

**Vermont Conservation Strategy Initiative - Agriculture Working Group  
Meeting #5, February 21, 2024, 11 am – 1 pm on Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83066274356?pwd=VHcwV21uc2xSWHM1UEJ1LzNWZksxUT09>

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Meeting ID: 830 6627 4356 Passcode: 458032

1. **Welcome and Overview** (10 minutes) (Stacy Cibula and Ryan Patch)
2. **Group Discussion:** Reviewing draft position statements for the Ag Working Group (1 hour) (Isaac Bissell and Stacy) – **DRAFT STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED.**

*We are asking the group to review a series of draft statements which will serve as a framework for starting to develop recommendations for our report to the legislature. These statements will focus on the primary question of determining which conserved agricultural lands should count towards meeting the goals of Act 59. These statements are a starting point, and not set in stone, so please come ready to discuss and share your ideas.*

3. **Break** (5 minutes)
4. **Group Discussion:** Additional Position Statements (30 minutes) (Isaac and Stacy)

*This will expand upon what we discuss in the first part of the meeting. For this discussion, we want to hear your thoughts on additional position statements we should include which address our primary question of which conserved agricultural lands should count. In addition, we will ask the group to consider statements which target a series of additional questions (beyond the primary question) that the legislation asks us to answer.*

5. **Next Steps** (15 minutes)

*Timeline and scope of next couple meetings*

*Next meeting – March 6 from 11 to 1 on Zoom*

**RESOURCES**

**Agriculture Working Group Google Drive Folder:**

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1jwZ-V-rzfdHlAsDzKfBat-lj-lpfC8Q>

**Vermont Conservation Strategy Initiative Website:**

<https://vhcb.org/our-programs/VCSI>

For more information on the Ag Working Group: email co-chairs: Stacy Cibula at [s.cibula@vhcb.org](mailto:s.cibula@vhcb.org) or Ryan Patch at [ryan.patch@vermont.gov](mailto:ryan.patch@vermont.gov).

For more information on public participation, stipends, or the overall VT Conservation Strategy Initiative process, email Zoraya Hightower at [zhightower@nature4justice.org](mailto:zhightower@nature4justice.org).