



Memorandum

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Erika Lautenbach, Director
RE: Aquatic Insight, LLC – Wisser Lake Consulting and Cyanobacteria Management Plan Contract
DATE: JULY 15, 2024

Attached is a contract between Whatcom County and Aquatic Insight for your review and signature.

- **Background and Purpose**

This contract provides funding for Wisser Lake data analysis and the development of a Wisser Lake Cyanobacteria Management Plan (LCMP) which will include nutrient and water budgets, remediation and management recommendations. Wisser Lake is a 116-acre lake that regularly experiences Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs). Sampling results over the last two decades have shown consistent presence of HAB toxin concentrations above the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) recreational guidance value. The LCMP will guide Health and Community Services and inform the community in making further decisions regarding water quality improvement in Wisser Lake.

- **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract, in an amount not to exceed \$62,500, is provided by the Washington State Department of Ecology (\$45,833) and the DOH Foundational Public Health Services Grant (\$16,667). These funds are included in the 2024 budget. Council authorization is required as funding for this contract exceeds \$40,000.

Please contact Sue Sullivan, Environmental Health Manager at 360-778-6026 (SSullivan@co.whatcom.wa.us) if you have any questions.

Encl.