

**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   
John N. Thompson, Senior Salmon Recovery Planner 

**DATE:** August 10, 2023

**RE:** Washington Department of Ecology Agreement – 2023-2024 Washington Conservation Corps

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Enclosed is an agreement between Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) for your review and signature.

**Requested Action**

Public Works respectfully requests that the County Executive, and the County Council, acting as the FCZD Board of Supervisors, enter into an agreement with Ecology for a sum not to exceed \$181,575 to sponsor a Washington Conservation Corps crew for the 2023 to 2024 term.

**Background and Purpose**

Public Works proposes to continue our sponsorship of a 6-member Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) Crew for the 2023-2024 term (October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024). The crew will assist Public Works with the installation and maintenance of plantings for salmon habitat, flood and stormwater projects and for county road project mitigation. They will also assist with water quality monitoring and are available for emergency response. The crew is co-sponsored with the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association (NSEA) under a separate agreement with Ecology. NSEA provides office space, equipment storage, and the use of power tools and machinery that are not part of the standard Ecology-provided equipment list.

**Funding Amount and Source**

The \$181,575 for this new agreement is included in the Public Works, Natural Resource Division (169119) 2023 budget and will be included in the 2024 proposed Natural Resource Division budget.

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

Encl.