

**FRANKLIN COUNTY VSP
WORKGROUP MEETING MINUTES**

May 25, 2017

**Kahlotus Grange Hall
Kahlotus WA 99355**

ATTENDED BY

Kent McMullen (FC NRAC), Debbie Berkowitz (LCBAS), Mike Ritter (WDFW), Brian Cochrane (Wheat), Dave Solem (SCBID), Case VanderMeulen (Dairy), Mark Wieseler (FCD), William Harder Jr., Mark Nielson (FCD), Heather Wendt (FCD), Josh Jensen (Anchor QEA), Ben Floyd (Anchor QEA).

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Ben Floyd welcomed the group and thanked FCD staff and producers for hosting the tour.

REVIEW CPPE SCORING METHODOLOGY AND CROSSWALK

CPPE scores were developed by NRCS and have been updated by the conservation district based on localized conditions. Note that the conservation practices shown are most common and practices can be added as necessary. Scores can be further modified based on how conservation measures are implemented. Best management practices will be reported in acres, linear feet, or points based on the type of practice being installed. CPPE scores do not account for the increased benefits of some practices such as riparian buffers as they mature. The CPPE scoring matrix will be sent out to the group for review by June 9 by COB.

WORK PLAN COMMENTS

The revised sections on Ag Viability and the Esquatzel Coulee were reviewed and approved by the group. Work Plan comments were reviewed as outlined in the Work Plan Response Matrix. Comment 60 was discussed; based on feedback from the Farm Bureau it is recommended that the level of enhancements performed be rolled into performance objectives. Performance objectives allow for more flexibility. Anchor QEA will send out a revised Work Plan that will have updated performance objectives.

The group also discussed producer participation goals. Anchor QEA provided an example of the Grant County VSP Work Plan table that was used to identify producer participation goals and has been an approved method by the Tech Panel. The goals in the Grant Work Plan are more general and include adaptive management actions to be applied in low participation years. The group agreed that the Work Plan should be similar for consistency with other approved plans. Anchor QEA will send out the Grant Work Plan table to the group for review by June 9 by COB.

VSP OVERVIEW AND CHECKLIST

The proposed checklist was reviewed by the group. The group consensus was that if the checklist was simply mailed to producers the level of engagement would not be very high. It was also suggested that some producers do not like to report the number of acres that they apply practices to so the group suggested including % of acres treated. The Checklist will also be sent out to the group for review by June 9 by COB.

NEXT STEPS

June 22, 2017 – Next Meeting Date – at the FCD Office – 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

Public Comment / Other:

ADJOURN

The meeting concluded at 2:48 pm