# Ferry County Voluntary Stewardship Program Checklist

This Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) checklist is intended to help farmers and ranchers contribute to the goals and benchmarks of the Ferry County VSP Work Plan. Many farmers and ranchers in the County are already conducting conservation practices that promote agricultural viability while also providing protections to critical area functions.

# Help keep critical areas protection voluntary.

Working together, farmers and ranchers can use voluntary efforts to avoid additional regulatory controls.

### This VSP checklist intends to:

- Identify and document existing stewardship strategies or practices you have implemented since 2011 (effective date of VSP), either through existing publicly funded programs or voluntarily implemented through producer-funded practices.
- Identify opportunities to:
  - Maintain or improve existing conservation practices
  - Implement additional conservation practices on your land and connect you with technical service providers for implementing these practices
- Encourage high producer participation, through implementation of voluntary stewardship strategies and
  practices to help ensure the success of VSP. Failure of the County to meet protection and associated
  participation goals will trigger the traditional regulatory approach to critical area protection under the
  County's Critical Areas Ordinance process.

### **Conservation Practices on Your Farm or Ranch**

Conservation practices are broadly defined as any practice that, when implemented, further protects critical areas directly or indirectly, and maintains or improves agricultural viability, whether or not they meet a Natural Resources Conservation Service conservation practice or other standard. Conservation practices may fall under multiple categories; please include each implemented practice **only once**.

### **Privacy Note:**

Information collected by producers using this checklist will be used to quantify, **at the County-level**, stewardship measures that have been implemented, as well as associated critical area protections and enhancements, and agricultural viability benefits. VSP Checklists can also assist producers in developing an "individual stewardship plan" in coordination with Ferry Conservation District. "Individual stewardship plans" that a conservation district helps a producer develop are confidential and exempt from disclosure, similar to farm plans developed by conservation districts. Conservation practices information shared by producers with the Ferry Conservation District will be reported for VSP at the watershed and County scales.

For more information about VSP, please visit:

https://www.ferrycd.org/voluntary-stewardship

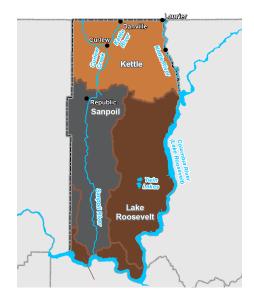
Or email:

lloyd.odell@conservewa.net

## **General Location (Voluntary information)**

If you are inclined to share, what area is your farm or ranch located within?

- ☐ Kettle
- ☐ Lake Roosevelt
- ☐ Sanpoil



# Land Management and Agricultural Viability

# What types of land management or agricultural viability concerns do you have on your property?

- ☐ Forest understory management
- ☐ Wildfire risk
- Weed and pest management

- Erosion/landslide risks
- Flooding
- Other(s) please list:

### **Weed Management**



Noxious weed management efforts are being conducted with Weed Board funds that are available throughout the County in coordination with the Ferry Conservation District re-seeding efforts.

## **Forest Understory Management**



Forest understory management is a key practice for maintaining grazing access and conditions in forested rangelands while also reducing wildfire hazards, improving soil composition, and providing habitat and forage access to wildlife.

# What conservation practices are being implemented on your farm or ranch?

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Example Conservation Practices	I do this	I'm interested in this	Does not apply	Not interested	Average units/year (acres/feet/other)
Livestock/Range Management	i do tino	in this	ирріу	merestea	(deres) receptorier)
Reseeding Mixed-Use Pasture Land	0	0	0	0	
Prescribed Grazing	0	0	0	0	
Heavy Use Protection	0	0	0	0	
Pumping Plant	0	0	0	0	
Spring Development and Watering Facilities	0	0	0	0	
Other(s):	0	0	0	0	
Forest Understory Management					
Woody Residue/Forest Slash Treatment	0	0	0	0	
Tree/Shrub Pruning	0	0	0	0	
Forest Stand Improvement	0	0	0	0	
Other(s):	0	0	0	0	
Nutrient and Pest Management					
Pest Management	0	0	0	0	
Nutrient Management	0	0	0	0	
Other(s):	0	0	0	0	
Soil Management					
Deep Tillage	0	0	0	0	
Conservation Crop Rotation	0	0	0	0	
Cover Crop	0	0	0	0	
Other(s):	0	0	0	0	
Irrigation Management			<u>I</u>	II	
Irrigation System, Sprinkler or Microirrigation	0	0	0	0	
Irrigation Water Management	0	0	0	0	
Other(s):	0	0	0	0	
Habitat Management		1		<u>I</u>	
Riparian Forest Buffer	0	0	0	0	
Access Control	0	0	0	0	
Tree/Shrub Site Preparation	0	0	0	0	
Structure for Water Control	0	0	0	0	
Tree/Shrub Establishment	0	0	0	0	
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	0	0	0	0	
Fish and Wildlife Structure	0	0	0	0	
Streambank and Shoreline Protection	0	0	0	0	
Other(s):	0	0	0	0	

## **Additional Information and Assistance**

If you have questions or would like more information on how to get involved, contact the VSP Coordinator or visit the Ferry County VSP website at https://www.ferrycd.org/voluntary-stewardship. Critical areas exist throughout the County. You can direct questions about the presence of critical areas on your property to the Ferry County VSP Coordinator by using the contact information below. You can also visit the VSP website for critical area maps for Ferry County.

### **Ferry County Conservation District Technical Assistance Provider:**

Lloyd Odell, District Manager and VSP Coordinator lloyd.odell@conservewa.net (509) 775-3473 ext. 104 84 E. Delaware Ave. Republic, Washington 99166

### Other Resources:

- Ferry County: http://www.ferry-county.com/
- Washington State Farm Bureau: https://wsfb.com/
- Washington Cattlemen's Association: http://www.washingtoncattlemen.org/
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/national/home/
- Washington State University Extension: http://extension.wsu.edu/