

Washington State Climate Resilience Strategy

Appendix G:
Related state plans and strategies

Other strategies, plans, and guidance documents that relate to our work.

The Climate Resilience Strategy does not exist in a vacuum. Our work has been informed by our partners across state government through other planning efforts with connections to climate resilience. The documents listed below are examples of existing state-level planning efforts in Washington. Climate resilience is not always the primary focus of these documents, but shows up in the evaluation of risks and identification of strategies and actions. We evaluated and used the information across these state-level plans to assist in identifying remaining climate resilience gaps and needs. In addition to the documents compiled here, agencies also produce a range of guidance and support tools to help individuals, communities, and organizations implement climate informed actions.

The work advanced through the efforts below compliments and strengthens the actions our agencies have proposed through the Climate Resilience Strategy.

** denotes lead coordinating agencies, where multiple agencies are involved in implementing strategies and actions identified in the plan or strategy*

WSDA Climate Resilience Planning (Under development, expected winter 2025)

Focus: Summary of climate impacts facing Washington’s agricultural industry and associated vulnerabilities.

Climate connections: Will connect agricultural partners with data, technical information, and resources to address climate risks and build resilience. The plan includes a synthesis of the relevant science, a review of regional climate plans and reports, and the results of a stakeholder engagement process that included over 400 producers.

Implementation lead: Department of Agriculture

Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan (2024 Addendum)

Focus: Regional chapter of the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan to meet Endangered Species Act requirements. Addendum developed in 2024 to address new challenges and developments in salmon recovery.

Climate connections: Includes new information, strategies, and actions related to climate resilience and adaptation.

Implementation lead: Puget Sound Partnership, supported by local partners (watershed leads).

Statewide Kelp and Eelgrass Health and Conservation Plan (2023)

Focus: Conservation and restoration of at least 10,000 acres of kelp forest and eelgrass meadow habitat by 2040 in Puget Sound and the Pacific coast.

Climate connections: Climate change impacts are a factor considered in identifying priority habitats and areas of high vulnerability.

Implementation lead: Department of Natural Resources

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Plan (2023)

Focus: Statewide priorities and goals to address outdoor recreation and public lands conservation challenges.

Climate connections: Includes goals, strategies and actions designed to address climate change impacts on public recreation, specifically grant evaluation criteria, data and technical assistance.

Implementation lead: Recreation and Conservation Office and Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

Washington State Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan (2023)

Focus: Profiles hazards, identifies risks and vulnerabilities, and proposes strategies and actions to reduce risks to our communities and critical assets.

Climate connections: Examines hazards that are exacerbated by climate change such as wildfires, droughts, and flooding. Provides detailed goals and strategies to help reduce risks.

Implementation lead: Emergency Management Division*

Puget Sound Action Agenda (2022-2026)

Focus: Coordinating document for Puget Sound Recovery.

Climate connections: The 2022-2026 Action Agenda includes new strategies and actions related to incorporating climate resilience and adaptation into recovery goals and efforts.

Implementation lead: Puget Sound Partnership

State Energy Strategy (2021)

Focus: Policies and actions necessary to achieve the state's greenhouse gas limits and transition to 100% clean energy.

Climate connections: Addresses decarbonization pathways for major energy sectors, including transportation, electricity, industry, buildings and communities.

Implementation lead: Department of Commerce

Governor's Salmon Strategy Update (2021)

Focus: Ensure healthy, resilient salmon, steelhead and trout runs in the future and restore them to harvestable levels across the state.

Climate connections: Includes a section on strategies needed to build climate resiliency for salmon recovery.

Implementation lead: Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (Recreation Conservation Office)*

Washington Forest Action Plan (2020)

Focus: A coordinated effort to improve the health of Washington's forests. Enables the U.S. Forest Service to provide the state with funding to support forest health.

Climate connections: Identifies climate change as a major threat to forest health and identifies management strategies to support climate resilience.

Implementation lead: Department of Natural Resources

State Wildlife Action Plan (2015)

Focus: Statewide plan focused on conserving Washington’s fish, wildlife, and habitats.

Climate connections: Identifies the climate change vulnerability of various species and habitats. The plan will be updated in 2025 with a greater focus on climate resilience.

Implementation lead: Department of Fish and Wildlife

Ocean Acidification: From Knowledge to Action – Washington State’s Strategic Response (2012) and 2017 Addendum

Focus: Comprehensive strategy to address root causes of ocean acidification, build scientific understanding and increase resilience to changing conditions.

Climate connections: Excess atmospheric carbon dioxide emissions by humans are the primary cause of ocean acidification, therefore this is a key climate change impact on Washington’s marine waters.

Implementation lead: Governor’s Marine Resources Advisory Council

Chehalis Basin Strategy (2012)

Focus: Collection of actions to reduce flood risks and hazards and promote healthy fish habitat throughout the Chehalis River Basin.

Climate connections: The strategy is informed by climate projections to ensure actions under the strategy consider future impacts.

Implementation lead: Department of Ecology

Yakima Basin Integrated Plan (2012)

Focus: Comprehensive water planning document that identifies solutions to water availability challenges in the Yakima basin for people, farms, and fish.

Climate connections: Uses climate projects to inform water solution identification and the implementation of actions under the plan.

Implementation lead: Department of Ecology

Climate Impacts Vulnerability Assessment (2011)

Focus: Statewide assessment of state-owned transportation infrastructure and its vulnerability to climate change impacts.

Climate connections: Aids the Department of Transportation in identifying strategies to reduce risks to its transportation assets.

Implementation lead: Department of Transportation