

# May 2018 VSP Newsletter

This is the monthly installment of a Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) newsletter. Please sign up to receive the newsletter [here](#). Feedback is welcome – please direct it to [Bill Eller](#).

**BENTON, DOUGLAS, KITTITAS AND LINCOLN COUNTY VSP WORK PLANS APPROVED:** Benton County’s VSP work plan was approved by the Technical Panel on April 16, 2018, and Douglas, Kittitas and Lincoln County’s work plans were approved by the Technical Panel on April 27, 2018. VSP work plans can be found on the Commission’s VSP web page [here](#). Congratulations to all four county work groups for their hard work and effort!

**VSP QUARTERLY REPORT:** Thank you for your timely submittal of the VSP quarterly report last month. This quarter we had an 85% success rate (24 of 27) of counties turning them in on time. Please remember to set yourself reminders if you are the responsibility party for county VSP work group quarterly reports.

The [VSP quarterly report](#) is due every quarter as a deliverable in the contract between the Commission and each of the 27 VSP counties. If you are the responsible party for the VSP contract in your county, please remember to set a reminder for yourself to timely submit the quarterly report.

The quarterly report and schedule for submittal can be found on the “[Counties and Work Groups](#)” page of the Commission’s VSP web page, under the tab called “Reporting.” It can also be found on the [quarterly report form](#) itself.

For your convenience, the remaining quarterly report schedule is reproduced below:

Period of April 1 – June 30, 2018 – **Due July 10, 2018**

Period of July 1 – September 30, 2018 – **Due October 10, 2018**

Period of October 1 – December 31, 2018 – **Due January 10, 2019**

Period of January 1 – March 31, 2019 – **Due April 10, 2019**

Period of April 1 – June 30, 2019 – **Due July 10, 2019**

**SUBMITTAL OF VSP WORK PLANS TO THE COMMISSION:** There are three counties whose work plans are in review by the Technical Panel (Asotin, Garfield, and Mason). That leaves just 9 counties left to submit work plans to the Commission (Cowlitz, Okanogan, Columbia, Grays Harbor, Pend Oreille, Lewis, Adams, Ferry and Spokane). Due dates to submit work plans for the remaining 9 counties are as follows:

Cowlitz – June 22, 2018

Okanogan – June 28, 2018

Columbia – July 20, 2018

Pend Oreille – August 2, 2018

Ferry – September 14, 2018

Grays Harbor – September 21, 2018

Lewis – October 18, 2018

Spokane – October 22, 2018

Adams – November 23, 2018

The Commission has set up a schedule for the formal submittal of VSP work plans. Counties wishing to formally submit work plans must contact [Bill Eller](#) at the Commission before submitting their work plans so that the plan can be assigned in the schedule. If you have not already done so, please contact [Bill Eller](#) at 509-385-7512 or by email at [beller@scc.wa.gov](mailto:beller@scc.wa.gov) to schedule the submittal of your county's work plan.

*Action by Work Group on Work Plan:* Remember, the action the VSP work group needs to take in sending the work plan to the Commission is that the work group should move to submit the work plan to the Commission and VSP Technical Panel, not “approve” the work plan.

*Technical Panel Review Process:* The Technical Panel typically has at least two meetings during the review process. The first meeting is the first time the Technical Panel has an opportunity to discuss the work plan amongst themselves as they can only talk about the plans amongst themselves during an open public meeting. They also make oral comments on the work plan during that initial meeting. A representative from the submitting work group is asked to attend and make a brief presentation (30 minutes) on the work plan goals and benchmarks. After that initial meeting, the Technical Panel members work to craft written agency comments that are compiled by the Commission and supplied back to the work group that submitted the plan. Then, at the next

Technical Panel meeting on the work plan, the Technical Panel considers the work plan in light of the written comments the members made. Sometimes more than two meetings are needed to complete the review process.

VSP TECHNICAL PANEL CHANGE IN MEMBERS: Please welcome a new member to the VSP Technical Panel, representing the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) – Keith Folkerts. Keith is the PHS Section Manager and Land Use Policy Lead for WDFW and will be taking over for Terra Rentz. The [Technical Panel agency member list](#) has been updated. Keith can be reached at the following address: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Mailing: POB 43200, Olympia, WA 98504-3200; Physical: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington St. SE, Olympia, WA 98501, Main Line: 360-902-2200, Office – (360) 902-2390, [www.wdfw.wa.gov](http://www.wdfw.wa.gov), [keith.folkerts@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:keith.folkerts@dfw.wa.gov).

UPCOMING 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. Each meeting is also available by webinar.

The next meeting of the VSP Technical Panel will be May 11, 2018. To register for the webinar, please use the link below:

Joint Technical Panel and Statewide Advisory Committee meeting **on May 11, 2018**  
**8:00 AM PST at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3994916458154115331>**

The VSP Statewide Advisory Committee and the Technical Panel will meet jointly at the end of each month. To register for the webinar, please use the link below:

Joint Technical Panel and Statewide Advisory Committee meeting **on May 25, 2018**  
**8:00 AM PST at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3976100515667912707>**

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