



VOLUNTARY STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

OVERVIEW OF ENTITIES INVOLVED IN VSP AND THEIR ROLES

WASHINGTON STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION (SCC):

- ◇ Administers VSP statewide;
- ◇ Executive Director approves / rejects work plans submitted by VSP Workgroups.

COUNTY:

- ◇ Decides which entity will administer funds;
- ◇ Designates VSP Workgroup Coordinating Entity (counties may designate themselves for either or both of these roles);
- ◇ Ultimately responsible for all VSP Workgroup products.

VSP WORKGROUP COORDINATING ENTITY:

- ◇ Recruits members to participate on VSP Workgroup in accordance with statute guidance on stakeholder representation;
- ◇ Facilitates VSP Workgroup meetings and timely progress toward deliverables;
- ◇ May be designated as entity to administer funds.

VSP WORKGROUP:

- ◇ Develops local VSP work plan;
- ◇ Identifies lead entity for outreach / implementation of the work plan;
- ◇ Provides progress reports to the SCC.

LEAD ENTITY FOR OUTREACH / IMPLEMENTATION:

- ◇ Proactively reaches out to agricultural landowners in targeted areas in accordance with approved work plan;
- ◇ Helps agricultural landowners develop “stewardship plans” (essentially farm plans) that include best management practices to help protect critical areas associated with their property and maintain viability of the landowner’s operation.

TECHNICAL PANEL:

- ◇ Reviews draft work plans submitted by the VSP Workgroup and makes recommendations to SCC Executive Director on whether to approve or reject the plan;
- ◇ Members represent directors (or director-designees) of the Washington Departments of Ecology, Fish and Wildlife, Agriculture, and the SCC.

STATEWIDE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

- ◇ Works with SCC Executive Director and VSP Workgroup to revise draft work plans that are rejected;
- ◇ Committee’s statutorily designated members include two representatives each from environmental interests, agriculture, and counties, and two tribal representatives are invited to participate.