

September 2019 VSP Newsletter

TWO YEAR STATUS REPORT:
The two-year status report required in [RCW 36.70A.720 \(1\)](#) **(i) was due on August 30, 2019.**

As of August 30, 2019, the Commission received 26 of 27 two year VSP status reports from the 27 VSP counties, and are working with the remaining county on their submittal.

The Commission suggests setting up a project management system to track VSP reporting requirements and deadlines. More details and a complete schedule for submittal of the two-year report is in [PA 05-18](#).

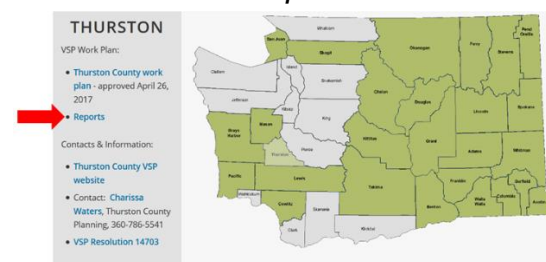
2 YEAR AND 5 YEAR REPORTS AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING: 2 year VSP status reports and 5 year VSP review reports (most 5 year review reports start arriving in winter 2020) will be posted on the [Commission's VSP web page](#) under each corresponding county on the map. To view the reports, select a county on the map. Once a county is selected, use the sidebar to the left of the map to find the link to "Reports".

Directions:

1. Go to the [SCC VSP web page](#)
2. Click on a county on the map (in this example, we choose Thurston)



3. Click on the "Reports" link



UPCOMING JOINT MEETING 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.

The next meeting is set for Thursday, October 3, 2019, from 9 am – 12 pm. The meeting is available by webinar and we encourage webinar attendance.

To register for the October 3rd webinar meeting, please use the link below:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8321025234886739724>

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

VSP TECHNICAL PANEL CHANGE IN MEMBERS: Please welcome a new member to the VSP Technical Panel, representing the Department of Ecology (ECY) – Rick Mraz. Rick is the Wetland Policy Lead for ECY and will be taking over for Lauren Driscoll. The [Technical Panel agency member list](#) has been updated. Rick can be reached at the following address: Washington State Department of Ecology Headquarters, 300 Desmond Drive, Lacey, WA 98503-1274; Main Line: 360-407-6000; Office: 360-407-6924.

VSP INTRODUCTORY TRAINING FOR STATE AGENCY STAFF: The Conservation Commission will present an “*Introduction to the Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP)*” training for state agency staff on **Thursday, October 3, 2019 from 1 pm – 2:30 pm at the Washington State Farm Bureau Building, 975 Carpenter Rd NE, Lacey, WA 98516 ([Map](#))**. State agency staff are encouraged to attend in person, but there also is an option to join by webinar using the following link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6219635313522046988>

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

The purpose of the training is to provide an introduction to VSP for new agency staff, and to refresh established staff with the current state of VSP.

Topics to be covered will include:

- History and creation of VSP
- VSP work plans
- Implementation of VSP
- Roles in VSP (with an emphasis on state agencies)
- VSP Technical Panel
- VSP Statewide Advisory Committee
- Where to find current information about VSP

The focus of the training will be an exchange of information about VSP. So, while webinar attendance is an option, state agency staff are encouraged to attend in-person to facilitate conversation.

The training will be directed at state agency staff. If you are not state agency staff, but would like an Introduction to VSP training, please contact [Bill Eller](#).

**NEW COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
COUNTY OR STATE AGENCY STAFF,
OR TECHNICAL SERVICE
PROVIDER?**

Commission staff and VSP Technical Panel members are available to provide VSP training to new county commissioners, county planning staff, state agency staff, and VSP technical service providers.

We understand that the VSP has been around since 2011, and funded since 2015, and since that time there have been personnel changes throughout the VSP partnership. We want to make sure that all who play a role in making VSP a success receive a basic training on what VSP is, how it came to be, why it is important to the local community, and how it works to protect critical areas while maintaining agricultural viability.

We can also provide training to other interested parties, as needed. However, we will prioritize those that have a direct

role in VSP - county commissioners, county staff, state agency staff, and technical service providers. Please contact the Commission's [VSP coordinator Bill Eller](#) with training needs.

QUARTERLY REPORT DUE

OCTOBER 10: 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 new "[Implementation](#)" page of the Commission's VSP web page, under the "Reporting" tab. It can also be found on the [quarterly report form](#) itself.

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

Jul 1 – Sep 30, 2019: Due Oct 10, 2019
Oct 1 – Dec 31, 2019: Due Jan 10, 2020
Jan 1 – Mar 31, 2020: Due Apr 10, 2020
Apr 1 – Jun 30, 2020: Due Jul 10, 2020
Jul 1 – Sep 30, 2020: Due Oct 10, 2020
Oct 1 – Dec 31, 2020: Due Jan 10, 2021
Jan 1 – Mar 31, 2021: Due Apr 10, 2021
Apr 1 – Jun 30, 2021: Due Jul 10, 2021

LOOKING FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ON VSP INDIVIDUAL STEWARDSHIP PLANS (ISP'S)? Each county has treated Individual Stewardship Plans (ISP's) or what they call ISP's differently in their VSP work plans, depending on their needs. Aside from what is in the VSP statute ([RCW 36.70A.750](#)) about ISP's, there is information about ISP's in various places on the [Commission's VSP web page](#) –

- [VSP FAQ](#) (general ISP information)
- [VSP web page – Outreach Materials tab](#) (ISP examples)
- [PA 01-17 - Confidentiality of VSP Individual Stewardship Plans](#) (confidentiality of ISP's prepared by conservation districts)

UPDATED INFORMATION FOR THE COMMISSION'S VSP WEB PAGE? If your county has information related to VSP that needs to be updated on the [Commission's VSP web page](#), please contact [Bill Eller](#) so that information can be updated.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE VSP NEWSLETTER: New subscribers should access this link and choose the subscription for the "*Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP)*" under the *Programs and Policy* tab:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WASCC/subscriber/new>.

If you have any questions on how to sign up, please contact Bill Eller (beller@scc.wa.gov) or Laura Johnson (LJohnson@scc.wa.gov) at the Commission.

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