

**VSP Work Group**  
**Chelan County Voluntary Stewardship Program**

**Date: Friday, December 16, 2022**

**Time: 4:00 – 5:00 pm**

**\*\*Virtual/Call-in Meeting\*\***

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84821841777?pwd=V3pUNmlqR0lrZUkvaHBIUXpwRzVzZz09>

**Meeting Agenda**

1. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. Work group members in attendance: Vicki Malloy—Chelan Douglas Farm Bureau, Britt Dudek (chairman), Graham Simon—WDFW, Mike Kaputa—Chelan County Natural Resources, Stephen Lesky—CCNRD VSP Coordinator
2. Public Comment
  - a. No members of the general public were in attendance
3. Discussion Topics:
  - a. General Updates
    - i. VSP Supplemental Budget
      1. Stephen Lesky gave an update on the supplemental implementation budget.
    - ii. Chelan County VSP Tour
      1. Stephen provided a recap of the VSP Technical Panel tour that occurred on 28 October 2022. Graham Simon relayed positive comments and feedback that were shared with him by WDFW that attended the tour.
    - iii. Capital Budget Funding Requests
      1. Stephen updated the work group on funding requests by the SCC to the State Legislature. These requests include approximately \$1.4 Million in addition funding to support VSP monitoring efforts and an additional \$3 million to support project implementation. Stephen noted that these are requests at the moment and will not be final until after the legislature approves them. Graham asked if these requests will aid the Chelan County program. Stephen responded if approved by the legislature these two additional funding sources will greatly improve our ability to carry out the VSP program as intended.
  - b. Budget
    - i. Budget Review
      1. Stephen updated the work group on the current budget expenditures, remaining balance, and expected expenditures.

c. Project Updates

i. Manson Irrigation Efficiencies

1. Stephen Updated the group that one of the two Manson area projects has been completed and has been submitted for reimbursement, the other is still ongoing.

ii. Yaksum Canyon

1. Stephen noted that we are still waiting to hear on the status of the WaterSmart grant that was submitted in April. Project is in a state of pause until notice of grant application outcome is received from Bureau of Reclamation.

iii. Entiat Surface to Groundwater Conversion

1. Stephen updated the group on Aspect's progress of this project. Currently Aspect has been able to verify the water right and has begun conducting a hydrogeological assessment to assess best location and capability of the proposed groundwater well. Aspect is expect to provide a Technical document of the project in January.

iv. Dept. of Ecology Riparian Mapping and Prioritization Grant

1. Stephen updated the group that this project is moving along as expected. Consultants with BERK and CORE GIS have begun collecting datasets required to begin geospatial analysis of riparian corridors.

d. New Projects

i. Mission Creek Irrigation Efficiencies

1. Stephen notified the group that a Cashmere area grower has expressed interest in the Irrigation Efficiency Program. This project exceeds the \$5000 100% cost share threshold and will require a vote of the work group for approval and cost share rate determination. Both Vicki and Britt expressed concerns of timeframe and supply chain issues of required materials, given projects have to be completed by the June 30<sup>th</sup> in order to receive reimbursement. Additionally there was not enough work group members in attendance to hold a qualified vote. This project will be readdressed in 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2023 meeting.

e. Outreach

i. Conducted

1. Direct contact with Chelan County farmers and Greater Wenatchee Irrigation District
2. NW Horticulture Expo
3. Chelan-Douglas Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

ii. Future Opportunities

- f. 2023 1st Quarter Meeting date
4. Wrap-up / Adjourn