**Canada Grasslands Project**

**Conservation Land Conservation Agreement Screening Form**

*For use with Canada Grasslands Protocol v1.0*

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| --- | --- |
| **Project Proponent:** |  |
| **Project Name:** |  |
| **Project ID:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |

The land conservation agreement is the principle mechanism by which the project area is protected against land use change during the project period, and in perpetuity. The Qualified Land Conservation Agreement (QLCA) is a label applied to a land conservation agreement whose terms either explicitly prevent reversals of CRTs by referencing the Canada Grassland Protocol, or implicitly prevent reversals of CRTs by including land use limitations which are sufficient to prevent land use that would disturb soil carbon in the project area. Canada Grassland projects are ***required*** to employ a Qualified Land Conservation Agreement.

**Instructions**: Please fill out the “Land Conservation Agreement Section” column to indicate where each requirement can be found in the land conservation agreement. In the “Justification” column, please provide a description of how the referenced land conservation agreement terms satisfy the specified requirement. This information will be used to confirm the eligibility of the project. The project’s land conservation agreement provisions referenced in this form should be updated as needed for final registration to reference provisions as they appear in the final registered land conservation agreement.

| **Protocol Requirement** | **Land Conservation Agreement Section** | **Justification** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. If the QLCA is granted to a non-governmental agency, the land conservation agreement holder must be accredited by the [Land Trust Alliance](https://landtrustalliance.org/why-land-matters/land-conservation/about-land-trusts?gclid=EAIaIQobChMI5pSttuGf_gIVLRHnCh1ouA9BEAAYASAAEgJaYPD_BwE) (or a similar entity if in a jurisdiction where the Land Trust Alliance does not operate). |  |  |
| 1. The QLCA has been registered on title with the appropriate jurisdiction and there are land title certificates that demonstrate when QLCA registration occurred. |  |  |
| 1. The language of the QLCA is sufficiently clear to reasonably prevent cultivation on the entire project area.   I.e., the land conservation agreement includes terms that prevent the conversion of the project area from grassland to another land use, such that avoidable reversals are sufficiently precluded as long as the land conservation agreement is enforced. For example, whereas a basic land conservation agreement may only restrict the subdivision and/or development of the project area, a QLCA would also restrict activities such as plowing and farming, which could release carbon stored in the soil. |  |  |
| 1. The QLCA dedicates the project area to grassland cover and includes terms that prevent the conversion of the project area from grassland to another land use, such that avoidable reversals are sufficiently precluded as long as the land conservation agreement is enforced (i.e, for the duration of the crediting period AND for at least 100 years after credit issuance). |  |  |
| 1. The QLCA explicitly refers to, and incorporates by reference, the terms and conditions of the PIA and the GHG reduction rights agreement (if applicable), thereby binding both the grantor and grantee – as well as their subsequent assignees – to the terms of the agreements for the full duration of the grassland project’s minimum time commitment, as defined in Section 3.5 of the protocol. |  |  |
| 1. The QLCA explicitly makes all future encumbrances and deeds subject to the project implementation agreement (PIA). |  |  |
| 1. The QLCA specifies any land within the project area where activities resulting in a land use other than grassland are allowed and, subsequently, excludes the affected land from the project area to avoid risk of a reversal due to such activities.   To satisfy this requirement, the QLCA may make reference to the carbon project and simply specify that any non-grassland land use must occur outside of the specified project area. |  |  |
| 1. The QLCA includes enforceable provisions for the ongoing monitoring of compliance with the terms of the land conservation agreement. |  |  |
| 1. The QLCA incorporates and requires environmental best management practices for rangeland management (this is not required for QLCAs, but is highly recommended). |  |  |
| 1. Additional Information (if any): |  | |

***End of Form***