

**WHATCOM COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**Elizabeth Kosa
Director**




NATURAL RESOURCES

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MEMORANDUM

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

THROUGH: Elizabeth Kosa, Public Works Director

FROM: Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Manager 
Austin Rose, Planner I, Natural Resources

DATE: September 12, 2023

RE: State of Washington Department of Ecology Grant Agreement SEANWS-2023-WhCoPW-00002 Northwest Straits Project: Marine Resources Committee (MRC) Operations and Projects

Please find attached for your review a copy of the interagency agreement between the State of Washington Department of Ecology and the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District for Whatcom Marine Resources Committee (MRC) Operations and Projects. The authorized agreement will be signed electronically through DocuSign.

Requested Action

Public Works respectfully requests that the Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors authorize the County Executive to sign this agreement.

Background and Purpose

This grant agreement will fund administrative support and action projects for the Whatcom County Marine Resources Committee including remote beach cleanups, water quality monitoring, bull kelp surveys, forage fish spawning surveys, and monitoring of a pilot Olympia oyster restoration projects.

Funding Amount and Source

This grant agreement with Washington Department of Ecology provides the County with \$249,000.00 for administrative and technical support to the MRC and to implement action projects. No match is required. Budget authority for 2023 is included in the approved 2023 Natural Resources budget. Budget authority for 2024 is included in the 2024 Natural Resources budget proposal to the Board of Supervisors. Budget authority for 2025 will be requested in the 2025 Natural Resources budget.

Please contact Austin Rose at extension 6286 or Gary Stoyka at extension 6218, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Encl.