

## Supplemental Budget Request

Public Works

Flood Control Zone District

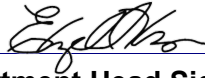
Suppl ID # 5071

Fund 1908 Cost Center 19082367 Originator: Gary Stoyka

Expenditure Type: One-Time Year 1 2025 Add'l FTE ☐ Add'l Space ☐ Priority 1

Name of Request: 2025 Ecology Adjudication Technical Assistance

X



8.26.2025

Department Head Signature (Required on Hard Copy Submission)

Date

Costs:	Object	Object Description	Amount Requested
	4334.03111	DE-WRIA 1 Water Rights Adjudication	(\$100,000)
	6630	Professional services	\$100,000
	<b>Request Total</b>		<b>\$0</b>

### 1a. Description of request:

The Washington State Legislature allocated funding for the 2025-2026 fiscal year to provide technical assistance to water users in WRIA 1 in filing adjudication claims under RCW 90.03.140.

### 1b. Primary customers:

All water users in WRIA 1.

### 2. Problem to be solved:

Washington Department of Ecology initiated a water rights adjudication in Whatcom County Superior Court in 2024. This action is in the form of a lawsuit in which the Department of Ecology is suing all water right holders and exempt well users so that the judge can determine the extent and validity of all water rights in WRIA 1. Whatcom County requested funding from the legislature to provide assistance to water users in filing claims in the adjudication. This funding is provided in response to that request.

### 3a. Options / Advantages:

Whatcom County could not conduct these activities or implement them using just local funds. Accepting the funding to implement activities requested by the County is the best option.

### 3b. Cost savings:

Accepting these funds will save the County \$100,000 versus paying for these activities itself.

### 4a. Outcomes:

Technical information will be provided to WRIA 1 water users and activities to further the development of a collaborative water planning process will be implemented.

### 4b. Measures:

The above activities will be completed and documented as part of the grant reporting process.

### 5a. Other Departments/Agencies:

Whatcom County will work closely with the Department of Ecology in developing a technical assistance program

### 5b. Name the person in charge of implementation and what they are responsible for:

N/A

### 6. Funding Source:

All funding for these activities will be provided by the State of Washington through a grant (C# 202401003) with the Department of Ecology.