

**Spokane County VSP
Work Group Meeting
Minutes
January 17, 2018**

Work Group Members Present: David Boleneus, Brent Burger, Judy Crowder, Casey Flanagan, Doug Greenlund, Ty Meyer, Crystal Oliver, Amanda Parish, Kevin Paulson

Staff: Walt Edelen, Lindsay Chutas, and Seth Flanders

Facilitator: Andy Dunau

Welcome, Minutes and Announcements: Andy Dunau welcomed participants to the meeting. Draft November minutes were discussed. Ty made a motion to accept the minutes and Casey seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Draft December minutes were discussed. Judy asked for CAV to be defined in the minutes. With the change, Crystal motioned to accept the minutes and Ty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Seth updated the group on the Edge of Field monitoring project. With allocated funds from 2017, the VSP workgroup purchased an Edge of Field monitoring station to pair with the one bought by WSCC. Each system is used in an agricultural micro watershed where it collects runoff into a composite sample that measures sediment, nitrogen, and phosphorous. One field is a conventionally tilled field which is paired with a field implementing multiple upland practices such as precision nutrient management and no-till/direct seed. Neither has been installed on the ground but with two willing landowners now available, installation and collecting are hoped to begin next month. This innovative approach will assist with monitoring and validating best management practices identified in the work plan.

Outreach: Cherilyn Nagle was one of the keynote speakers at the SRF and PNDSA conferences. After hearing her presentation, the SCD is interested in bringing her to Spokane to meet with different producer groups. Her main focus is helping provide a voice to agriculture and build back trust with the public. She would be brought in to lead workshops with producers. Included in a workshop would be sharing highlights of VSP workplan and receiving input into BMPs they are most interested in. This will assist the group in accomplishing VSP workplan requirements for public outreach. Judy motioned to have Walt find and lock in dates for Cherilyn Nagle. Assuming dates are available, Walt will put together a draft workshop agenda for review at next meeting.

Review Work Plan Outline: An updated outline for the work plan was reviewed. For each section, staff reviewed who would take the lead in writing, and remaining gaps to be filled, e.g.—use of stewardship plans as part of technical assistance and outreach.

A lesson learned from Stevens County workplan is to cross reference key (best) management practices with practices called for in related watershed plans, TMDLs, etc. The state technical team wants to see this to establish that the work plan is complimentary and synergistic with other plans and initiatives.

Section one will be sent to work group before next VSP meeting.

Review of Geologic Hazards, Frequently Flooded Areas Matrixes:

Geologic Hazards: Discussion ensued about the Protection Goal definition. The group decided to remove “functions and values” and add “further” before degradation. Andy was asked to identify definition for Geologic Hazard in critical areas, and to email that to workgroup. GIS changed to include acronym, Geographic Information Systems. Andy will add link for the RCW at the end of the matrix.

Frequently Flooded Areas: Under the description, restore deleted text “channel maintenance and improvements, flood storage”. Under the Performance Metric, remove “unresolved issues identified through” and “performed by Ecology and FEMA”. Include language that opens future use of evaluation services while also stating that we are going to currently use CAVs. Under Monitoring Method remove “unresolved” and “Ecology”.

Andy and Lindsay will update each matrix.

Update on aerial imagery monitoring

There were issues with the files received from the county that Lindsay is working with the county to resolve.

Additional Business: There was no additional business.

V. Action Items and Closing: Follow-up and action items include:

- Andy will draft and distribute January minutes.
- Andy and staff will draft section one of work plan.
- Lindsay and Andy will update matrixes based on group input.
- Lindsay will continue to work on proof of concept for aerial imagery monitoring.
- Seth will work on entry of nonpoint source project data into data base.
- SCD will develop a strategy for a staff person to possibly be an ag viability liaison.
- SCD will begin to research with county opportunities to amend Conservation Futures Funding options to support commodity buffer program.

Next meeting will be at SCD, Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 6 pm.