

**WHATCOM COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**Elizabeth Kosa
Director**



NATURAL RESOURCES

322 N. Commercial, 2nd Floor
Bellingham, WA 98225
Telephone: (360) 778-6230
FAX: (360) 778-6231
www.whatcomcounty.us

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive, and The Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Council

THROUGH: Elizabeth Kosa, Public Works Director

FROM: Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Manager
Erika Douglas, Environmental Programs Manager
Ingrid Enschede, Senior Planner *IE*

DATE: April 18, 2024

RE: Resolution Approving the Drayton Harbor Shellfish Recovery and Protection Plan 2024 Update

Please find attached for your review a copy of the Drayton Harbor Shellfish Recovery and Protection Plan 2024 Update and the resolution to approve the plan.

Requested Action

Public Works respectfully requests that Council approve the resolution approving the Drayton Harbor Shellfish Recovery and Protection Plan 2024 Update.

Background and Purpose

The Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District was established by Whatcom County Council in 1995 in response to the downgrade of shellfish growing areas the harbor. At that time, the Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District Advisory Committee was created to advise council on proposed actions and operations relating to the restoration of water quality in the district and an initial closure response and recovery plan was developed. An updated Drayton Harbor Shellfish Recovery Plan was developed by the Advisory Committee and adopted by the Whatcom County Council in 2007. This 2024 plan is an update to the 2007 Drayton Harbor Shellfish Recovery Plan and includes Advisory Committee recommendations on emerging issues, overarching priorities, new priorities, and other actions needed to restore shellfish growing areas in Drayton Harbor.

Funding and Budget Implications

There is no budget request associated with this plan. Many plan recommendations are already being implemented through existing county programs or partners. Future budget requests for new or expanded services related to shellfish recovery will be submitted to Whatcom County Council as needed.

Please contact Ingrid Enschede at extension 6229 or Erika Douglas at extension 6294, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Encl.