



Sun.

Mon.

Tue.

Wed.

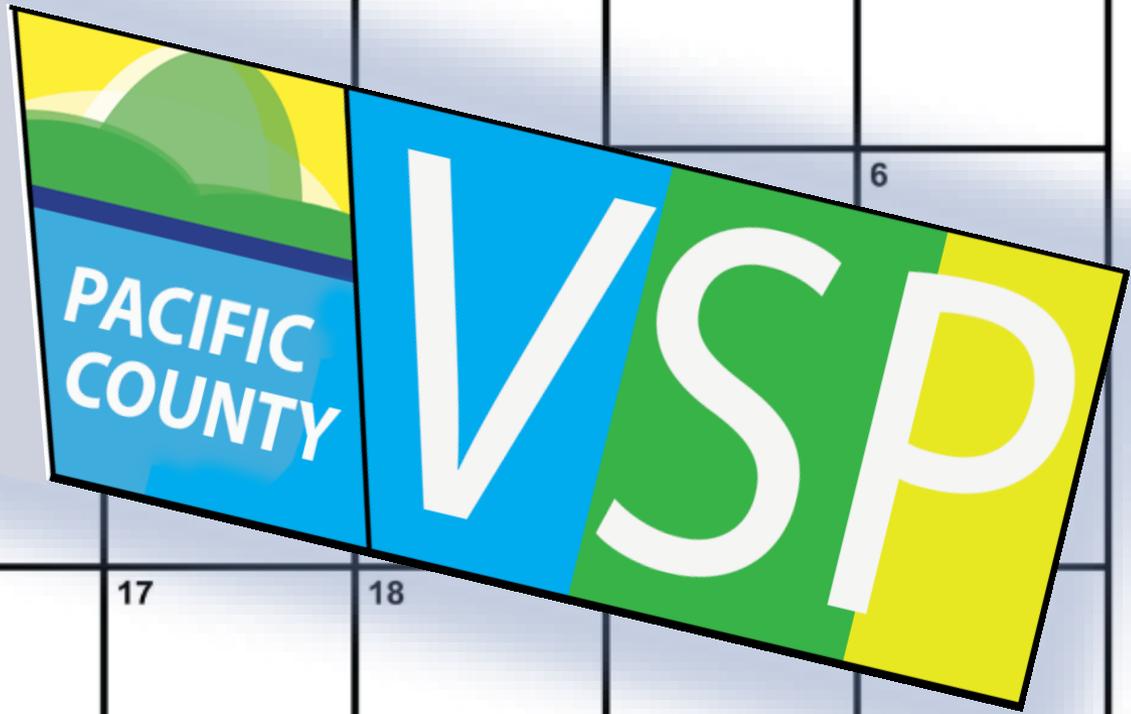
Thu.

Fri.

Sat.

# August

	1	2				6
7	8	9				
14	15	16	17	18		
21	22 Naselle <b>Naselle School</b>	23 Menlo <b>Willapa Valley HS</b>	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Tokeland <b>Tribal Center</b>	31 Long Beach <b>Cranberry Museum</b>			



**Workshops**  
4:30 – 6:30pm



Welcome

Feedback

✓ VSP: What is...?

✓ Outcomes: Goals = \_\_\_\_\_ ?

✓ Individual Stewardship Plans ?

Sharing

✓ Map overlays: Ag & Critical Areas

# Program

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# Agenda

Time	Topic	Action
:10	<b>Introductions</b>	Engage
:20	<b>VSP Overview</b>	Inform
:20	<b>Q&amp;A</b>	
:20	<b>Break &amp; GoogleEarth® Lookup</b>	View
:40	<b>Discussion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Goals of the VSP</b></li><li>• <b>Individual Stewardship Plans</b></li></ul>	Feedback
:10	<b>Recap &amp; Adjourn</b>	

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- 2007** State Supreme Court rules on *Swinomish v. Skagit Co.*
- Agriculture not exempt from critical areas requirements of Growth Management Act (GMA).
  - Counties must regulate agriculture in Critical Areas.
- 2010** WSU Ruckelshaus Center proposes “Framework for Stewardship”
- 2011** Voluntary Stewardship Program ([RCW 36.70A.705](#))



Washington State  
Conservation Commission

(a) Promote plans to **Protect and enhance critical areas** within the area where agricultural activities are conducted, **while maintaining and improving the long-term viability of agriculture** in the state of Washington and reducing the conversion of farmland to other uses;

(e) **Encourage and foster a spirit of cooperation and partnership** among county, tribal, environmental, and agricultural interests to better assure the program success;

(g) **Rely upon voluntary stewardship practices** as the primary method of protecting critical areas and not require the cessation of agricultural activities.

## **Voluntary Stewardship Program**

**RCW 36.70A.700 - 760**



Include:

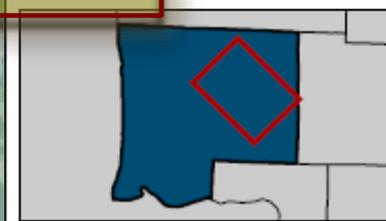
1. Wetlands,
2. Areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water,
3. Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas,
4. Frequently flooded areas, and
5. Geologically hazardous areas.

## **“Critical Areas”**

defined by Growth Management Act ([RCW 36.70A.030\(5\)](#))

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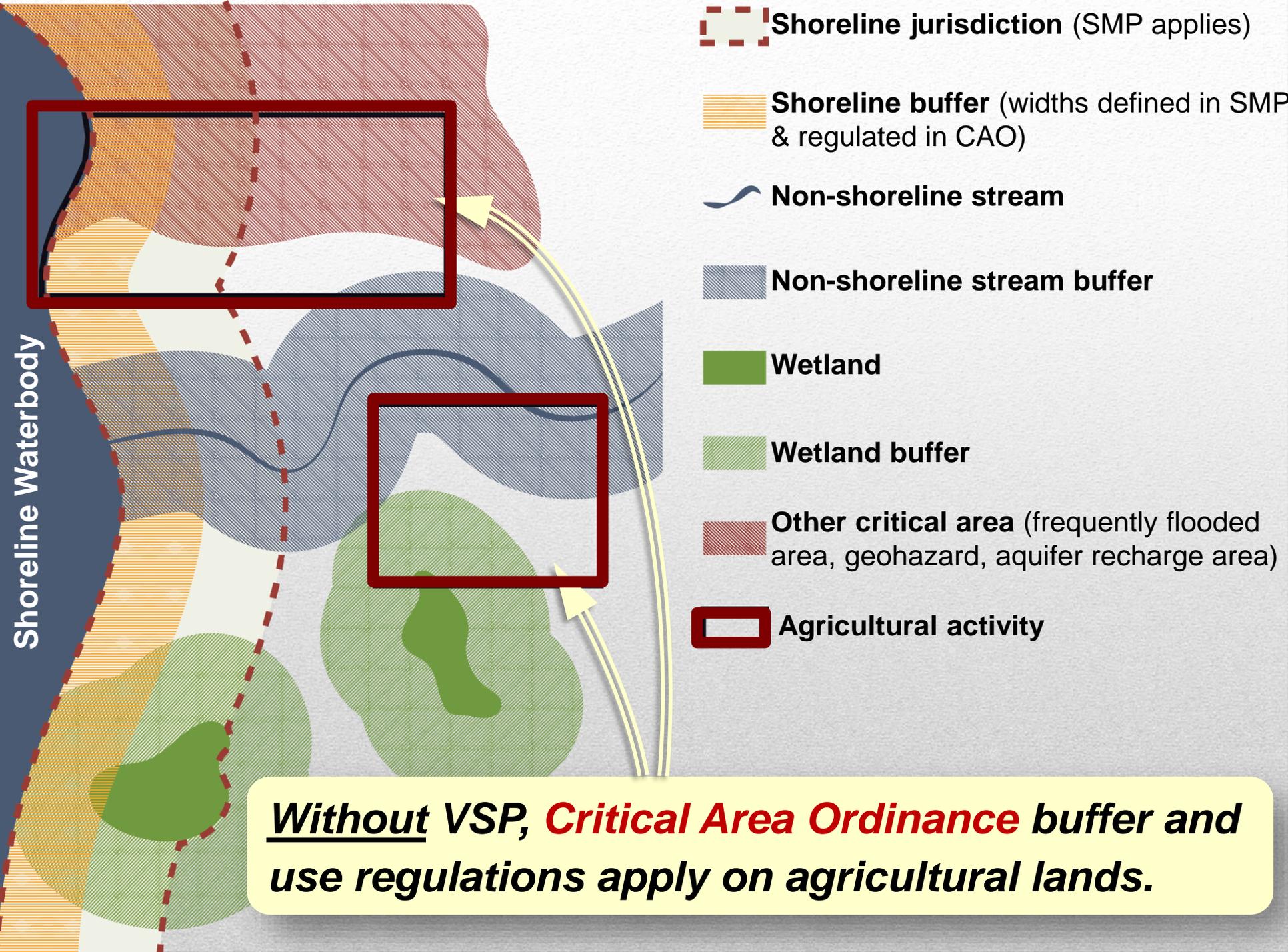
# Critical Areas in Pacific County



**MAP**

<p><b>Upland Agriculture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Intersecting</li> <li> Not intersecting</li> <li> Aquaculture</li> <li> County Boundary</li> <li> City Boundary</li> <li> Shoalwater Tribal Boundary</li> <li> WRIA Boundary</li> <li> Road</li> <li> NAP and NRCA</li> </ul>	<p><b>ESA Critical Habitat</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Marbled murrelet</li> <li> Streaked Horned lark</li> <li> Western snowy plover</li> <li> Green sturgeon (waterbodies)</li> <li> Green sturgeon (waterways)</li> <li> Leatherback turtle</li> <li> Steelhead, Bull trout, and Coho</li> <li> Coho</li> <li> Chum</li> <li> Chinook</li> </ul>
<p><b>Listed Species Occurrence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Bald eagle</li> <li> Brown pelican</li> <li> Green sea turtle</li> <li> Leatherback sea turtle</li> <li> Marbled murrelet</li> <li> Oregon silverspot butterfly</li> <li> Peregrine falcon</li> <li> Western snowy plover</li> <li> Streaked horned lark</li> </ul>	<p><b>Priority Habitats and Species</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Oregon Silverspot Butterfly</li> <li> Brown Pelican</li> <li> Snowy Owl</li> <li> Bald Eagle Buffer</li> <li> Herring Spawning Areas</li> <li> Shellfish Areas</li> <li> Major waterbodies and waterways</li> </ul>

All features depicted on this map are approximate. They have not been formally delineated or surveyed and are intended for planning purposes only. Additional site-specific evaluation may be needed to confirm/verify information shown on this map.



Agricultural Land

Agricultural Land

***With VSP, Critical Area regulations do not apply.***

- ✓ *Ag producers implement conservation practices on a voluntary basis.*
- ✓ *State, Federal, and Shoreline Management regulations still apply.*

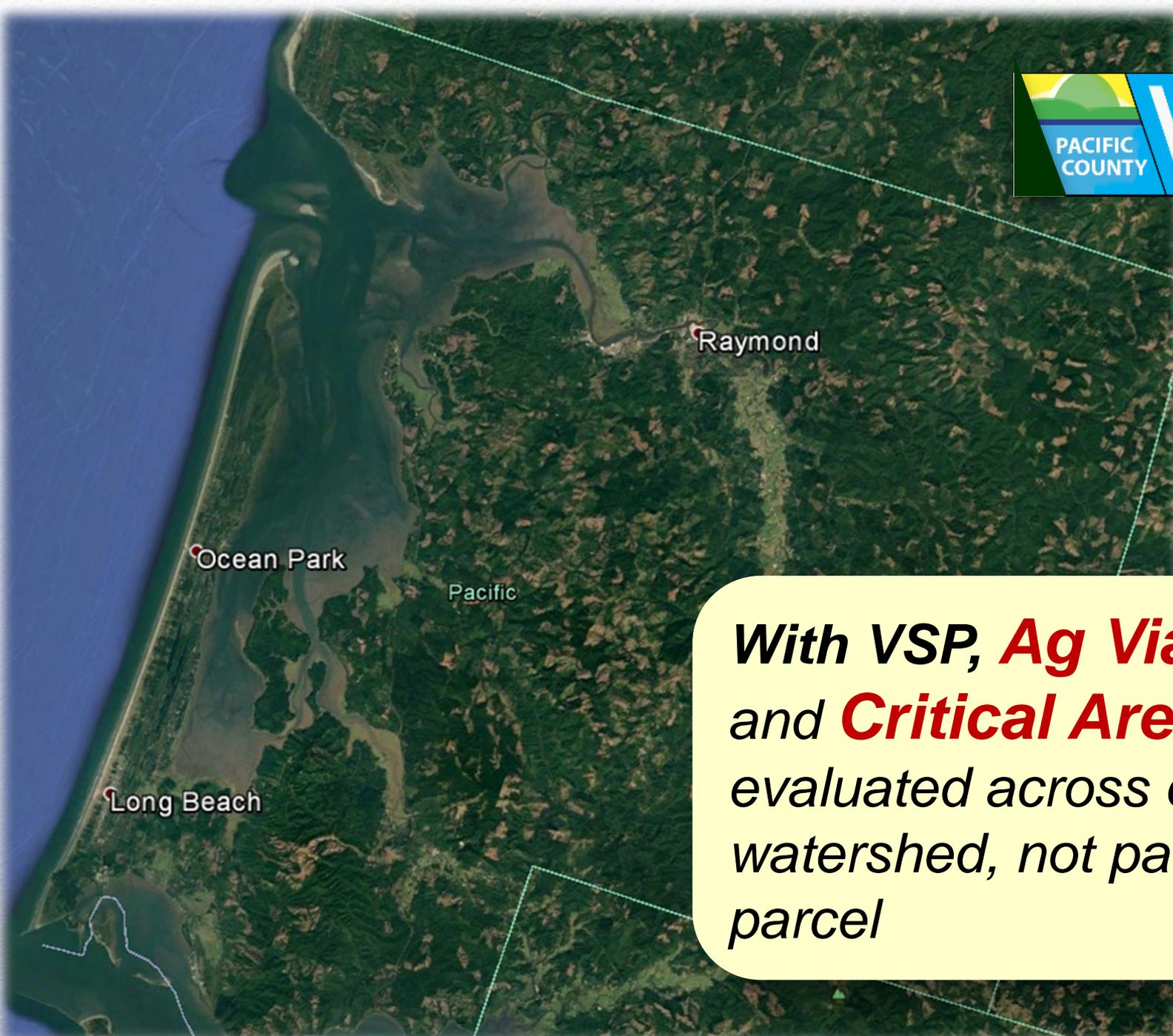
Shoreline Waterbody

Agriculture

Agriculture

*With VSP, enhancing **Ag Viability** is parallel and equal objective to protection of **Critical Area** functions.*





*With VSP, **Ag Viability** and **Critical Areas** are evaluated across entire watershed, not parcel-by-parcel*



**VSP: 27 Counties “Opt-in”**

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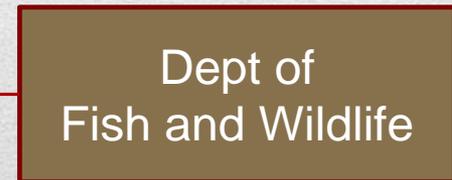
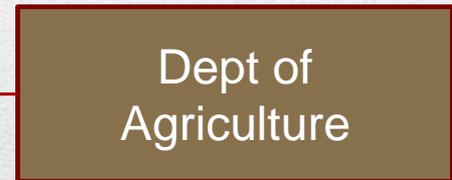
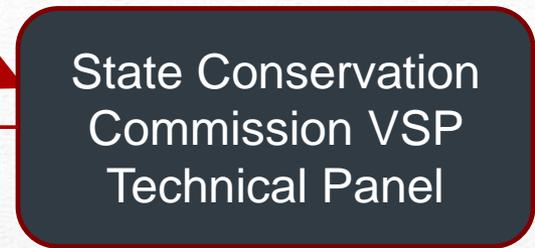
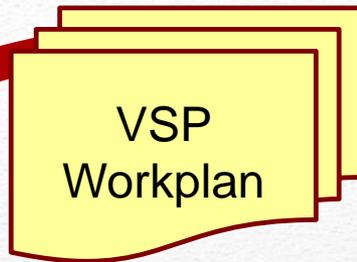
## Pacific County opt-in requires:

- Broad community representation,
- Approved VSP Work Plan,
- Monitor and evaluate VSP implementation,
- Adaptively manage if VSP goals unmet.



**Develop Work Plan &  
Implement to Success**

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- VSP Workplan not “approved” or “adopted” by BoCC.
- Workgroup completes and sends county plan to Tech Panel for approval

# Workgroup

## Autonomous Action



Joe Arndt

Hugh Barrett

David Cottrell

Warren Cowell

Tucker Glenn

Kevin Hatton

Megan Martin

Kelly McClain

Key McMurry

Malcom & Ardell  
McPhail

Mike Nordin

Kim Patten

Larissa Pfleeger

Andy Portmann

Marcus Reaves

Jim Rose

Brian Sheldon

Terry Smaciarz

Stan Smith

Nick Somero

Jessika

Tantisook

Ken Weigardt

# VSP Workgroup

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# Project Team



[vsp@co.pacific.wa.us](mailto:vsp@co.pacific.wa.us)

<http://www.co.pacific.wa.us/dcd/VSP.htm>

State Conservation  
Commission VSP  
Website

<http://scc.wa.gov/vsp/>

Pacific County

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Facilitator

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Document  
Management

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The Watershed Company  
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Advisors

Megan Martin  
Pacific Conservation District  
[mmartin@willapabay.org](mailto:mmartin@willapabay.org)

# Wrokgroup Timeline

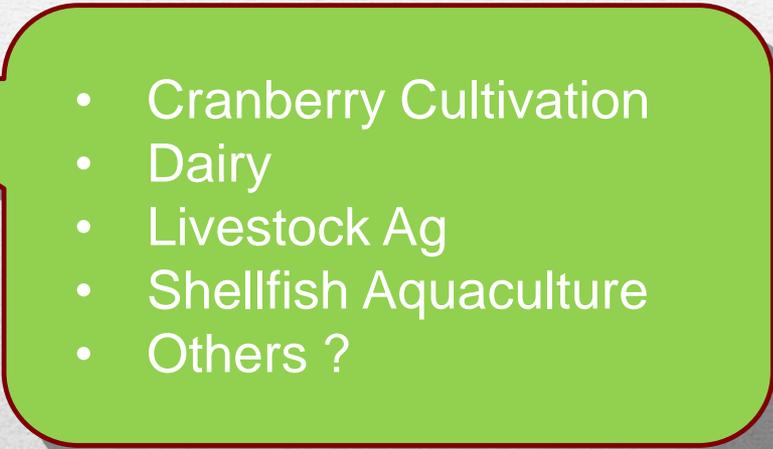
Month	Content	Action
June	Launch	
July	Critical Areas & Agriculture: Overlay Mapping	Inform & Align
Aug	Ag Impacts vs Critical Area Functions	
Sept	Work Plan Scope & Goals	
Oct-Nov	Best Practices & Objectives	Synthesize & Recommend
Dec	Monitoring and Reporting	
Jan'17	Stewardship Template	
Feb-Mar	1 <sup>st</sup> Draft	
Apr	2 <sup>nd</sup> Draft	Refine & Scribe
May	Final Draft	

## Monthly “Third Thursdays”

- 5pm – 7pm
- County Annex, South Bend

## Subcommittee worksessions

- Specific ag communities
- Meetings as needed

- 
- Cranberry Cultivation
  - Dairy
  - Livestock Ag
  - Shellfish Aquaculture
  - Others ?

## Online

- Email: [vsp@co.pacific.wa.us](mailto:vsp@co.pacific.wa.us)
- Web: <http://www.co.pacific.wa.us/dcd/VSP.htm>

## How we work...

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I want to be confirmed as a member of the Pacific County VSP Workgroup

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Pacific County Voluntary Stewardship Program  
Frequently Asked Questions

Scope

1. What is the scope of the VSP?

The purpose of the VSP is to protect agricultural areas whose agricultural use is of long-term viability of agriculture in the area and is not likely to be converted to other uses" (RCW 36.70A.001).

2. What are "critical areas"?

Critical areas include the following, as defined by the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A.001):

- Wetlands
- Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas
- Frequently flooded areas
- Geologically hazardous areas
- Areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water ("critical aquifer recharge areas")

3. What does the VSP require with respect to critical areas?

The County's VSP, as it is implemented over time, must demonstrate protection of critical areas. Protection is defined as preventing the degradation of values and functions of critical areas, at a watershed scale, as they existed on July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2001 (the effective date of the VSP legislation). In addition, the VSP Work Plan must include goals for enhancement of critical areas over time, although current VSP funding does not provide for enhancement.

4. How do I know if critical areas are on my land?

Countywide maps that show the approximate location of critical areas have been developed as part of the VSP, and are available in PDF and Google Earth formats from the County's VSP website. However, the features on these maps have not been formally delineated or surveyed and are intended for planning purposes only. When in doubt, call the Pacific County Department of Community Development.

5. How is the VSP different from traditional land management ordinances under the Growth Management Act?

The VSP is not a new set of regulations. Instead, it protects critical areas through voluntary actions on the part of participants. The VSP is developed by a multi-stakeholder Working Group specific to Pacific County, then implemented by individual agricultural operators on a voluntary basis. With the VSP in place, all agricultural activities are exempt from (i.e. not

For more information: <http://www.co.pacific.wa.us/doc/VSP.html>

# Questions ?

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▼ Search

Search

ex: 37.407229, -122.107162

Get Directions History

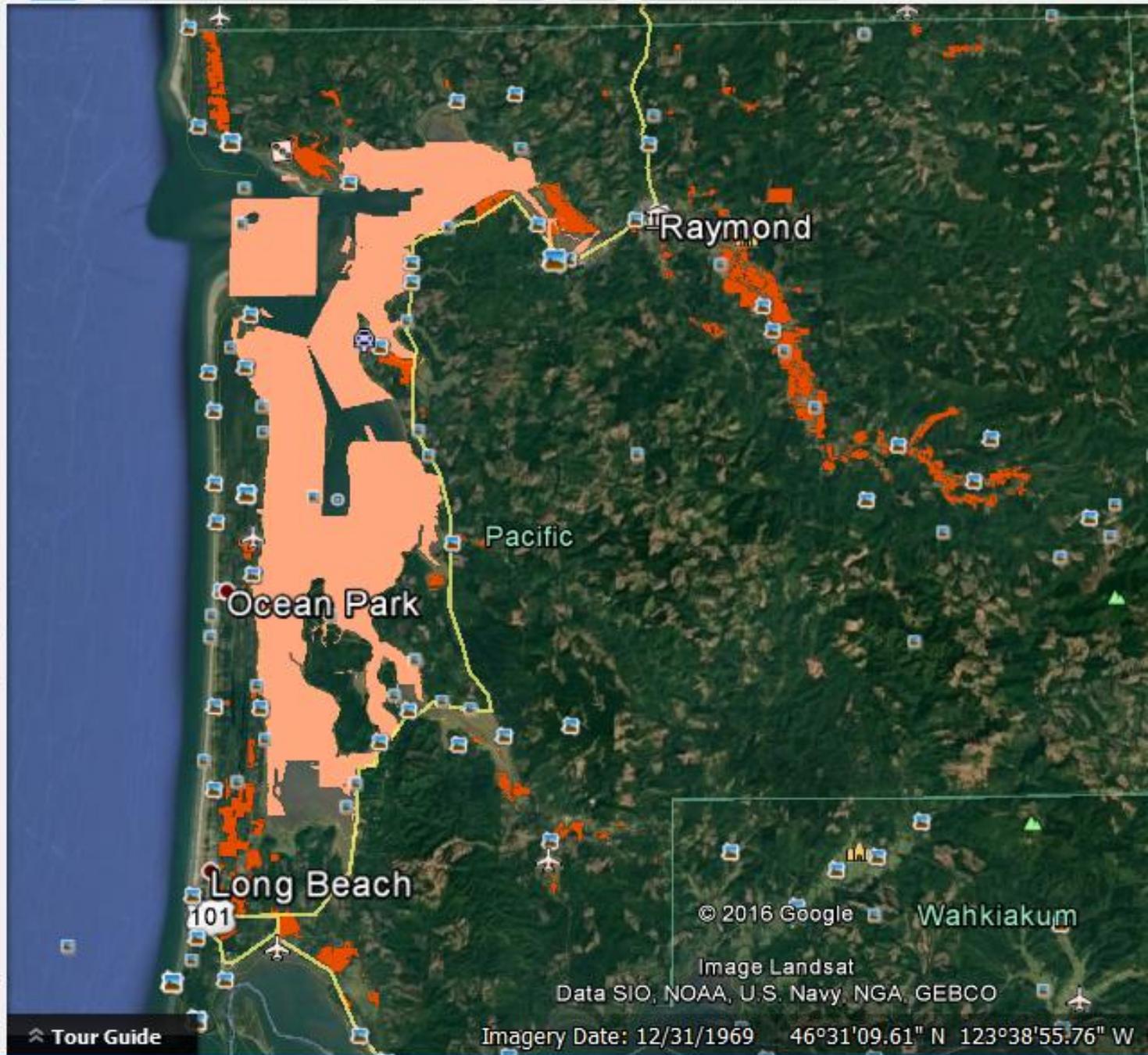
▼ Places

- My Places
- Temporary Places
- Layers



▼ Layers Earth Gallery >>

- Primary Database
- Voyager
- Borders and Labels
- Places
- Photos
- Roads
- 3D Buildings
- Ocean
- Weather
- Gallery
- Global Awareness
- More



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Image Landsat

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

Imagery Date: 12/31/1969 46°31'09.61" N 123°38'55.76" W

⌆ Tour Guide

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- ✓ Avoid additional arbitrary regulation
  - ✓ Justify new & additional compensation
  - ✓ Acknowledge post-2011 conservation actions
  - ✓ Create better engagement/relationships
    - with state/federal agencies
    - among community
  - ✓ Provide guidance/resources for new ag producers
  - ✓ Build our “tool box” for ag practices
- 
- ✓ Identify and protect surge wetlands
  - ✓ Establish Best Mgmt Practices for Aquaculture



Outcomes?

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- ✓ Checklist (?)
  - Conservation practices since 2011
  - New practices to be implemented
- ✓ Standards and certifications (evaluation benchmarks)
- ✓ How best to Monitor / Evaluate
- ✓ Costs to implement
- ✓ Incentives to participate ?



## Individual Plans

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Desired outcomes *for the future in this vision include opportunities for the next generation of farmers and fishermen to earn a living. ... Farmers would operate successful agricultural businesses while taking the initiative to improve the environment on their land. ... A successful agricultural stewardship program would enable these local communities to apply cooperation, innovation, and effective action for the advancement of agriculture and the environment.*

## **“Framework for Stewardship”**

Ruckelshaus Center 2010

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