



Pend Oreille Voluntary Stewardship Program
 Work Group Meeting Minutes
 December 16th, 2020

Meeting Start – 11:00 AM

In attendance via Go To Meeting: Lisa Alkire, Alex Case Cohen, Greg Snow, Mike Lithgow, John Small, Ben Floyd, Steve Wilson, Hank Jones, Renee Kinnick

Official Action Items						
Motion	Motion made by:	Motedioned seconded by:	Decision	Who	What	By what date:
To approve Ben Floyd and John Small to do 5 year report	Mike Lithgow	Renee Kinnick	Approved			
Hank Jones project approval – with additional planting plan	Mike Lithgow	Greg Snow	Approved			
Steve Wilson project proposal	Mike Lithgow	Renee Kinnick	Approved			

Public Comments: No comment received.

1. 5-Year Report strategic plan and implementation proposal

- Reviewed proposed work plan from John Small and Ben Floyd.
- This proposal was sent out to VSP Work Group members on 12/15/20 from Alex Case-Cohen. If you did not receive it, please request it by emailing either Lisa Alkire or Alex.
- Discussed each task within proposal draft.
- Proposal was approved with all tasks by workgroup. Total cost will be: \$37,840.
- Work plan will be completed by January 25th for review; must be submitted before February 2nd, 2020

2. Update on outreach deliverables for the previous quarter.

- We have created a few more posts on Facebook for VSP
- We are working on making the POCD website a better landing page for the VSP and improve our web presence since we've received comment that our website is hard to navigate. Looking forward to more organized and navigable future so that VSP info is easily accessible and found.

3. Updates and recommended adjustments for previously proposed projects.

- Reviewed technical assistance tracker—on track to meet participation goals!
- The first VSP project has been completed: a spring development near Lone WA. The pasture will be renovated and with water rights, the landowners can now use this water for irrigation in the dry months. This will also serve future livestock as a watering source for rotational grazing.
- Hank Jones proposal to create diversified forage/habitat on Westside Calispel Rd. by removing existing wavy-leaved ceanothus/snowbrush (*Ceanothus velutinus*) in favor of a diversified food plot.
 - Mike proposed to grow a native plant like red stemmed ceanothus/northern buckbrush (*Ceanothus sanguineum*)
 - Project was approved with conditions; Hank Jones will work with Alex to come up with an updated planting proposal
- Reviewed Steve Wilson project proposal. Pasture renovation near Rocky Gorge using an aerator with broadcast seeder. Steve wants to plant a diverse mix of annual and perennial grasses, forbs and legumes to meet the needs of the soil, livestock and wildlife. He plans to
 - Alex will work with equipment dealers in eastern Washington and local growers to find a pasture aerator that Steve can use
 - Project approved by workgroup

4. Provide budget for VSP implementation for the rest of Fiscal Year 2021

- Available balance \$20,572.14 after everything we have currently and approved projects.
- At each meeting we will review budget

5. Next Steps

- Mike suggested that a future farm tour of previous and future projects would be beneficial for VSP outreach
- Next meeting rough dates determined for Doodle poll & "To Do," items received from Work Group Members.
- Please make sure that the last week of January on Wednesday or Thursday is clear for our next WG meeting.
- Discussed how to engage workgroup members more in the future to increase participation.

Meeting Adjourned – 12:33