



Walla Walla County
VSP Work Group

February 10, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Date: February 10, 2026 Time: 1:00 p.m. Via: In-person and Zoom

Work Group Members Present:

David Talkington, TSS Jackie McCool, WDFW (zoom)
Lindsey Williams, WWCC Tom Schirm, WDFW ex-officio (zoom)
Phil Neumann, Mainstem Malt (zoom) Judith Johnson, Kooskooskie Commons
Randy Bright, Ag. Community (zoom) (zoom)

Absent:

Brian Burns, TSS; Dana Sheedy, CTUIR; Ryan Rea, Ag. Community

Also present: Don Schwerin, Supervisor of WWCCD; Grace Cooper, Annie Byerley and Jenny Freer of WWCCD. Roman Rangel, Walla Walla Community Development

The meeting began with welcome and introductions.

New or interested work group members: None at this time.

Meeting paused at this time for a request of public comments. There were none.

Approval of meeting minutes: After review, **Williams motioned and Talkington seconded to approve the December 2025 minutes as presented; motion passed.**

Action Items:

- Request for approval of operating budget alterations:
Cooper shared that to pay for the previously approved Compass Geospacial software we need to move 5k from Meetings and Trainings budget line to the Goods and Services line. This would leave funds in both accounts while still paying for the software program out of the appropriate budget line.

Williams motioned and Neumann seconded to approve the operating budget moves, as presented; motion passed.

Request to Approve VSP 10-Year Report:

Adaptive Management	Coordinators Recommendation	Workgroup Decision
Protect Riparian Habitat	More Data Required	Agrees
Protect Fish Passage Via Diversions	Met	Agrees
Enhance Fish Passage Via Barriers	More Data Required	Agrees
Increase Fish Habitat or Function	Exceeded	Agrees
Enhance upland Habitat in Conservation Areas	More Data Required	Agrees
Enhance Ferruginous Hawk Nest Occupancy	Exceeded	Agrees
Enhance knowledge of Mule Deer Habitat	Exceeded	Agrees
Protect Wetland	More Data Required	Agrees
Increase in Wetland Habitat or Function	More Data Required	Agrees
Protect Flood Event Resilience	More Data Required	Agrees
Protect Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas	Met	Agrees
Enhance Critical Aquifer Recharge Sites	Met	Agrees

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Enhance Water Quality for Critical Aquifer Recharge	Exceeded	Agrees
Enhance Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas	Exceeded	Agrees
Protect Critical Areas from Soil Loss	Met	Agrees
Enhance Areas w/Landslide Potential on Rangeland	Exceeded	Agrees
Protect Areas at Risk of Liquefaction	Exceeded	Agrees

Williams motioned and Talkington seconded to approve the 10-year report and submittal, as presented; motion passed.

Project Approvals: Capital Round in April has 250k available.

- **Request to approve Dry Creek Well Flow Meters:**

Cooper shared there is a deep aquifer well that needs a flow meter and a Dry Creek Flow meter. 146 acres of underground piping. This project would be a cost share program with a budget of 15k.

Bright motioned and Neumann seconded to approve the Dry Creek and Well Flow Meters application, as presented; motion passed.

- **Request to approve Mud Creek and BWOL Variable Frequency Drives:**

Cooper shared that a landowner has two sites and Mud Creek needs a Variable Frequency Drive for 162 acres at a cost of 14k. The second location also has needs for a Variable frequency drive for 260 acres. Meters were installed in 2024. This would also be a cost of 14k for a total project ask of 28k.

Bright motioned and Williams seconded to approve the Mud Creek and BWOL for 2 variable frequency drives application, as presented; motion passed.

- **Request to approve Cottonwood Rd Well Pump:**

Cooper shared that a well pump is being requested for 5 acres that would turn a pasture into a Christmas Tree farm. The current pump is 3 hp and the project is needing 7.5 hp.

The VSP Workgroup would like to table this application until the April 7th meeting.

Program Updates:

- **Project updates:**

- **Cooper** shared that all three projects are currently being worked on and no updates to give. Irrigation improvement project will be installed next month.

- **Fish Screen TA and Collaboration with WDFW:**

- **Cooper** shared that a partnership with WDFW for fish screen has already funded one screen.

Partner Updates:

Bright: shared that there needs to be an assessment of mortality of plants on the second phase of past VSP project on his property.

Rangel: shared that land use and building permits have picked up.

McCool: is currently reviewing county plans.

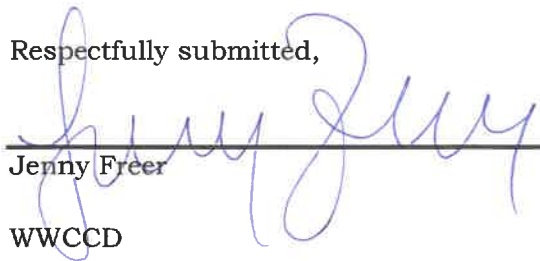
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Talkington: share that bridge-to-bridge phase 3b is planned for this summer. Gose street is also planned for this summer. Mill Creek revamps will continue to happen in the future.

Neumann: stated that Mainstem is progressing and on-track to break ground this fall and operational within a year.

The meeting was unofficially adjourned at 3:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Jenny Freer



Work Group Member

WWCCD

Next meeting: April 7, 2026 at 4 pm