

Chelan County Voluntary Stewardship Program
VSP Work Group meeting
Tuesday, April 23, 2019
9:30 am – 12:00 pm
MEETING NOTES

The meeting began at 9:30 a.m. Introductions were made around the room.

Public Comment

No members of the public were present to offer comment.

Administrative items

Final draft of operating procedures: By consensus, the group approved the operating procedures with several changes to item #7 (change “quorum of voting members” to “majority of workgroup members”).

Open Public Meetings Act: Neil reminded members to view the OPMA training video and let him know when you’ve done so (so he can track this).

Update on additional funding request to SCC: A copy of the approved funding request was provided. Hannah described the approved request. Pre-project designs were included, and several specific projects were included.

Feedback from April 10 Technical Panel (TP) meeting

Lisa provided an overview. She explained to the TP that the monitoring has noted five acres of loss. TP said we could set a minimum threshold of loss that triggers concern. Mike Cushman thinks we should set such a threshold. Brian Cochrane, TP member, wonders if a five acre loss is significant on a basin scale. Britt thinks this percentage is low. We need to see this gain/loss in the field when detected. This might result in setting a “photo point”. Britt also thinks we should restrict who can view the change detection layer for privacy issues. Lisa said we have a separate link for workgroup members. She was asked to include a note that all results are on a basin scale. Lisa will pull off the change information layer from the publicly viewable information.

Other discussion points included WDFW wanting consideration of Site Potential Tree Height and soils. Britt thinks we should look at everything, including SPTH and any other available tools. He made two other points:

1. We need to look at the trends over time
2. He wonders when does the amount of loss become statistically significant?

Lisa suggested that we require some kind of field check. She also noted she asked the TP what we do if we don’t have information yet. We should show how we will get the information in the future. Mike Cushman thought the answer is also outreach.

Brian Cochrane wondered about information on shrub-steppe habitat. Chelan County does not have much of that habitat. Nothing is formally identified as that. We can add some information on this point for Brian.

In general, we didn't hear from the TP that we need much change to the report. We can add information on outreach.

The consulting team will bring back a revised version of the monitoring report at the workgroup's May meeting.

Outreach

Lisa reviewed the list of tasks:

- Checklist is on the county website
- Entiat planning unit meeting: Mick Cushman noted that the next meeting is May 1
- We will ask Mike Kaputa if the Wenatchee planning unit has a scheduled meeting

On the back page there is a list of potential future outreach opportunities. We will seek to expand that list.

Mike Cushman reported several outreach tasks have been done by the CD:

- Chelan County Salmon Enhancement Group has been contacted
- Yakama Tribe has been contacted
- Trout Unlimited has been contacted
- Found several more projects to input into the database

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:20 a.m.

Attendees:

- Britt Dudek, Chair
- Neil Aaland, Facilitator
- Lisa Grueter, Berk Consulting
- Hannah Pygott, Chelan County
- Graham Simon, WDFW
- Mike Cushman, CCD