

## August 2016 VSP Newsletter

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Hi folks! This is the monthly installment of a Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) informational newsletter. Please sign up to receive the newsletter [here](#). Feedback is welcome at [beller@scc.wa.gov](mailto:beller@scc.wa.gov).

**JOINT VSP TECHNICAL PANEL AND STATEWIDE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ON AUGUST 1, 2016:** The VSP Technical Panel (TP) and Statewide Advisory Committee (SAC) met on August 1, 2016 and discussed policy, procedure and timelines for getting work plans done. They are still working on all of these topics. Notes from that meeting are being developed. Please check either the [TP web page](#) or [SAC web page](#) for more details. The meeting was in-person and webinar format.

**AUGUST 31, 2016 JOINT MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL PANEL AND STATEWIDE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** The next joint meeting of the TP and SAC will be August 31, 2016, from 9am-4pm. The in-person meeting locations will be in Lacey and Colville, and the meeting will also be available by webinar. Full details will be available on the [TP web page](#) or [SAC web page](#). To register for VSP TP and SAC Meeting on Aug 31, 2016 9:00 AM PDT, please use this link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6153898787301623043>

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

**VSP MONTHLY CONSULTANT Q&A:** The monthly teleconference/webinar for all those interested in VSP at a statewide level is coming up on **Thursday, August 11**. This conference call is meant to be a Q & A on VSP for all 27 VSP opt-in counties. The purpose of the call is to be a forum to disseminate information about VSP on a statewide level and to answer VSP related questions. It is open to any who want to phone in, but mainly directed at County staff, Conservation District staff, and consultants and facilitators responsible for VSP. The next call is **Thursday, August 11, from 9am-10am**. Links to past webinar recordings are available on the [VSP Workgroups web page](#).

**VSP MEDIA PACKAGE:** During last month's consultant call, a question came up of whether the Commission had any VSP media packet (press releases, etc) available for counties to use. The Commission is working on just such a media packet, and we will let you know when it is available to use. In the mean time, feel free to create your own media packets.

**GOLF COURSES AND CANNABIS GROWS:** We've received questions about whether golf courses and cannabis grows should be included in the definition of ag activities under VSP. Golf courses wouldn't fit under the definition of ag activities in [RCW 36.70A.703](#) and [RCW 90.58.065](#). So they wouldn't be included in ag activities such that the work plan would need to address them for that purpose. For cannabis grow operations, yes, they would be included

in the ag activities definition, but given the current state of federal law, it would be problematic to find applicable incentive programs to address them (i.e. to incentivize growers to participate in the VSP work plan). But, cannabis grows would still need to be addressed in the work plans, so far as they impact critical areas.

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