

March 2021 VSP Newsletter

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QUARTERLY REPORT DUE

APRIL 10, 2021: The next [VSP quarterly report](#) (for January 1, 2021 – March 31, 2021) is due April 10, 2021. Please use the link above to submit your county report.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND VSP MEETINGS: Due to the ongoing pandemic, and to continue protecting the health and safety of our staff, volunteers, and the public, VSP meetings will be conducted via online web meeting and teleconference. All members of the public are welcome. If you would like to join us online, please follow the links included in the meeting agendas (or below) to receive additional information on how to participate. Meeting agendas can be found on the [VSP Technical Panel web page](#) or the [VSP Statewide Advisory Committee web page](#).

THE VSP TECHNICAL PANEL MEETS ON MARCH 11, 2021, AT 8:00 AM: As part of the five year report review and

evaluation process, the first public meeting at which the Technical Panel can meet and discuss reports is set for March 11, 2021, at 8:00 am.

The Kittitas, Mason and Garfield county reports are on the agenda. Counties will be given the opportunity to seek clarity and feedback from the TP regarding their comments during the public meeting, however, the presentation of new or additional data of information will not be available.

The link to attend the online meeting is here: Meetings of the VSP Tech Panel & Statewide Advisory Committee Thu, Mar 11, 2021 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM (PST)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/816551165>

You can also dial in using your phone. United States: [+1 \(571\) 317-3122](tel:+15713173122)

Access Code: 816-551-165

The agenda and other materials will be posted on the Commission VSP web page.

THE VSP STATEWIDE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETS ON MARCH 11, 2021, AT 11:00 AM: The VSP

Statewide Advisory Committee will meet immediately after the VSP Technical Panel to discuss their recommendations on the Kittitas, Mason, and Garfield county five year reports at 11:00 am, March 11, 2021.

The link to join that online meeting is here: Meetings of the VSP Tech Panel & Statewide Advisory Committee Thu, Mar 11, 2021 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM (PST)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/816551165>

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Access Code: 816-551-165

The agenda and other materials will be posted on the Commission VSP web page.

JOINT TECHNICAL PANEL AND STATEWIDE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING: The next joint meeting of the Statewide Advisory Committee and Technical Panel will be Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. Links to join are below:

Joint VSP meeting - Joint VSP TP & SAC meeting, Thu, Mar 25, 2021 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM (PDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/721024797>

[21024797](tel:+18722403212)

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(872\) 240-3212](tel:+18722403212)

Access Code: 721-024-797

The agenda and other materials will be

posted on the Commission VSP web page.

COMMENTS AND POINTERS ON THE VSP FIVE YEAR REPORT TEMPLATE AND PROCESS:

Is COVID-19 Affecting VSP Implementation in Your County?

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected many aspects of our lives, and continues to make meeting in-person very difficult. No doubt it has also impacted the ability of the county, county work group, and technical service providers to implement VSP, including conducting site visits, holding work group meetings, or meeting with landowners. If this is the case in your county, please make sure you document any impacts that the COVID-19 pandemic has had or continues to have in your five year report.

There are many opportunities for you to include how COVID-19 has impacted VSP implementation in your county, including data gathering, monitoring, or outreach efforts. The Technical Panel is charged with reviewing and evaluating progress toward work plan goals and benchmarks, so they need to know of any factors that influence progress toward those goals.

The Purpose of the Commission's 5 Year Report Template and how it Relates to Agricultural Viability:

The Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) 5 Year Report is the means whereby the county work group asserts whether or not it is meeting the critical area protection and enhancement goals and benchmarks identified in their work plan.

The 5-year report goes beyond providing a summary of what's been done. It is a self-evaluation of how well the actions are working towards meeting the goals and benchmarks of the work plan, and if the plan is adequately showing protection or enhancement of critical area functions and values as indicated by monitoring. The 5-year report should answer the questions:

- "Is our plan doing what we said it would do?" (meeting goals and benchmarks);
- "Is our plan protecting and enhancing critical area functions and values?" and
- "How do we know?" (What evidence do we have to support our answers to the first two questions?).

The Commission designed the 5 year report template and database to meet that specific reporting requirement in the VSP statute. We also believe the template will make reporting easier for counties in the future, decrease costs, expedite review by the Commission, and provide meaningful data on the state of critical areas.

The template does not require reporting on progress towards agricultural viability goals and benchmarks because the statute doesn't require it. However, we expect that relevant aspects of agricultural viability will be incorporated into the work group's answers, data, and explanations in the template.

If, as part of an answer in the five year report, a reference is made to a work plan, appendix of a work plan, or other document, please provide a link to that document, the document title, and the page number as part of that reference.

Work groups are free to develop their own reports, papers and materials related to agricultural viability in the county to showcase their accomplishments, but such a report isn't required for the five year report.

Additional materials, documents, or information a work group would like to make available to support its assertions in the five year report should be retained at the county or work group, and a link to those materials provided within the report when submitted. All information necessary for the Director to decide if they concur, or not, with the work group's determination should be documented and explained in the report.

How to Address Data or Monitoring Data that Doesn't Fully Cover the Five Year Report Time Period?

The VSP statute requires that the five year report cover a five year period that begins upon receipt of VSP funds by the county. Each VSP county has their own unique "receipt of funds" date. The Commission has created a table that shows the five year period for each county and has made the table available on the Commission's VSP web page, but a direct link is [here](#).

The five year reporting period begins upon receipt of funds. Each VSP county is currently in the first five year reporting period. So, for example, a county that received VSP funds on February 1, 2016 would have a reporting period that runs through February 1, 2021.

If a county is using data or monitoring data that doesn't entirely cover the relevant reporting period, it should (1) look for other sources of data or monitoring data that does cover the time period, (2) use its VSP funds or other fund sources to develop appropriate data or monitoring data that covers the time period.

If there are holes or problems with the data (the data doesn't cover the time period, sampling sites are not enough to be statistically significant, etc.) as reported in the five year report, the county work group runs the risk of the Technical Panel and Commission executive director not concurring with its

assertion that it is meeting the goals and benchmarks of the county work plan.

So, the fewer holes or problems with the data, the stronger the report.

Regardless, any issue with the data should be fully explained in the five year report and may also need to be adaptively managed in the work plan.

Approval of the Five Year Report by the Watershed Work Group Before Submittal

When the five year report is submitted to the Commission, it should be in final form. The template and database will require verification that the report has been approved by the work group before it can be finalized.

To meet the five year report submittal deadline for each county, work group approval needs to occur before final submittal. Approval is done at an open public meeting.

County staff, conservation district staff, or technical service provider staff who are working on behalf of the VSP work group should present the information, data and materials that are being submitted in the five year report to the work group. This can be done by a variety of means (a PowerPoint presentation, a report, an executive summary, the five year report PDF, a combination of these means, or other means).

The work group then provides any input or direction to the staff prior to submittal, and gives its approval to the staff for submittal of the five year report.

Approval can be done by a variety of means, but typically follows the ground rules of the work group (i.e. roll-call votes, vote by consensus, or other means).

County staff, conservation district staff, or technical service provider staff who are working on behalf of the VSP work group should ensure there is enough time before the submittal deadline for the draft five year report to be reviewed and considered by the work group.

Where to find the Five Year Reporting Guide and Instructions:

The Conservation Commission (Commission), with the assistance of the Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) Technical Panel and Statewide Advisory Committee, has completed work on a Five-Year Report Guide and Template for county work groups to use to meet their five year reporting requirements under VSP.

The following documents are now available on the [Commission's VSP Implementation web page](#), under the "Reporting" tab:

The [Five Year Report Guide](#)

The [Five Year Report Template User Instructions](#) (which includes instructions to download the Template)

Access to the Template has been made available to the County official identified as either the county's responsible individual for the VSP contract with the State Conservation Commission, or the Technical Service Provider (TSP) working on behalf of the county to submit the VSP five year report, if the Commission is aware that the county has designated a TSP to submit the Five-Year Report.

Counties and TSP's (as identified above) should have received access to the Template already. If you are the person responsible for submitting the VSP 5 Year Report on behalf of your county work group and have not received an email with access instructions, please contact Bill Eller, VSP Coordinator for the Commission at beller@scc.wa.gov or by phone at 509-385-7512.

Input on the Five Year Report Template and Process:

The 5 year report template and the review and evaluation process as a whole is, just like a county work plan, subject to adaptive management.

The Commission has put forth its best effort to anticipate needs, wants and desires of the many partners in VSP,

including the Technical Panel, Statewide Advisory Committee, counties, technical service providers, work group members, governmental and non-governmental interests, and the public as they relate to the 5 year review and evaluation process. However, we know there is always room for improvement. Some county work groups have already submitted letters suggesting changes or other areas for improvement with the process.

The Commission welcomes that input and feedback on the review and evaluation process, and on all aspects of VSP. Please direct those comments, in whatever form you choose to make them (email, letter, or phone) to Bill Eller at beller@scc.wa.gov or by phone at 609-385-7512.

REMAINING FIVE YEAR REPORT DUE DATES:

COUNTY	5 YEAR REPORT DUE
Walla Walla	3.7.21
Stevens	3.10.21
Ferry	3.14.21
Grays Harbor	3.21.21
Lincoln	3.21.21
Lewis	4.18.21
Spokane	4.22.21
Adams	5.23.21

PROCESS AFTER THE FIVE YEAR REPORT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED:
The VSP statute says that the VSP

Technical Panel reviews and evaluates five year reports submitted by county work groups.

The statute further says that after review, the Commission executive director must decide if she agrees, or not, with the assertion of the work group in the report that they are meeting (or not) the goals and benchmarks of their work plan. If she agrees that they are, then the county and work group keeps implementing VSP. If she does not agree that they are, then she consults with the VSP Statewide Advisory Committee and the county work group to see if improvements can be accomplished within six months. If so, then the county and county work group continues implementing VSP. If not, then the county and county work group fail out of VSP.

The Commission's [Guide](#) to the five year reporting process sets out in more detail the process described above. Generally, the steps look like this:

- After the report has been submitted to the Commission, the Commission makes the report available to the Technical Panel for their review and evaluation. Technical Panel members have 45 days to complete their review and make comments.
- Once Technical Panel member comments are available, the Commission will make them available by email to the person

who submitted the report on behalf of the county work group.

- A public meeting is held where the Technical Panel meets to discuss each members' review and evaluation, and the SAC plays a role in making a recommendation to the Commission executive director. The public meeting schedule for each report review is available on the Commission's [VSP implementation web page](#) and directly [here](#).
- After the public meeting, Commission staff have 30 days to gather together the Technical Panel comments and Statewide Advisory Committee recommendation and provide that to the Commission executive director for her consideration. The executive director has 30 more days in which to make a decision. Her decision will be communicated to each county by email and by letter.

If you have any questions on where your report is in this process, please contact Bill Eller at beller@scc.wa.gov or by phone at 509-385-7512.

THOUGHTS ON HOW TO IMPROVE THE COMMISSION'S FIVE YEAR REPORT TEMPLATE AND PROCESS: A few counties have completed their submittal of their five year report – congratulations to those who have done

so. As of this writing, that includes Kittitas, Mason, Garfield, Asotin, Grant and Pacific.

The Commission is aware of a lot of interest from county work groups, technical service providers, and others about the five year report template and its utility. We welcome any comments any have along those lines. Comments should be send or emailed to Bill Eller at beller@scc.wa.gov or mailed to the Commission at PO Box 47721 Olympia, WA 98504-7721.

The Commission has always anticipated the need to make adjustments to the template, so those comments will help inform us during that process.

We also anticipate, after this first round of reviewing and evaluating five year reports is complete, that we will bring together a committee of stakeholders to review how the process went, including looking at the template for areas of improvement. That effort should begin sometime next fall, after the last public meeting on the county five year reports on September 9, 2021.

So, keep watching this space in the VSP monthly newsletter as that times gets closer for calls to serve on that committee.

ADAPTIVELY MANAGING YOUR COUNTY WORK PLAN: County work groups are directed by the VSP statute

(RCW 36.70A.720 (1) (j)) to “Conduct periodic evaluations, institute adaptive management, and provide a written report of the status of plans and accomplishments to the county and to the commission within sixty days after the end of each biennium....”

So yes, anytime you have adaptively managed your work plan, you should send that adaptive management plan to the Commission. Similarly, if during the five year reporting process a county asserts that it isn't meeting its work plan goals and benchmarks, then the Commission's Five Year Report Guide directs the county to submit an adaptive management plan along with the five year report.

In either case (adaptively managing as part of the overall management of your work plan, or as part of the five year reporting process), the county should send to the Commission the adaptive management plan.

That plan should be a document separate from the five year report and template. It should tell the Commission the following:

1. *What change(s) were made to your work plan?* Please include both what was changed and the new change. Cite to the location of the item to be changed in the original work plan. For example, a goal in your work plan was “to protect all steep slopes in the

county,” and that goal was changed to read “to protect all geologically hazardous areas in the county,” include both statements - the original and the change - in the plan. This lets the Commission and the public see easily what was changed. Citing the location of the item to be changed in the original work plan lets everyone quickly find the item that was changed. So, in the example above, if the goal that is to be changed was “to protect all steep slopes in the county,” list what page number and section of the work plan that goal was found in the original work plan - “Appendix B, page 30”, for example.

2. *Why was that change made?* In the example above, the reason could be as simple as “the change was made because the words “steep slopes” in the original wasn’t as inclusive as the term “geologically hazardous areas”. The explanation should make it clear to the Commission and the public why this change was needed, the purpose of the change, and what the change hopes to accomplish.

The format of the plan document and its length are up to each county, so long as the two questions above are addressed. Short, clear, and concise statements and descriptions are encouraged. The adaptive management plan should be dated so that it is clear when the changes were made. The adaptive management plan should also be approved by the county work group,

since the county work group is the entity required by the VSP statute to implement the VSP county work plan. The adaptive management plan is a public document and will be made available by the Commission to the public.

Adaptive management plans should be emailed to the Commission at beller@scc.wa.gov.

Also, when a county adaptively manages its VSP work plan, the county should keep a record of that change so that it is clear to the county, the county work group, and those implementing the county VSP work plan what changes have been made, and when, to the original county VSP work plan. MEETING WORK PLAN GOALS AND BENCHMARKS: An important part of implementation is monitoring of critical area functions and values, and assessing whether the data gathered is enough to determine if work plan goals and benchmarks are being met.

Presenting this information to the work group by those gathering the data is an important piece to gauge how well goals and benchmarks are being met. If existing data and approaches are not sufficient to assess critical area functions and values, such as due to gaps in data, monitoring should be augmented via adaptive management.

Don't hesitate to have those meetings as the work group is responsible for submitting in the five-year review and evaluation reports of each county work plan.

Questions about VSP monitoring and data gathering should be directed to [Levi Keesecker](#). He can be reached by phone at (360) 789-3650 or by email at lkeesecker@scc.wa.gov.

[Policy Advisory 03-18](#) identifies the roles of each of the various entities responsible for VSP implementation. County work groups should be meeting regularly to meet statutory obligations, monitor progress, and take adaptive management actions.

Overseeing implementation, providing direction and oversight to the VSP technical service provider on compliance with VSP goals and benchmarks, and adaptively managing implementation if those goals and benchmarks are not being met are among the most important duties of the work group.

Each county work group should be regularly communicating with the technical service provider(s) implementing the VSP work plan to address any issues that arise. Perhaps a benchmark was set too high, or new information renders a goal insufficient to meet needs. Review of the benchmarks

and goals is part of the adaptive management process.

NEW COUNTY WORK GROUP MEMBERS: Some county work groups have designed their work group member service terms to end with the five year reporting cycle. This creates opportunities for new volunteers to serve on the VSP county work group.

With the arrival of new work group members, it is important to provide them with the background, history, work group function, and current state of VSP in your county, so that they can be effective work group members.

County watershed group members should read the county's VSP work plan, understand its terms and requirements. Work group meetings are open public meetings under the [Open Public Meetings Act, RCW Chapter 42.30](#), so all volunteer members of the work group will need to be familiar with the OPMA and should undergo the [attorney general's OPMA training](#). Remember, [OPMA refresher training](#) is required for all members every four years.

The Watershed Work Group Members have an important oversight role to play during VSP implementation. [Policy Advisory 03-18](#) explains that the watershed work group members have many different duties during implementation, so it is important that they read and understand [the county's](#)

[VSP work plan](#), receive training in the [background and history of VSP](#), as well as how the work group functions as an entity of the county.

Question: *How often should a watershed work group meet during VSP implementation?* **Answer:** As often as it takes to successfully implement the county VSP work plan and meet the other obligations under the VSP Statute, RCW 36.70A.700-760.

[Policy Advisory 03-18](#) identifies the roles of each of the entities responsible for VSP implementation, and further explains that the watershed work group should meet “regularly”. Regularly gives each county watershed work group flexibility on how often to meet. When there isn’t business to conduct, the work groups shouldn’t meet. However, a county watershed work group shouldn’t go six months between meetings. This is because there is a lot of business for a work group to conduct related to implementation of the county VSP work plan and meeting the obligations under the statute, and six months without a meeting to monitor progress and take adaptive management actions might lead to failure of the work plan.

The watershed work group has an important oversight role to play during implementation. [Policy Advisory 03-18](#) explains, in summary fashion, that the watershed work group has many

different duties during implementation, including

- Overseeing implementation;
- Providing leadership on VSP in the local county;
- Meeting regularly;
- Participating in outreach efforts, fosters and builds partnerships with other natural resource entities;
- Providing direction and oversight to the VSP technical service provider on compliance with VSP goals and objectives;
- Establishing a succession plan for the work group, i.e. what will you do when work group members leave, how will you maintain your commitment to a diverse work group;
- Working with the VSP County Commissioners, County Staff and Fiscal Staff Responsible for the County – Commission VSP contract, and VSP Technical Service Providers to establish a budget for VSP implementation that outlines tasks, amount allocated for outreach, monitoring, technical provision, and any other task or deliverable needed;
- Every 2 years, periodically evaluating (programmatic, economic, and resource) and reporting on the VSP;
- Adaptively managing implementation if not meeting the

established goals and benchmarks in the work plan; and

- Every 5 years, reporting to the Commission and the County on whether the work plan's protection and enhancement goals and benchmarks have been met.

VSP VOUCHERING: Remember, the Commission's agency policy requires monthly reimbursement requests for all VSP contracts (as well as any other contracts). However, we have noticed some counties are sending in reimbursement requests quarterly.

Monthly reimbursement requests allow entities to stay on top of expenses and contract end dates. So, please remember to voucher monthly for VSP expenses as stated in your VSP contract.

VSP FUNDS USED FOR PROJECT COST-SHARE: After receiving funding from the Legislature for the Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP), the Commission makes funds available to each of the 27 participating counties.

After a county VSP work plan has been approved by the VSP Technical Panel, VSP funds plans may be used for implementation. Each county is free to choose how to allocate those funds, but regardless of how the funds are allocated, must continue to meet all the requirements of the VSP (RCW Chapter 36.70A), and must also meet the goals

and objectives of their own VSP work plan.

The Commission urges counties contemplating creating a VSP cost-share program to review all of the obligations in RCW Chapter 36.70A and to review Policy Advisory [03-18 Roles and Responsibilities during VSP implementation – Amended](#), and 05-18 [VSP Implementation Reporting – 2 year and 5 Year Reports](#) for a summary of some of those obligations before making its decision. Some of those obligations include:

- Maintaining a regularly-meeting VSP work group which oversees work plan implementation
- Conducting periodic evaluations of the county work plan
- Instituting adaptive management
- Providing a detailed, written report every 2 and 5 years of implementation efforts and success
- Meet contract obligations with the Commission and others responsible for VSP implementation
- Conducting outreach and education to meet work plan goals
- Providing technical assistance, or contracting with an entity to so provide, to VSP participants
- Meet the goals and objectives of the county work plan

- Staffing needs, including salary, equipment and other items required to perform their job

The Commission urges counties to create an implementation budget and project management protocols in order to meet the statutory requirements.

The Commission also urges counties who might want to use VSP funds for cost-share projects to partner with an entity (such as your local conservation district) that already has the training, knowledge and experience with administering a cost-share program using the Commission’s cost-share policies and procedures.

Finally, the Commission urges counties to review the [Commission’s cost-share policies and procedures](#), specifically the [Grant and Contract Procedure Manual](#) and [Cost Share Process](#) before making a decision to offer VSP funds for cost-share.

If VSP funding will be spent on cost-share projects with landowners, there are a few requirements:

- The county work group will need to approve any cost share program used in the implementation of VSP.
- [Washington State Conservation Commission cost-share policies](#) would need to be abided by, regardless of

who is administering the cost-share program (conservation district or some another implementing entity (such as the county)). Since WSCC funds are being used as the basis for the cost-share funding, WSCC policies apply.

- If a conservation district is implementing the VSP cost-share program on behalf of a county work group, and if the county work group has not set a rate of reimbursement, or if the county work group wants to use the conservation district rate, then the conservation district rate of reimbursement is used.
- If a county is implementing the VSP cost-share program without the assistance of a conservation district, the county must pass a rate of reimbursement resolution ([see the Grant and Contract Procedure Manual](#)).
- If the entity administering the cost-share program and otherwise involved in contracting with landowners for project implementation using VSP funds has not already been trained in the Conservation Commission cost-share policies and procedures, that entity must be so trained before funds can be used from the Commission. Please contact the Commission staff below to schedule a training.

- VSP projects that are funded using any Commission funds will need to be reported in the five year report under RCW 36.70A.720 (2) (b) (i) and (c) (i).

Anyone implementing VSP and seeking to use VSP funds for cost-share must consult with Commission staff before funds are available. The staff person at the Commission responsible for VSP cost-share is Karla Heinritz. Please contact her by email at kheinritz@scc.wa.gov or by phone at 360-407-6212.

FIVE MONTH WARNING ON 2-YEAR STATUS REPORT DUE DATE: Each county in the VSP has recurring reporting requirements under the VSP statute. Among those are the 2-Year Status Report and the 5 Year Review and Evaluation Reports. These reporting requirements are set out in detail in the [Commission's Policy Advisory 05-18](#).

Both reports, when submitted, should abide by the guidance given in [Policy Advisory 05-18](#) and otherwise meet the reporting, adaptive management, and monitoring requirements in the VSP statute.

Currently, counties are in the middle of submitting their 5 Year Review and Evaluation Reports. However, in just six more months (no later than August 30, 2021), the 2-Year Status Report is due,

so this serves as a reminder for that deadline.

2-Year Status Report

The VSP statute says that in implementing the work plan, the watershed group must “*provide a written report of the status of plans and accomplishments to the county and to the Commission.*” See [RCW 36.70A.720 \(1\) \(i\)](#).

The 2-year status report provides the County and VSP work group with a forum for updating the public on the VSP implementation progress made during each biennium. The 2-year status report should provide a snapshot of what’s been done during each 2-year period and should answer the questions:

- “How far along are we with our planned implementation?” (“*status of plans*”) and
- “What have we done?” (“*accomplishments*”).

The 2-year status report is not reviewed and evaluated by the Commission, the VSP Technical Panel, or the VSP Statewide Advisory Committee. There is no statutory authority in the VSP statute for the Commission, Technical Panel, or Statewide Advisory Committee to review and evaluate the 2-year status report. None have any statutory authority to review or evaluated the 2-year status report. Monitoring results are not required to be reported in the 2 year status report unless a county wants to

share those as part of demonstration of progress and results of the VSP.

This 2-year report is due to the county and to the Commission “*within sixty days after the end of each biennium...*” See RCW 36.70A.720 (1) (j). Therefore, no later than August 30 at the end of each biennia, a 2-year report is due. All VSP counties have the same deadline for submitting 2-year status report. The end of the current state biennia is August 30, 2021.

The 2-year status report should be sent as a PDF by email to Commission staff member Bill Eller at beller@scc.wa.gov, and should be cc'd to Commission staff member Alicia McClendon at AMcClendon@scc.wa.gov.

Upon receipt by the Commission, a confirmation email will be sent back to the sender to confirm receipt. The 2-year status report will be posted on the [Commission's VSP web page](#). The 2-year status report should also be sent to the county, as that is required by statute.

2-year Status Report Summary -

- Due at the end of every biennium, no later than August 30
- Reports on the status of plans and accomplishments
- Is not reviewed by the Commission, Technical Panel or Statewide Advisory Committee

- No requirement to include details on monitoring, cost-share projects, or adaptive management
- Cannot trigger statutory provisions leading to a county failing out of VSP
- Commission guidance complete in [Policy Advisory 05-18](#)

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.

Bill Eller | beller@scc.wa.gov | 509-385-7512 | Washington State Conservation Commission