**RESOLUTION**

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| **RESOLUTION TITLE: Addressing VSP Management Issues** |

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| **SPONSORING ENTITY/IES CD(s): Okanogan CD** |

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| **AREA:** 🞏NW 🞏SW ⌧NC 🞏SC 🞏NE 🞏SE |

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| **RESOLUTION TYPE:**  🞏 **Policy**  ⌧ **Position Statement**  🞏 **Recognition**  🞏 **Study** |

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| **RESOLUTION ACTION AGENCY** (check any option that applies):  ⌧ **WACD**  ⌧ **WSCC**  **🞏 OTHER STATE AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **🞏 NRCS**  **🞏 NACD (See Page 2)**  **🞏 NON-STATE/FEDERAL PARTNER \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

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| **TYPE OF TEXT OF RESOLUTION** (check all boxes that apply):  🞏 Technical (changes address grammar, punctuation, sentence flow and makes **NO** substantive change(s) to the existing policy.  🞏 Substantive change to existing policy. If in doubt, check the box.  ⌧ New policy. |

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| **BACKGROUND DESCRIBING THE ISSUE/PROBLEM STATEMENT:**  **The Voluntary Stewardship Program has been both a source of great accomplishment and heartache for program implementers. The program offers local communities an opportunity to control their destiny regarding the potential for regulations on agricultural lands where they intersect with designated critical areas.**  **However, the program has also been a source of constant turmoil for those who are tasked with implementing the program at the local level. The Conservation Commission, tasked by state law to administer the program, has regularly developed program rules, grant policies, and budget guides in place without any discussion or conversation with those who implement the program. Furthermore, despite repeated requests for more inclusive discussions, conversations, and direct trainings between participants for several years the program is stuck on letting individual county technical leads having to learn tasks, procedures, and processes on their own.** |

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| **PROPOSED RESOLUTION LANGUAGE:**  **WACD and member CDs shall work with partners to encourage the Conservation Commission to apply their ‘policy on policies’ for the VSP program, require Commission VSP staff to host two hybrid (in-person and virtual) trainings for the program each year, and implement a comprehensive review of all program policies and make recommendations to the Conservation Commission for changes to said policies to bring them in line with standard Commission grant programs by the May 2024 meeting.** |

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| **IS THERE A WACD FINANCIAL IMPLICATION TO IMPLEMENT THE POLICY? (Funding required, staff time, etc.)**  🞏 **NO**  ⌧ **YES** (briefly explain): Staff time to work with partners and Commission |

**If the proposed resolution is to be adopted by NACD complete the sections below to the best of your ability. If the resolution is adopted at the state level, please reach out to the NACD National Director for assistance in finalizing this form.**

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| **PROPOSED RESOLUTION LANGUAGE:**  If this resolution is adopted by NACD and included in the NACD Policy book it must clearly and concisely, using active verbs, state the specific action(s) expected of NACD; must be based on fact, avoiding opinions and beliefs; the statement should make sense even without the background. (THIS IS GENERALLY NOT WHERE A “WHEREAS” STATEMENT WOULD GO) |

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| **SPONSOR(S) ACTIONS TO DATE:** (What has been done to address the issue; which agencies and organizations have addressed it also.) |

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| **IMPACT ON EXISTING NACD POLICY (if any):** (Review NACD Policy Book for existing policies covering this issue.) |
| IF APPROPRIATE, POTENTIAL FISCAL IMPACT ON NACD’s OR A FEDERAL AGENCY BUDGET:  (*E.*g., travel, training, equipment, etc.) |

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| MEETING AND DATE ADOPTED BY SPONSORING ENTITY: (*E.*g., WACD annual meeting date) |

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| AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE(S) AND TITLE(S): (Type name and Title)  WACD National Director (NACD board member) |