



# WHC Certification® Standard Revision

Version 1.3.2 | 2026



## WHC Certification Version 1.3.2

With the objective of continuous improvement of Tandem Global's site-based certification, modifications to the WHC Certification Standard have been suggested and analyzed by an interdepartmental group of Tandem Global staff. In addition to the interdepartmental group of Tandem Global staff, the Executive Advisory Committee (EAC) has also been consulted on the modifications needed. The EAC brings together diverse perspectives, scientific rigor, and industry insights to guide the decision-making process of Tandem Global's certification standard

Applications are evaluated based on all updates in place which had been communicated by the time of submission. Therefore, any applications submitted after February 6, 2026, will be subject to these modifications.

### **Summary of Modifications**

<b>Application Component</b>	<b>Prior</b>	<b>Updated</b>	<b>Reasoning</b>
<b>Time on the Ground criteria</b>	In order to meet this criteria, habitat and species projects were required to be on the ground for a minimum of one growing or breeding season.	Habitat and species projects must be on the ground for a minimum of one (1) year to meet this criteria. *This update does not affect Education projects.	The update will increase clarity of the standard and consistency between projects.
<b>Covid Accommodations</b>	COVID-related interruptions were the only interruptions formally recognized for certification purposes.	COVID-related interruptions will no longer be recognized for certification purposes.	COVID-related interruptions are no longer being reported on certified sites.
<b>Natural Disaster Accommodations</b>	If a site experienced a natural disaster or other interruption to established projects, certification would expire at renewal if no materials were available for resubmission.	If a site is due for renewal but is unable to submit required materials due to a natural disaster or other interruption to established projects, the site may apply for a grace period. Grace periods will be granted on a case-by-case basis.	The grace period should allow sites to rebuild projects after experiencing disasters.



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