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**Mark Personius, AICP**  
Director

## Memorandum

**TO:** Honorable Whatcom County Councilmembers  
Honorable Satpal Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive

**THROUGH:** Mark Personius, Director, PDS <sup>WP</sup>

**FROM:** Becky Snijder van Wissenkerke, CEP Administrator

**DATE:** September 2, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Request approval to sign agreement with Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office in order to secure matching funds for the Moors Forestry Conservation Easement through the Conservation Easement Program.

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Whatcom County Conservation Easement Program staff applied to the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) Forestland Preservation grant program in 2020 for several of the Conservation Easement Program applications. The Moors application has been awarded matching funds to contribute towards the purchase of a forestry conservation easement on the Moors property.

This request is to sign a grant agreement to secure funding from RCO. It does not obligate Whatcom County to spend funds. This project will still require Council approval before a forestry conservation easement can be completed.

Moors applied to the Conservation Easement Program in 2019. Authorization to apply for funding assistance for this application was approved by Whatcom County Council on May 5, 2020 through Resolution 2020-014.

### **Request Summary**

Conservation Easement Program Staff request approval for the Executive to sign the Funding Board Project Agreement for project number 20-1585 (Moors Forestry Conservation Easement) to receive matching funds to support acquisition of a forestry conservation easement on the Moors property. This request is to secure funding from RCO and does not obligate Whatcom County to spend funds.

Please contact Conservation Easement Program Administrator Becky Snijder van Wissenkerke at (360)778-5956 with any questions.