

Voluntary Stewardship Program Technical Panel Meeting

Tuesday, March 28, 2017
8:30am – 11:30pm

Facilitator – Bill Eller, VSP Coordinator, WSCC

VSP TECHNICAL PANEL MEETING QUESTIONS IDENTIFIED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THURSTON COUNTY

Prior to the March 28, 2017 VSP Technical Panel meeting, the Technical Panel invited a representative from the Thurston County VSP Work Group to attend the meeting and answer oral questions presented by the Technical Panel.

During the March 28, 2017 meeting of the VSP Technical Panel, it conducted an initial review of VSP work plan submitted by Thurston County. During that meeting, the Technical Panel had a number of questions about the Thurston County VSP work plan.

Through previous communication with the Chair of the Thurston County VSP work group, the Thurston County VSP work group would not respond to questions presented to them orally through an invited representative, but would be open to responding to written questions from the VSP Technical Panel. To that end, here are the questions (in no particular order):

1. Would monitoring under the Thurston County VSP Work Plan (TCWP) only occur on participants in the program?
2. Is there any more explanation of how the 2011 baseline is established beyond Footnote #7 in Appendix C on pg 4?
3. What does the heading "for illustration purposes only" mean in Appendix C?
4. What is the methodology that will be used to conduct the monitoring described in Appendix C?
5. What is the connection between the monitoring and the protection of the critical areas and agricultural viability?
6. When, and at what intervals, and how will monitoring will occur?
7. What is the adaptive management threshold or trigger?
8. How are the threats to the agricultural community connected to agricultural viability in the TCWP?
9. What is the scope of the critical areas involved in Thurston County?
10. What is the scope of agriculture in Thurston County.
11. How will Thurston County communicate to potential VSP participants?

12. How many participants in VSP does Thurston County expect to have? How many non-participants?
13. Are the data sources listed in Appendix H, pg 23 for agriculture repeatable?
14. What do the three land indicators in Appendix C, pg 6 mean? Are they repeatable? Is there data rigor there? What correlation do these have to protecting critical areas and agricultural viability?
15. How will agricultural practices be used to protect critical area functions?
16. How does the list of agricultural practices that protection critical area functions compares to the baseline protection already provided by those agricultural practices?