



Walla Walla County
VSP Work Group
October 7th, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Date: October 7, 2025

Time: 1:00 p.m. Via: Zoom

Work Group Members Present:

Dana Sheedy, CTUIR
David Talkington, TSS
Jackie McCool, WDFW

Lindsey Williams, WWCC
Phil Neumann, Mainstem Malt
Randy Bright, Ag. Community
Ryan Rea, Ag. Community

Absent:

Brian Burns, TSS; Judith Johnson, Kooskooskie Commons; Tom Schirm, WDFW ex-officio

Also present: Grace Cooper, Jenny Freer, Annie Byerley, Alison Crowley of WWCCD. Roman Rangel, Walla Walla Community Development, Ceana Pacheco, WWCC

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 Rea seconded to approve the June 2025 minutes as presented; motion passed.**

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

Project Approvals:

- **Request to approve a South Fork Riparian project utilizing obligated funds from VSP's amendment 1.**

There are 39 acres that would benefit from reseeding burned areas on the South Fork of Russel creek. The request is to use 15 to 20k from the 40k obligated funds that must be booked mark by December 31. The total project cost is \$76,190 with a request from Ecology's Terry Husseman account of 50k and WWCCDs NRI funds contributing 15k. VSPs funds would supplement the total project cost.

Williams motioned and Bright seconded to approve the South Fork riparian project using VSP funds to supplement the total project cost as presented; motion passed.

- **Request to approve applying for funds for South Fork hillside stabilization project:**

This request is to apply for funding for a location across the way from the previous site listed for a phased approached to reestablished land that had burned during the 2025 summer fire. The first phase is to hydroseed 2.2 acres using 13-15k from VSP. Additional phases include fence replacement (27k), woody plantings (34k), and drill seeding (1,200). These additional phases have a request to apply for through VSP capital funding request that is due by December 1, 2025.

Neumann motioned and Williams seconded to approve applying for all phases of the South Fork Russel Creek hillside stabilization project as presented; motion passed.

VSP project updates: Cooper updated the work group on projects:

- Dry Creek Screens and Meters – This project has been funded and is in the process of being completed.
- Dry Creek Irrigation Improvements – This project is pending funding award.
- Yellowhawk Creek- This project is funded and in process of completion.
- Darrow Riparian- This project was funded through the SCC's Riparian Grant Program.

Program Updates:

Monitoring efforts: Aquifer recharge site has been funded by the Department of Ecology's Office of Columbia River funding source.

Walla Walla County VSP has two upcoming reports; the two-year status report was submitted in August.

Coming in 2026- Bylaws/structure/ranking system for the VSP workgroup as guidelines.

Adaptive Management Discussion: A discussion was held on the work group plan in regards to an adaptive management section that was introduced by the technical panel in June. Edits will continue at an adaptive management special meeting to be held on November 4 at 1 pm.

Neumann motioned and Rea seconded to approve having a special meeting to finalize the work plan in regards to adaptive management on November 4 at 1pm; motion passed.

Request to have a special meeting prior to the submittal of status report. A list of dates was given to check availability of work group members participation.

Bright motioned and Rea seconded to approve having a special meeting prior to submittal on March 3rd at 4pm; motion passed.

Partner Updates:

This meeting ran out of time for a partner update round table.

The meeting was unofficially adjourned at 3:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Jenny Freer

WWCCD



Work Group Member

Next meeting: November 4th 2025 at 1 pm