

**Thurston County Voluntary Stewardship Program  
Workgroup Meeting #44 Summary  
April 26, 2018  
Thurston Regional Planning Council**

In attendance:

Jon McAninch, WWA, Cedarville Farms, TCFB  
Raul De Leon, TCFB  
Bruce Morgan, TCFB/UPPL  
Karen Parkhurst, TRPC  
Ed Lewis, Woodard Bay Organic Farms  
John Stuhlmiller, WFB  
Rick Nelson, TCFB/Grange  
Brad Murphy, TC  
Eric Johnson, TCD/Johnson Farms  
Nicole Warren, TCD  
Patrick Dunn, CNLM  
Jim Goche

Staff: Charissa Waters

Excused absence:

Dan Calvert, PSP  
James Myers, Nisqually farmer

Current Voting Members:

Jon McAninch, WWA, Cedarville Farms, TCFB  
Patrick Dunn, CNLM  
Rick Nelson, TCFB/Grange  
Evan Sheffels, WSFB  
Karen Parkhurst, TRPC  
Brian Merryman, TCFB  
Raul De Leon, TCFB  
John Stuhlmiller, WSFB  
Jim Myers, Nisqually farmer  
Dan Calvert, PSP

Welcome and Introductions: Chair Jon McAninch opened the meeting at 3:00pm.

Public Comment: No comment.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved.

Approval of Previous Meeting Notes: The group took a few minutes to read the notes. A motion to approve the notes was passed.

Discussion of ground rules update. Add a new bullet for membership and clarify attendance requirements for membership to be two consecutive meetings and approval by current voting members. Charissa will revise the ground rules based on the discussion and email it to the workgroup for review.

The workgroup reviewed Chelan's VSP implementation field guide draft and requested a similar document outlining implementation for Thurston County. Charissa will send a draft implementation guide outline to the workgroup via email for review.

Thurston Conservation District gave an update and discussed the outreach and implementation timeline, tasks, what has already been completed, and the next steps. The workgroup requested that the outreach materials to be sent to the workgroup for review prior to being distributed. This can be done either in a meeting or via email with a request for feedback by a specific date. The workgroup discussed the need for a one-pager informational flyer that partners can distribute to contribute to outreach efforts and have a consistent message. The workgroup discussed the strategies for outreach. Need both a broad outreach strategy to inform the general public of VSP and for county-wide acceptance while also targeting outreach to agricultural operators for the necessary participation.

Discussion of confidentiality and reporting monitoring data in the aggregate. The workgroup discussed the need for landowners that are willing to be pilot projects to be able to show an example and get more participation from others. One approach to get more participation could also be contacting current operators with farm plans and see if they want to "upgrade" or add on a stewardship plan.

Charissa provided a brief update on the adaptive management and code update process. The Statewide Technical Panel is currently having discussions about the code update process and it is expected that they will come out with a guidance document. Work on the code update will be postponed until further notice.

Next Steps:

The workgroup decided by consensus to not meet in May and only meet on an as-needed-basis in the summer. The workgroup will get feedback on outreach materials to the Conservation District via email.

Adjourned at 5:10pm