

**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

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

**DATE:** September 7, 2023

**RE:** USGS Joint Funding Agreement for Stream Gaging

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**Requested Action**

Enclosed is a Joint Funding Agreement (24YGJFA20075) 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 Joint Funding Agreement provides for continued data collection, real-time data access, and publication of surface water data at 8 stream gaging stations in the Nooksack River watershed for the 2024 water year (October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024). 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 \$117,217. The USGS contributes \$49,713 for a combined total project cost of \$166,930. The approved 2023 Natural Resources budget includes authority for the fourth quarter of 2023 and the proposed Natural Resources 2024 budget includes a request for the balance.

**Differences from Previous Contract**

This new agreement reflects a 19% increase over the 2022-2023 Agreement due to a combination of inclusion of additional water quality measurements and inflation.

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

Encl.