

**WHATCOM COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**Elizabeth Kosa
Director**



NATURAL RESOURCES

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive, and The Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Council, collectively serving in their capacity as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors

THROUGH: Elizabeth Kosa, Public Works Director *ek*

FROM: Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Manager *GS*
John N. Thompson, Senior Salmon Recovery Planner

DATE: July 23, 2025

RE: USGS Joint Funding Agreement for Stream Gaging

Requested Action

Enclosed is a Joint Funding Agreement (26YGJFA20075) between the United States Department of Interior, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) for your review and electronic signature.

Background and Purpose

This Agreement provides for continued data collection, real-time data access, and publication of surface water data at 10 stream gaging stations in the Nooksack River watershed for the 2026 water year (October 1, 2025 - September 30, 2026). Gaging stations were selected to provide data that complements additional data collected at these and at other USGS and Washington State Department of Ecology stream gaging sites and which collectively support watershed management and salmon recovery in WRIA 1.

Funding Amount and Source

This one-year agreement is for \$127,940. The USGS contributes \$52,620 for a combined total project cost of \$180,560. The approved 2025 Natural Resources budget includes authority for the fourth quarter of 2025 and the proposed Natural Resources 2026 budget will include a request for the balance.

Differences from Previous Contract

This new agreement reflects a 4% increase over the 2024-2025 Agreement due to increased operational costs.

Please contact Gary Stoyka at extension 6218, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Encl.