

**WHATCOM COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**Elizabeth Kosa
Interim 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, Interim Director

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

DATE: December 16, 2022

RE: **Contract for Services with Anchor QEA**

Requested Action

Public Works respectfully requests that the County Executive and the County Council, acting as the Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors, enter into an agreement between the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District and Anchor QEA to prepare a multi-purpose water storage assessment for WRIA 1 that identifies projects with the potential to improve low summer stream flows for salmon, support out-of-stream water users, and reduce flood risk.

Background and Purpose

Hydrology in WRIA 1 poses on-going challenges to the community, from low flows in the Nooksack River and its tributaries in the summer and early fall that impact salmon populations and out-of-stream water users to floods that impact peoples lives, damage property and infrastructure. Consultant services are needed to help Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District (County) identify potential multiple-purpose water storage project types and locations, evaluate projected benefits for enhancing low stream flows, creating storage for irrigation or other out-of-stream water supply needs, or reducing flood peaks, evaluate project feasibility, compare projects in the context of group goals and objectives, and estimate concept level project costs. The County will sponsor the work with the engagement of a sub-committee composed of members from the Floodplain Integrated Planning Steering Committee (FLIP SC) and the Water Resource Inventory Area 1 (WRIA 1) Watershed and Salmon Recovery Staff Teams.

Selection Process

The MRSC Roster was used to generate a list of 13 qualified firms to receive the request for proposals (RFP). Anchor QEA provided the sole proposal. The Anchor QEA proposal was determined to be responsive to the RFP and demonstrated appropriate qualifications.

Funding Amount and Source

This contract in the amount of \$150,000.00 is funded under the approved 2023 Flood District budget. It is expected that a pending Washington Department of Commerce grant administered through the Public Works will reimburse the Flood Fund.

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