

**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 *EK*

FROM: Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Manager *GS*
Austin Rose, Natural Resources Specialist II

DATE: September 5, 2025

RE: State of Washington Department of Ecology Grant Agreement SEANWS-2025-WhCoPW-00009 Northwest Straits Project: Marine Resources Committee (MRC) Operations and Projects

Please find attached for your review a copy of the interagency agreement between the State of Washington Department of Ecology and the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District for Whatcom Marine Resources Committee (MRC) Operations and Projects. The authorized agreement will be signed electronically through DocuSign.

Requested Action

Public Works respectfully requests that the Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors authorize the County Executive to sign this agreement.

Background and Purpose

This grant agreement will fund administrative support and action projects for the Whatcom County Marine Resources Committee including monitoring Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs), bull kelp surveys, forage fish spawning surveys, and pilot Olympia oyster restoration projects.

Funding Amount and Source

This grant agreement with Washington Department of Ecology provides the County with \$252,000.00 for administrative and technical support to the MRC and to implement action projects. No match is required. Revenue is included in the approved 2025 Natural Resources budget. Revenue for 2026 is included in the proposed 2026 Natural Resources. Revenue for 2027 will be requested in the 2027 Natural Resources budget.

Please contact Austin Rose at extension 6286 or Gary Stoyka at extension 6218, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Encl.