



Kittitas County Conservation District

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Voluntary Stewardship Program

Watershed Group Meeting

Washington State Cattlemen's Association, 1301 N Dolarway Road, Ellensburg
10AM Wednesday March 9, 2016

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Justin Bezold, Bill Eller, Brian Cortese, Mark Crowley, Sherry Swanson, Tom Gauron, Larry Leach, Jennifer Nelson, Kevin Eslinger, Mark Charlton, Elayne Hovde-Knudson, Jill Scheffer, Angela San Filippo, Kelly McClain, Mark Moore, Dale Rusho, Jim Miller, Matthew Cox, Arden Thomas, Lila Hanson, Bambi Miller, Tip Hudson, Sam Kayser, Brad Haberman, Karen Poulsen, Jack Clerf, Kelly Clayton, Anna Lael, Jim Huckabay

- I. **Welcome** – Anna Lael, District Manager of the Kittitas County Conservation District (KCCD) welcomed the attendees to the first meeting of the Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) Watershed Group.
 - a. Introductions were completed.
 - i. Jim Huckabay was introduced as the facilitator for VSP in Kittitas County.
 - b. A review of the agenda was completed.
 - c. Anna provided an overview of the Kittitas County Conservation District history, mission statement, who the District serves, and the District's vision.
- II. **Introduction to Voluntary Stewardship Program**
 - a. **Anna presented a power point introducing and describing the Voluntary Stewardship Program:**
<http://www.kccd.net/VoluntaryStewardship/Watershed%20Group%20Mtg%2003-9-2016%20-%20II.pdf>
- III. **Comments**
 - a. A question was asked about starting the VSP process from scratch. The group discussed the value of draft documents from the Thurston and Chelan, the two counties already going through VSP. The Farm Bureau is also working on a plan template. Creating a plan that is specific to Kittitas County and developed as organically as possible was stressed by Kelly McClain.

- b. A group member stated that a lot of great work has been accomplished in Kittitas County and the Plan should showcase the work that has already been done.
 - c. There were some discussions about data, particularly the data used to define critical areas. Ground truthing the data will be very important.
 - d. KCCD plans to have a VSP website where information will be shared and posted.
- IV. **Closing Remarks** - The next meeting was set for March 28, 9AM-4PM at the Washington Cattlemen's Association conference room.