

**WHATCOM COUNTY CONTRACT
INFORMATION SHEET**

Whatcom County Contract No. _____

Originating Department:	
Division/Program: <i>(i.e. Dept. Division and Program)</i>	
Contract or Grant Administrator:	
Contractor's / Agency Name:	

Is this a New Contract? If not, is this an Amendment or Renewal to an Existing Contract? Yes No
 Yes No If Amendment or Renewal, (per WCC 3.08.100 (a)) Original Contract #: _____

Does contract require Council Approval? Yes No If No, include WCC: _____
 Already approved? Council Approved Date: _____ (Exclusions see: Whatcom County Codes 3.06.010, 3.08.090 and 3.08.100)

Is this a grant agreement?
 Yes No If yes, grantor agency contract number(s): _____ CFDA#: _____

Is this contract grant funded?
 Yes No If yes, Whatcom County grant contract number(s): _____

Is this contract the result of a RFP or Bid process? Contract
 Yes No If yes, RFP and Bid number(s): _____ Cost Center: _____

Is this agreement excluded from E-Verify? No Yes If no, include Attachment D Contractor Declaration form.

If YES, indicate exclusion(s) below:

Professional services agreement for certified/licensed professional.
 Contract work is for less than \$100,000. Contract for Commercial off the shelf items (COTS).
 Contract work is for less than 120 days. Work related subcontract less than \$25,000.
 Interlocal Agreement (between Governments). Public Works - Local Agency/Federally Funded FHWA.

Contract Amount:(sum of original contract amount and any prior amendments): \$ _____ This Amendment Amount: \$ _____ Total Amended Amount: \$ _____	Council approval required for; all property leases, contracts or bid awards exceeding \$40,000 , and professional service contract amendments that have an increase greater than \$10,000 or 10% of contract amount, whichever is greater, except when: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exercising an option contained in a contract previously approved by the council. 2. Contract is for design, construction, r-o-w acquisition, prof. services, or other capital costs approved by council in a capital budget appropriation ordinance. 3. Bid or award is for supplies. 4. Equipment is included in Exhibit "B" of the Budget Ordinance. 5. Contract is for manufacturer's technical support and hardware maintenance of electronic systems and/or technical support and software maintenance from the developer of proprietary software currently used by Whatcom County.
Summary of Scope: _____	

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Term of Contract:	Expiration Date:
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Contract Routing:	1. Prepared by: _____	Date: _____
	2. Attorney signoff: _____	Date: _____
	3. AS Finance reviewed: _____	Date: _____
	4. IT reviewed (if IT related): _____	Date: _____
	5. Contractor signed: _____	Date: _____
	6. Submitted to Exec.: _____	Date: _____
	7. Council approved (if necessary): _____	Date: _____
	8. Executive signed: _____	Date: _____
	9. Original to Council: _____	Date: _____

Project Sponsor: Whatcom County
Project Title: Squalicum Forestry Conservation Easement

Project Number: 19-1330A
Approval Date: 10/02/2019

PARTIES OF THE AGREEMENT

This Recreation and Conservation Office Agreement (Agreement) is entered into between the State of Washington by and through the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB or funding board) and the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), P.O. Box 40917, Olympia, Washington 98504-0917 and Whatcom County (Sponsor, and primary Sponsor), 322 N Commercial Suite 210, Bellingham, WA 98225, Whatcom Land Trust (Sponsor, and secondary Sponsor), PO Box 6131, Bellingham, WA 98227, and shall be binding on the agents and all persons acting by or through the parties.

All Sponsors are equally and independently subject to all the conditions of this Agreement except those conditions that expressly apply only to the primary Sponsor.

Per the Applicant Resolution/Authorizations submitted by all sponsors (and on file with the RCO), the identified Authorized Representative(s)/Agent(s) have full authority to legally bind the Sponsor(s) regarding all matters related to the project, including but not limited to, full authority to: (1) sign a grant application for grant assistance, (2) enter into this project agreement on behalf of the Sponsor(s) (including indemnification and waiver of sovereign immunity, if applicable, as provided therein), (3) enter any amendments thereto on behalf of the Sponsors, and (4) make any decisions and submissions required with respect to the project. Agreements and amendments must be signed by the Authorized Representative/Agent(s) of all sponsors, unless otherwise allowed in Amendments and Agreement Section.

If a Sponsor wishes to change its Authorized Representative/Agent as identified on the original signed Applicant Resolution/Authorization, the Sponsor has the obligation to provide to RCO in writing a new Applicant Resolution/Authorization signed by its governing body. Unless a new Applicant Resolution/Authorization has been provided, RCO will be entitled to rely upon the fact that the current Authorized Representative/Agent has the authority to bind the Sponsor to the Agreement (including any amendments thereto) and decisions related to implementation of the Agreement.

For the purposes of this Agreement, as well as for grant management purposes with RCO, only the primary Sponsor may act as a fiscal agent to obtain reimbursements (See PROJECT REIMBURSEMENTS Section).

PURPOSE OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement sets out the terms and conditions by which a grant is made from the Farm and Forest Account of the State of Washington. The grant is administered by the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO).

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

Whatcom County and the Whatcom Land Trust will use this grant funding to purchase a forestland conservation easement on about 160 acres of privately-owned forestland near the City of Bellingham. This property contains a significant portion of the headwaters of Squalicum Creek and the landowner plans to continue opportunities for recreational opportunities including horseback riding, hiking, and camping. This project permanently extinguishes eight development rights ensuring that the property will be available for timber production in perpetuity.

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The period of performance begins on March 1, 2020 (project start date) and ends on June 30, 2022 (project end date). No allowable cost incurred before or after this period is eligible for reimbursement unless specifically provided for by written amendment or addendum to this Agreement, or specifically provided for by applicable RCWs, WACs, and any applicable RCO manuals as of the effective date of this Agreement.

The Sponsor must request extensions of the period of performance at least 60 days before the project end date.

STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS INCORPORATED

The Standard Terms and Conditions of the Agreement are hereby incorporated by reference as part of this Agreement.

LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

For this acquisition project, the Sponsor's long-term obligations for the project area shall be in perpetuity, beginning at project completion, unless otherwise identified in the Agreement or as approved by the funding board or RCO.

PROJECT FUNDING

The total grant award provided for this project shall not exceed \$350,000.00. The RCO shall not pay any amount beyond that approved for grant funding of the project and within the percentage as identified below. The Sponsor shall be responsible for all total project costs that exceed this amount. The minimum matching share provided by the Sponsor shall be as indicated below:

	Percentage	Dollar Amount	Source of Funding
RCFB - WWRP - Forestland Preservation	46.79%	\$350,000.00	State
Project Sponsor	53.21%	\$398,000.00	
Total Project Cost	100.00%	\$748,000.00	

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS INTERPRETED IN LIGHT OF RELATED DOCUMENTS

All rights and obligations of the parties under this Agreement are further specified in and shall be interpreted in light of the Sponsor’s application and the project summary and eligible scope activities under which the Agreement has been approved as well as documents produced in the course of administering the Agreement, including the eligible scope activities, the milestones report, progress reports, and the final report. Provided, to the extent that information contained in such documents is irreconcilably in conflict with this Agreement, it shall not be used to vary the terms of the Agreement, unless those terms are shown to be subject to an unintended error or omission. This “Agreement” as used here and elsewhere in this document, unless otherwise specifically stated, has the meaning set forth in the definitions of the Standard Terms and Conditions.

AMENDMENTS TO AGREEMENT

Except as provided herein, no amendment (including without limitation, deletions) of any of the terms or conditions of this Agreement will be effective unless provided in writing signed by all parties. Extensions of the period of performance and minor scope adjustments consented to in writing (including email) by the Sponsor need only be signed by RCO’s director or designee, unless otherwise provided for in another agreement a Sponsor has with the RCO. This exception does not apply to a federal government Sponsor or a Sponsor that requests and enters into a formal amendment for extensions or minor scope adjustments.

It is the responsibility of a Sponsor to ensure that any person who signs an amendment on its behalf is duly authorized to do so, and such signature shall be binding on the Sponsor if the representative/agent signing has been authorized to do so by Applicant Resolution/Authorization provided to the RCO and such Applicant Resolution/Authorization has not been withdrawn by the governing body in a subsequent resolution.

Any amendment to this Agreement, unless otherwise expressly stated, shall be deemed to include all current federal, state, and local government laws and rules, and policies applicable and active and published in the applicable RCO manuals or on the RCO website in effect as of the effective date of the amendment, without limitation to the subject matter of the amendment. Provided, any update in law, rule, policy or a manual that is incorporated as a result of an amendment shall apply only prospectively and shall not require that an act previously done in compliance with existing requirements be redone.

COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE STATUTES, RULES, AND POLICIES

This Agreement is governed by, and the sponsor shall comply with, all applicable state and federal laws and regulations, applicable RCO manuals as identified below, and any applicable federal program and accounting rules effective as of the date of this Agreement, and with respect to any amendments to this Agreement, as of the effective date of that amendment. Provided, any update in law, rule, policy or a manual that is incorporated as a result of an amendment shall apply only prospectively and shall not require that an act previously done in compliance with existing requirements be redone.

For the purpose of this Agreement, WAC Title 286, RCFB policies, and shall apply as terms of this Agreement.

For the purpose of this Agreement, the following RCO manuals are deemed applicable and shall apply as terms of this Agreement:

- Acquisition Projects - Manual 3
- Long Term Obligations - Manual 7
- Reimbursements - Manual 8
- WWRP - Forestland Program Manual (10c)

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

None

AGREEMENT CONTACTS

The parties will provide all written communications and notices under this Agreement to the mail address or the email address listed below if not both:

Sponsor Project Contact

Becky Snijder

5280 Northwest Dr
Bellingham, WA 98226
rsnijder@whatcomcounty.us

RCO Contact

Kim Sellers
Natural Resources Building
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
kim.sellers@rco.wa.gov

These addresses and contacts shall be effective until receipt by one party from the other of a written notice of any change. Decisions relating to the Agreement must be made by the Authorized Representative/Agent, who may or may not be the Project Contact for purposes of notices and communications.

ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement, with all amendments and attachments, constitutes the entire Agreement of the parties. No other understandings, oral or otherwise, regarding this Agreement shall exist or bind any of the parties.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Agreement, for project 19-1330, shall be subject to the written approval of the RCO’s authorized representative and shall not be effective and binding until the date signed by both the sponsor and the RCO, whichever is later (Effective Date). Reimbursements for eligible and allowable costs incurred within the period of performance identified in the PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE Section are allowed only when this Agreement is fully executed and an original is received by RCO.

The Sponsor has read, fully understands, and agrees to be bound by all terms and conditions as set forth in this Agreement and the STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE AGREEMENT. The signators listed below represent and warrant their authority to bind the parties to this Agreement.

Whatcom County

By: _____

Date: _____

Name (printed): _____

Approved as to Form:

Title: _____

By: _____

Royce Buckingham
Senior Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Whatcom Land Trust

By: _____

Date: _____

Name (printed): _____

Title: _____

**State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
On behalf of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (RCFB or funding board)**

By: _____

Date: _____

Kaleen Cottingham
Director
Recreation and Conservation Office

Pre-approved as to form:

By: Brian Toller
Assistant Attorney General

Date: 01/01/2019

Project Sponsor: Whatcom County
Project Title: Squalicum Forestry Conservation Easement

Project Number: 19-1330A
Approval Date: 10/02/2019

Eligible Scope Activities

ELIGIBLE SCOPE ACTIVITIES

Acquisition Metrics

Property: Squalicum Forest (Worksite #1, Squalicum Forest)

Real Property Acquisition

Forestland Easement

Acres by Acreage Type (Forestland):

Uplands	160.00
Acres available for timber harvest:	160.00
Number of development rights acquired:	8
Number of development rights retained within the building envelope:	0
Structures that lie within the building envelope:	None
Select the water rights associated with this property:	No rights claimed

Incidentals

Appraisal

Appraisal Review

Baseline Documentation

Closing, Recording, Taxes, Title

Stewardship plan

Acres included in the stewardship plan: 160.00

Survey (Acq)

Administrative Costs (Acq)

Administrative costs (Acq)

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Project Milestones

PROJECT MILESTONE REPORT

Complete	Milestone	Target Date	Comments/Description
X	Project Start	03/01/2020	
	Order Appraisal(s)	05/01/2020	
	Order Appraisal Review(s)	07/01/2020	
	Progress Report Due	07/31/2020	
	Annual Project Billing Due	07/31/2020	
	Purchase Agreement Signed	11/01/2020	
	Progress Report Due	12/01/2020	
	Submit Draft Easement to RCO	04/01/2021	
	Progress Report Due	07/31/2021	
	Annual Project Billing Due	07/31/2021	
	Baseline Documentation to RCO	08/01/2021	
	Progress Report Due	12/01/2021	
	Acquisition Closing	12/01/2021	
	Stewardship Plan to RCO	03/01/2022	
	Recorded Acq Documents to RCO	05/01/2022	
	Recorded Land Survey to RCO	05/01/2022	
	Final Billing Due	05/01/2022	
	Final Report Due	05/15/2022	
	RCO Final Inspection	05/31/2022	
	Agreement End Date	06/30/2022	

Project Sponsor: Whatcom County
Project Title: Squalicum Forestry Conservation Easement

Project Number: 19-1330A
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Standard Terms and Conditions of the Recreation and Conservation Office

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STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS EFFECTIVE DATE

This agreement reflects Standard Terms and Conditions as of 03/06/2020.

CITATIONS, HEADINGS AND DEFINITIONS

- A. Any citations referencing specific documents refer to the current version on the effective date of this Agreement or the effective date of any amendment thereto.
- B. Headings used in this Agreement are for reference purposes only and shall not be considered a substantive part of this Agreement.
- C. Definitions. As used throughout this Agreement, the following terms shall have the meaning set forth below:

acquisition project – A project that purchases or receives a donation of fee or less than fee interests in real property. These interests include, but are not limited to, conservation easements, access/trail easements, covenants, water rights, leases, and mineral rights.

Agreement or project agreement – The document entitled “Recreation and Conservation Office Agreement” accepted by all parties to the present project and transaction, including without limitation the Standard Terms and Conditions of the Recreation and Conservation Office Agreement, all attachments, addendums, and amendments, and any intergovernmental agreements or other documents that are incorporated into the Agreement subject to any limitations on their effect.

applicable manual(s) -- A manual designated in this Agreement to apply as terms of this Agreement, subject to substitution of the “RCO director” for instances where the term “board” occurs.

applicable WAC(s) -- Designated chapters or provisions of the Washington Administrative Code that are deemed under this Agreement to apply as terms of the Agreement, subject to substitution of the “RCO director” for instances where the term “board” occurs.

applicant – Any party that meets the qualifying standards, including deadlines, for submission of an application soliciting a grant of funds administered by RCO.

application – The documents and other materials that an applicant submits to the RCO to support the applicant’s request for grant funds; this includes materials required for the “Application” in the RCO’s automated project information system, and other documents as noted on the application checklist including but not limited to legal opinions, maps, plans, evaluation presentations and scripts.

Authorized Representative/Agent – A Sponsor’s agent (employee, political appointee, elected person, etc.) authorized to be the signatory of this Agreement and any amendments requiring a Sponsor signature. This person has the signature authority to bind the Sponsor to this Agreement, grant, and project.

C.F.R. – Code of Federal Regulations

contractor – An entity that receives a contract from a Sponsor related to performance of work or another obligation under this Agreement.

conversion – A conversion occurs 1) when facilities acquired, developed, renovated or restored within the project area are changed to a use other than that for which funds were approved, without obtaining prior written formal RCO or board approval, 2) when property interests are conveyed to a third party not otherwise eligible to receive grants in the program from which funding was approved without obtaining prior written formal RCO or board approval, or 3) when obligations to operate and maintain the funded property are not complied with after reasonable opportunity to cure.

director – The chief executive officer of the Recreation and Conservation Office or that person’s designee.

effective date – The date when the signatures of all parties to this agreement are present in the agreement.

equipment – Tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful service life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the Sponsor or \$5,000 (2 C.F.R. § 200.33 (2013)).

funding board or board – The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board, or the Washington State Salmon Recovery Funding Board. Or both as may apply.

Funding Entity – the entity that approves the project that is the subject to this Agreement.

grant program – The source of the grant funds received. May be an account in the state treasury, or a grant category within a larger grant program, or a federal source.

long-term compliance period – The period of time after the project end date or end of the period of performance (depending on the project types and grant program). During this period, the Sponsor has continuing obligations under the Agreement. This period may have a nonspecific end date (in perpetuity) or an expressly specified number of years.

long-term obligations – Sponsor's obligations after the project end date, as specified in the Agreement and applicable regulations and policies.

match or matching share – The portion of the total project cost provided by the Sponsor.

milestone – An important event with a defined date to track an activity related to implementation of a funded project and monitor significant stages of project accomplishment.

Office – Means the Recreation and Conservation Office or RCO.

pass-through entity – A non-Federal entity that provides a subaward to a subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal program (2 C. F. R. § 200.74 (2013)). If this Agreement is a federal subaward, RCO is the pass-through entity.

period of performance – The period beginning on the project start date and ending on the project end date.

pre-agreement cost – A project cost incurred before the period of performance.

primary Sponsor – The Sponsor who is not a secondary Sponsor and who is specifically identified in the Agreement as the entity to which RCO grants funds to and authorizes and requires to administer the grant. This administration includes but is not limited to acting as the fiscal agent for the grant (e.g. requesting and accepting reimbursements, submitting reports). Primary Sponsor includes its officers, employees, agents and successors.

project – An undertaking that is, or may be, funded in whole or in part with funds administered by RCO.

project area - A geographic area that delineates a grant assisted site which is subject to project agreement requirements.

project cost – The total allowable costs incurred under this Agreement and all required match share and voluntary committed matching share, including third-party contributions (see also 2 C.F.R. § 200.83 (2013) for federally funded projects).

project end date – The specific date identified in the Agreement on which the period of performance ends, as may be changed by amendment. This date is not the end date for any long-term obligations.

project start date – The specific date identified in the Agreement on which the period of performance starts.

RCO – Recreation and Conservation Office – The state agency that administers the grant that is the subject of this Agreement. RCO includes the director and staff.

reimbursement – RCO's payment of funds from eligible and allowable costs that have already been paid by the Sponsor per the terms of the Agreement.

renovation project – A project intended to improve an existing site or structure in order to increase its useful service life beyond current expectations or functions. This does not include maintenance activities to maintain the facility for its originally expected useful service life.

RCFB – Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

RCW – Revised Code of Washington

secondary Sponsor – One of two or more Sponsors who is not a primary Sponsor. Only the primary Sponsor may be the fiscal agent for the project.

Sponsor – A Sponsor is an organization that is listed in and has signed this Agreement.

Sponsor Authorized Representative/Agent – A Sponsor's agent (employee, political appointee, elected person, etc.) authorized to be the signatory of this Agreement and any amendments requiring a Sponsor signature. This person has the signature authority to bind the Sponsor to this Agreement, grant, and project.

subaward – Funds allocated to the RCO from another organization, for which RCO makes available to or assigns to another organization via this Agreement. Also, a subaward may be an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of any award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a federal or other program. A subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract. Also see 2 C.F.R. § 200.92 (2013). For federal subawards, a subaward is for the purpose of carrying out a portion of a Federal award and creates a federal assistance relationship with the subrecipient (2 C.F.R. § 200.330 (2013)). If this Agreement is a federal subaward, the subaward amount is the grant program amount in the Project Funding Section.

subrecipient – Subrecipient means an entity that receives a subaward. For non-federal entities receiving federal funds, a subrecipient is an entity that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a federal program; but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such program. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other federal awards directly from a federal awarding agency (2 C.F.R. § 200.93 (2013)). If this Agreement is a federal subaward, the Sponsor is the subrecipient.

useful service life – Period during which an asset or property is expected to be useable for the purpose it was acquired, developed, renovated, and/or restored per this Agreement.

WAC – Washington Administrative Code.

PERFORMANCE BY THE SPONSOR

The Sponsor shall undertake the project as described in this Agreement, and in accordance with the Sponsor's proposed goals and objectives described in the application or documents submitted with the application, all as finally approved by the RCO. All submitted documents are incorporated by this reference as if fully set forth herein.

Timely completion of the project and submission of required documents, including progress and final reports, is important. Failure to meet critical milestones or complete the project, as set out in this Agreement, is a material breach of the Agreement.

ASSIGNMENT

Neither this Agreement, nor any claim arising under this Agreement, shall be transferred or assigned by the Sponsor without prior written consent of the RCO.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROJECT

While RCO administers the grant that is the subject of this Agreement, the project itself remains the sole responsibility of the Sponsor. The RCO and Funding Entity (if different from the RCO) undertakes no responsibilities to the Sponsor, or to any third party, other than as is expressly set out in this Agreement. The responsibility for the implementation of the project is solely that of the Sponsor, as is the responsibility for any claim or suit of any nature by any third party related in any way to the project. When a project is Sponsored by more than one entity, any and all Sponsors are equally responsible for the project and all post-completion stewardship responsibilities and long-term obligations unless otherwise stated in this Agreement.

The RCO has no responsibility for reviewing, approving, overseeing or supervising design or construction of the project and leaves such review, approval, oversight and supervision exclusively to the Sponsor and others with expertise or authority. In this respect, the RCO will act only to confirm at a general, lay, and nontechnical level, solely for the purpose of compliance and payment and not for safety or suitability, that the project has apparently been completed as per the Agreement.

INDEMNIFICATION

The Sponsor shall defend, indemnify, and hold the State and its officers and employees harmless from all claims, demands, or suits at law or equity arising in whole or in part from the actual or alleged acts, errors, omissions or negligence in connection with this Agreement (including without limitation all work or activities thereunder), or the breach of any obligation under this Agreement by the Sponsor or the Sponsor's agents, employees, contractors, subcontractors, or vendors, of any tier, or any other persons for whom the Sponsor may be legally liable.

Provided that nothing herein shall require a Sponsor to defend or indemnify the State against and hold harmless the State from claims, demands or suits based solely upon the negligence of the State, its employees and/or agents for whom the State is vicariously liable.

Provided further that if the claims or suits are caused by or result from the concurrent negligence of (a) the Sponsor or the Sponsor's agents, employees, contractors, subcontractors or vendors, of any tier, or any other persons for whom the Sponsor is legally liable, and (b) the State its employees and agents for whom it is vicariously liable, the indemnity obligation shall be valid and enforceable only to the extent of the Sponsor's negligence or the negligence of the Sponsor's agents, employees, contractors, subcontractors or vendors, of any tier, or any other persons for whom the Sponsor may be legally liable.

This provision shall be included in any agreement between Sponsor and any contractors, subcontractor and vendor, of any tier.

The Sponsor shall also defend, indemnify, and hold the State and its officers and employees harmless from all claims, demands, or suits at law or equity arising in whole or in part from the alleged patent or copyright infringement or other allegedly improper appropriation or use of trade secrets, patents, proprietary information, know-how, copyright rights or inventions by the Sponsor or the Sponsor's agents, employees, contractors, subcontractors or vendors, of any tier, or any other persons for whom the Sponsor may be legally liable, in performance of the work under this Agreement or arising out of any use in connection with the Agreement of methods, processes, designs, information or other items furnished or communicated to the State, its agents, officers and employees pursuant to the Agreement. Provided, this indemnity shall not apply to any alleged patent or copyright infringement or other allegedly improper appropriation or use of trade secrets, patents, proprietary information, know-how, copyright rights or inventions resulting from the State's, its agents', officers' and employees' failure to comply with specific written instructions regarding use provided to the State, its agents, officers and employees by the Sponsor, its agents, employees, contractors, subcontractors or vendors, of any tier, or any other persons for whom the Sponsor may be legally liable.

As part of its obligations provided above, the Sponsor specifically assumes potential liability for actions brought by the Sponsor's own employees or its agents against the State and, solely for the purpose of this indemnification and defense, the Sponsor specifically waives any immunity under the state industrial insurance law, RCW Title 51.

The funding board and RCO are included within the term State, as are all other agencies, departments, boards, councils, committees, divisions, bureaus, offices, societies, or other entities of state government.

INDEPENDENT CAPACITY OF THE SPONSOR

The Sponsor and its employees or agents performing under this Agreement are not officers, employees or agents of the RCO or Funding Entity. The Sponsor will not hold itself out as nor claim to be an officer, employee or agent of the RCO or the Funding Entity, or of the state of Washington, nor will the Sponsor make any claim of right, privilege or benefit which would accrue to an employee under RCW 41.06.

The Sponsor is responsible for withholding and/or paying employment taxes, insurance, or deductions of any kind required by federal, state, and/or local laws.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Notwithstanding any determination by the Executive Ethics Board or other tribunal, RCO may, in its sole discretion, by written notice to the Sponsor terminate this Agreement if it is found after due notice and examination by RCO that there is a violation of the Ethics in Public Service Act, RCW 42.52; or any similar statute involving the Sponsor in the procurement of, or performance under, this Agreement.

In the event this Agreement is terminated as provided herein, RCO shall be entitled to pursue the same remedies against the Sponsor as it could pursue in the event of a breach of the Agreement by the Sponsor. The rights and remedies of RCO provided for in this clause shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or this Agreement.

COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW

In implementing the Agreement, the Sponsor shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws (including without limitation all applicable ordinances, codes, rules, and regulations). Such compliance includes, without any limitation as to other applicable laws, the following laws:

- A. **Nondiscrimination Laws.** The Sponsor shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local nondiscrimination laws and/or policies, including but not limited to: the Americans with Disabilities Act; Civil Rights Act; and the Age Discrimination Act. In the event of the Sponsor's noncompliance or refusal to comply with any nondiscrimination law or policy, the Agreement may be rescinded, cancelled, or terminated in whole or in part, and the Sponsor may be declared ineligible for further grant awards from the RCO or Funding Entity. The Sponsor is responsible for any and all costs or liability arising from the Sponsor's failure to so comply with applicable law. Except where a nondiscrimination clause required by a federal funding agency is used, the Sponsor shall insert the following nondiscrimination clause in each contract for construction of this project:

"During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees to comply with all federal and state nondiscrimination laws, regulations and policies."

- B. **Secular Use of Funds.** No funds awarded under this grant may be used to pay for any religious activities, worship, or instruction, or for lands and facilities for religious activities, worship, or instruction. Religious activities, worship, or instruction may be a minor use of the grant supported recreation and conservation land or facility.

- C. **Wages and Job Safety.** The Sponsor agrees to comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies of the United States and the State of Washington or other jurisdiction which affect wages and job safety. The Sponsor agrees when state prevailing wage laws (RCW 39.12) are applicable, to comply with such laws, to pay the prevailing rate of wage to all workers, laborers, or mechanics employed in the performance of any part of this contract, and to file a statement of intent to pay prevailing wage with the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries as required by RCW 39.12.40. The Sponsor also agrees to comply with the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries.
- D. **Archaeological and Cultural Resources.** RCO facilitates the review of applicable projects for potential impacts to archaeological sites and state cultural resources. The Sponsor must assist RCO in compliance with Governor's Executive Order 05-05 or the National Historic Preservation Act before and after initiating ground-disturbing activity or construction, repair, installation, rehabilitation, renovation, or maintenance work on lands, natural resources, or structures. The funding board requires documented compliance with Executive Order 05-05 or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, whichever is applicable to the project. If a federal agency declines to consult, the Sponsor shall comply with the requirements of Executive Order 05-05. In the event that archaeological or historic materials are discovered during project activities, work in the location of discovery and immediate vicinity must stop instantly, the area must be secured, and notification must be provided to the following: concerned Tribes' cultural staff and cultural committees, RCO, and the State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. If human remains are discovered during project activity, work in the location of discovery and immediate vicinity must stop instantly, the area must be secured, and notification provided to the concerned Tribe's cultural staff and cultural committee, RCO, State Department of Archaeology, the coroner and local law enforcement in the most expeditious manner possible according to RCW 68.50.
- E. **Restrictions on Grant Use.** No part of any funds provided under this grant shall be used, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, or for the preparation, distribution, or use of any kit, pamphlet, booklet, publication, radio, television, or video presentation designed to support or defeat legislation pending before the U.S. Congress or any state legislature.
- No part of any funds provided under this grant shall be used to pay the salary or expenses of any Sponsor, or agent acting for such Sponsor, related to any activity designed to influence legislation or appropriations pending before the U.S. Congress or any state legislature.
- F. **Debarment and Certification.** By signing the Agreement with RCO, the Sponsor certifies that neither it nor its principals nor any other lower tier participant are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by Washington State Labor and Industries. Further, the Sponsor agrees not to enter into any arrangements or contracts related to this Agreement with any party that is on Washington State Department of Labor and Industries' "Debarred Contractor List."

RECORDS

- A. **Digital Records.** If requested by RCO, the Sponsor must provide a digital file(s) of the project property and funded project site in a format specified by the RCO.
- B. **Maintenance.** The Sponsor shall maintain books, records, documents, data and other evidence relating to this Agreement and performance of the services described herein, including but not limited to accounting procedures and practices which sufficiently and properly reflect all direct and indirect costs of any nature expended in the performance of this Agreement. Sponsor shall retain such records for a period of six years from the date RCO deems the project complete, as defined in the PROJECT REIMBURSEMENTS Section. If any litigation, claim or audit is started before the expiration of the six (6) year period, the records shall be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved.
- C. **Access to Records and Data.** At no additional cost, the records relating to the Agreement, including materials generated under the Agreement, shall be subject at all reasonable times to inspection, review or audit by RCO, personnel duly authorized by RCO, the Office of the State Auditor, and federal and state officials so authorized by law, regulation or agreement. This includes access to all information that supports the costs submitted for payment under the grant and all findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Sponsor's reports, including computer models and methodology for those models.
- D. **Public Records.** Sponsor acknowledges that the RCO is subject to RCW 42.56 and that this Agreement and any records Sponsor submits or has submitted to the State shall be a public record as defined in RCW 42.56. RCO administers public records requests per WAC 286-06 and 420-04 (which ever applies). Additionally, the Sponsor agrees to disclose any information in regards to the expenditure of that funding as if the project sponsor were subject to the requirements of chapter 42.56 RCW. By submitting any record to the State, Sponsor understands that the State may be requested to disclose or copy that record under the state public records law, currently codified at RCW 42.56. The Sponsor warrants that it possesses such legal rights as are necessary to permit the State to disclose and copy such document to respond to a request under state public records laws. The Sponsor hereby agrees to release the State from any claims arising out of allowing such review or copying pursuant to a public records act request, and to indemnify against any claims arising from allowing such review or copying and pay the reasonable cost of state's

defense of such claims.

PROJECT FUNDING

- A. **Authority.** This Agreement and funding is made available to Sponsor through the RCO.
- B. **Additional Amounts.** The RCO or Funding Entity shall not be obligated to pay any amount beyond the dollar amount as identified in this Agreement, unless an additional amount has been approved in advance by the RCO director and incorporated by written amendment into this Agreement.
- C. **Before the Agreement.** No expenditure made, or obligation incurred, by the Sponsor before the project start date shall be eligible for grant funds, in whole or in part, unless specifically provided for by the RCO director, such as a waiver of retroactivity or program specific eligible pre-Agreement costs. For reimbursements of such costs, this Agreement must be fully executed and an original received by RCO. The dollar amounts identified in this Agreement may be reduced as necessary to exclude any such expenditure from reimbursement.
- D. **After the Period of Performance.** No expenditure made, or obligation incurred, following the period of performance shall be eligible, in whole or in part, for grant funds hereunder. In addition to any remedy the RCO or Funding Entity may have under this Agreement, the grant amounts identified in this Agreement shall be reduced to exclude any such expenditure from participation.

PROJECT REIMBURSEMENTS

- A. **Reimbursement Basis.** This Agreement is administered on a reimbursement basis per WAC 286-13 and/or 420-12, which ever has been designated to apply. Only the primary Sponsor may request reimbursement for eligible and allowable costs incurred during the period of performance. The primary Sponsor may only request reimbursement after (1) this Agreement has been fully executed and (2) the Sponsor has remitted payment to its vendors. RCO will authorize disbursement of project funds only on a reimbursable basis at the percentage as defined in the PROJECT FUNDING Section. Reimbursement shall not be approved for any expenditure not incurred by the Sponsor or for a donation used as part of its matching share. RCO does not reimburse for donations. All reimbursement requests must include proper documentation of expenditures as required by RCO.
- B. **Reimbursement Request Frequency.** The primary Sponsor is required to submit a reimbursement request to RCO, at a minimum for each project at least once a year for reimbursable activities occurring between July 1 and June 30 or as identified in the milestones. Sponsors must refer to the most recent applicable RCO manuals and this Agreement regarding reimbursement requirements.
- C. **Compliance and Payment.** The obligation of RCO to pay any amount(s) under this Agreement is expressly conditioned on strict compliance with the terms of this Agreement and other agreements between RCO and the Sponsor.
- D. **Retainage Held Until Project Complete.** RCO reserves the right to withhold disbursement of the total amount of the grant to the Sponsor until the project has been completed. A project is considered "complete" when:
 - 1) All approved or required activities outlined in the Agreement are done;
 - 2) On-site signs are in place (if applicable);
 - 3) A final project report is submitted to and accepted by RCO;
 - 4) Any other required documents and media are complete and submitted to RCO;
 - 5) A final reimbursement request is submitted to RCO;
 - 6) The completed project has been accepted by RCO;
 - 7) Final amendments have been processed;
 - 8) Fiscal transactions are complete, and
 - 9) RCO has accepted a final boundary map of the project area for which the Agreement terms will apply in the future.

RECOVERY OF PAYMENTS

- A. **Recovery for Noncompliance.** In the event that the Sponsor fails to expend funds under this Agreement in accordance with state and federal laws, and/or the provisions of the Agreement, or meet its percentage of the project total, RCO reserves the right to recover grant award funds in the amount equivalent to the extent of noncompliance in

addition to any other remedies available at law or in equity.

- B. **Overpayment Payments.** The Sponsor shall reimburse RCO for any overpayment or erroneous payments made under the Agreement. Repayment by the Sponsor of such funds under this recovery provision shall occur within 30 days of demand by RCO. Interest shall accrue at the rate of twelve percent (12%) per annum from the time that payment becomes due and owing.

COVENANT AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES

The Sponsor warrants that no person or selling agent has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this Agreement on an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, excepting bona fide employees or bona fide established agents maintained by the Sponsor for the purpose of securing business. RCO shall have the right, in the event of breach of this clause by the Sponsor, to terminate this Agreement without liability or, in its discretion, to deduct from the Agreement grant amount or consideration or recover by other means the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee.

PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS

- A. **Procurement Requirements.** If the Sponsor has, or is required to have, a procurement process that follows applicable state and/or federal law or procurement rules and principles, it must be followed, documented, and retained. If no such process exists, the Sponsor must follow these minimum procedures:

- 1) Publish a notice to the public requesting bids/proposals for the project;
- 2) Specify in the notice the date for submittal of bids/proposals;
- 3) Specify in the notice the general procedure and criteria for selection; and
- 4) Sponsor must contract or hire from within its bid pool. If bids are unacceptable the process needs to be repeated until a suitable bid is selected.
- 5) Comply with the same legal standards regarding unlawful discrimination based upon race, gender, ethnicity, sex, or sex-orientation that are applicable to state agencies in selecting a bidder or proposer.

Alternatively, Sponsor may choose a bid from a bidding cooperative if authorized to do so.

This procedure creates no rights for the benefit of third parties, including any proposers, and may not be enforced or subject to review of any kind or manner by any entity other than the RCO. Sponsors may be required to certify to the RCO that they have followed any applicable state and/or federal procedures or the above minimum procedure where state or federal procedures do not apply.

TREATMENT OF EQUIPMENT AND ASSETS

Equipment shall be used and managed only for the purpose of this Agreement, unless otherwise provided herein or in the applicable manuals, or approved by RCO in writing.

- A. **Discontinued Use.** Equipment obtained under this Agreement shall remain in the possession of the Sponsor for the duration of the project, or RULES of applicable grant assisted program. When the Sponsor discontinues use of the equipment for the purpose for which it was funded, RCO may require the Sponsor to deliver the equipment to RCO, or to dispose of the equipment according to RCO published policies.
- B. **Loss or Damage.** The Sponsor shall be responsible for any loss or damage to equipment.

RIGHT OF INSPECTION

The Sponsor shall provide right of access to the project to RCO, or any of its officers, or to any other authorized agent or official of the state of Washington or the federal government, at all reasonable times, in order to monitor and evaluate performance, long-term obligations, compliance, and/or quality assurance under this Agreement. If a landowner agreement or other form of control and tenure has been executed, it will further stipulate and define the RCO's right to inspect and access lands acquired or developed with this funding assistance.

PREFERENCES FOR RESIDENTS

Sponsors shall not express a preference for users of grant assisted projects on the basis of residence (including preferential reservation, membership, and/or permit systems) except that reasonable differences in admission and other fees may be maintained on the basis of residence. Fees for nonresidents must not exceed twice the fee imposed on residents. Where there is no fee for residents but a fee is charged to nonresidents, the nonresident fee shall not exceed the amount that would be

imposed on residents at comparable state or local public facilities.

PROVISIONS APPLYING TO ACQUISITION PROJECTS

The following provisions shall be in force:

- A. **Evidence of Land Value.** Before disbursement of funds by RCO as provided under this Agreement, the Sponsor agrees to supply documentation acceptable to RCO that the cost of the property rights acquired has been established according to all applicable manuals and RCWs or WACs.
- B. **Evidence of Title.** The Sponsor agrees to provide documentation that shows the type of ownership interest for the property that has been acquired. This shall be done before any payment of financial assistance.
- C. **Legal Description of Real Property Rights Acquired.** The legal description of the real property rights purchased with funding assistance provided through this Agreement (and protected by a recorded conveyance of rights to the State of Washington) shall be delivered to RCO before final payment.
 - 1) **Deed of Right.** The Deed of Right as described in RCO Manual #3 conveys to the people of the state of Washington the right to preserve, protect, access, and/or use the property for public purposes consistent with the funding source and project agreement. Sponsors shall use this document when acquiring real property rights that include the underlying land. This document may also be applicable for those easements where the Sponsor has acquired a perpetual easement for public purposes.
 - 2) **Assignment of Rights.** The Assignment of Rights as described in RCO Manual #3 document transfers certain rights to RCO and the state such as public access, access for compliance, and enforcement. Sponsors shall use this document when an easement or lease is being acquired under this Agreement. The Assignment of Rights requires the signature of the underlying landowner and must be incorporated by reference in the easement document.
 - 3) **Easements and Leases.** The Sponsor may incorporate required language from the Deed of Right or Assignment of Rights directly into the easement or lease document, thereby eliminating the requirement for a separate document. Language will depend on the situation; Sponsor must obtain RCO approval on the draft language prior to executing the easement or lease.
- D. **Real Property Acquisition and Relocation Assistance.** In the event that housing and relocation costs and procedures are required by local, state, tribal, or federal law, or rule; the Sponsor agrees to provide such housing and relocation assistance as a condition of the Agreement and receiving grant funds.
 - 1) **Certification.** The Sponsor shall inspect, investigate, and conduct an environmental audit of the proposed acquisition site for the presence of hazardous substances, as defined in RCW 70.105D.020(13), and certify:
 - a) No hazardous substances were found on the site, or
 - b) Any hazardous substances found have been treated and/or disposed of in compliance with applicable state and federal laws, and the site deemed "clean."
 - 2) **Responsibility.** Nothing in this provision alters the Sponsor's duties and liabilities regarding hazardous substances as set forth in RCW 70.105D.
 - 3) **Hold Harmless.** The Sponsor will defend, protect and hold harmless the State and any and all of its employees and/or agents, from and against any and all liability, cost (including but not limited to all costs of defense and attorneys' fees) and any and all loss of any nature from any and all claims or suits resulting from the presence of, or the release or threatened release of, hazardous substances on the property the Sponsor is acquiring, except to the extent, if any, that the State, its officers and agents caused or contributed to the release. The Funding Entity and RCO are included within the term State, as are all other agencies, departments, boards, councils, committees, divisions, bureaus, offices, societies, or other entities of state government.

LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS OF THE PROJECTS AND SPONSORS

- A. **Perpetuity.** For acquisition, development, and restoration projects, or a combination thereof, unless otherwise allowed by applicable manual, policy, program rules, or this Agreement, or approved in writing by RCO. RCO requires that the project area continue to function as intended after the period of performance in perpetuity.
- B. **Conversion.** The Sponsor shall not at any time convert any real property (including any interest therein) or facility acquired, developed, renovated, and/ or restored pursuant to this Agreement, unless provided for in applicable statutes, rules, and policies. Conversion includes, but is not limited to, putting such property to uses other than those purposes for which funds were approved or transferring such property to another entity without prior approval via a

written amendment to the Agreement. All real property or facilities acquired, developed, renovated, and/or restored with funding assistance shall remain in the same ownership and in public use/access status in perpetuity unless otherwise expressly provided in the Agreement or applicable policy or unless a transfer or change in use is approved by the RCO through an amendment. Failure to comply with these obligations is a conversion. Further, if the project is subject to operation and or maintenance obligations, the failure to comply with such obligations, without cure after a reasonable period as determined by the RCO, is a conversion. Determination of whether a conversion has occurred shall be based upon the terms of this Agreement, including without limitation all WACs and manuals deemed applicable and all applicable laws.

For acquisition projects that are expressly term limited in the Agreement, such as one involving a lease or a term-limited restoration, renovation or development project or easement, the restriction on conversion shall apply only for the length of the term, unless otherwise provided by this Agreement, any applicable manual or WAC, or any applicable state or federal law.

When a conversion has been determined to have occurred, the Sponsor is required to remedy the conversion per this Agreement and the applicable manuals, WACs and laws, and the RCO may pursue such remedies as the above allows.

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

This Agreement is entered into, pursuant to, and under the authority granted by applicable federal and state laws. The provisions of the Agreement shall be construed to conform to those laws. In the event of a direct and irreconcilable conflict between the terms of this Agreement and any applicable statute, rule, or policy or procedure, the conflict shall be resolved by giving precedence in the following order:

- A. Federal law and binding executive orders;
- B. Code of federal regulations;
- C. Terms and conditions of a grant award to the state from the federal government;
- D. Federal grant program policies and procedures adopted by a federal agency that are required to be applied by federal law;
- E. State law (constitution, statute);
- F. Washington Administrative Code;
- G. Applicable RCO manuals.

LIMITATION OF AUTHORITY

Only RCO's Director or RCO's delegate by writing (delegation to be made prior to action) shall have the authority to alter, amend, modify, or waive any clause or condition of this Agreement; provided that any such alteration, amendment, modification, or waiver of any clause or condition of this Agreement is not effective or binding unless made as a written amendment to this Agreement and signed by the RCO Director or delegate.

WAIVER OF DEFAULT

Waiver of any default shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any subsequent default. Waiver or breach of any provision of the Agreement shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any other or subsequent breach and shall not be construed to be a modification of the terms of the Agreement unless stated to be such in writing, signed by the director, or the director's designee, and attached as an amendment to the original Agreement.

APPLICATION REPRESENTATIONS – MISREPRESENTATIONS OR INACCURACY OR BREACH

The Funding Entity (if different from RCO) and RCO relies on the Sponsor's application in making its determinations as to eligibility for, selection for, and scope of, funding grants. Any misrepresentation, error or inaccuracy in any part of the application may be deemed a breach of this Agreement.

SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE

RCO may enforce this Agreement by the remedy of specific performance, which usually will mean completion of the project as described in this Agreement and /or enforcement of long-term obligations. However, the remedy of specific performance shall not be the sole or exclusive remedy available to RCO. No remedy available to the RCO shall be deemed exclusive. The RCO may elect to exercise any, a combination of, or all of the remedies available to it under this Agreement, or under any provision of law, common law, or equity, including but not limited to seeking full or partial repayment of the grant amount paid and

damages.

TERMINATION AND SUSPENSION

The RCO will require strict compliance by the Sponsor with all the terms of this Agreement including, but not limited to, the requirements of the applicable statutes, rules, and RCO policies, and with the representations of the Sponsor in its application for a grant as finally approved by RCO. For federal awards, notification of termination will comply with 2 C.F.R. § 200.340.

A. For Cause.

- 1) The RCO director may suspend or terminate the obligation to provide funding to the Sponsor under this Agreement:
 - a) If the Sponsor breaches any of the Sponsor's obligations under this Agreement;
 - b) If the Sponsor fails to make progress satisfactory to the RCO director toward completion of the project by the completion date set out in this Agreement. Included in progress is adherence to milestones and other defined deadlines; or
 - c) If the primary and secondary Sponsor(s) cannot mutually agree on the process and actions needed to implement the project;
- 2) Prior to termination, the RCO shall notify the Sponsor in writing of the opportunity to cure. If corrective action is not taken within 30 days or such other time period that the director approves in writing, the Agreement may be terminated. In the event of termination, the Sponsor shall be liable for damages or other relief as authorized by law and/or this Agreement.
- 3) RCO reserves the right to suspend all or part of the Agreement, withhold further payments, or prohibit the Sponsor from incurring additional obligations of funds during the investigation of any alleged breach and pending corrective action by the Sponsor, or a decision by the RCO to terminate the Contract.

B. For Convenience. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, RCO may, by ten (10) days written notice, beginning on the second day after the mailing, terminate this Agreement, in whole or in part when it is in the best interest of the state. If this Agreement is so terminated, RCO shall be liable only for payment required under the terms of this Agreement prior to the effective date of termination. A claimed termination for cause shall be deemed to be a "Termination for Convenience" if it is determined that:

- 1) The Sponsor was not in default; or
- 2) Failure to perform was outside Sponsor's control, fault or negligence.

C. Rights of Remedies of the RCO.

- 1) The rights and remedies of RCO provided in this Agreement are not exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law.
- 2) In the event this Agreement is terminated by the director, after any portion of the grant amount has been paid to the Sponsor under this Agreement, the director may require that any amount paid be repaid to RCO for redeposit into the account from which the funds were derived. However, any repayment shall be limited to the extent it would be inequitable and represent a manifest injustice in circumstances where the project will fulfill its fundamental purpose for substantially the entire period of performance and of long-term obligation.

D. Non Availability of Funds. The obligation of the RCO to make payments is contingent on the availability of state and federal funds through legislative appropriation and state allotment. If amounts sufficient to fund the grant made under this Agreement are not appropriated to RCO for expenditure for this Agreement in any biennial fiscal period, RCO shall not be obligated to pay any remaining unpaid portion of this grant unless and until the necessary action by the Legislature or the Office of Financial Management occurs. If RCO participation is suspended under this section for a continuous period of one year, RCO's obligation to provide any future funding under this Agreement shall terminate. Termination of the Agreement under this section is not subject to appeal by the Sponsor.

- 1) **Suspension:** The obligation of the RCO to manage contract terms and make payments is contingent upon the state appropriating state and federal funding each biennium. In the event the state is unable to appropriate such funds by the first day of each new biennium RCO reserves the right to suspend the Agreement, with ten (10) days written notice, until such time funds are appropriated. Suspension will mean all work related to the contract must cease until such time funds are obligated to RCO and the RCO provides notice to continue work.

DISPUTE HEARING

Except as may otherwise be provided in this Agreement, when a dispute arises between the Sponsor and the RCO, which cannot be resolved, either party may request a dispute hearing according to the process set out in this section. Either party's request for a dispute hearing must be in writing and clearly state:

- A. The disputed issues;
- B. The relative positions of the parties;
- C. The Sponsor's name, address, project title, and the assigned project number.

In order for this section to apply to the resolution of any specific dispute or disputes, the other party must agree in writing that the procedure under this section shall be used to resolve those specific issues. The dispute shall be heard by a panel of three persons consisting of one person chosen by the Sponsor, one person chosen by the director, and a third person chosen by the two persons initially appointed. If a third person cannot be agreed on, the persons chosen by the Sponsor and director shall be dismissed and an alternate person chosen by the Sponsor, and one by the director shall be appointed and they shall agree on a third person. This process shall be repeated until a three-person panel is established.

Any hearing under this section shall be informal, with the specific processes to be determined by the disputes panel according to the nature and complexity of the issues involved. The process may be solely based on written material if the parties so agree. The disputes panel shall be governed by the provisions of this Agreement in deciding the disputes.

The parties shall be bound by the decision of the disputes panel, unless the remedy directed by that panel shall be without the authority of either or both parties to perform, as necessary, or is otherwise unlawful.

Request for a disputes hearing under this section by either party shall be delivered or mailed to the other party. The request shall be delivered or mailed within thirty (30) days of the date the requesting party has received notice of the action or position of the other party which it wishes to dispute. The written agreement to use the process under this section for resolution of those issues shall be delivered or mailed by the receiving party to the requesting party within thirty (30) days of receipt by the receiving party of the request.

All costs associated with the implementation of this process shall be shared equally by the parties.

ATTORNEYS' FEES

In the event of litigation or other action brought to enforce contract terms, each party agrees to bear its own attorney fees and costs.

GOVERNING LAW/VENUE

This Agreement shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Washington. In the event of a lawsuit involving this Agreement, venue shall be in Thurston County Superior Court if legally proper; otherwise venue shall be in a county where the project is situated, if venue there is legally proper, and if not, in a county where venue is legally proper. The Sponsor, by execution of this Agreement acknowledges the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Washington.

SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this Agreement are intended to be severable. If any term or provision is illegal or invalid for any reason whatsoever, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the Agreement.

END OF AGREEMENT

This is the end of the agreement.