

**Chelan County Voluntary Stewardship Program
VSP Work Group meeting
Tuesday,
December 1st, 2020
9:30 am – 10:30 am
MEETING NOTES**

Summary: Follow-up actions

Item	Follow-up
Required training on Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) – training or refresher required every 4 years	Confirm with Neil and Hannah that you have completed this (can do by watching video at https://www.atg.wa.gov/lesson-3-open-public-meetings-act-rcw-4230)
Outreach strategies	Continue work

The meeting began at 9:30 a.m. This was a call-in meeting and no physical presence occurred (Governor’s coronavirus requirements). An online meeting platform was used. Neil noted several upcoming workshops – 12/8 for an SCC VSP monitoring workshop and a series starting in January for critical and shoreline areas. Leslie Michel said the 12/8 workshop is focused on county needs for the VSP 10-year technical report. Graham said WDFW has hired Sean Williams as their agency VSP coordinator. Neil also noted the requirement for OPMA training every four years for staff and advisory group members.

Public Comment

No member of the public offered comment.

Project and Budget Updates

Hannah reviewed the budget status for the remainder of the biennium:

Task	Budget	Est. Remaining after 12/1/20 WG Meeting
Admin	\$ 42,200.00	\$ 11,800.00
Outreach	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 3,500.00
Implementation	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 88,000.00
Berk Consulting	\$ 52,800.00	\$ 28,800.00
Total	\$ 240,000.00	\$ 132,100.00

Implementation Break Down	Budget	Est. Remaining after 12/1/20 WG Meeting
Shovel Ready	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Large Projects	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 58,000.00
Total	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 88,000.00
NO. LO @ \$5k=17		

They applied for two FEMA grants, for the Shelton tree farm bank stabilization and the McKenzie irrigation ditch system. The workgroup is okay with those projects being included as match.

Workgroup approvals:

- \$7,000 is approved for BCA development costs for those projects.
- The workgroup authorized the funding for CoreGIS to move forward with imagery update.
- For irrigation efficiencies, working for spring implementation and Cost-share development this month and next. Up to 28 landowners might be interested; number will probably diminish as staff digs into them. Currently \$88,000 left for this project; could do 17 projects up to \$5,000. Workgroup approved continuing to work toward this.

Vicki noted a concern about anonymity for landowners. She also asked how VSP treats new agriculture; it was noted this is an issue for the program and the SCC has issued a position paper.

Outreach

- Many opportunities are not available right now due to the pandemic limitations
- Mike noted the meeting with Stemilt partnership went well, a lot of interest. He does not yet know the exact interest from that area.
- Hannah has worked on a set of slides for use in workshops and outreach opportunities with other entities; will be done this week
- Tree Fruit Days and WSU Newsletter in January.
- Vicki noted that 4-H and FFA are real opportunities for outreach; group was interested in pursuing that for next biennium
- Graham noted that high school seniors must do senior projects for graduation
- We have talked about developing a program addressing VSP for pesticide credits; Vicki had some specific ideas on how to incorporate VSP into that. We will investigate doing that next biennium
- Follow-up from last meeting on fire damage: Only involvement from VSP would be the BCA’s we discussed earlier/staff time in application development and support to be used as match.

Next steps: Confirm next meeting date [Confirmed for March 2]

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:20 a.m.

Attendees:

Neil Aaland, Facilitator
 Lisa Grueter, Berk Consulting
 Mike Kaputa, Chelan County
 Vicki Malloy, Farm Bureau

Britt Dudek, Chair
 Graham Simon, WDFW
 Chelsea Benner, Ecology
 Leslie Michel, AGR