

**WHATCOM COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**Jon Hutchings
Director**





NATURAL RESOURCES

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Council Acting as the Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors, and
Satpal Singh Sidhu, County Executive for the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District

THROUGH: Jon Hutchings, Public Works Director

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

DATE: March 17, 2022

RE: Resolution Authorizing the Black Slough Comprehensive Barrier Removal Design Project Grant Application to the Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board

Requested Action

Approval is requested for a resolution that authorizes the County Executive, acting on behalf of the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District, to submit a grant application to the Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board (BAFBRB).

Background and Purpose

Whatcom County Public Works has prepared a grant application for the Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board's 2023-2025 grant cycle. An authorizing resolution from the applicant's governing body is a required grant application attachment.

The resolution authorizes the Whatcom County Executive, acting on behalf of the Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors, to submit an application and enter into a grant agreement should funding be awarded. The project will support design and permits for the replacement of seven culverts that are partial barriers to fish passage under county roads in the Black Slough area of the South Fork Nooksack River northeast of Acme. This area was selected due to the recent County acquisition and restoration planning for land in the project area, the South Fork is a current Drainage-Based Management pilot area, Black Slough's importance as a source of cool and steady flow to the South Fork that benefits early Chinook recovery efforts, and the opportunity to address the remaining County road barrier culverts in the Black Slough stream system.

Funding Amount and Source

The grant request is for \$255,500 with \$85,000 in local match for a total amount of \$340,500 to be requested in 2023 and 2024 Public Works budgets. Grant funds will be available July 1, 2023 if funded by the legislature.

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

Encl.