

**Chelan County Voluntary Stewardship Program  
VSP Work Group meeting  
Tuesday, September 22, 2020  
9:30 am – 10:30 am  
MEETING NOTES**

**Summary: Follow-up actions**

Item	Follow-up
Stemilt Partnership meeting week of October 5	Arrange for Hannah to be on their agenda for a brief VSP presentation
Budget update on how much is remaining for biennium – project implementation	Hannah will send update to Neil for forwarding to the workgroup
Highlights from SCC workshop on monitoring reports	Hannah will send to Neil for forwarding
Existing list of events	Hannah will find and update list
Existing standard VSP presentation update	Hannah will send to Neil for forwarding; workgroup members review and provide edits to Hannah
Next VSP workgroup meeting date	Neil will confirm whether Dec. 1 works for members (NOTE: it does, please note on your calendars)

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.

**Public Comment**

No member of the public offered comment.

**Project Updates**

Hannah noted it has been a busy construction season. Regarding the Colockum Creek project approved at the last meeting, they are moving forward with WDFW coordination and consultant selection.

She is working with others in her department on the outreach for irrigation efficiencies. An outreach mailer will go out shortly. She is coordinating with local irrigation districts to get the word out. Lisa asked if it was going to all four basins; Hannah confirmed that. Mike noted that the week of October 5 is the Stemilt Partnership meeting; it would be good to get Hannah on the agenda for a short presentation.

Hannah discussed a new project. This fits as a potential pre-project development item. The mainstem of the Entiat River has a one-mile reach with several landowners interested in projects. Project types include bank stabilization, off-channel habitat restoration, riparian planting, and irrigation efficiencies. She proposes that \$20,000 be set aside for preliminary assessments. Mike noted that one potential project includes 15 acres of orchard land. This area is identified as a high priority area and it can probably leverage other funding. The workgroup approved the \$20,000

for these projects. Hannah will send Neil an update on how much of the development budget is left.

Hannah attended the online monitoring workshop with the State Conservation Commission. They want future reports to use the project template. There were a couple of highlights that she will send Neil. Follow-up training will be offered.

### **Outreach**

Mike wanted to discuss today an outreach effort aimed at local producers – update them on what has been happening on VPS and what is available. He is interested in knowing what other events are happening so we can check on getting on those agendas and having a presence. He asked the workgroup members about known schedule of events.

- We have a list of events that we should update
- Consider the warehouse meetings
- Next Hort show put on by WSTFA
- Farm Bureau virtual conference in October
- Tree fruit days in January put on by WSU – Jan 18-22

Ranie thinks those are the main ones. She will get the dates for their annual meeting, which may be a good opportunity. Vicki said the HORT Expo is December 7; call (509) 293-8758 to get on the schedule.

Britt wanted to discuss pesticide credits. He noted that Bill Eller's e-mail was addressing the idea of getting credits at workgroup meetings; his idea is NOT to provide it there but at other venues. He is thinking about focusing on vegetation management. We could work with chemical providers; someone could give a vegetation management seminar that refers to VSP needs. No farmers are going right now to seminars. The Department of Agriculture is offering online methods; we should link up with them.

Hannah will update the list of events. Send her an e-mail if we are aware of others. She noted we have an existing VSP presentation; we should review and update it. She will send it to Neil for forwarding to the group.

Vicki thinks many have already heard VSP presentations and are not paying attention to it. Good to have a packet with pages they can fill in and turn in. Lisa thinks it should list the types of project funding that are available, have some examples.

Vicki asked about reaching out to people affected by fire damage, and wonders if any of those are next to critical areas. Mike thinks someone should be doing a post-fire analysis; we should find out who is doing that. Britt said this information should be readily available. Graham has been in touch with Cascadia and they have been working on that, meeting with landowners.

**Next steps:** Neil will send an e-mail to confirm a Dec. 1 date for the next workgroup meeting. [NOTE: this date is confirmed]. At that meeting we can discuss outreach opportunities in January and February.

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

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**Attendees:**

Neil Aaland, Facilitator  
Lisa Grueter, Berk Consulting  
Mike Kaputa, Chelan County  
Ranie Haas, WSTFA

Vicki Malloy, Farm Bureau  
Britt Dudek, Chair  
Graham Simon, WDFW  
Chelsea Benner, Ecology