

**WHATCOM COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**Elizabeth Kosa
Director**



NATURAL RESOURCES

322 N. Commercial, 2nd Floor
Bellingham, WA 98225
Telephone: (360) 778-6230
FAX: (360) 778-6231
www.whatcomcounty.us

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 *L.B.F.*

FROM: Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Manager *[Signature]*

DATE: November 17, 2025

RE: Agreement Between Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District and Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. for Final Phase of Groundwater-Surface Water Interaction Study

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 Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. to complete the final phase of a four-year study of the timing and magnitude of groundwater pumping on streamflow depletion at three study locations.

Background and Purpose

As part of the WRIA 1 Watershed Management Project, a hydrogeologic investigation is needed to quantify the impacts of groundwater pumping on stream flows in several locations within Water Resources Inventory Area (WRIA) 1. This project supports long-running watershed planning activities in WRIA 1 and will be used to further refine the development of a numerical groundwater model. This work is being conducted in coordination with the Whatcom Groundwater Model Team, an ad hoc committee of the WRIA 1 Watershed Staff Team that is working to cooperatively to address regional water supply challenges. Member agencies include Whatcom County, Public Utility District No. 1 of Whatcom County, Lummi Nation, Nooksack Indian Tribe, City of Bellingham, Washington Department of Ecology, and the Ag Water Board. This contract includes the final phase of the project.

Funding Amount and Source

This contract in the amount of \$147,532.00 will be funded with FCZD funds. The FCZD Natural Resources cost center has adequate budget authority in the 2025 budget for this contract.

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

Encl.