



## Position Description

### Okanogan County

### Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP)

**Title:** VSP Work Group Member

**Introduction** Okanogan County VSP work group members are responsible for providing input and making decisions to achieve the goals and benchmarks of the VSP work plan. VSP work group members serve without compensation in 3-year terms as appointed by Okanogan County Commissioners.

- Essential Duties & Responsibilities**
1. Attend VSP quarterly meetings either in person or virtual. (4 meetings a year, 2-3 hours long)
  2. Oversee VSP implementation by providing strategic direction to the technical service provider to ensure the VSP county-wide work plan goals and benchmarks are being met.
  3. Providing leadership at the local level by educating the community about VSP.
  4. Approves VSP implementation budget
  5. Participates in outreach efforts to advocate and educate about VSP.
  6. Approves VSP cost-share policies and projects
  7. Fosters & builds partnerships with other natural resource entities
  8. Continue to seek broad representation of key watershed stakeholders to serve
  9. Every 2 years, periodically evaluates (programmatic, economic, and resource) reports on VSP implementation.
  10. Adaptively manage implementation if not meeting the established goals & benchmarks
  11. Review, edit and submit a 5-year progress report to the Washington State Conservation Commission that demonstrates to progress towards meeting the established goals and benchmarks.

**Required Knowledge & Skills**

1. Have an interest in preserving agriculture along with meeting the conservation goals in Okanogan County and participating through the responsibilities noted above.
2. Individual members of the work group should
  - a. Be familiar with the county's work plan
  - b. Obtain training on VSP –
    - i. Background
    - ii. History
    - iii. Work group functions & governance, including the Open Public Meetings Act
3. Be self-motivated; work efficiently, ethically, and honestly.
4. Have demonstrable experience working positively and successfully with individuals one-on-one and in group settings.
5. Willingness to take direction from and able to support colleagues and partner agencies with projects.
6. Work closely, cooperatively, and in a non-confrontational manner with others in a public environment.

**Preferred Knowledge & Skills**

1. Five or more years of work experience in community collaboration, general education, natural resource management, public relations, or similar field.
2. Excellent communication skills.
3. Ability to speak to small to large groups about conservation, VSP activities, or other materials.
4. Excellent ability to form relationships and work collaboratively with media sources and conservation partners.
5. Knowledge of a broad range of natural resource conservation principles, techniques, and methods.
6. Knowledge of agricultural production in Okanogan County.

**Compensation**

VSP work group members serve voluntarily. The pay for this position is the knowledge that your efforts are having a profoundly long-term positive impact on the natural resources and critical areas of our community, along with helping local orchardists, ranchers, and farmers with voluntary conservation.