



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
P.O. Box 42560 • Olympia, Washington 98501 • (360) 902-1800

DATE: September 15, 2025

TO: K.D. Chapman-See, Director
Office of Financial Management

FROM: Derek I. Sandison, Director *DIS*

SUBJECT: 2026 Supplemental Operating Budget

Attached please find the Department of Agriculture's 2026 Supplemental Operating Budget submittal. This supplemental session we have limited our requests to our highest priority needs to meet core agency activities.

We have one critical pest eradication request and two critical cannabis related maintenance requests focused on protecting human health, along with two placeholder requests. Our top ask continues to be Japanese Beetle eradication in Central Washington (and now SeaTac in King County). The threat to our \$12.8 billion agricultural industry is significant if work is not done to prevent future spread of this pest. While current funding is sufficient for spongy moth eradication, additional resources may be needed if federal support declines or infestations increase. Similarly, our rapid response team in the food safety division is at risk of losing federal funding in 2026, which may require state support to maintain statutory protections for human and animal food supplies.

In addition, we are submitting a capital budget request to replace the aging facility that houses our fruit tree certification lab at Washington State University (WSU), Prosser campus. Building a new lab on the Prosser campus, with industry and local financial support, will provide a long-term, cost-effective solution that ensures continued collaboration and service to Washington's agricultural industry.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit this information and look forward to working with you and your staff in developing the budget recommendation to the Governor.

cc: Matthew Hunter
Jason Ferrante
Natasha Roberts