.060 , if so, please name: Click or tap here to enter text.
6. Link(s) to initial notification with Office of Financial Management and/or other postings, such as publicly available results,	TBD



materials, or reports related to the assessment.

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HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

This checklist is intended to guide staff and provide structure for reporting the outcomes of an environmental justice assessment. For more detailed guidance on how to complete each section of this template, see the Environmental Justice Assessment Guidance Document. For detailed guidance on how to engage with tribal governments and tribal communities, see [DNR's Tribal Government Consultation Policy](#).

Section 1: Significant Agency Action Description

1. Describe the significant agency action (SAA) in 3-5 sentences.

This Agency Request Legislation would direct the Department of Enterprise Services to establish a new memorial for fallen firefighters on the Capitol Campus.

Section 2: Identify Overburdened Communities and Vulnerable Populations

1. Describe the geographic area(s) where there may be environmental and health impacts as a result of the agency action.

This Significant Agency Action would result in a new memorial on the Capitol Campus in Olympia, WA. This 29-acre campus is home to the State Capitol, the Legislative Building, Capitol Court, state agencies, and dozens of memorials. This part of the Olympia scores a 5 (out of 10) on the Washington Environmental Health Disparities Map and is not considered a disadvantaged community; it is, however, adjacent to two disadvantaged census tracts, according to the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool.

2. Describe overburdened communities identified within the geographic area(s) where there may be environmental and health impacts as a result of the agency action. For a definition of 'overburdened communities' see Chapter [70A.02.010](#) RCW Section 11.

There are no overburdened communities in the geographic area that may experience environmental and health impacts from this agency action.



3. Describe vulnerable populations identified within the geographic area(s) where there may be environmental and health impacts as a result of the agency action. For a definition of 'vulnerable populations' see Chapter [70A.02.010](#) RCW Section 14 (a) and (b).

There are no vulnerable populations in the geographic area that may experience environmental and health impacts from this agency action.

Section 3: Analyze Environmental Benefits and Harms

1. Describe likely environmental **benefits** for overburdened communities, vulnerable populations, and Tribes associated with this action. For a definition of 'environmental benefits' see Chapter [70A.02.010](#) RCW Section 4(a)-(c).

Depending on the materials and design of the memorial, there may be small-scale localized environmental benefits, but there are no known benefits as defined for overburdened communities, vulnerable populations, and/or Tribes.

2. Describe likely environmental **harms** for overburdened communities, vulnerable populations, and Tribes associated with this action. For a definition of 'environmental harms' see Chapter [70A.02.010](#) RCW Section 5(a)-(d).

This agency action is unlikely to create environmental harm, except during the fabrication and installation of the memorial; certain materials may be considered hazardous if exposed without proper protective gear. These impacts would be limited to those working on the memorial, not specific overburdened communities or vulnerable populations, and would only occur without proper protective equipment and safety protocols. The final memorial is very unlikely to have any known long-term environmental harms.

3. Describe likely associated **positive** health impacts for overburdened communities, vulnerable populations, and Tribes associated with this action.

Access to a memorial and the surrounding green space may offer positive health impacts, like lower stress and improved well-being and mental health. The solemn nature of a memorial creates the opportunity for reflection and healing.

4. Describe likely associated **negative** health impacts for overburdened communities, vulnerable populations, and Tribes associated with this action.

This agency action is unlikely to create negative health impacts, except during the fabrication and installation of the memorial; certain materials may be considered hazardous if exposed without proper protective gear. Health impacts during fabrication may include respiratory



disease, skin ailments, and cancer; health impacts during installation may include physical injury, bodily harm, and death. These impacts would be limited to those working on the memorial, not specific overburdened communities or vulnerable populations, and would only occur without proper protective equipment and safety protocols.

Section 4: Tribal Consultation and Engagement of Indian Country

1. Summarize Tribal engagements and invitations for Tribal consultation to date.

Tribes have not yet been consulted on this Significant Agency Action.

2. Describe likely impacts to Tribal rights and resources associated with this action.

The new memorial is not expected to impact Tribal rights and resources.

3. Describe any plans for ongoing and/or future Tribal consultation.

DNR will formally invite Tribes to provide feedback on all the Agency Request Legislation for the upcoming legislative session. Comments will be received through an online portal and may be directed to individual DNR staff members, as well.

4. Summarize other engagement and feedback from Indian Country.

No formal engagement has been conducted yet.

Section 5: Community Engagement Summary

1. Summarize engagement with people from overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to date.

Since the geographic area for the new memorial does not include overburdened communities nor vulnerable populations, no community engagement has been conducted.

2. Summarize information received from people from overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

No community engagement has been conducted.



3. Summarize how information received from people from overburdened communities and vulnerable populations informed decision-making about this action.

No community engagement has been conducted.

4. Describe plans for ongoing engagement with people from overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

DNR will formally invite stakeholders to provide feedback on all the Agency Request Legislation for the upcoming legislative session. Comments will be received through an online portal and may be directed to individual DNR staff members, as well. Stakeholders are also encouraged to participate in the legislative process through public comment and engagement with elected representatives.

Section 6: Strategies to Address Environmental Harms and Equitably Distribute Environmental Benefits

1. Which of the following approaches will the agency pursue to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate environmental harms and equitably distribute environmental benefits (check all that apply):
 - Eliminating the disparate impact of environmental harms on overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.
 - Reducing cumulative environmental health impacts on overburdened communities or vulnerable populations.
 - Preventing the action from adding to the cumulative environmental health impacts on overburdened communities or vulnerable populations.
 - Providing equitable participation and meaningful engagement of vulnerable populations and overburdened communities in the development of the significant agency action.
 - Prioritizing equitable distribution of resources and benefits to overburdened communities.
 - Promoting positive workforce and job outcomes for overburdened communities.
 - Meeting community needs identified by the affected overburdened community.
 - Modifying substantive regulatory or policy requirements.



Any other mitigation techniques, including those suggested by the Environmental Justice Council, the Office of Equity, or representatives of overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

2. Briefly describe the proposed action DNR will take for each approach selected in **Section 6, Question 1.**

This Significant Agency Action is not expected to cause any disparate environmental impacts on overburdened communities or vulnerable populations.

3. Describe additional options the agency has to eliminate, reduce, and/or mitigate harms and equitably distribute benefits.

Since the environmental benefits of a memorial in a park-like setting are limited to the geographic area of the Capitol Campus, DNR may wish to pursue additional memorial opportunities within its other regions and field offices.

4. Describe how any environmental benefits will be equitably distributed and the resulting cumulative impacts of the proposed action.

As currently proposed, the memorial is limited to the Capitol Campus. While this location requires travel from other communities within the state, it is an open, free, and public space available to all.

5. In the absence of ability or authority, to fully eliminate, reduce, or mitigate environmental harms caused by the significant agency action, or does not address the equitable distribution of environmental benefits, provide an explanation.

This Significant Agency Action is not expected to cause any disparate environmental impacts on overburdened communities or vulnerable populations.

Thank you for participating in this assessment and for your ongoing work toward equity and environmental justice at Department of Natural Resources. The final version of this document will be posted to the [Office of Equity & Environmental Justice page](#).