

**WHATCOM COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**ELIZABETH KOSA
DIRECTOR**



River and Flood Division
322 N. Commercial Street
Bellingham, WA 98225
Phone: 360-778-6230

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors

THROUGH: Elizabeth Kosa, Public Works Director *ek*

FROM: Julie Anderson, River and Flood Manager *JMA*
Paula J, Harris, Flood Planning and Mitigation Manager *PJH*
Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Manager

RE: United States Geological Survey – Joint Funding Agreement – Amendment 1

DATE: March 7, 2025

Please find enclosed two (2) originals of an amendment to an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for your review and signature.

Requested Action

Public Works respectfully requests that the County Council, acting as the FCZD Board of Supervisors, approve an amendment to the Joint Funding Agreement with the USGS for assessing topographic changes in the lower Nooksack River.

Background and Purpose

The USGS has been participating in the Floodplain Integrated Planning (FLIP) process, and has been part of the technical team working to understand how sediment moves through the river system and impacts flooding. The existing agreement includes analysis and documentation of topographic/bathymetric changes in the river geometry, field data collection of channel grain size data and participation in technical team meetings and FLIP Team meetings to disseminate results. This amendment will provide additional funding and extend the contract duration to allow the USGS to continue to participate, as the work is still ongoing.

Funding and Source

The proposed amendment includes a contribution of \$40,000 from the FCZD and \$0 from the USGS. The FCZD amount will be fully reimbursed by the State Proviso that is supporting the FLIP work.

Please contact Julie Anderson at extension 6258, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this Contract.