



Okanogan County VSP Meeting Minutes

1 A regular meeting of the Okanogan County VSP Workgroup was held on December 7, 2017 at
2 6:30 p.m. in the Natural Resource Conference Room, 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan,
3 Washington.

4 **OKANOGAN COUNTY STAFF:** Director of Planning Perry Huston, Natural Resource Planner
5 Angie Hubbard, Administrative Secretary Rocky King

6 **VOULUNTARY STEWARDSHIP MEMBERS:** William Tackman, Jerry Barnes, Dick Ewing, Les
7 Kinney, Megan Kernan, Nicole Kuchenbuch

8 **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Amy Martin, Craig Nelson, Mindy Widell
9

10 **Approve Agenda:** Jerry motioned, Les seconded
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12 **Approve Minutes:** Les, Jerry, and Nicole pointed out some grammatical errors to be corrected.
13 Jerry motioned to approve as amended, Megan seconded
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15 **Critical Areas Designation:** Amy explained to the group that the CAO hasn't been updated
16 since the 90's. Perry said it was slated for 2012 but didn't go through but is set to be updated in
17 2018. Amy said that the proposed designations are based off of the draft CAO from the
18 planning department. Nicole asked if VSP will be finished before the new CAO's will be
19 adopted. Perry said it is likely the VSP will be done first. Amy presented a map with the
20 CARA's. Perry informed the group that DOE is going back to map areas they started in '91 and
21 that may help to inform the CARA designations but, may not be done before VSP either.
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23 Craig explained to the group, the difference between group A and group B water systems.
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25 Amy suggested that on page 2 line 36, #4 should not be on the list and on line 30, seismic
26 hazards should be stricken. The group discussed the definition of stream incision and the best
27 section to put it in. They voted to strike it because it was referenced in necessary sections.
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29 **Fish and Wildlife Conservation Areas:** Angie pointed out that the list in the section came
30 straight from the WAC. Les said that if mule deer and elk are included, his whole ranch would
31 be included. Amy said that even though it's mapped, you are not forced to take protective
32 measures. The group discussed how much of Okanogan County would be protected if mule
33 deer and white tailed deer was included. Megan pointed out that it gives more people more
34 opportunity to perform conservation practices that will count. Les is concerned about how this
35 will affect the future and potential regulations. Megan suggested adding managing healthy herd
36 numbers to the benchmark section. Craig pointed out that there will be many things done on
37 one's own accord that will be able to be counted toward the benchmarks.
38

39 **Okanogan County Regional Setting:** Jerry suggested that Loomis be added to the map on
40 page 3. Dick said, he would like to add where the oldest ridge, that is referenced, on page 1
41 line 28 is located for clarification. Megan suggested changing the word “is” on page 4 line 13 to
42 “are generally”. Dick said that on page 6 line 17 it should say ag lands and not just livestock.
43 On line 20 of page 6, the group would like separate bullets for pollinator habitat, soil health, and
44 cover crops. On page 6 line 20, dick suggested they add wine grapes, hemp and marijuana to
45 irrigated lands. Craig said that they will update the data from 2016 and 2017. Dick pointed out
46 that the County has the marijuana data. Jerry said that the Assessor’s office has the grapes
47 and wine data. The group would like a more comprehensive list on page 5, line 30. Megan said
48 she would like the table on page 7 to look like the table on page 6. The group discussed
49 whether or not to lump the two USFS categories together and the two WDFW categories
50 together and decided that if they were kept separate, the two areas could be accounted for
51 differently which will more closely relate to how data is collected in the two regions. Les said
52 the table on page 7 should be corrected from Okanogan Ranger to Tonasket Ranger.
53 The group didn’t like the way that lines 14-20 on page 10 were worded and suggested the
54 Conservation District rework the section to be more general regarding impacts and not
55 accusatory toward Ag activities. Jerry suggested that line 19 on page 10, be added to goals
56 and benchmarks.

57
58 **Hydrology Function:** Dick suggested that, on line 37 of page 11, they add “depending on
59 whether or not they are piped or open canals”. Megan suggested they strike the word discharge
60 on line 35

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64 **Next Meeting:**

- 65 • Section 2.1 (finish from last meeting)
- 66 • Section 3.1 Baseline Intersections of Critical Areas and Agricultural Land Uses
- 67 • Section 3.2 (Dick’s suggestions)
- 68 • Section 4

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70 **Adjourn:** Nicole motioned and Jerry seconded.

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72 Dick reopened the meeting

73
74 Nicole motioned to give Craig and Perry authority to add funds to the budget, to not exceed 90
75 hours, to get through 2017. Jerry seconded the motion. The group voted unanimously.

76
77 **Adjourn**

78
79 Rocky King
80 Admin Secretary