

**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

FROM: Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Manager 

DATE: November 22, 2024

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 conduct a study to analyze the Musto Marsh and Springsteen Lake sites to obtain information that is important to evaluate their feasibility as water storage projects.

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 people's lives, damage property and infrastructure. Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District recently completed a multi-purpose storage study to investigate the use of water storage to address flood control, instream flow augmentation, and out-of-stream water supply. The WRIA 1 Watershed Management Team recently selected two projects for further study. These projects are Musto Marsh and Springsteen Lake, which are both located in the South Fork watershed. The primary purpose of these projects would be for instream flow augmentation although there could be other benefits.

Funding Amount and Source

This contract in the amount of \$80,000.00, is fully funded through a grant from the Washington Department of Ecology. The FCZD 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.