

# November 2018 VSP Newsletter

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**R**EGIONAL VSP MEETINGS IN DECEMBER 2018: The Conservation Commission will host two regional VSP meetings this December. Come learn about VSP work plan implementation at one of our informational sessions.

Two dates and locations are being offered (Moses Lake and Chehalis). The agenda for both meetings is the same, so you'll only need to attend one meeting. **Lunch will be provided only for those attendees who RSVP at this [link](#) on or before November 15, 2018.**

December 4, 2018 – at the Veterans Memorial Museum, 100 SW Veterans Way, Chehalis, WA 98532

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

December 11, 2018 – at the Moses Lake School District Board Room, 940 E. Yonezawa Blvd., Moses Lake, WA 98837

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

A draft agenda is available [here](#).

Lunch provided only for those who RSVP for these sessions no later than November 15. Please use this link to RSVP:

<https://www.formstack.com/forms/?3212890-vpPKNxrlSb>

Due to the interactive nature of the meetings, no webinar will be available.

If you have questions or are a person with a disability and need special accommodations, please contact the Conservation Commission at (360) 407-6200.



*Stevens County VSP Project Outreach Tour, September 8, 2018 – Offsite Livestock Watering*

FERRY COUNTY VSP WORK PLAN APPROVED: Ferry County's VSP work plan was approved by the Technical Panel on October 26, 2018. VSP work plans can be found on the Commission's VSP web page [here](#). Congratulations to the Ferry County work group for their hard work and effort!

VSP WEB PAGE UPDATE: The Commission has substantially updated its VSP web page. Since most VSP counties have approved work plans, the Commission has eliminated the "Counties and Workgroups" tab on its web page and replaced it with a tab dedicated to [implementation of the work plan](#). There, in one place, you will find information related to VSP implementation: reporting, roles and responsibilities, project management, monitoring, outreach and billing / finances. Please check the web page periodically as new information and resources are continually being added to it to assist you with VSP implementation.

UPCOMING JOINT MEETINGS OF THE VSP TECHNICAL PANEL AND STATEWIDE ADVISORY COMMITTEE: The VSP Technical Panel and Statewide Advisory Committee continue to update their meeting schedules. The most complete and up-to-date meeting schedule and meeting agendas can always be found on the [Technical Panel web page](#) and the [Statewide](#)

[Advisory Committee web page](#). All meetings will be held at the Farm Bureau building, 975 Carpenter Rd NE #101, Lacey, WA 98516, unless otherwise noted. The next meeting is set for Friday, November 30, 2018, from 8 am – 11 am at the Farm Bureau building, 975 Carpenter Rd NE #101, Lacey, WA 98516. The meeting is available by webinar and we encourage webinar attendance.

To register for the November 30<sup>th</sup> webinar meeting, please use the link below:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2233275630218895619>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

VSP FUNDS USED FOR PROJECT COST-SHARE: Though the Technical Panel is still working to approve the Spokane County VSP work plan, those counties that have approved plans are already working on implementation. Some are looking into providing a cost-share program for VSP participants. For a detailed review of how cost-share works in VSP, please reference [this document](#) on our web page.

Remember, anyone implementing VSP and seeking to use VSP funds for cost-share must consult with Commission staff before funds are available. The

staff person at the Commission responsible for VSP cost-share is Karla Heinitz. Please contact her by email at [kheinitz@scc.wa.gov](mailto:kheinitz@scc.wa.gov) or by phone at 360-407-6212.

**HOW TO FIND APPROVED COUNTY VSP WORK PLANS:** To find VSP Work Plans that have been submitted to the Commission, please go to the main VSP web page [here](#). Once there, click on the map the county that you are interested in. An informational box will appear that has the link to the county work plan and whether any public comment was received by the Commission on the plan.

**VSP, CAO'S AND "NEW AGRICULTURE":** The Commission continues to work with the VSP Statewide Advisory Committee (SAC) on clarifying how VSP and critical area ordinances apply to "new" agriculture. Commission staff is working on a draft statement of the issue for review by the SAC and relevant agencies before moving forward. A public comment period will be available during that process. More information, as it becomes available, will be published here in the VSP monthly newsletter and on [the Commission's VSP web page](#).

**VSP 2 YEAR AND 5 YEAR REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:** [Policy Advisory \(PA\) 05-18](#) deals with implementation reporting requirements for VSP. All work groups, county staff,

conservation district staff, and other staff responsible for VSP implementation should review [PA 05-18](#) to ensure they understand these two-year and five-year deadlines. The Commission suggests setting up a project management system to track reporting requirements and deadlines. More details and a complete schedule for submittal of two year and five year reports are in [PA 05-18](#). All PA's can be found on the VSP web page [here](#) and on the SAC web page [here](#).

The Commission is working on adding clarity to the VSP statute through the adoption of Washington Administrative Code regulations setting out the 2 year and 5 year reporting content in more detail so that counties are clear on the expectations for the content of the reports and can satisfy all of the related requirements. Commission staff is working on draft regulations for review by the SAC and adoption as soon as practicable. A public comment period will be available during that process. More information, as it becomes available, will be published here in the VSP monthly newsletter and on [the Commission's VSP web page](#).

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