



Whatcom County

COUNTY COURTHOUSE
311 Grand Avenue, Ste #105
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038
(360) 778-5010

Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2022-529

File ID:	AB2022-529	Version:	1	Status:	Adopted as Amended
File Created:	09/20/2022	Entered by:	JLassite@co.whatcom.wa.us		
Department:	Council Office	File Type:	Ordinance Requiring a Public Hearing		
Assigned to:	Council			Final Action:	10/25/2022
Agenda Date:	10/25/2022			Enactment #:	ORD 2022-066

Primary Contact Email: dbrown@co.whatcom.wa.us

TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Ordinance approving a system of rates and charges for the Whatcom Conservation District

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

This ordinance approves a system of rates and charges pursuant to RCW 89.08.405 on all lands in those portions of the Whatcom Conservation District located within Whatcom County for a period of ten years.

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
09/27/2022	Council	INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING	Council
		Aye: 6 Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner	
		Nay: 1 Elenbaas	
		Absent: 0	
10/25/2022	Council	ADOPTED AS AMENDED	
		Aye: 4 Buchanan, Donovan, Frazey, and Galloway	
		Nay: 3 Byrd, Elenbaas, and Kershner	
		Absent: 0	

Attachments: Proposed Ordinance, Exhibit A, Exhibit B, Exhibit C, Exhibit D, RCW 89.08.400 - Special Assessment for Natural Resources, RCW89.08.405 - Rates and Charges, District Proposal -

Binder 1, District Proposal - Binder 2, Presentation WCD R and C Proposal, Notice Posted On-Site, Public Notification Tracking as of 10.19.2022, Facebook Announcement, Notice of Hearing after 10.11.2022.pdf, Notice of Hearing in Point Roberts Press for 10.25.2022, Notice of Hearing Lynden Tribune for 10.25.2022

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-066

**APPROVING A SYSTEM OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE WHATCOM
CONSERVATION DISTRICT ON PROPERTIES LOCATED IN UNINCORPORATED AND
INCORPORATED WHATCOM COUTY**

WHEREAS, RCW 89.08.405 authorizes county legislative authorities to approve a system of rates and charges for conservation districts to fund activities and programs to conserve natural resources and other exercise of authority for the public health, safety and welfare as authorized by law; and

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Conservation District (District) has developed and proposes a system of rates and charges to provide basic funding for District activities within Whatcom County; and

WHEREAS, the District is a governmental subdivision of the State of Washington, organized under chapter 89.08 RCW to provide for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare, including protection and conservation of natural resources throughout Whatcom County; and

WHEREAS, the District's proposal includes a spending plan for projects and program activities as authorized by chapter 89.08 RCW that will support properties and property owners within both incorporated and unincorporated Whatcom County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 89.08.400 and .405, the District conducted public hearings on the proposal on July 7, 2022, and July 11, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the Whatcom Conservation District passed Resolution No. 22-02 on July 25, 2022, to submit a proposed system of rates and charges to the Whatcom County Council; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the Whatcom Conservation District passed Resolution No. 22-03 on July 25, 2022, to provide a process for individual property owner appeals of a rate or charge applied to a parcel of property; and

WHEREAS, Whatcom Conservation District transmitted its resolutions and request to approve and to fix the rates and charges consistent with chapter 89.08 RCW to Whatcom County on July 29, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the revenue from the rates and charges will allow the District to:

- Exercise its authority, including the continued protection of the public health, safety and welfare and protection and conservation of natural resources throughout Whatcom County
- Obtain grant funding and support local conservation programs
- Address water quality and conservation programs related to endangered salmon species
- Provide for other natural resource protection requirements and needs, such as the protection and conservation of farm lands; and

1
2 **WHEREAS**, support for the District's proposed programs has come from many
3 different organizations and agencies across the County; and
4

5 **WHEREAS**, programs to be supported by the system of rates and charges are
6 consistent with policies in the Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan regarding the
7 conservation of agriculture and protection of important fish habitat; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the system of rates and charges was developed following an extensive
10 rate study prepared for the Conservation District by FCS Group, an independent financial
11 consulting firm that provides economic, public finance, management consulting and financial
12 (rates, charges and fees) services to public sector entities throughout the country, including
13 city and county governments, utilities, municipal corporations and ports, special purpose
14 districts and state agencies. FCS Group evaluated the services provided by the District and
15 has developed a rate structure that allocates the costs of District services to classes of
16 property; and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors of the Whatcom Conservation District, in
19 adopting Resolution No. 22-02, considered and adopted Findings and Determinations that
20 support the system of rates and charges and the application to properties and property
21 owners in the unincorporated and incorporated areas of the County; and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, notice of the public hearings held by the Board of Supervisors of the
24 Conservation District were posted in thirty-two places throughout the incorporated and
25 unincorporated areas of Whatcom County beginning on June 23, 2022; published on the
26 District web page beginning June 22, 2022; and published in The Bellingham Herald on June
27 24, 2022, and July 1, 2022, the Lynden Tribune on June 29, 2022, and the Northern Light
28 on June 30, 2022; and
29

30 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to RCW 89.08.400 and .405, the Whatcom County Council
31 conducted a public hearing on October 25, 2022 to consider the proposed rates and
32 charges; and
33

34 **WHEREAS**, notice of the public hearing held by the Whatcom County Council was
35 posted in at least five locations throughout the District and published in The Bellingham
36 Herald for two consecutive weeks, with the last notice at least five days before the hearing
37 on October 9, 2022 and October 16, 2022, published in The Lynden Tribune on October 12,
38 2022 and October 19, 2022, and published in the Northern Light on October 20, 2022; and
39

40 **WHEREAS**, imposition of the system of rates and charges by and for the District is
41 in furtherance of the public health, safety and welfare and in the interest of the citizens of
42 Whatcom County.
43

44 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Whatcom County Council that:
45

46 **Section 1.** The Whatcom County Council hereby approves a system of rates and charges
47 pursuant to RCW 89.08.405 on all lands in those portions of the Whatcom Conservation
48 District located within Whatcom County for a period of ten years, beginning collection in
49 January 2023 through 2032, consistent with Whatcom Conservation District Resolution No.
50 22-02 (the "Rate Resolution"), as outlined in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and
51 incorporated herein by this reference.
52

1 **Section 2.** The schedule of rates and revenue calculations is approved as shown in Exhibit
2 B, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

3
4 **Section 3.** The rate schedule approved in this Ordinance as shown in Exhibit B shall be
5 applied by the District as a separate item against each parcel (subject to a rate) on the tax
6 rolls, and the District shall at its expense prepare a roll setting forth each parcel to be
7 charged and the amount of unpaid charges for each parcel to be charged as set forth
8 herein, and transmit the same to the County Assessor and Treasurer, and the County
9 Treasurer shall collect and account in the manner required for property taxes. In recognition
10 of changes of use and of property during the period authorized hereunder (including
11 creation of new lots), and the potential for inadvertent error in classification of parcels and
12 the application of use codes, the Conservation District is authorized to modify and correct a
13 parcel's identification and applicable rate in its submittals to the County Assessor and
14 Treasurer. Any appeal of such rate and charge shall be conducted and determined by the
15 District pursuant to RCW 89.08.405 and District Resolution 22-03 as shown in Exhibit D,
16 which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. The District shall promptly
17 transmit any revision to the rates and charges applicable to a parcel or parcels as the result
18 of its determination upon appeal to the County Assessor and Treasurer, and the District
19 shall refund any amount paid which it determines upon appeal to be in error. The cost and
20 administrative resources necessary to collect from a parcel that does not receive a property
21 tax statement from the County Treasurer may not be economically justified. As a result, if
22 the District includes in the roll transmitted to the County Assessor and Treasurer parcels
23 subject to the rates and charges approved by this Ordinance, not otherwise required by law
24 to receive a property tax statement, the District will pay to the County Treasurer the
25 allocable cost of mailing statements to that parcel, in addition to the otherwise applicable
26 cost of collection. The amount of a rate shall constitute a lien against the land that shall be
27 subject to the same conditions as a tax lien, collected by the County Treasurer in the same
28 manner as delinquent real property taxes, and subject to the same interest rate and penalty
29 as for delinquent property taxes.

30
31 **Section 5.** As provided in RCW 89.08.405(6), the County Treasurer shall deduct an amount
32 from the collected rates and charges, as established by the county legislative authority, to
33 cover the costs incurred by the county assessor and county treasurer in spreading and
34 collecting the rates and charges, but not to exceed the actual costs of such work.

35
36 **Section 6.** The District shall administer its program and expenditures pursuant to its annual
37 program of work and rates and charges budget. The *2023 Program of Work with Proposed*
38 *Rates & Charges Appropriation Budget* is attached hereto as Exhibit C, and incorporated
39 herein by reference. The District shall provide, by no later than September 1 of each year,
40 copies of its annual program of work and rates and charges budget to Whatcom County. The
41 District shall also provide annual reports at this time, detailing work completed the prior
42 year. The annual reports shall describe progress achieved towards work plan goals and
43 report any barriers towards achieving work plan goals. The annual program of work, the
44 rates and charges budget, and the annual reports shall be filed with the clerk of the
45 Whatcom County Council.

1 **Section 7.** This Ordinance is enacted under the County's police power authority, including
2 Const. Art. XI, Section 11 and RCW 36.32.120, and its authority under chapter 89.08 RCW.
3
4

5 **ADOPTED** this 25th day of October, 2022.
6
7

8
9 ATTEST:

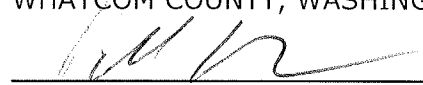
10
11 
12 Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council
13
14

15 WHATCOM COUNTY EXECUTIVE
16 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

17 /s/ Karen Frakes (approved via e-mail 10/25/22) / JL
18
19

20 Civil Deputy Prosecutor
21
22

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

23
24 
25 Todd Donovan, Council Chair

WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Approved () Denied

Date Signed: October 31, 2022

WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 22-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT, WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO A SYSTEM OF RATES AND CHARGES; PROPOSING A SYSTEM OF RATES AND CHARGES TO WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATED THERETO, ALL AS MORE PARTICULARLY SET FORTH HEREIN.

SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS. The Board of Supervisors ("Board") of the Whatcom Conservation District ("District") hereby makes and enters the following findings and determinations:

1.1. The District is a governmental subdivision of the State of Washington and a public body corporate and politic, created in Whatcom County and operating since 1946. As a requirement for District formation, the State Conservation Commission found that "the public health, safety, and welfare warrant the creation" of the District. RCW 89.08.100. In addition, the Legislature made express findings relating to conservation districts, stating that "the preservation of these lands is necessary to protect and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of its people" and that "it is hereby declared to be the policy of the legislature to provide for the conservation of the renewable resources of the state . . . and thereby . . . to protect and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of this state." RCW 89.08.010. Under chapter 89.08 RCW, the Legislature has provided that the programs, services, and improvements of the District are necessary to the public health, safety and welfare of the District and the state. The District exercises its functions throughout Whatcom County and currently in the cities of Bellingham, Blaine, Everson, Ferndale, Lynden, Nooksack, and Sumas.

1.2 Past and continuing improper land-use practices have caused and contributed to a progressively more serious erosion and degradation of the lands of the District. It is necessary that land-use practices contributing to soil erosion be discouraged and discontinued, and that efforts to provide for appropriate soil-conserving land-use practices, works of improvement for flood prevention, and efforts furthering agricultural and nonagricultural phases of conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water, be adopted and carried out to preserve natural resources, protect public and private lands, and protect and promote the health, safety and general welfare of the people of the District (the "Conservation Projects"). The District programs assist in managing land for sustainable, profitable production of food and crops as a better alternative than leaving lands to become filled with noxious weeds or converted to polluting activities. Many District programs are designed to help private land owners, residents, and managers of land do a better job of protecting natural resources as they make a living from or using their land.

1.3 Pursuant to chapter 89.08 RCW, the District is responsible for and authorized to carry out Conservation Projects within the District, including but not limited to soil conservation; measures to address property compliance with federal, state and local laws and regulations, including Clean Water Act standards or Endangered Species Act requirements; aquatic and upland habitat protection, restoration, and technical assistance; NPDES support; educational and demonstrational projects; water quality monitoring; rain garden programs; invasive species control services; and assistance relating to stewardship of working lands, such as agriculture and forest land. District Conservation Projects and improvements include, but are not limited to education, technical assistance, and financial incentives that promote the sustainable uses of natural resources through responsible stewardship and are describes as follows:

1.3.1 The District works directly with private landowners, residents, and land managers who have direct control over management activities on their lands, for the benefit of those properties and the land and waters of the District. The District does this by conducting personal site visits, developing conservation best management practice, and stewardship plans, and conducting community education workshops, tours, and trainings on topics such as livestock management, shoreline protection and enhancement, watersheds, salmon, native plants, and stream ecology.

1.3.2 The District conducts cooperative activities to protect and enhance aquatic resources upon urban, suburban and rural properties by coordinating, designing, and implementing stream corridor improvement projects that control infestations of invasive species such as knotweed, blackberry, and Reed canary grass, and plant trees and shrubs to revegetate riparian corridors. The District contributes to conserving and protecting threatened and endangered salmonid species by designing and installing fish passage barrier removal projects.

1.3.3 The District conducts cooperative activities to maintain and reopen recreational and commercial shellfish production areas by conducting workshops, tours, and trainings and providing technical assistance to reduce pathogens, nutrients, erosion and sedimentation that damage shellfish beds.

1.3.4 The District conducts cooperative activities to improve water quality and conserve water by promoting best management practices at fairs, other public events, workshops, tours, and trainings on topics such as water quality protection and enhancement, stormwater management, and water conservation. The District conducts site visits and coordinates; designs, and implements water quality and quantity best management practices with landowners, residents, and land managers who have direct control over water management practices and activities on their lands. The District manages and maintains a County-wide water quality data warehouse by collating regional water quality data and sharing data analysis with regional partners. The District maintains the Application Risk Management System (ARM) to avoid polluted runoff, and partners with municipalities and other partners on specific projects to address local Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL). The District awards targeted incentives, including financial assistance (cost-share, conservation rebates, etc.) to reduce polluted runoff and conserve water, and provides manure spreading equipment in combination with application plans to reduce polluted runoff. All of these projects offset the cost of Clean Water Act compliance for jurisdictions and ratepayers.

EXHIBIT A

1.3.5 The District leads stormwater management projects at the request of partners (cities and Whatcom County) to help those jurisdictions meet NPDES permit requirements and offset burdens on rates and charges for storm water management programs.

1.3.6 The District conserves and protects high quality agricultural soils and other working lands by providing landowner education and development of best management practices plans to help farmers and livestock owners comply with State mandates and County regulations, thereby offsetting the cost and burden of certain agricultural impacts. The District provides technical assistance and funding opportunities to retain and steward high quality agricultural soils (e.g., CREP). The District awards targeted incentives, including financial assistance (cost-share) to reduce soil erosion, improve soil tilth, and support better and more regular access to local agriculture products. The District provides equipment to support local food production (e.g., poultry processing unit).

1.3.7 The District conducts cooperative activities to improve the climate resilience of woodlots, forest, and upland wildlife habitat upon urban, suburban and rural properties through personal site visits with landowners, residents, and land managers who have direct control over management practices and activities on their lands. The District provides community-based fire risk management education and training; prepares fire risk reduction plans; and plans and implements fire risk reduction projects such as Chipper Days.

1.3.8 The District identified additional program opportunities through public input received by on-line survey associated with the District's long-range planning process, direct one-on-one engagement with stakeholders, and public comment received at two public hearings. These are described as follows:

- A. Conducting cooperative activities to restore forest health and resilience and upland habitat upon urban, suburban and rural properties through personal site visits with private landowners who have direct control over management practices and activities on their lands; community-based forest management education and training; forest stewardship project planning; and award of targeted incentive such as financial assistance (cost-share).
- B. Contributing to the economic viability of local agricultural businesses by supporting efforts to prevent land conversion. Such activities include technical assistance provided to local farms, other working lands, and other agricultural support organizations to the benefit of both the agricultural community and residents residing within the District who receive better and more regular access to local produce, agricultural products, and other working land products.
- C. Contributing to local and regional efforts to mitigate the natural resource impacts associated with extreme weather events.

1.3.9 These and other District Conservation Programs, services, and activities are described in the *Program of Work and Rates and Charges Proposal for Whatcom Conservation District* which was approved and adopted by the Board pursuant to Resolution No. 22-01 and is incorporated herein by reference. The District will consider and adopt additional programs of

work on an annual basis covering any period for which a system of rates and charges is in effect, which programs of work will take into account the needs and concerns of the District's constituents.

1.3.10 The District's constituents and partners have indicated a desire for continued and strengthened natural resource services delivered by the District as evidenced by supportive feedback via the following outreach and engagement activities:

- A. Online customer survey with 244 stakeholders;
- B. District staff and board member presentations to Whatcom County Watershed Improvement Districts, All Breeds Goat Club, Dairy Irrigation Field Day, and Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association;
- C. Discussions at local and regional events including 2022 Farm Expo, Birch Bay Beach Clean-up Day, Farm Speaker Series at NW Therapeutic Riding Center, Whatcom Wildlife Bio Blitz Community Science Days, Lama & Alpaca Appreciation Day, and Whatcom Conservation District Board of Supervisor monthly meetings;
- D. Discussions with stakeholders through an outreach campaign; and
- E. Engagement of online newsletter subscribers and social media readers.

1.4 Part of the regulations and controls under both federal and state law regarding water pollution is the establishment and maintenance of appropriate measures for education and implementation of best management practices. See 33 U.S.C. 1251 *et seq.*; 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv) (required measures for State NPDES programs including education and planning to implement best management practices and control techniques to reduce pollutants); and Washington Department of Ecology Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit for Whatcom County (requiring education and outreach program). The District provides such service both independently and together with Whatcom County and cities within the District. The City of Lynden has contracted with the District since 2015 to provide several elements of the mandated education and outreach programs.

1.5 The District Board of Supervisors held public hearings and received public comments on a program of work and associated rates and charges appropriations budget and adopted that program of work and rates and charges appropriations budget by motion on July 25, 2022, and by Resolution No. 22-01 on July 25, 2022 which forms the basis of the District's proposed system of rates and charges.

1.6 Certain properties within the District receive direct or indirect benefit from the carrying out of Conservation Projects. Direct benefits are those benefits arising out of Conservation Projects conducted on site. Indirect benefits are those benefits received at other locations (e.g., downstream or on adjacent parcels) from the Conservation Projects on actual sites.

1.7 It is appropriate for property owners within the District that benefit either directly or indirectly from the District's Conservation Projects to pay for the cost of carrying out the Conservation Projects.

EXHIBIT A

1.8 The District engaged FCS Group (“FCS”), an independent financial consulting firm that provides economic, public finance, management consulting, and financial (rates, charges, and fees) services to public sector entities throughout the country, including city and county governments, utilities, ports, special purpose districts, and state agencies. FCS has evaluated the services provided by the District and has developed a rate structure, as part of the Whatcom Conservation District Rate Study (FCS Group, July, 2022) that allocates the costs of District services to various classes of property.

1.9 In determining a rate structure, the Board has considered the discretionary factors set forth by the Legislature in Chapter 60, Laws of 2012 and RCW 89.08.405, including:

1.9.1 Services furnished, to be furnished, or available to landowners in the District;

1.9.2 Benefits received, to be received, or available to property in the District;

1.9.3 The character and use of land in the District;

1.9.4 The nonprofit public benefit status of land users in the District;

1.9.5 The income level of persons served or provided benefits, including senior citizens and disabled persons; and

1.9.6 Other matters that present a reasonable difference as a ground for distinction among properties.

1.10 The Board finds that seven classes or categories of property are appropriate: residential, commercial, open space, institutional/public, agricultural, designated forest land, vacant/undeveloped, as further defined in this Resolution. There is a rational basis for distinguishing land within the District into classes on the basis of property use and the variation of properties within these classes is found to reflect differences in services and/or benefits received, to be received or available from the Conservation Projects.

1.11 The Board finds that it is appropriate to assign weighting factors to each class of property that reflect distinctions among those properties relating to the services and/or benefits received, to be received or available from the District. The weighting factors include (1) services and/or benefits received, to be received or available that are insignificant or immeasurable to certain property; (2) services and/or benefits received, to be received or available to classes of property to a lesser degree; and, (3) services and/or benefits received, to be received or available that more fully support property (compared to other classes of property). There is a rational basis for distinguishing services/benefits received or available from District services and Conservation Projects with the use of such weighting factors and the variation of services/benefits within these factors is found to be minor and to reflect only minor differences in services/benefit received or available from the Conservation Projects.

1.12 The administrative cost of calculating the charge for each individual property and maintaining accurate information would be very high. A flat charge for each parcel within each property class is less costly to administer than calculating a separate charge for each parcel and is equitable because of the similarities of the characteristics and uses within each property class. The District considered but determined a per acre charge may result in miscalculations and confusion among ratepayers and was not appropriate for use at the current time.

1.13 The rates proposed to Whatcom County by this Resolution were calculated within the parameters of a rate model from the FCS Rate Study. Under the rate model, the estimated annual costs of each Conservation Project were allocated to ratepayers as follows:

1.13.1 Number of parcels in each of the property categories, and in the case of designated the number of landowners;

1.13.2 Direct and indirect services/benefits received by or available to property within each property category, as generally described in this Resolution; and

1.13.3 A weighting factor reflecting the degree of services/benefits received by or available to each property class for each Conservation Project as described in Section 1.10, above.

1.14 The FCS Rate Study calculated rates per parcel per year (or per owner for designated forest lands) for seven of the classifications, as follows: residential (\$16.83 per parcel), commercial (\$16.79 per parcel), open space (\$16.83 per parcel), institutional/public (\$16.82 per parcel), agricultural (\$16.83 per parcel), designated forest land (\$16.78 per owner), vacant/undeveloped (\$16.83 per parcel). The rate model provides a reasonable basis for establishing the rates proposed by this Resolution. The rates calculated by the FCS Rate Study were adjusted downward proportionally so as not to exceed the maximum rates permitted under Chapter 60, Laws of 2012 resulting in the following rates: residential (\$5.00 per parcel), commercial (\$4.99 per parcel), open space (\$5.00 per parcel), institutional/public (\$5.00 per parcel), agricultural (\$5.00 per parcel), designated forest land (\$2.99 per owner), vacant/undeveloped (\$5.00 per parcel). These rates are an allocable share of the costs of services/benefits received or available to the property owners in the District from District programs, services, and activities, all for the preservation of natural resources, protection of public lands and waters, and protection and promotion of the health, safety and general welfare of the lands and people of the District.

1.15 The rates proposed herein to pay the costs of carrying out the Conservation Projects are fees for which the federal government is liable under the Clean Water Act to the same extent as any other classification of land. 33 U.S.C. § 1323(a), and Pub.L. 111-378, § 1, 124 Stat. 4128 (2011); and, *United States of America v. City of Renton, et al.*, Western District of Washington Cause No. C11-1156JLR (2012). However, the District determined that acquiring payments from the federal agencies would be unduly difficult, thus those lands are excluded from the system of rates recommended by this Resolution.

1.16 Parcels owned by federally recognized Native American tribes or members of such tribes that are located within the historical boundaries of a reservation are served by District Programs. However in consideration of centuries of actions to marginalize Native American tribes

and their members and the resulting loss of homeland and associated impacts to Native American traditions and identity based on land relationship, those lands are excluded from the system of rates recommended by this Resolution.

1.17 The consideration, development, adoption and implementation of the rates proposed herein follows the public hearings held by the District on July 7, 2022 and July 11, 2022, pursuant to RCW 89.08.405(4) and RCW 89.08.400(2), public notice of which was properly provided by postings throughout the District and through publication.

1.18 By Resolution No. 22-03 the District has established a process providing for landowner appeals of the individual rates as may be applicable to a parcel or parcels.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.

2.1 "Agricultural land" means those parcels in the Whatcom County Assessor's property classifications of: 8150 FARM DAIRY; 8160 FARM/RANCHES; 8170 FARM POULTRY; 8180 FARMS; 8190 OTHR AG LAND; 8200 AG RELTD ACT; 8210 AG PROC; 8212 GRIST MILL S; 8221 VET SERVS; 8222 ANIMAL HOSP; 8230 HORTICULT SV; 8290 OTHR AG RLTD; 8340 OSAG CROP/ET; 8341 OSAG CRO MH; 8343 OSAG CRO MH+; 8345 OSAG CRO LOG; 8350 OSAG DAIRY; 8351 OSAG DAI MH; 8353 OSAG DAI MH+; 8355 OSAG DAI LOG; 8360 OSAG RANCHES; 8361 OSAG RAN MH; 8363 OSAG RAN MH+; 8365 OSAG RAN LOG; 8370 OSAG POULTRY; 8371 OSAG POU MH; 8373 OSAG POU MH+; 8380 OSAG; 8381 OSAG MH; 8383 OSAG MH+; 8385 OSAG LOG HME; 8390 OSAG OTHER; 8421 FISH HATCHRY; 8429 OTHR FISHERY; 8490 OTHR FISHERY.

2.2 "Billing year" means the calendar year that bills are sent through the property tax statement.

2.3 "Commercial land" means those parcels in the Whatcom County Assessor's property classifications of: 1600 HOTEL/MOTEL; 1613 HOTL/MOTL13U; 1617 HOTL/MOTL17U; 1621 HOTL/MOTL21U; 1622 HOTL/MOTL22U; 1624 HOTL/MOTL24U; 1628 HOTL/MOTL28U; 1630 HOTL/MOTL30U; 1633 HOTL/MOTL33U; 1643 HOTL/MOTL43U; 1651 HOTL/MOTL51U; 1654 HOTL/MOTL54U; 1656 HOTL/MOTL56U; 1660 HOTL/MOTL60U; 1668 HOTL/MOTL68U; 1681 HOTL/MOTL81U; 1694 HOTL/MOTL94U; 1715 B & B; 1731 CONVAL CTRS; 1732 REST HOMES; 1733 1/2 WY HOUSE; 1735 ELDERLY HSG; 1810 ROOM/BOARD; 1820 GROUP QTRS; 1830 BED-BREAKFST; 1900 VAC HOME/CAB; 1910 VAC HOMES; 1920 CABINS; 2100 FD/KNDRD PRO; 2111 MEAT PACKING; 2123 CON/EVAP MLK; 2136 FR/FROZ FISH; 2142 FEED ANIM/FO; 2143 CEREAL PREP; 2150 BAKERY PROD; 2172 CHOCO/COCOA; 2183 WINE/BRANDY; 2195 ROAST COFFEE; 2197 ICE; 2199 FOOD PREP; 2299 TEXT GOODS; 2395 DECOR STITCH; 2399 FAB TEXT PRO; 2421 SAWMILLS; 2429 SPEC SAWMILL; 2431 MILLWORK; 2433 PREFAB BLDGS; 2499 LMBR/WD PROD; 2510 HOUSE FURN; 2599 FURN/FIXTURE; 2600 PAPER/ALLIED; 2647 SANIT PAPER; 2650 PAPRBD CONTR; 2710 NEWSPAPERS; 2740 COMM PRINTNG; 2790 PRINT/PUBLSH; 2800 CHEM/ALLIED; 2810 IN-ORGANIC P; 2841 SOAP/DETERGN; 2860 GUM/WOOD CHM; 2910 PETRO REFINING; 2991 LUB OILS/GRS; 2999 PETRO/COAL P; 3140 MISC PLAS PR; 3259 POTTRY/RELTD;

EXHIBIT A

3262 CONCRT PRODS; 3263 CONCRT READY; 3270 CUT STONE; 3313 STEEL WIRE; 3334 PRI/NONFERRO; 3352 ALUMINUM; 3390 PRI MTL IND; 3400 FAB MTL PROD; 3421 ENGINE/TURBO; 3422 FARM MACH/EQ; 3424 METALWORKING; 3425 SPEC IND MAC; 3426 GEN IND MACH; 3432 ELEC IND APP; 3433 HOUSE APLIAN; 3437 ELEC COMP/AC; 3439 ELEC MACH/EQ; 3441 MTR VEHICLE; 3442 AIRCRAFT/PRT; 3443 SHIP/BOAT BL; 3445 CYCLES/BIKES; 3449 TRANS EQUIPT; 3450 MARINE/PARTS; 3493 HTG APP/PLBG; 3494 FAB STRC MTL; 3498 FAB WIRE PRO; 3499 FAB MTL PROD; 3521 MECH MEAS/CO; 3542 ORTHO/PROSTH; 3900 MISC MFG; 3930 TOYS/AMUSEMT; 3986 MARIJUANA; 3997 SIGNS/ADS; 3999 MISC MFG; 4100 RR/RAPD RAIL; 4111 RR R/W; 4112 RR SWITCH/MA; 4113 RR TERMINALS; 4114 RR TERM FRGT; 4116 RR EQUIP/MNT; 4119 RR TRANS; 4129 RAPD RAIL TR; 4200 MTR VEH TRAN; 4212 BUS PAS LOCL; 4213 BUS PAS BOTH; 4214 BUS GARAGE; 4219 BUS TRANS; 4221 MTR FRGHT TM; 4222 MTR FRGHT TR; 4299 MTR VEH TRAN; 4300 AIRCRAFT TRN; 4311 LAND/TAKEOFF; 4315 AIRCRAFT STO; 4319 AIRPRTS/FLDS; 4399 AIRCRFT TRAN; 4413 MAR TRM BOTH; 4419 MAR TERMINAL; 4600 AUTO PARKING; 4700 COMMUNICATN; 4710 PHONE COMMUN; 4711 PHONE EXCH; 4712 PHONE RELAY; 4719 PHONE COMMUN; 4730 RADIO COMMUN; 4732 RAD STA/TWRS; 4742 TV STA/RELAY; 4749 OTHR TV COMM; 4790 OTHR COMMUNI; 4795 UTILITY TEL; 4800 UTILITIES; 4810 ELEC UTILITY; 4811 ELEC TRAN RW; 4812 ELEC GEN PLT; 4813 ELEC REG SUB; 4819 ELEC UTILITY; 4820 GAS UTILITY; 4821 GAS PIPELINE; 4823 NAT/MFT GAS; 4824 GAS PRES CNT; 4829 GAS UTILITY; 4839 WTR UTIL/IRR; 4840 SEWAGE DISP; 4841 SEWAGE TRTMT; 4843 SEWAGE DISP; 4850 SOLID WASTE; 4854 SANIT LAND F; 4855 REFUSE DISP; 4890 OTHR UTILITY; 4895 UTILITY ELEC; 4900 TRANS/COMM/U; 4911 PETRO PIPELN; 4912 PETRO PRES C; 4921 FRGHT FORWRD; 4929 TRANS SERVS; 4990 TRANS/COMM/U; 5000 CONDO-NOT RES; 5010 HANGAR CONDO; 5020 MARINE CONDO; 5030 MED CONDOS; 5040 RET/OFF CNDO; 5050 STOR CONDOS; 5060 MIX U CONDOS; 5100 WHOESL TRAD; 5111 AUTO/MTR VEH; 5112 AUTO EQUIP; 5121 DRUGS/PROP/S; 5122 PAINT/VARNISH; 5131 DRY/PIECE GD; 5141 GROCERIES; 5142 DAIRY PRODS; 5145 FISH/SEAFDS; 5146 MEAT/PRODUCT; 5147 FRUITS/VEGS; 5149 GROC/RELTD P; 5153 HIDE/SKIN/FR; 5159 FARM PRODS; 5161 ELEC APP/EQU; 5162 ELEC APP/TV; 5163 ELEC PRTS/EQ; 5172 PLBG/HTNG EQ; 5181 COMM/IND MCH; 5182 FARM MCH/EQU; 5183 PROF EQUIP; 5184 EQUIP/SUPPLY; 5185 TRANS EQUIP; 5189 MCH/EQUIP/SU; 5191 METAL/MINERL; 5192 PETRO BLK ST; 5193 SCRAP/WASTE; 5195 BEER/WINE/AL; 5198 LMBR/CONST M; 5199 WHOESL TRAD; 5200 BLDG MAT/HDW; 5211 LUMBER YARDS; 5212 BLDG MATERLS; 5220 HTG/PLMBG EQ; 5230 PAINT/GLASS; 5240 ELEC SUPPLY; 5251 HDWRE-RETAIL; 5252 FARM EQUIP; 5300 RET TR-GEN; 5305 MIXED USE; 5310 DEPT STORES; 5320 MAIL ORDR HS; 5330 LTD PRCE VAR; 5360 CONV NEIGHBR; 5365 RET STRIP ML; 5370 COMM SHOP CT; 5375 OUTLET MALL; 5380 REG SHOP CTR; 5391 DRY GDS/GEN; 5392 GEN STORES; 5400 RET TRD-FOOD; 5410 GROCERIES; 5421 MEATS; 5430 FRUITS/VEGS; 5450 DAIRY PROD; 5461 BAKERIES; 5462 BAKERIES; 5499 RET TRD-FOOD; 5511 NEW/USED CAR; 5512 USED CARS; 5520 TIRE/BAT/ACC; 5530 GAS SERV STA; 5591 MAR CRFT/ACC; 5592 AIR CRFT/ACC; 5599 OTHR AUTO/MA; 5600 APPAREL/ACC; 5620 WOMEN READY; 5630 WOMENS ACC/S; 5640 CHILD/INFANT; 5670 CUSTOM TAILR; 5690 OTHR APP/ACC; 5700 FURN/HOME/EQ; 5711 FURNITURE; 5712 FLOOR CVRNGS; 5719 OTHR FURN/HO; 5720 HOUSE APPLIN; 5731 RADIO/TV; 5732 MUSIC SUPPLY; 5800 EAT/DRINK; 5810 EATING PLACE; 5815 ESPRESSO BAR; 5820 DRINK PLACES; 5900

EXHIBIT A

RET NOT ELSE; 5910 DRUG/PROPRTY; 5920 LIQUOR; 5931 ANTIQUES; 5932 SECOND MERCH; 5941 BOOKS; 5942 STATIONERY; 5951 SPORTING GDS; 5952 BICYCLES; 5961 HAY GRAIN FD; 5969 FARM/GARDEN; 5981 FUEL/ICE DLR; 5983 BOTTLED GAS; 5991 FLORISTS; 5995 GIFT NOVELTY; 5996 OPTICAL GDS; 5997 M/H SALES; 5999 OTHR RET TRD; 6100 FIN/INS/R ES; 6110 OFF/RET; 6111 BANK SERV; 6112 BANK FUNCTNS; 6121 SAVGS/LOAN; 6122 CU AG/BUS/PR; 6132 COMMOD CON/B; 6142 INS AG/BRKRS; 6151 RE OPTRS/LSR; 6152 RE AG/BRKR/M; 6154 RE SUB/DEV; 6156 COMBO RE/INS; 6159 OTHR RE/RLTD; 6160 HOLD/INVEST; 6190 OTHR FIN/INS; 6200 PERSONAL SER; 6211 LAUND/DRY/DY; 6212 LINEN SUPPLY; 6214 SELF LAUND/D; 6215 RUG CLEAN/RP; 6231 BEAUTY SERV; 6232 BARBER SERV; 6241 FUNERAL/CREM; 6242 CEMETERIES; 6290 OTHR PER SER; 6300 BUSINESS SER; 6311 AD SERVICES; 6319 OTHR AD SERV; 6332 BLUEPRNT/PHO; 6349 OTHR DWELL/B; 6350 NEWS SYND; 6370 WHSE/STORAGE; 6373 REFRIG WHSE; 6375 HOUSE WHSE/S; 6376 GEN WHSE/STO; 6377 MINI STORAGE; 6379 OTHR WHSE/ST; 6391 RES/DEV/TEST; 6393 DET/PROT SER; 6394 EQUIP RENT/L; 6399 OTHR BUS SER; 6411 AUTO REP SER; 6412 AUTO WASH SV; 6419 OTHR AUTO SV; 6491 ELEC REP SER; 6499 OTHR REP SER; 6500 PROF SERV; 6510 MED/HLTH SER; 6511 PHYSICIAN SV; 6512 DENTAL SERV; 6513 HOSP SERV; 6514 MED LAB SERV; 6515 DENTL LAB SV; 6516 SANIT/CONVAL; 6517 MED CLINICS; 6519 OTHR MED/HLT; 6520 LEGAL SERV; 6591 ENG/ARCH SER; 6592 ED/SCI RES; 6593 ACCNT/AUDIT; 6599 OTHR PROF SV; 6600 CONT CONST S; 6611 BLDG CONST; 6619 OTHR GEN CON; 6621 PLMBG/HTG/AC; 6622 PAINT/PAPER; 6623 ELEC SERV; 6624 MASON STONE; 6625 CARPNTR/FLRG; 6626 ROOF/SHT MTL; 6627 CONCRETE SER; 6629 OTHR SPEC CO; 6700 GVRNMTL SERV; 6710 EXEC LEGIS/J; 6900 MISC SERV; 6991 BUSINESS ASN; 6993 LABOR UNION; 6999 OTHR MISC SV; 7212 MOVIE THEATR; 7214 LEGIT THEATR; 7219 OTHR ENTERTN; 7222 ARENAS/FIELD; 7223 RACE TRACKS; 7229 OTHR SPORTS; 7239 OTHR MISC AS; 7290 OTHR PUB ASM; 7295 PUBLIC MKT; 7311 FAIRGROUNDS; 7393 GOLF DRIVING; 7394 GO-CART TRKS; 7399 OTHR AMUSMNT; 7400 RECREATL ACT; 7410 SPORTS ACT; 7411 GOLF COURSES; 7412 GOLF COURSES; 7413 TENNIS COURT; 7415 ROLLER SKATE; 7417 BOWLING; 7419 OTHR SPORTS; 7420 PLAYGROUNDS; 7421 PLAY LOTS; 7422 PLAYGROUNDS; 7423 PLAYFIELDS; 7424 RECREAT CTR; 7425 GYMS/ATHLTIC; 7431 SWIM BEACHES; 7432 SWIM POOLS; 7440 MARINAS; 7441 YACHT CLUBS; 7449 OTHR MARINAS; 7491 CAMP/PICNIC; 7499 OTHR RECREAT; 7511 GEN RESORTS; 7514 SKI RESORTS; 7516 RV PARKS; 7519 OTHR RESORTS; 7520 GRP/ORG CAMP; 8500 MINE/RLTD SV; 8542 CRUSH/BROKEN; 8543 SAND/GRAVEL; 8900 FORESTRY ACT; 8910 FOREST NURS; 8911 TMBR PULP WD; 8914 TMBR MIXED; 8917 TMBR/TRE MIX; 8919 OTHR COMM FO; 8929 OTHR FOREST; 8990 OTHR FOREST; 8999 OTHR RESOURC; 9200 NON/COMM FOR; 9210 FOREST RESER; 9220 OTHR NON-COM.

2.4 "Forested land" means those parcels in the Whatcom County Assessor's property classifications of: 8800 DESIG FOREST; 8801 DESI FOR MH; 8803 DESI FOR MH+; 8805 DESI FOR LOG.

2.5 "Institutional/public land" means those parcels in the Whatcom County Assessor's property classifications of: 6720 PROTEC FUNCT; 6721 POLICE PROTC; 6722 FIRE PROTECT; 6729 OTHR PROTECT; 6730 POSTAL SERV; 6749 OTHR CORRECT; 6750

EXHIBIT A

MILIT BASE; 6751 MILIT TRAIN; 6755 MILIT ADMIN; 6760 OTHR GVRN SV; 6800 EDUCATION SV; 6811 NURSERY SCH; 6812 PRIMARY SCH; 6813 SEC SCHOOLS; 6821 UNIV/COLLEGE; 6822 JR COLLEGE; 6830 SPEC TRAIN; 6831 VOC/TRD SCH; 6833 BARBER/BEAUT; 6834 ART/MUSIC; 6839 OTHR SPEC TR; 6911 CHURCHES; 6919 OTHR RELIG; 6920 WELFARE/CHAR; 6994 CIVIC SOCIAL; 7111 LIBRARIES; 7112 MUSEUMS; 7113 ART GALLERY; 7119 OTHR CULT; 7123 BOT GARDEN; 7129 OTHR NATURE; 7191 HIST/MONUMNT; 7199 OTHR CULT/NT; 7200 PUB ASSEMBLY.

2.6 "Open space land" means those parcels in the Whatcom County Assessor's property classifications of: 4490 MAR CRFT TRA; 4500 HIWY/ST RW; 4520 EXPRESSWAYS; 4530 PARKWAYS; 4540 ARTERIAL STS; 4550 COL/DIST STS; 4560 LOCL ACC STS; 4570 ALLEYS; 4590 OTHER HIWY; 4830 WTR UTIL/IRR; 4831 WTR PIPELINE; 4832 WTR TREATMNT; 4833 WATR STORAGE; 4835 WTR PRES CNT; 4836 RETENTION PD; 7600 PARKS; 7620 NEIGHBRHD PK; 7630 GREEN WY/BLT; 7650 COMMUNITY PK; 7660 DISTRICT PK; 7670 REGIONAL PK; 7690 OTHER PARK; 7900 OTHR CULT/EN; 8100 AGRICULTURE; 8140 FARM CROP ET; 8580 MINERAL INT; 8590 MINING CLAIM; 9300 WATER AREAS; 9310 RIVER/STREAM; 9320 LAKES; 9330 BAY/LAGOON; 9350 SALTWTR TIDE; 9390 OTHR WTR ARE; 9400 OPEN SP LND; 9401 OSO LAND MH; 9403 OSO LAND MH+; 9405 OSO LAND LOG; 9450 OSFC; 9451 OSFC MH.

2.7 "Parcel" means the smallest separately segregated unit or plot of land having an identified owners(s), boundaries, and areas as defined by the Whatcom County Assessor and recorded in the Whatcom County Assessor real property file or maps, and assigned a separate property tax account number.

2.8 "Residential land" means those parcels in the Whatcom County Assessor's property classifications of: 1102 MODLR 2 BDRM; 1103 MODLR 3 BDRM; 1104 MODLR 4 BDRM; 1105 MODLR 5 BDRM; 1110 RES SINGLE; 1111 RES 1 BDRM; 1112 RES 2 BDRM; 1113 RES 3 BDRM; 1114 RES 4 BDRM; 1115 RES 5 BDRM; 1116 RES 6 BDRM; 1117 RES >6 BDRM; 1120 LOG CABIN; 1121 LOG HME 1 BD; 1122 LOG HME 2 BD; 1123 LOG HME 3 BD; 1124 LOG HME 4 BD; 1125 LOG HME 5 BD; 1126 LOG HME 6 BD; 1132 ZERO LL 2 BD; 1133 ZERO LL 3 BD; 1134 ZERO LL 4 BD; 1150 MH RP-onAC; 1151 MH IO-onAC; 1152 MH IO-inPK; 1153 MH RP(2+)onAC; 1154 PM RP-onAC; 1155 PM IO-inPK; 1156 PM IO-onAC; 1157 MH RP-HYSUB; 1158 PM RP-HYSUB; 1159 MH IO-HYSUB; 1211 RES 1 BDRM W/ ADU; 1212 RES 2 BDRM W/ ADU; 1213 RES 3 BDRM W/ ADU; 1214 RES 4 BDRM W/ ADU; 1215 RES 5 BDRM W/ ADU; 1217 RES >6 BDRM W/ ADU; 1220 RES DUPLEX; 1230 RES TRIPLEX; 1240 RES FOURPLEX; 1300 RES MULTI; 1305 RM 5 UNITS; 1306 RM 6 UNITS; 1307 RM 7 UNITS; 1308 RM 8 UNITS; 1309 RM 9 UNITS; 1310 RM 10 UNITS; 1311 RM 11 UNITS; 1312 RM 12 UNITS; 1313 RM 13 UNITS; 1314 RM 14 UNITS; 1315 RM 15 UNITS; 1316 RM 16 UNITS; 1317 RM 17 UNITS; 1318 RM 18 UNITS; 1319 RM 19 UNITS; 1320 RM 20 UNITS; 1321 RM 21 UNITS; 1322 RM 22 UNITS; 1323 RM 23 UNITS; 1324 RM 24 UNITS; 1325 RM 25 UNITS; 1326 RM 26 UNITS; 1327 RM 27 UNITS; 1328 RM 28 UNITS; 1329 RM 29 UNITS; 1330 RM 30 UNITS; 1331 RM 31 UNITS; 1332 RM 32 UNITS; 1333 RM 33 UNITS; 1335 RM 35 UNITS; 1336 RM 36 UNITS; 1337 RM 37 UNITS; 1338 RM 38 UNITS; 1339 RM 39 UNITS; 1340 RM 40 UNITS; 1342 RM 42 UNITS; 1344 RM 44 UNITS; 1345 RM 45 UNITS; 1346 RM 46 UNITS; 1348 RM 48 UNITS; 1349 RM 49 UNITS; 1350 RM 50 UNITS;

1351 RM 51 UNITS; 1352 RM 52 UNITS; 1353 RM 53 UNITS; 1354 RM 54 UNITS; 1357 RM 57 UNITS; 1360 RM 60 UNITS; 1363 RM 63 UNITS; 1364 RM 64 UNITS; 1366 RM 66 UNITS; 1367 RM 67 UNITS; 1368 RM 68 UNITS; 1370 RM 70 UNITS; 1372 RM 72 UNITS; 1373 RM 73 UNITS; 1375 RM 75 UNITS; 1378 RM 78 UNITS; 1380 RM 80 UNITS; 1382 RM 82 UNITS; 1383 RM 83 UNITS; 1384 RM 84 UNITS; 1388 RM 88 UNITS; 1390 RM 90 UNITS; 1392 RM 92 UNITS; 1394 RM 94 UNITS; 1398 RM 98 UNITS; 1399 RM 99+ UNITS; 1400 CONDOMINIUMS; 1410 CONDOMINIUMS; 1415 M/H CONDO LND; 1416 M/H IN CONDO RP; 1417 M/H IN CONDO PP; 1418 PRK MOD IN CONDO RP; 1420 TM-SHR CONDO; 1500 M/H PK; 1503 M/H PK 3 SP; 1504 M/H PK 4 SP; 1505 M/H PK 5 SP; 1507 M/H PK 7 SP; 1508 M/H PK 8 SP; 1511 M/H PK 11 SP; 1512 M/H PK 12 SP; 1513 M/H PK 13 SP; 1516 M/H PK 16 SP; 1518 M/H PK 18 SP; 1520 M/H PK 20 SP; 1522 M/H PK 22 SP; 1524 M/H PK 24 SP; 1525 M/H PK 25 SP; 1526 M/H PK 26 SP; 1528 M/H PK 28 SP; 1529 M/H PK 29 SP; 1530 M/H PK 30 SP; 1532 M/H PK 32 SP; 1537 M/H PK 37 SP; 1543 M/H PK 43 SP; 1545 M/H PK 45 SP; 1547 M/H PK 47 SP; 1548 M/H PK 48 SP; 1551 M/H PK 51 SP; 1553 M/H PK 53 SP; 1555 M/H PK 55 SP; 1557 M/H PK 57 SP; 1560 M/H PK 60 SP; 1561 M/H PK 61 SP; 1562 M/H PK 62 SP; 1574 M/H PK 74 SP; 1584 M/H PK 84 SP; 1591 M/H PK 91 SP; 1594 M/H PK 94 SP; 1599 M/H PK+99 SP; 1750 RES HALL/DRM; 1800 RES NO CODE.

2.9 "Vacant/undeveloped land" means those parcels in the Whatcom County Assessor's property classifications of: 9100 UNDEV/UNUSED; 9110 RESIDENTIAL; 9120 COMMERCIAL; 9130 INDUSTRIAL; 9140 OTHR VACANT; 9150 COMMON AREA.

2.10 It is the intent of the District that all parcels within the District fall within one of the land classifications defined in this Section. In the event any parcel is inadvertently excluded from any of the land use classifications defined in the Resolution, or Whatcom County adopts new land classifications or revises existing land use classifications after the effective date of this Resolution, or for any other reason, the omitted parcel shall be deemed to fall within the land use classification that is most similar to the omitted parcel.

SECTION 3. RATE SCHEDULE. The following rate schedule is proposed to Whatcom County for a term of 10 years, unless modified by subsequent District action and Whatcom County approval. The Board may recommend adjustment of these rates from time to time, to reflect the budgeted costs of carrying out the District's improvements, services and Conservation Projects and any changes in land categories. The rates are as follows.

- 3.1 The rate for residential land shall be \$5.00 per parcel per.
- 3.2 The rate for commercial land shall be \$4.99 per parcel per year.
- 3.3 The rate for open space land shall be \$5.00 per parcel per year.
- 3.4 The rate for institutional/public land shall be \$5.00 per parcel per year.
- 3.5 The rate for agricultural land shall be \$5.00 per parcel per year.
- 3.6 The rate for designated forest land shall be \$2.99 per owner per year.

3.7 The rate for vacant/undeveloped land shall be \$5.00 per parcel per year.

3.8 Parcels owned by federally recognized Native American tribes or members of such tribes that are located within the historical boundaries of a reservation shall be exempt from the rates proposed in this Resolution.

Specific rates per parcel shall be shown on a spreadsheet provided by the District to the Whatcom County Assessor and/or Treasurer, consistent with Chapter 89.08 RCW.

SECTION 4. IMPLEMENTATION. The District Manager is authorized and directed to take all appropriate and necessary acts to implement this Resolution, including presentation of this Resolution to Whatcom County and coordination with Whatcom County, including the County Assessor and/or Treasurer, to implement this Resolution, including but not limited to the correction of any parcel's classification or classification referenced in Section 2.

SECTION 5. RATIFICATION AND CONFIRMATION. Any action taken consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this Resolution is hereby ratified, approved and confirmed.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.


ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS of the Whatcom Conservation District, Washington, at a regular open public meeting thereof, and effective this 25th day of July, 2022.



Heather Christianson, Chair

CERTIFICATE

I, Valeri Wade, Secretary of the Board of Supervisors, Whatcom County, Washington, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 22-02 of such Board, duly adopted at a regular meeting thereof held on the 25th day of July, 2022, by the members of such Board in attendance at such meeting and attested by myself in authentication of such adoption.



Valeri Wade, Secretary/Auditor

EXHIBIT A

EXHIBIT B

WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Rate Schedule and Revenue Calculation

Maximum Allowable Rates	Per Parcel	Per Acre
All Other Land Uses Max	\$ 5.0000	\$ 0.1000
Designated Forest Land Max	\$ 3.0000	\$ -

Land Use Category	Calculated Rates		No of Charge Units		Calculated Revenues		
	Per Parcel	Per Acre	No of Parcels	No of Acres	Parcel Charge	Acreage Charge	TOTAL
Residential	\$ 5.00	\$ -	73,598	65,474	\$ 367,990	\$ -	\$ 367,990
Commercial	\$ 4.99	\$ -	7,604	136,018	\$ 37,925	\$ -	\$ 37,925
Open Space	\$ 5.00	\$ -	1,237	13,187	\$ 6,183	\$ -	\$ 6,183
Institutional / Public	\$ 5.00	\$ -	634	2,805	\$ 3,168	\$ -	\$ 3,168
Agriculture	\$ 5.00	\$ -	5,501	109,325	\$ 27,496	\$ -	\$ 27,496
Designated Forest Land	\$ 2.99	\$ -	904	82,469	\$ 2,703	\$ -	\$ 2,703
Vacant / Undeveloped	\$ 5.00	\$ -	13,018	30,522	\$ 65,064	\$ -	\$ 65,064
TOTAL			102,496	439,800	\$ 510,529	\$ -	\$ 510,529

per RCW forest land maxes out at \$3.00 per property owner and .01 per acre based on 10% of the weighted average of acreage charges imposed on all other land use categories

EXHIBIT C



2023 Program of Work With Proposed Rates & Charges Appropriation Budget

Submitted to
The Whatcom County Executive
And Whatcom County Council
July 2022

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY3
PROGRAM OF WORK4
RATES AND CHARGES REVENUE SUMMARY.....10
DISTRICT FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY11
APPENDICES
 APPENDIX A – Rates Schedule and Revenue Calculation12
 APPENDIX B – Budget Allocation by Natural Resource Priorities.....13
 APPENDIX C – Budget Allocation by Programs and Services.....14
 APPENDIX D – Stakeholder Engagement Report15

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Whatcom Conservation District proposed 2023 Program of Work outlines programs and services under a “rates and charges” system that provide both direct and indirect benefits to property owners and residents in the District’s service area. This Program of Work was developed in consultation with the District’s constituents and partners, and was approved by its Board of Supervisors on July 25, 2022, Resolution 22-01.

Historically and currently, District activities are funded entirely through state and federal grants and inter-local agreement-based partnerships that address local, regional, and in some cases state-wide natural resource priorities. Most District grant and inter-local agreement (ILA) funding are one-time sources of revenue that expire with the conclusion of the associated scope of work. Despite the ephemeral nature of the District’s funding, much of the District’s work has led to programmatic approaches relied upon by the Whatcom County community to address ongoing conservation needs and concerns. Additionally, public demand for the District’s highly successful customer service-oriented programs extends beyond the physical and temporal reach of the grant and ILA funded scopes of work.

The Whatcom Conservation District Board of Supervisors proposes to use a rates and charges system approved by the Legislature in 2012 in combination with grant and ILA-based funding sources as the basis for its proposed 2023 Program of Work. The rates and charges funding pathway is made possible through conservation district enabling legislation (Chapter 89.08.405), and makes available a modest base of stable funding to address Whatcom County natural resource priorities through District programs, services, administration, and governance. The District system of rates and charges is proposed for 10 years, and would be utilized to provide services, technical assistance, and financial incentives throughout the boundary of the District and respond to conservation priorities in watersheds across Whatcom County.

This proposal provides background on the Whatcom Conservation District and its 2023 Program of Work along with a summary of rates and charges revenue and an outline of proposed District fiscal accountability actions. The Program of Work, including District programs, services, administration, and governance is organized to address the natural resource priorities in the current District long-range plan:

- Water Quality Improvement;
- Aquatic and Upland Habitat Improvement;
- Water Quantity Management and Water Conservation;

- Working Lands Conservation; and
- Climate Resiliency.

PROGRAM OF WORK

District Background

The Whatcom Conservation District was established in 1946 to provide landowners with assistance to protect and enhance natural resources. The District serves 8 jurisdictions (7 cities and Whatcom County) with a combined population of approximately 240,000. The District's mission is *"to help landowners and farmers of Whatcom County conserve natural resources."*

The District's mandate was established by the Washington Legislature in 1939 when it passed RCW 89.08 which empowers communities to form conservation districts to assume local responsibility for conserving soil, water, and other natural resources. From the beginning, conservation districts were given a broad mandate to assist landowners with conserving resources to "protect and promote the health, safety and general welfare" of all residents in urban, suburban and rural areas.

Priority issues in the mandate for conservation districts include flooding, soil erosion, water pollution, groundwater depletion, wildlife habitat destruction, deforestation, and the loss of productive agricultural lands and fisheries.

More than 75 years after it was formed, increased urbanization, endangered salmon, loss of forest cover, other threats to Puget Sound, and increased challenges from stormwater and flooding make the Whatcom Conservation District's programs and services more relevant than ever.

Today the District provides programs, services, and financial incentives for property owners and land managers in both urban and rural areas throughout its service area. The District has no regulatory or enforcement authority. Instead, it engages individuals and communities in stewarding soil, water, and other natural resources through partnership and collaboration.

In order to be more responsive and effective in its mission, the District's service delivery model employs multiple strategies:

- Direct technical assistance and services;

- Education to foster voluntary stewardship;
- Funding for landowner and community conservation; and
- Partnerships and resource leveraging to maximize impact.

The District collaborates with jurisdictions and nonprofit organizations to provide stewardship services. Because it is an independent, non-regulatory agency, the District is seen by many landowners as a trusted mentor and partner, providing education, technical assistance, and financial incentives to help people implement measures to improve the sustainability and productivity of their land.

Natural Resource Priorities Related to District Programs and Services

The Whatcom Conservation Board of Supervisors has established natural resource priorities through the District’s long-range plan. These priorities guide the District’s Program of Work, and District programs and services are aligned to meet the goals of each priority. In addition to the typical body of work implemented annually by the District, this section includes three new proof of concept projects based on community input and emerging partnership opportunities – *Residential and Enhanced Working Lands Riparian Improvement Services* associated with the *Aquatic and Upland Habitat Enhancement* priority area of work and *Sustainable Farms and Fields Climate Smart Farming Practices* and *Small Acreage Forest Stewardship Assistance* associated with the *Climate Resiliency* priority area of work. (See Appendix B and Appendix C for related budget by priority details.)

1. Water Quality Improvement

The District’s water quality improvement goals are to increase awareness of impacts to water quality, provide education and technical support on implementing practices to sustain water quality, contribute to the upgrade of shellfish harvest areas, reduce nitrogen pollution in surface and groundwater, and reduce phosphorous in Lake Whatcom. Aligned programs and services focus on coordinating and interpreting local water quality data, developing and implementing livestock nutrient management plans, designing and installing phosphorous reducing landscaping, conducting outreach and engagement to meet National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements, and conducting research on the effectiveness of agriculture practices.

Examples Water Quality Improvement Programs and Services –

- Farm Conservation Planning – Assist commercial and noncommercial livestock and crop farms with managing their operations for productivity and environmental quality by

planning and implementing practices that improve soil health and prevent erosion, reduce pollutants such as pathogens and nutrients in runoff, and protect critical areas.

- Lake Whatcom Watershed Residential Water Quality Program – Support Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham on addressing phosphorous induced harmful algal blooms by converting residential lawns to native plant landscaping.
- Municipal NPDES Monitoring and Public Engagement Services – Implement NPDES permit public engagement requirements for in the City of Lynden and unincorporated Whatcom County through targeted-behavior change programs and the collection and interpretation water quality data.
- Agriculture Research and Effectiveness Monitoring – Coordinate with land managers and regional partners on monitoring the effectiveness of agriculture best management practices, coordinate and interpret water quality data in partnership with Whatcom County’s Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) program, evaluate the sources and extent of pollutants such as nitrogen, E.coli (*Escherichia coli*), and suspended solids, and administer the Whatcom County manure spreading advisory system.

Typical Annual Investment and Funding Sources –

The typical annual investment level is approximately \$807,690 per year. Current funding partners include Whatcom County, Washington State Department of Health, Washington State Conservation Commission, City of Bellingham, City of Lynden, USDA-NRCS, Washington State Department of Agriculture, BBWARM, and Lake Whatcom Water & Sewer District.

2. Aquatic and Upland Habitat Improvement

The District’s habitat improvement goals are to foster community support for fish and wildlife habitat improvement, and promote landowner participation in improving riparian corridors and removing fish passage barriers. Aligned programs and services focus on planning, designing, and implementing projects that plant riparian buffers to improve stream conditions, and planning and removing fish passage barriers to re-open upstream areas previously inaccessible to salmon and other fish species.

Example Fish and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Programs and Services –

- *Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program* – Coordinate with state and federal partners and farmers to implement an agriculture land rental program to establish buffers of native trees and shrubs along fish bearing streams and rivers.
- *Regional Conservation Partnership Program* – Coordinate with state and federal partners and land owners/occupiers to remove fish impassible culverts and crossings on driveways and farm and forest roads.

- *Native Plant Sale & Residential Habitat Enhancement Projects* – Plan and facilitate an annual native tree, shrub, and groundcover sale to support residential and landowner implemented habitat stewardship and backyard conservation projects.
- *Residential and Working Lands Riparian Enhancement* – New this year is a proof-of-concept initiative in partnership with the WSCC to promote and implement salmon recovery practices through the voluntary stewardship model championed by conservation districts. The focus of this work will be on establishment of new riparian buffers at the reach scale.

Typical Annual Investment and Funding Sources –

The typical annual investment level is approximately \$765,350 per year. Current funding partners include Washington State Conservation Commission, Whatcom County, USDA NRCS/FSA, US FWS, and BBWARM. (This figure does not include funding for the new Residential and Working Lands Riparian Enhancement Program.)

3. Water Quantity Management and Water Conservation

The District’s water quantity management and water conservation goals are to increase awareness of water quantity improvement initiatives, provide education and technical support on practices to improve water-use efficiency, lead county-wide domestic water conservation program, and integrate irrigation efficiency practices into agriculture operations. Aligned programs and services focus on reducing residential water use through a residential water efficiency appliance rebate program, identifying and addressing barriers to agricultural irrigation water-use efficiency practices, and planning, designing, and implementing flood mitigation actions and drainage maintenance projects.

Example Water Conservation and Water Quantity Management Programs and Services –

- *Agriculture Water-use Efficiency* – Develop and disseminate on-line and direct marketing content on water efficiencies for agricultural water users, provide technical support on implementing irrigation efficiency practices, conduct research on drainage system and sub-surface groundwater management approaches that maintain crop productivity, and improve and advance *AgWeatherNet*-associated data collection and accessibility to inform sound irrigation decisions.
- *Domestic Water-use Efficiency* – Develop and administer the *Whatcom Water Alliance* domestic water-use efficiency rebate program, develop and monitor water usage and savings rates among WWA members, develop and deliver school-based water-use efficiency curricula and deliver to K-12 school in local school districts.
- *Flood Control and Agricultural Drainage Projects* – Support Whatcom County flood control projects by designing and implementing flood mitigation plans, and support local

Watershed Improvement Districts with planning and permitting drainage maintenance projects.

Typical Annual Investment and Funding Sources –

The typical annual investment level is approximately \$195,520 per year. Current funding partners include Washington Conservation Commission, Whatcom County, USDA-NRCS, and City of Lynden, Whatcom Water Alliance members, Lake Whatcom Water & Sewer District, Birch Bay Water & Sewer District, and Whatcom Community Foundation.

4. Working Lands Conservation

The District’s working lands conservation goals are to increase appreciation of and community support for the conservation of working lands, promote and increase awareness natural resource-based industries and associated sustainability approaches, highlight leaders in the farming, ranching, and forest management communities in local and regional media and communications, and collaborate with local and regional leaders on enhancing the land-management toolbox by advancing the voluntary stewardship model. Aligned programs and services focus on protecting agriculture lands through fee simple acquisitions and easement purchases, and promoting community awareness and support of farming, ranching, and forest industries through events and communications.

Example Working Lands Conservation Programs and Services –

- Farm and Forestland Conservation – Monitor and contribute to local agriculture conservation policy at the Agriculture Advisory Committee and Whatcom Conservation Easement Oversight Committee, support proposed agriculture and forestland easement purchases in partnership with the Whatcom Land Trust and the Whatcom County Conservation Easement Program, and prepare conservation plans and support landowner implementation of planned practices in association with easement programs.
- Promote Local Agriculture Industries Promotion and Engagement – Write and publish *Landowner Spotlights* to promote awareness of local agriculture by highlighting working lands landowner who are leaders in natural resource management on private lands, and promote local farming, ranching, and forestry industries through farm tours and other sponsored engagement activities such as the Farm Expo.

Typical Annual Investment and Funding Sources –

The typical annual investment level is approximately \$259,920 per year. Current funding partners include Washington Conservation Commission, Whatcom Community Foundation, and Whatcom County.

5. Climate Resiliency

The District's climate resiliency goals are to build community support for climate resiliency and preparedness through education and outreach, reduce wildfire-related risk and harm to people and property, and improve the capacity of residential and working lands to capture carbon. Aligned programs and services focus on planning, promoting, and implementing fire preparedness practices, and advancing native tree planting and retention efforts and climate-smart soil health practices.

Example Climate Resiliency Programs and Services –

- Wildfire Risk Reduction Program – Promote and engage residents through Wildfire Awareness Month activities, conduct home wildfire risk assessments and prepare associated fire preparedness plans, especially in areas of moderate to high wildfire risk, support community enrollment in Firewise USA, and plan and implement fuel-reduction projects.
- Carbon Capture Capacity Development – Promote the carbon storage benefit of healthy trees, coordinate with *Whatcom Million Trees* project to increase new tree planting and promote tree retention throughout Whatcom County.
- Sustainable Farms and Fields Climate Smart Practices – New this year is a proof-of-concept initiative in partnership with the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) to promote and implement climate smart, carbon sequestering soil health and conservation practices.
- Small Acreage Forest Stewardship Assistance – Anticipated fiscal year 2024 (July 2023) is a proof-of-concept initiative in partnership with the WSCC and Washington Department of Natural Resources to deliver scaled forest stewardship planning services to small forest landowners for forest health, reduced land conversion, and retention of forest and tree canopy cover.

Typical Annual Investment and Funding Sources –

The typical annual investment level is approximately \$246,520 per year. Current funding partners include Washington Conservation Commission, City of Bellingham, Skagit Conservation District, and Whatcom County. (This figure does not include new investments in the *Sustainable Farms and Fields* Program or *Small Acreage Forest Stewardship Assistance*.)

District Administration and Governance

The District's Program of work is supported by an administrative system that includes governance and oversight by an all-volunteer 5-member Board of Supervisors and

management by a 3.25-3.75 FTEs. The cost of the District’s administration and governance functions is approximately 21% of direct program operating costs (assumes a \$2.3M operating budget). District administrative costs are funded by program grants and contracts. In addition to staff costs, District administration includes indirect items such as maintaining an office and vehicle fleet, providing computing equipment and related services, purchasing office supplies and equipment, etc.

RATES AND CHARGES REVENUE SUMMARY

The District proposes an annual system of rates and charges with a \$5.00 per parcel cap and in some cases a per-landowner cap (see Appendix A). A rates and charges report prepared by the FCS Group details the rate schedule and underlying analysis. The full FCS Group rates and charges report is included by Exhibit in the District rates and charges submittal to the Whatcom County Executive and Whatcom County Council in July of 2022.

Rates and Charges Revenue

A District system of rates and charges will be collected by the Whatcom County Treasurer and the rate schedule applied to eligible Whatcom County parcels included in the Whatcom County Assessor’s database. The District proposed rate schedule is estimated to generate approximately \$510,529 per year in revenue to implement the District Program of Work. This amount would be remitted to the District minus delinquencies and any retained fees, such as a fee retained by the Assessor’s Office to set-up and maintain the rates and charges roll.

Estimated collections	\$510,529
Estimated Delinquency	TBD
Assessor’s fee (NTE 1%)	TBD
Estimated amount remitted to District	\$510,529
District’s administration fee	TBD
Amount available for operations/programs/services	\$510,529
	(less fees/delinquencies)

Reconciliation of Other Revenue

The cost of the District’s program of work is wholly funded through state and federal grants and local and regional inter-local agreement-based contracts. Most of these grants and contracts are one-time sources of funding. A fraction of these grants and contracts

(~\$550,000) are considered recurring on an annual basis during the time frame associated with the District's proposed system of rates and charges. These recurring sources of revenue are included in the FCS Group rates and charges analysis as an offset to the Program of Work budget funded by rates and charges.

Rates and Charges Revenue Allocation

The Whatcom County Treasurer will remit approved rates and charges collections to the District. The District will allocate remitted rates and charges collections to implement the Program of Work in alignment with the natural resource priorities and consistent with the highlighted programs, services, and operations.

DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITY & FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Whatcom Conservation District is committed to open, transparent, and accountable governance. The District looks forward to collaborating with Whatcom County on implementing the District system of rates and charges and proposes the following associated fiscal responsibility and accountability actions.

Annual Reporting

In accordance with the statutory requirements of Chapter 89.08.341 RCW, the District will provide regular reporting to Whatcom County. District reporting to Whatcom County will include an annual program of work to outline the upcoming fiscal year work plan priorities and an annual report to communicate actual fiscal year activities with expenditures.

Ongoing Stakeholder and Community Input

The District is committed to accountable governance. The District will seek input from partner agencies, organizations, and residents of Whatcom County on a reoccurring basis to adaptively manage the District's programs and services for relevancy and effectiveness, to identify emerging natural resource management priorities, and to respond to unanticipated needs. Examples of engagement activities the District may conduct include using survey instruments to gather general input, convening round-tables to gather topical input, and engaging partners in an advisory capacity to the District Board of Supervisors. (See Appendix D for a report of stakeholder engagement on long-range priorities and rate and charges.)

APPENDIX A

WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Rate Schedule and Revenue Calculation

Maximum Allowable Rates	Per Parcel	Per Acre
All Other Land Uses Max	\$ 5.0000	\$ 0.1000
Designated Forest Land Max	\$ 3.0000	\$ -

Land Use Category	Calculated Rates		No of Charge Units		Calculated Revenues		
	Per Parcel	Per Acre	No of Parcels	No of Acres	Parcel Charge	Acreage Charge	TOTAL
Residential	\$ 5.00	\$ -	73,598	65,474	\$ 367,990	\$ -	\$ 367,990
Commercial	\$ 4.99	\$ -	7,604	136,018	\$ 37,925	\$ -	\$ 37,925
Open Space	\$ 5.00	\$ -	1,237	13,187	\$ 6,183	\$ -	\$ 6,183
Institutional / Public	\$ 5.00	\$ -	634	2,805	\$ 3,168	\$ -	\$ 3,168
Agriculture	\$ 5.00	\$ -	5,501	109,325	\$ 27,496	\$ -	\$ 27,496
Designated Forest Land	\$ 2.99	\$ -	904	82,469	\$ 2,703	\$ -	\$ 2,703
Vacant / Undeveloped	\$ 5.00	\$ -	13,018	30,522	\$ 65,064	\$ -	\$ 65,064
TOTAL			102,496	439,800	\$ 510,529	\$ -	\$ 510,529

per RCW forest land maxes out at \$3.00 per property owner and .01 per acre based on 10% of the weighted average of acreage charges imposed on all other land use categories

APPENDIX B

WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Program of Work and Budget
Natural Resource Priority Allocations

Summary	Total Cost	Allocated Costs		
		Indirect	Direct	Total
Water Quality Improvement (Incl stormwater quality)	\$ 807,688	\$ 797,684	\$ 10,004	\$ 807,688
Aquatic& Upland Habitat Improvement	765,354	759,038	6,316	765,354
Water Quantity Improvement (Incl stormwater quantity)	195,518	194,254	1,264	195,518
Working Lands Conservation	259,920	256,962	2,958	259,920
Climate Resiliency	246,520	242,153	4,367	246,520
TOTAL	\$ 2,275,000	\$ 2,250,091	\$ 24,909	\$ 2,275,000
less: Other Revenues	(550,000)			
NET TOTAL	\$ 1,725,000			



WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT
 Program of Work and Budget
 Programs and Services Allocations

APPENDIX C

Programs/Services	Total Cost	Natural Resource Priorities Benefits (Cost per Program Group)			
		Water Quality Improvements (incl stormwater quality)	Aquatic & Upland Habitat Improvement	Water Quantity Management (incl stormwater quantity)	Working Lands Conservation
PROGRAM GROUP - Agriculture & Working Lands Conservation					
Commercial Farm Assistance	\$185,027	\$130,328	\$0	\$0	\$54,699
Non-commercial Farm Assistance	347,369	\$244,678	\$0	\$0	\$102,691
Agricultural Drainage Assistance	13,618	\$549	\$1,223	\$790	\$11,056
Local Food & Farming Support	16,012	\$645	\$1,438	\$930	\$12,189
Research & Effectiveness Monitoring	177,988	\$75,748	\$0	\$54,552	\$47,687
Farmland / Forestland Protection Support	5,635	\$237	\$2,374	\$341	\$2,385
Subtotal	\$ 745,649	\$452,186	\$5,035	\$56,613	\$230,707
PROGRAM GROUP - F&W Habitat Improvements					
Riparian Habitat Enhancement	\$618,322	\$142,399	\$475,923	\$0	\$0
Fish Habitat Enhancement	7,255	\$0	\$72,555	\$0	\$0
Other Habitat Enhancement	13,132	\$0	\$13,192	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	\$704,069	\$142,399	\$561,670	\$0	\$0
PROGRAM GROUP - Climate Resiliency & Preparedness					
Agriculture Water Conservation	\$36,863	\$0	\$0	\$19,696	\$0
Domestic Water Conservation	114,773	\$0	\$0	\$61,323	\$0
Extreme Weather Event Response	27,007	\$11,974	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wildfire Risk Reduction Services	142,102	\$0	\$12,748	\$0	\$21,612
Climate-Friendly Farming Practices (WSCC SR&F)	34,358	\$1,372	\$0	\$1,976	\$1,728
Forest Health & Stewardship (WSCC / WA DNR)	34,749	\$0	\$7,643	\$9,881	\$0
Subtotal	\$389,853	\$13,346	\$20,391	\$92,877	\$23,339
PROGRAM GROUP - Community Stormwater & Habitat Improvements					
Lake Whatcom Stormwater & Habitat Enhancement	\$205,163	\$149,606	\$55,557	\$0	\$0
School & Community-based Watershed Education	32,858	\$4,665	\$10,088	\$6,719	\$5,874
Municipal Stormwater & Habitat Enhancement	105,065	\$45,486	\$20,270	\$39,909	\$0
Native Plant Sale	92,343	\$0	\$92,343	\$0	\$0
Subtotal	\$435,429	\$199,757	\$178,258	\$46,028	\$5,874
TOTAL	\$ 2,275,000	\$807,688	\$765,354	\$195,518	\$259,920
					\$246,570

APPENDIX D

Rates and Charges Development

Stakeholder Engagement Program of Work Development

During the first half of calendar year 2022, the Whatcom Conservation District launched a long-range planning and rates and charges stakeholder engagement process. This effort included an on-line survey directed at the entire Whatcom County community, direct outreach to stakeholders and elected representatives, and two public hearings. The purpose of the on-line survey and direct outreach effort was to gather public input and recommendations on the future and ongoing conservation focus of the District. The purpose of the public hearings was to gather public comment on the specific program of work and rates and charges appropriations budget.

On-line Survey –

As of May 31, 2022, 244 Whatcom County residents responded to the survey. Survey responses were in alignment with the District's current program of work. For example, all respondents identified agriculture, aquatic areas, and forest conservation as their top three natural resource management and conservation programming priorities. Additionally, 75% of respondents indicated a willingness to pay a conservation district fee to support delivery of that programming, and 55% of those indicated a willingness to pay a fee in an amount that exceeds the statutory limit for conservation districts, which is \$5.00 per parcel and 10 cents per acre per year. Responses also suggested new and enhanced areas of programmatic focus, including more residential upland habitat enhancement services such as tree planting and native plant landscaping, additional services to assist landowners with address the impacts of floods, and new climate resiliency aligned forest stewardship services. The District is continuing to promote the survey and collect survey responses on an ongoing basis. (Preliminary survey responses are summarized in a following report.)

Direct Outreach to Key Stakeholders and Elected Representatives –

Direct outreach was conducted with 122 stakeholders and elected representatives, including incorporated and unincorporated neighborhood associations, service organizations, and interest groups (for example, Whatcom County Commercial Fishermen's Association); local government representatives, including city mayors and council members, and the Whatcom County Executive and Whatcom County Councilmembers; non-profit organizations; other special purpose districts in the agriculture, environmental, and community development

sectors; state and federal partners (e.g., WA DNR, USDA NRCS); and the Lummi Nation and the Nooksack Tribe. Engagement took the form of email and phone-based invitation to discuss natural resource conservation priorities; email, phone, and presentation-based discussions. The District is continuing to engage stakeholders and consider input on an ongoing basis. (A record of one-on-one stakeholder engagement activities is included in a following table.)

Rates and Charges Public Hearings –

Based on stakeholder input collected through the long-range planning-associated survey, direct engagements with stakeholders, as well as other District considerations, the Whatcom Conservation District Board of Supervisors worked with staff and the FCS Group, a regional leader in rate model development, to develop a proposed system of rates and charges. The Board presented the proposed system of rates and charges and associated program of work and budget during two public hearings – one on July 7, 2022 and the other on July 11, 2022. The purpose of the public hearings was to gather and consider public comment on a proposed system of rates and charges to fund the District’s conservation activities and programs within the unincorporated and incorporated areas of Whatcom County. The District received written public comment from one individual and oral public comment from two individuals. Public hearings were announced by legal notice in the Bellingham Herald on June 24, 2022 and July 1, 2022, the Lynden Tribune on June 29, 2022, and the Northern Light on June 30, 2022; physical postings in 32 public locations in the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Whatcom County beginning June 23, 2022; on the District web page beginning Jun 22, 2022; and though District social media posts and boosted advertisements. (A record of pubic hearing noticing and advertising activities is included in a following table.)

APPENDIX D

Stakeholder Engagement Program of Work Development On-line Survey, Preliminary Results

1. Which three natural resources in Whatcom County are the most important for your District to conserve, enhance or protect? Please list in order of priority.

Results are summarized below in pie charts by number of responses.

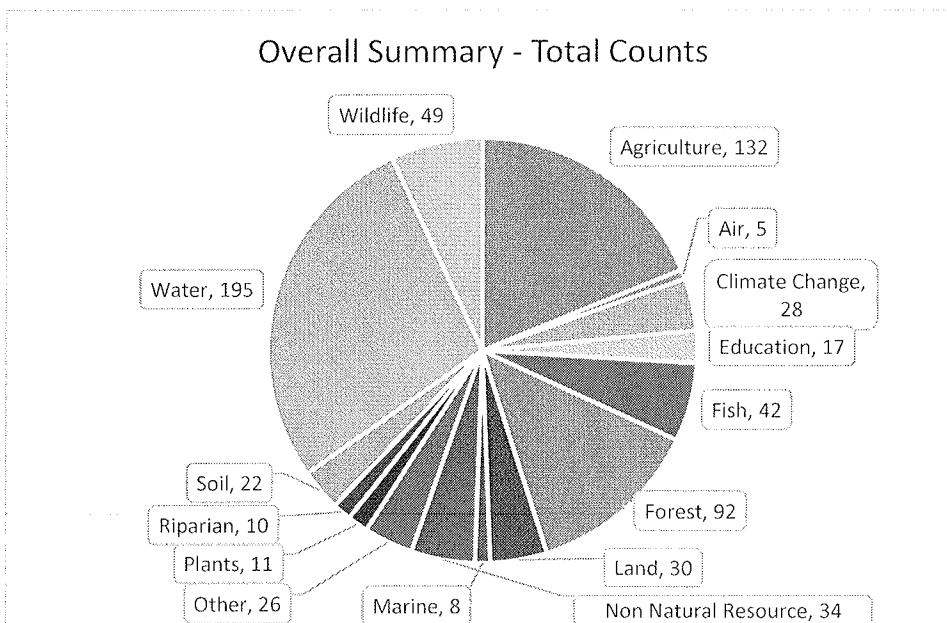
Examples of responses in the top three categories are below:

Water = "Clean water/streams" "Shoreline" "Water Quality/quantity" "water supply and quality"

Agriculture/Farmland = "active agriculture" "Farm Stewardship" "Open farmland" "Maintain agricultural areas"

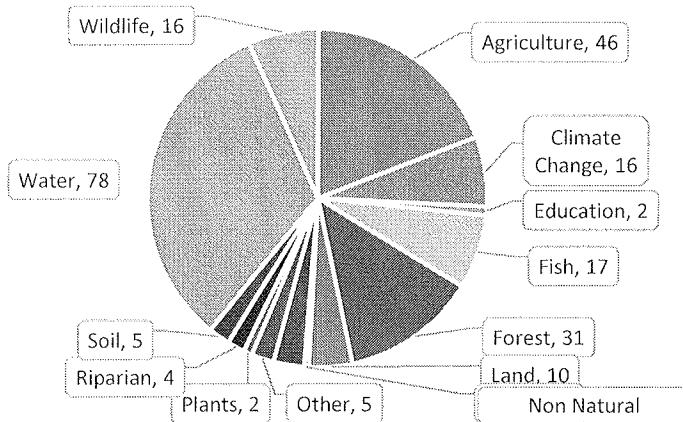
Forest = "Timber Resources" "Forest ecosystems" "Trees" "forested/vegetated riparian buffers"

Non Natural Resource = "Development rights" "Recreation" "Noise" "Traffic"

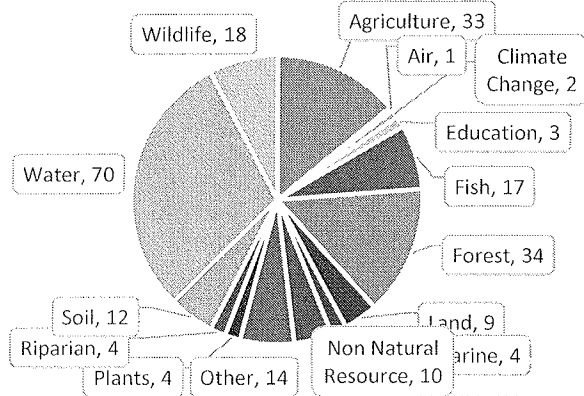


APPENDIX D

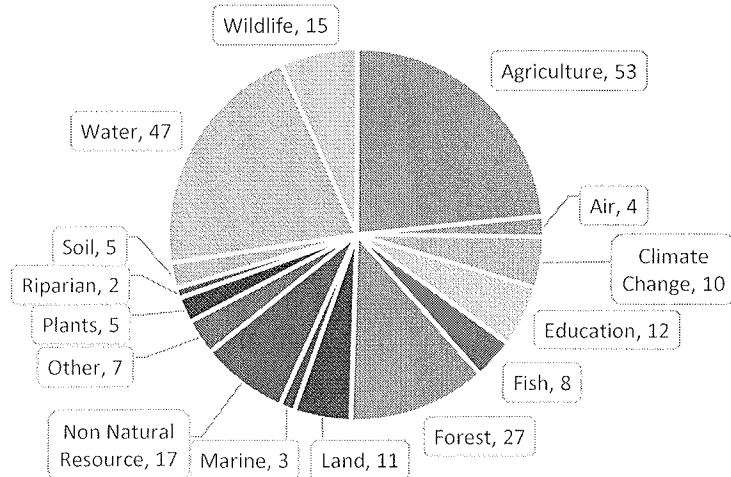
1st Choice Summary



2nd Choice Summary



3rd Choice Summary



APPENDIX D

2. Of the following areas* of conservation programming, which are the most important for the District to offer? Please rank the 7 areas of programming in order of priority. (Selections were randomized for each participant)

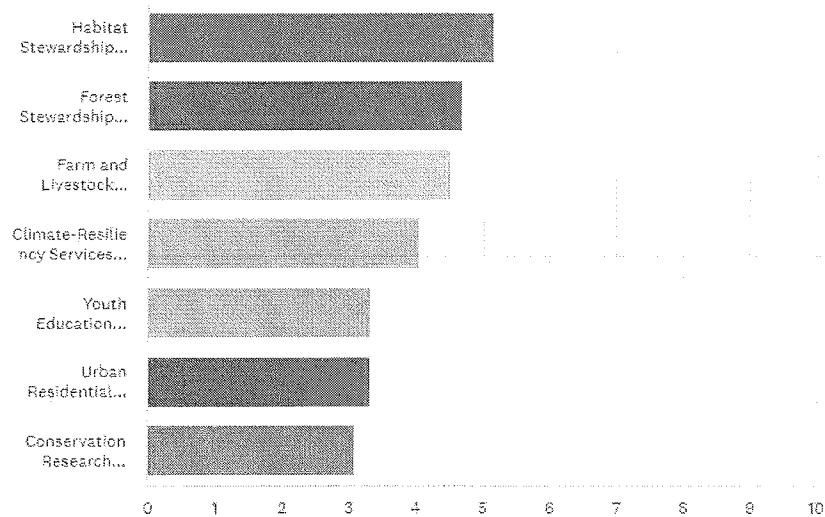
- Habitat Stewardship Services
- Forest Stewardship Services
- Farm and Livestock Services
- Climate-Resiliency Services
- Youth Education Services
- Urban Residential Services
- Conservation Research Services

* Note that under each category were examples of service options

Summary of responses are below by their weighted average. Habitat, Forests, Farms stewardship as well as Climate-Resiliency services were the highest-ranking priority conservation programs for the District. Which follow closely to the NRP areas identified in question 1.

Of the following areas of conservation programming, which are the most important for the District to offer? Please rank the 7 areas of programming in order of priority.

Answered: 245 Skipped: 3



APPENDIX D

3. What options didn't you see above, or additional criteria you would add, that you believe the District should offer?

[These responses have not been summarized or coded at this time, see [LINK](#) for all results]

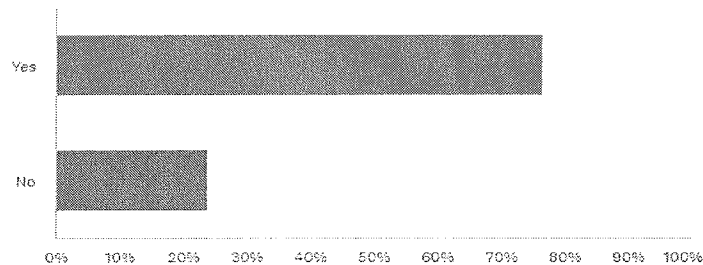
4. Would you be willing to pay an annual conservation fee to implement the District programs and activities you identified in Questions 1, 2, and 3?

- Yes
- No

Results indicate that the majority of respondents 76% be willing to pay an annual conservation fee to implement the District programs and activities. (N=242)

Would you be willing to pay an annual conservation fee to implement the District programs and activities you identified in Questions 1, 2, and 3?

Answered: 242 Skipped: 4



APPENDIX D

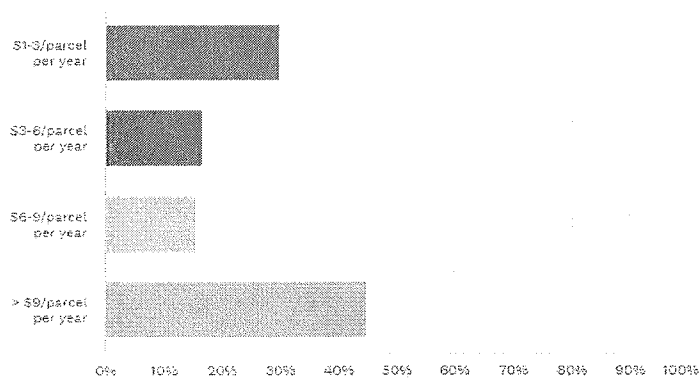
5. If yes, which of the following annual fee ranges would you pay to implement those District programs and activities?

- \$1-3/parcel per year
- \$3-6/parcel per year
- \$6-9/parcel per year
- >\$9/parcel per year

Results indicate 29% are willing to pay \$1-\$3 per parcel at with 49% of respondents would be willing to pay >\$9 per parcel.

If yes, which of the following annual fee ranges would you pay to implement those District programs and activities?

Answered: 161 Skipped: 65



APPENDIX D

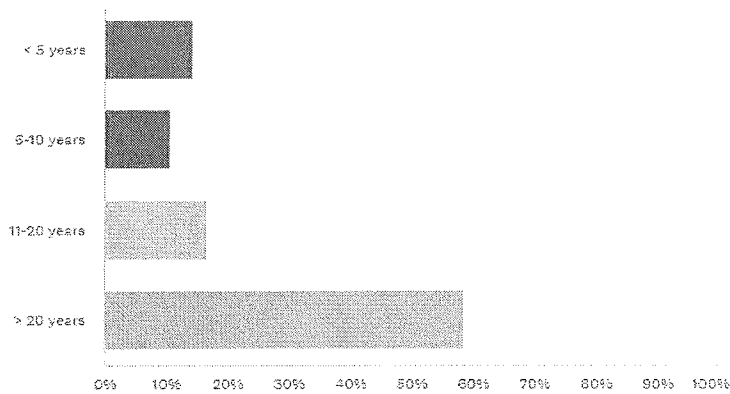
6. How long have you lived in Whatcom County?

- < 5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-20 years
- >20 years

Results indicate that the majority of respondents 58% are long term residents of Whatcom County >20 years. (N=255) It could then be inferred that they are vested in the community, familiar with natural resource challenges.

How long have you lived in Whatcom County?

Answered: 245 Skipped: 1



APPENDIX D

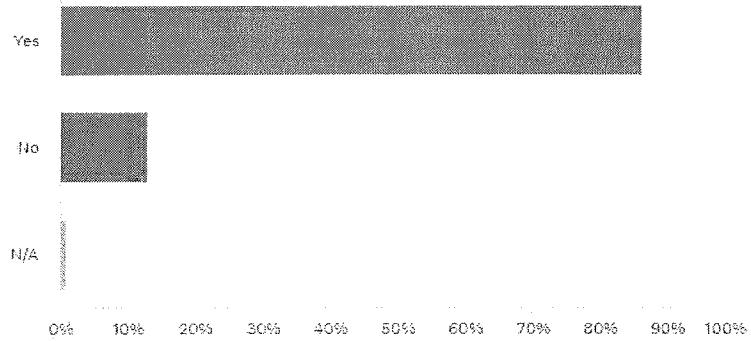
7. Do you own your parcel/property?

- Yes
- No
- N/A

Results indicate that the majority of respondents 86% own property in Whatcom County. It could be inferred that they understand the challenges around land ownership, cost of current property taxes, and value programs that help steward their land. (N=246)

Do you own your parcel/property?

Answered: 246 Skipped: 0



APPENDIX D

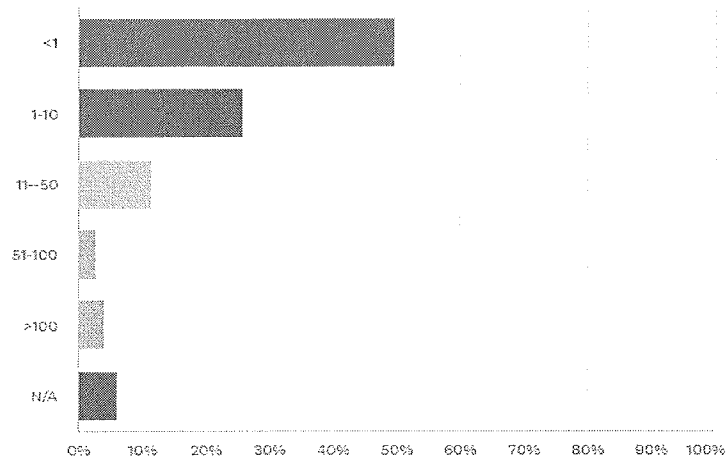
8. How many acres of land do you own, lease and/or manage?

- <1
- 1-10
- 11--50
- 51-100
- >100
- N/A

Results indicate that the majority of respondents 49% own/manage less than 1 acres of land, but 28% own/manage 1-10 acres. (N=244)

How many acres of land do you own, lease and/or manage?

Answered: 244 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ <1	49.59%	121
▼ 1-10	25.82%	63
▼ 11--50	11.48%	28
▼ 51-100	2.87%	7
▼ >100	4.10%	10
▼ N/A	6.15%	15
TOTAL		244

APPENDIX D

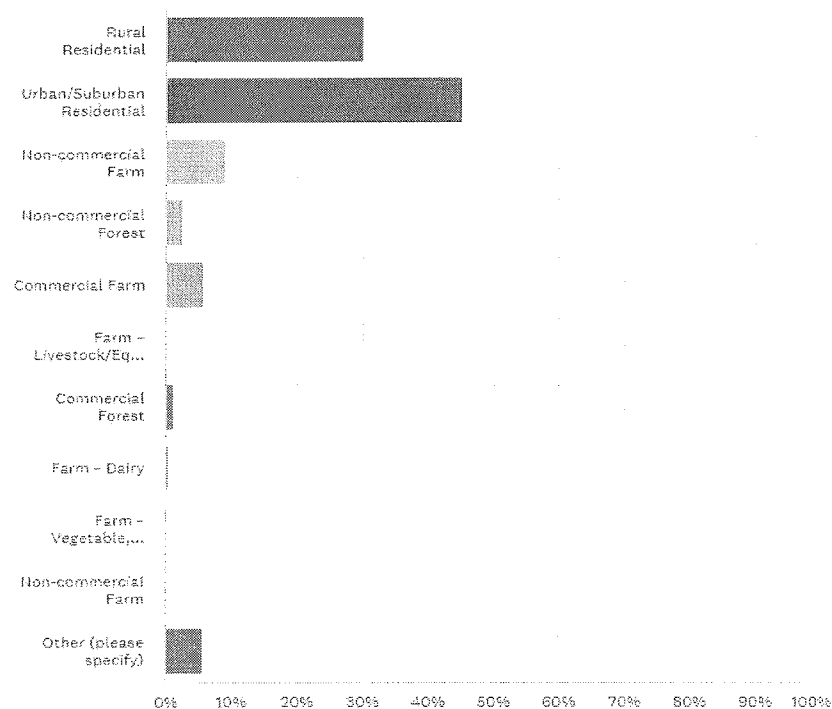
9. Select the type of landownership or operation that best describes your situation.

- Rural Residential
- Urban/Suburban Residential
- Non-commercial Farm
- Non-commercial Forest
- Commercial Farm
- Commercial Forest
- Other (please specify)

Results indicate that the majority of respondents 45% are Urban/Suburban Residential landowners with a mix of rural and urban. It could be inferred then that their interest in natural resource conservation is driven by intrinsic values rather than economic as they are not living off of the land they manage. (N=243)

Select the type of landownership or operation that best describes your situation.

Answered: 243 Skipped: 3



APPENDIX D

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Rural Residential	30.04%	73
▼ Urban/Suburban Residential	45.27%	110
▼ Non-commercial Farm	9.05%	22
▼ Non-commercial Forest	2.47%	6
▼ Commercial Farm	5.76%	14
▼ Farm – Livestock/Equine	0.00%	0
▼ Commercial Forest	1.23%	3
▼ Farm – Dairy	0.41%	1
▼ Farm – Vegetable, Nursery/Greenhouse/Floriculture & Sod	0.00%	0
▼ Non-commercial Farm	0.00%	0
▼ Other (please specify)	Responses 5.76%	14
TOTAL		243

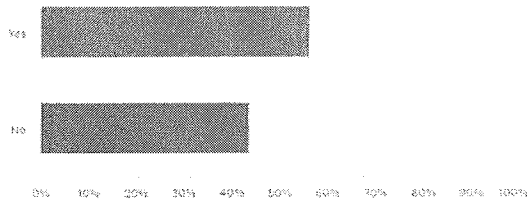
10. Does your land contain or is it adjacent to a waterbody (examples include marine shoreline, creek, and wetland)?

- Yes
- No

Results indicate that half of respondents (56%) live adjacent to a waterbody. This is interesting as the results for question #1 indicate water as being a priority resource for protection. It can also be inferred that this is not representative of Whatcom County as a whole in that it is not possible that >50% of Whatcom county residents live adjacent to a water body, but it does make sense that those living next to water would care more deeply about its protection. (N=249)

Does your land contain or is it adjacent to a waterbody (examples include marine shoreline, creek, and wetland)?

Answered: 259 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Yes	56.22%	147
▼ No	43.78%	112
TOTAL		259

APPENDIX D

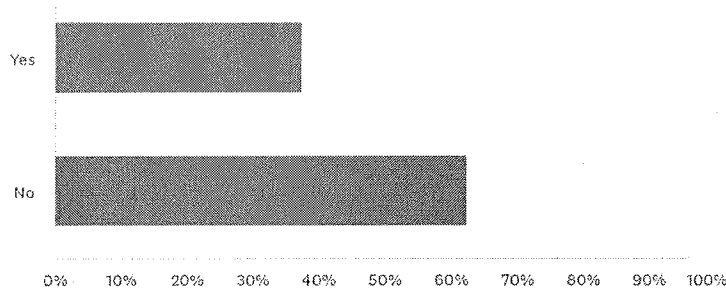
11. Does your land contain a woodlot or forest?

- Yes
- No

Results indicate that the majority of respondents (38%) own/manage land with woodland forest (land containing growing trees). While only 62% do not have any woodland. (N=250)

Does your land contain a woodlot or forest?

Answered: 252 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	37.60%	94
No	62.40%	156
TOTAL		250

APPENDIX D

WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT
One-on-One Stakeholder Engagement Record

Stakeholder	Point of Contact	Board Member/Assoc Svc	Staff Member	Contact Lead	Method - Contact No. 1	Status - Contact No. 1	Method - Contact No. 2	Status - Contact No. 2	Method - Contact No. 3	Status - Contact No. 3	Contact Record
NON PROFITS - Service Clubs											
WV Soccer	Larry Davis	B Reed	Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Lyndon Bickel/Koenig Club	Larry Davis	B Reed	Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Lyndon Moon/Kwanig Club	Larry Davis	B Reed	Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Black Bay/Lark Club	Larry Davis	B Reed	Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Enrloch	Larry Davis	B Reed	Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Bellingham CCR Club	Larry Davis	B Reed	Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Bellingham Central Lark Club	Larry Davis	B Reed	Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Bellingham Moose Lodge #493	Larry Davis	B Reed	Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Bellingham Lodge #151	Larry Davis	B Reed	Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Bellingham Eagles #31	Larry Davis	B Reed	Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Elys Lodge #184	Larry Davis	B Reed	Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Vabans of Foreign Mgrs Post 8351	Larry Davis	B Reed	Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Bellingham Bay Rotary Club	Larry Davis	B Reed	Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
South Fork Valley Community	Larry Davis	A. Sweeney	Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
NON PROFITS - LAZ											
Farm Bureau	Matthew Thomas		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Ben Elmhurst Troy Landon	Suzi Snyder		Suzi Snyder	Suzi Snyder	Phone - 55year Followup B Reed	Completed - initial					
Bradford Park Ben Elmhurst	Suzi Snyder		Suzi Snyder	Suzi Snyder	Invited to introduce new DM and revised LFP provision at 6/21/2022	Completed - initial					
Roskams Green	Suzi Snyder		Suzi Snyder	Suzi Snyder	FB tag, Boney Hill attend.	Completed - initial					
Northwest Agriculture Business Center	David Runnemo		David Runnemo	David Runnemo	Enabled invitation to ED	Completed (Boney)					
Bellingham Farmers Market Assoc	Fred Sherman		Fred Sherman	Fred Sherman	Enabled invitation to ED	Completed (Boney)					
Whidbey Forest Farm Field	Fred Sherman		Fred Sherman	Fred Sherman	Enabled invitation to ED	Completed (Boney)					
WVU Extension	Fred Sherman		Fred Sherman	Fred Sherman	Enabled invitation to ED	Completed (Boney)					
NON PROFITS - Other											
Maria Sappington/Griffin Clubs	Valeri Wade		Valeri Wade	Valeri Wade	enabled via	rec'd response					
Linnam Island Community Assoc	Valeri Wade		Valeri Wade	Valeri Wade	enabled via	rec'd response					
Landscape Group	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled letter on 04/30/22	Waiting for response					
Blaine Chamber of Commerce	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Everett-Nooksack Chamber of Commerce	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Fordale Chamber of Commerce	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Everett Chamber of Commerce	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Bellingham Regional Chamber of Commerce	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Snohomish Chamber of Commerce	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Lynden Chamber of Commerce	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Beth Bay Chamber of Commerce	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
MA River Embankment Chamber of Commerce	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Common Thread Farm	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Multiborough Associations - Bellingham	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Whitman Park Community Association	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Booke Neighborhood Association	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Bethwood Neighborhood Association	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
City Center Neighborhood Association	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Rockwell Neighborhood Association	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Rosewell Neighborhood Association	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					
Sabine Neighborhood Association	Larry Davis		Larry Davis	Larry Davis	Enabled - 2020	Completed					

APPENDIX D

WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT
One-on-One Stakeholder Engagement Record

Stakeholder	Point of Contact	Board Member/Assoc Svnt	WCD TEAM		Contact Lead	CONTACT RECORD										
			Staff Member	Staff		Method - Contact No 1	Status - Contact No 1	Method - Contact No 2	Status - Contact No 2	Method - Contact No 3	Status - Contact No 3	Recommended followup				
York Neighborhood Association	Tom Scott, President	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Completed									
Colonia's Neighborhood Association	Debra Adams, President	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Waiting for response									
General Neighborhood Association	Barbara Davis, MMAC Rep.	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Waiting for response									
Edinboro Neighborhood Association	Barbara Davis, MMAC Rep.	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Waiting for response									
Fulton Neighborhood Association	Barbara Davis, MMAC Rep.	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Completed									
Frontier Neighborhood Association	Kevin Johnson, President	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Waiting for response									
Sanath Neighborhood Association	Steve Abell, President	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Waiting for response									
Star Beach Neighborhood Association	Kim Grayson, MMAC Rep.	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Waiting for response									
Stony Brook Neighborhood Association	Scott James, President	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Waiting for response									
Stony Brook Neighborhood Association	Scott James, President	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Waiting for response									
South Fork Valley Community Association	Jeff Margolis, President	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Completed 3/20/22. Waiting for response									
South Fork Valley Community Association	Jeff Margolis, President	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Completed 3/20/22. Waiting for response									
Weston Neighborhood Association	No contacts listed	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Completed									
Ingram Neighborhood Association	No contacts listed	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Completed									
Heppner Valley Neighborhood Association	Alvin McClain, President	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 04.22.22	Completed									
Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission (Birmingham)	Shirley Hub, Staff	Larry Davis	B Reed	B Reed	Larry Davis	Emailed 5/9/2022	Completed									
NON PROFITS - Professional																
Whitcomb, Wisconsin, IA, Business																
WIC Assoc. of Realtors																
NON PROFITS - Environmental																
Whitcomb, Wisconsin, IA, Business																
Nebraska Salmon Enhancement Assoc.																
RA/Sources																
Swanton, Connecticut, Cedar Mountain Farm Center																
Whisper Lake Trail																
North Cascades Audubon Society																
POLITICAL ORG.																
Whisper Damagore																
Small Limestone District Democratic																
Whisper Damagore																
Whisper Damagore																
Whisper Damagore																
GOVERNMENT LOCAL																
Whisper Damagore																
District 1																
District 2																
District 3																
District 4																
District 5																
Albion, Pesticin A																
Albion, Pesticin b																
Coal Ferry																
Nation Resources, Columbus, Franklin																
Crest Advisory Committee																
Whisper Damagore																
WRA Planning Unit																
Small Cities, Chester																

APPENDIX D

WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT
One-on-One Stakeholder Engagement Record

Stakeholder	Stakeholder	Point of Contact	WCD TEAM		CONTACT RECORD						
			Board Member/Assoc Surr	Staff Member	Status - Contact No. 1	Method - Contact No. 2	Status - Contact No. 3	Method - Contact No. 3	Status - Contact No. 3	Recommended followup	
Council	Suzi Snyder		S. Reed	Suzi Snyder	Completed - Initial						
Council Position No. 1	Heather Christianson	Trevan Mayne	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	S Snyder emailed 6/24/2022. Next steps - contact reading email by 6/6 to notify about public hearings, and another email late July to notify about System of RSC and offer to meet to discuss.	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Council Position No. 2	Heather Christianson	Jennifer Lutenbach	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Council Position No. 3	Heather Christianson	Matthew Geering	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Council Position No. 4	Heather Christianson	John Hamstead	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Council Position No. 5	Heather Christianson	Anthony Brown	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Council Position No. 6	Heather Christianson	Greg Hansen	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Council Position No. 7	Heather Christianson	Heidi Paret	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
President	Heather Christianson	Al Hawkins	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
President 2	Heather Christianson	Erin Gauthier	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
President 3	Heather Christianson	Paul Shury	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
President 4	Heather Christianson	Ryan O'Leary	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
President 5	Heather Christianson	Robert Pinkley	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
President 6	Heather Christianson	Jan Mochler	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
President 7	Heather Christianson	Suzi Snyder	B. Reed/A. Sweeney	Suzi Snyder	emailed 2020	emailed 2020	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Council	Heather Christianson	Scott Kniphus	B. Reed/A. Sweeney	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Position No. 1	Heather Christianson	Gary Bose (Maya Pio Tem)	B. Reed/A. Sweeney	Heather Christianson	S Snyder emailed 6/24/2022. Next steps - contact reading email by 6/6 to notify about public hearings, and another email late July to notify about System of RSC and offer to meet to discuss.	Completed - Initial (2022)					
Position No. 2	Heather Christianson	Ron DuVelle	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Position No. 3	Heather Christianson	Graci Kakan	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Position No. 4	Heather Christianson	Brent Luzzon	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Position No. 5	Heather Christianson	Nick Lamga	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Position No. 6	Heather Christianson	Kyle Strengbill	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Position No. 7	Heather Christianson	Mark Wornab	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Mayor	Heather Christianson	Kevin Heger	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
Council	Heather Christianson	Steve Nyege (2022-2025)	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed 2020	emailed 2020	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
President	Heather Christianson	Randy Reichold (2022-2025)	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
President 2	Heather Christianson	Colin Heister (2022-2025)	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
President 3	Heather Christianson	Ryan Stever (2021-2023)	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				
President 4	Heather Christianson	Margaret Ivy (2021-2023)	B. Reed	Heather Christianson	emailed - HC	emailed - HC	Next step - follow up after public hearings				

APPENDIX D

WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT
One-on-One Stakeholder Engagement Record

Stakeholder	Point of Contact	Board Member/Assoc. Svr.	WCD TEAM Staff Member	Contact Lead	Method - Contact No. 1	Status - Contact No. 1	Method - Contact No. 2	Status - Contact No. 2	Method - Contact No. 3	Status - Contact No. 3	Recommended follow-up
Sumas Mayor		Suzzy Snyder	B. Reed	Suzzy Snyder	S. Snyder emailed 8/24/2022. Next steps - Consider sending follow-up email by 8/25 to notify about public hearings - and another email late July about System of R&C and offer to meet in district.	Completed - In-Ed (2022)					
Council	Honorable Bruce Bosch	Heather Christensen	B. Reed	Heather Christensen	hsch@whatcom.wa.gov	HC emailed	Next step - follow up after public hearing	Completed - In-Ed (2022)			
		Heather Christensen	B. Reed	Heather Christensen	hchrist@whatcom.wa.gov	HC emailed	Next step - follow up after public hearing				
		Heather Christensen	B. Reed / F. Conry	Heather Christensen	hchrist@whatcom.wa.gov	HC emailed	Next step - follow up after public hearing				
		Heather Christensen	B. Reed / F. Conry	Heather Christensen	hchrist@whatcom.wa.gov	HC emailed	Next step - follow up after public hearing				
		Heather Christensen	B. Reed / F. Conry	Heather Christensen	hchrist@whatcom.wa.gov	HC emailed	Next step - follow up after public hearing				
		Heather Christensen	B. Reed / F. Conry	Heather Christensen	hchrist@whatcom.wa.gov	HC emailed	Next step - follow up after public hearing				
Watershed Improvement Districts		Alan Chapman	B. Reed / F. Conry	Alan Chapman	Enailed 2020	In progress	Enable invitation to ED	Completed (Barney)			
North Lynden		Alan Chapman	B. Reed / F. Conry	Alan Chapman	Enailed 2020	Completed	Presentations (4/19) with run through of process and survey				
Sumas		Alan Chapman	B. Reed / F. Conry	Alan Chapman	Enailed 2020	Completed	Presentations (4/19) with run through of process and survey				
Bellevue		Alan Chapman	B. Reed / F. Conry	Alan Chapman	Enailed 2020	Completed	Presentations (4/19) with run through of process and survey				
Laurel		Alan Chapman	B. Reed / F. Conry	Alan Chapman	Enailed 2020	Completed	Presentations (4/19) with run through of process and survey				
GOVERNMENT STATE											
District 40		Heather Christensen	B. Reed	Heather Christensen	hchrist@whatcom.wa.gov	HC emailed	Next step - follow up after public hearing				
District 42		Heather Christensen	B. Reed	Heather Christensen	Simon.Snyder@wa.gov	HC emailed	Next step - follow up after public hearing				
District 40	Representative Debra Lickoff	Heather Christensen	B. Reed	Heather Christensen	Send mailed letter on 04-30-22	Waiting for response, will be hchrist@whatcom.wa.gov	Next step - follow up after public hearing				
District 42	Representative Alex Ramej	Heather Christensen	B. Reed	Heather Christensen	alex.ramej@wa.gov	HC emailed	Next step - follow up after public hearing				
District 42	Representative Alex Ramej	Heather Christensen	B. Reed	Heather Christensen	alex.ramej@wa.gov	HC emailed	Next step - follow up after public hearing				
District 42	Representative Sharon Shivers	Heather Christensen	B. Reed / A. Sweeney	Heather Christensen	sharon.shivers@wa.gov	HC emailed	Next step - follow up after public hearing				
Governor's Office	Jan Timmons	Heather Christensen	B. Reed	Heather Christensen	001timmons@wa.gov	HC emailed	Next step - follow up after public hearing				
State Agency WA DNR	Willow Frazee	Willow Frazee	B. Reed	Willow Frazee							
GOVERNMENT FEDERAL											
USFS											
TRIBES											
Neah-Kahle Tribe of Indians		Alan Chapman	B. Reed / C. Chawer	Alan Chapman	Letter + info	In progress					
INDIVIDUALS											
Eric Fry		Willow Frazee	B. Reed / A. Sweeney	Willow Frazee	Email invitation to ED	Completed (Barney)					

APPENDIX D

WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT
One-on-One Stakeholder Engagement Record

STAKEHOLDER		WCD TEAM			CONTACT RECORD							
INTEREST GROUPS	Stakeholder	Point of Contact	Board Member/Assoc Svr	Staff Member	Contract Lead	Method - Contact No. 1	Status - Contact No. 1	Method - Contact No. 2	Status - Contact No. 2	Method - Contact No. 3	Status - Contact No. 3	Recommended Followup
Western County Commercial Fishermen's Association			Alan Chapman		Alan Chapman	Survey (A) Survey (B) Survey (C) Survey (D) Survey (E) Survey (F) Survey (G) Survey (H) Survey (I) Survey (J) Survey (K) Survey (L) Survey (M) Survey (N) Survey (O) Survey (P) Survey (Q) Survey (R) Survey (S) Survey (T) Survey (U) Survey (V) Survey (W) Survey (X) Survey (Y) Survey (Z)	Completed (Alan)					
Buzzing of the Fleet and Resemblance			Alan Chapman		Alan Chapman	Survey (A) Survey (B) Survey (C) Survey (D) Survey (E) Survey (F) Survey (G) Survey (H) Survey (I) Survey (J) Survey (K) Survey (L) Survey (M) Survey (N) Survey (O) Survey (P) Survey (Q) Survey (R) Survey (S) Survey (T) Survey (U) Survey (V) Survey (W) Survey (X) Survey (Y) Survey (Z)	Completed (Alan)					
Neighborhood Associations - Community-Designated Places												
Acme												
Beth Bay												
Clarington												
Concession												
Georgetown												
Maple Falls												
Peaceful Valley												
Port Republic												
Neighborhood Associations - Unincorporated Communities												
Blue Springs												
Chesapeake												
Cliffside												
Dover												
Elkton												
Georgetown												
Lummi Island												
Lummi Island Parks Dept Advisory Committee												
Newholm												
Saven												
Van Buren												
Washouli												

APPENDIX D

WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Public Hearing Noticing and Advertising Record

Location	Date	City Hall Address	Library Address	Date	Post Office Address	Date	Other (Specify) Address	Date	Other (Specify) Address
Incorporated Areas									
Bellingham	6/29/2022	210 Latta St, Bellingham, WA 98225	(Central) 210 Central Ave, Bellingham, WA 98225	6/29/2022	Prospect, Magnolia and Orleans P.O., WA	1:00:00 AM	Falmouth library branch, 1117 12th St, Bellingham, WA 98225		
Blaine	6/29/2022	435 Marin St, Blaine, WA 98230	610 3rd St, Blaine, WA 98230	6/23/2022	701 Harrison Ave, Blaine, WA 98230, In break room				
Everson	6/29/2022	111 W Main St, Everson, WA 98247	104 Kirsch Drive, Everson, WA 98247	6/23/2022	108 Blair Dr, Everson, WA 98247				
Ferndale	6/23/2022	2095 Main St, Ferndale, WA 98248	2125 Main St, Ferndale, WA 98248	6/23/2022	3703 4th Ave, Ferndale, WA 98248, waiting on photo				
Lynden	6/23/2022	300 4th St, Lynden, WA 98264	218 4th St, Lynden, WA 98264	6/23/2022	NA	6/29/2022	Whatcom Conservation District, 6975 Hamnegan Road, Lynden, WA 98264		
Nooksack	6/23/2022	103 W Madison St, Nooksack, WA 98276	104 Kirsch Drive, Everson, WA 98247	6/23/2022	108 Blair Dr, Everson, WA 98247				
Sumas	6/29/2022	433 Cherry St, Sumas, WA 98295	NA		NA				
Unincorporated Areas									
Deming	NA	NA	5044 Mt Baker Hwy, Deming, WA 98244	6/23/2022	5044 Mt Baker Hwy, Deming, WA 98244	6/29/2022	Nugent Corner Market, 3705 Mt Baker Hwy, Everson, WA 98247		
Acme	NA	NA	NA	6/29/2022	3035 Valley Hwy, Acme, WA 98220				
Gleason	NA	NA	NA	6/23/2022	9973 Mt Baker Hwy, Deming, WA 98244				
Kendall	NA	NA	7506 Kendall Rd, Maple Falls, WA 98266	6/29/2022	NA	6/23/2022	East Whatcom Regional Resource Center 8351 Kendall Rd, Maple Falls, WA 98266		
Maple Falls	NA	NA	NA	6/23/2022	7392 Mt Baker Hwy, Maple Falls, WA 98266				
Van Zandt	NA	NA	2144 S Nugent Rd, Lummi Island, WA 98262	6/29/2022	NA	6/23/2022	Van Zandt Community Hall 4185 Valley Hwy, Deming, WA 98244		
Lummi Island	NA	NA	98262	6/29/2022	NA	6/29/2022	"The Islander" market, 106 S Nugent Rd, Lummi Island, WA 98262		

Advertising Record Location	Date No.1	Date No.2	NOTE
Bellingham Herald	6/24/2022	7/1/2022	
Lynden Tribune	6/29/2022		
Norther Light	6/30/2022		
Other (Specify)			
WCD Web Page	6/22/2022		
WCD E-news	6/30/2022		
WCD Social Media			
SM - Facebook			
SM - Instagram			
Press Release			
Bellingham Herald			
Lynden Tribune			

WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 22-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT, WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO A SYSTEM OF RATES AND CHARGES; ESTABLISHING A PROCESS TO PROVIDE FOR LAND OWNER APPEALS OF RATES AND CHARGES AS APPLICABLE TO A PARCEL OR PARCELS; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS PROPERLY RELATED THERETO ALL AS MORE PARTICULARLY SET FORTH HEREIN.

The Board of Supervisors of the Whatcom Conservation District, Whatcom County, Washington, hereby resolves as follows:

SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND DETERMINATIONS. The Board of Supervisors ("Board") of the Whatcom Conservation District, Whatcom County, Washington ("District") hereby makes and enters into the following findings and determinations:

1.1 By Resolution No. 2022-02 and pursuant to Chapter 89.08.405, RCW the District has proposed to Whatcom County ("County") a system of rates and charges to help pay for the costs of carrying out the District's programs, services, and conservation projects.

1.2 Chapter 89.08.405(5)(a), RCW provides that the District shall establish by resolution a process for landowner appeals of rates or charges (collectively, "rates") as applicable to a parcel or parcels.

1.3 The process authorized by the Legislature for the District's collection of rates is through the Whatcom County-managed property tax statement. This resolution establishes an appeal process, as required by Chapter 60, Laws of 2012, that is available to owners of property following receipt of annual property tax statements.

SECTION 2. APPEAL OF RATES.

2.1 Any person subject to rates as proposed by Resolution No. 2022-02, may appeal a rate by applying in writing to the District. The rate appealed must first be paid. Filing an appeal does not extend the period for payment of the rate. Appeals involving delinquent accounts will not be acted upon until paid in full.

2.2 An appeal and request for a bill adjustment may be based on one or more of the following:

EXHIBIT D

2.2.1 The area of the parcel is incorrect;

2.2.2 The property is not assigned the proper rate category;

2.2.3 The parcel is wholly or partially outside the District boundaries; or

2.2.4 The rate is otherwise erroneous in applying the terms of Resolution No. 2022-02, as adopted by Whatcom County.

2.3 Any appeal and application for adjustment may be made to the District and shall be decided by the District Board of Supervisors. The burden of proof shall be on the appellant to show that the rate adjustment sought should be granted. All decisions of the District regarding an appeal shall be final and conclusive.

2.4 Any appeal and application for rate adjustment must be filed no later than twenty-one (21) days after the due date of the first payment of annual property taxes established by Whatcom County. An appeal shall include the following information: the Whatcom County property tax parcel identification number; the name of the owner of the property; a written statement of the basis for the appeal; the address of the owner if different from the address shown on the records of Whatcom County assessor; the appellant's phone number(s) for communication with the appellant; and, the signature of the owner(s) of the property. An appellant is responsible for advising the District of any change in any mailing address or phone number. Failure to respond to District communications regarding an appeal shall be grounds for dismissal of the appeal.

2.5 Hearing Process.

2.5.1 Prehearing Conference. Once an appeal has been timely filed, the District's District Manager or designee shall schedule a Prehearing Conference with the appellant within fourteen (14) days. An appellant is required to participate in the Prehearing Conference to assist in expediting the appeal, setting a hearing date and identifying the potential for settlement. If the hearing date is not established at the Prehearing Conference, the District shall give separate written notice to appellant no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the hearing.

2.5.2 Expert Witnesses. An appellant shall file in writing all direct expert testimony from appellant's expert witnesses that the appellant intends to rely upon, along with copies of any exhibits introduced through or relied upon by the expert witnesses. Filing of expert testimony shall occur no later than seven (7) days prior to the appeal hearing.

2.5.3 Appeal Hearing. The hearing shall consist of the following:

A. Opening Statements.

B. Appellant's Case. An appellant's case at the hearing shall be limited to the presentation of lay testimony, to cross-examination by District of any witness whose

EXHIBIT D

testimony has been offered by appellant, including expert witnesses whose testimony has been offered in writing pursuant to this rule, and to appellant's redirect examination of any witness from whom cross-examination testimony is taken.

C. District's Case. The District's case at the hearing shall be limited to the presentation of lay testimony, to cross-examination by appellant of any witness whose testimony has been offered by District, including expert witnesses whose testimony has been offered in writing, and to District's redirect of any witness from which cross-examination testimony is taken.

D. Closing Argument.

E. Decision. The Board shall enter a written decision within fourteen (14) days after the close of the record of the appeal hearing.

2.6 If the District grants an adjustment which reduces the rate for the current year, the applicant shall be refunded the amount overpaid. If the District determines that an adjustment should be made which increases the rate due for the current year, the applicant shall receive a supplemental bill that will be due within forty-five (45) days of the date the supplemental bill is issued. An appellant seeking a rate adjustment shall be notified in writing of the District's decision.

2.7 The final written decision of the Board of Supervisors may be appealed to the Whatcom County Superior Court no later than twenty-one (21) days of the date of the Board's written decision. The party appealing to Superior Court shall bear the cost of production of the record of hearing before the Board for filing with the Court, such cost to be recoverable in the determination of the Superior Court that the party appealing to the Superior Court substantially prevailed in the appeal.

SECTION 3. DISTRICT MANAGER AUTHORITY. The District's District Manager is authorized prior to or after the hearing under Section 2.5, to settle claims and resolve disputes over rates, rate category, or classification, and other matters applicable to parcels that are subject to appeal. The District Manager shall report such settlements to the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS of the Whatcom Conservation District, Washington, at a regular open public meeting thereof, and effective this 25th day of July, 2022.




Heather Christianson, Chair

EXHIBIT D

CERTIFICATE

I, Valeri Wade, Secretary of the Board of Supervisors, Whatcom County, Washington, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 22-03 of such Board, duly adopted at a regular meeting thereof held on the 25th day of July, 2022, by the members of such Board in attendance at such meeting and attested by myself in authentication of such adoption.



Valeri Wade, Secretary/Auditor