

Climate Action Plan & Vulnerability Assessment

2019-2020



TOPICS FOR OCTOBER 3 MEETING



- Introduce Cascadia team
- Overview of project timeline & Committee meetings
- Current status & next steps
- Introduction to Vulnerability Assessment & focus areas

CASCADIA'S PROJECT TEAM



◀ Christy Shelton, Project Manager

Emily Wright, Climate Vulnerability & Adaptation Lead ▶



◀ Britain Richardson, GHG Inventory & Mitigation Lead

Andrea Martin, Strategic Advisor ▶



Additional staff for research, editing, design, etc.



PROJECT OVERVIEW



A. GHG Inventory (2017) & BAU Forecast

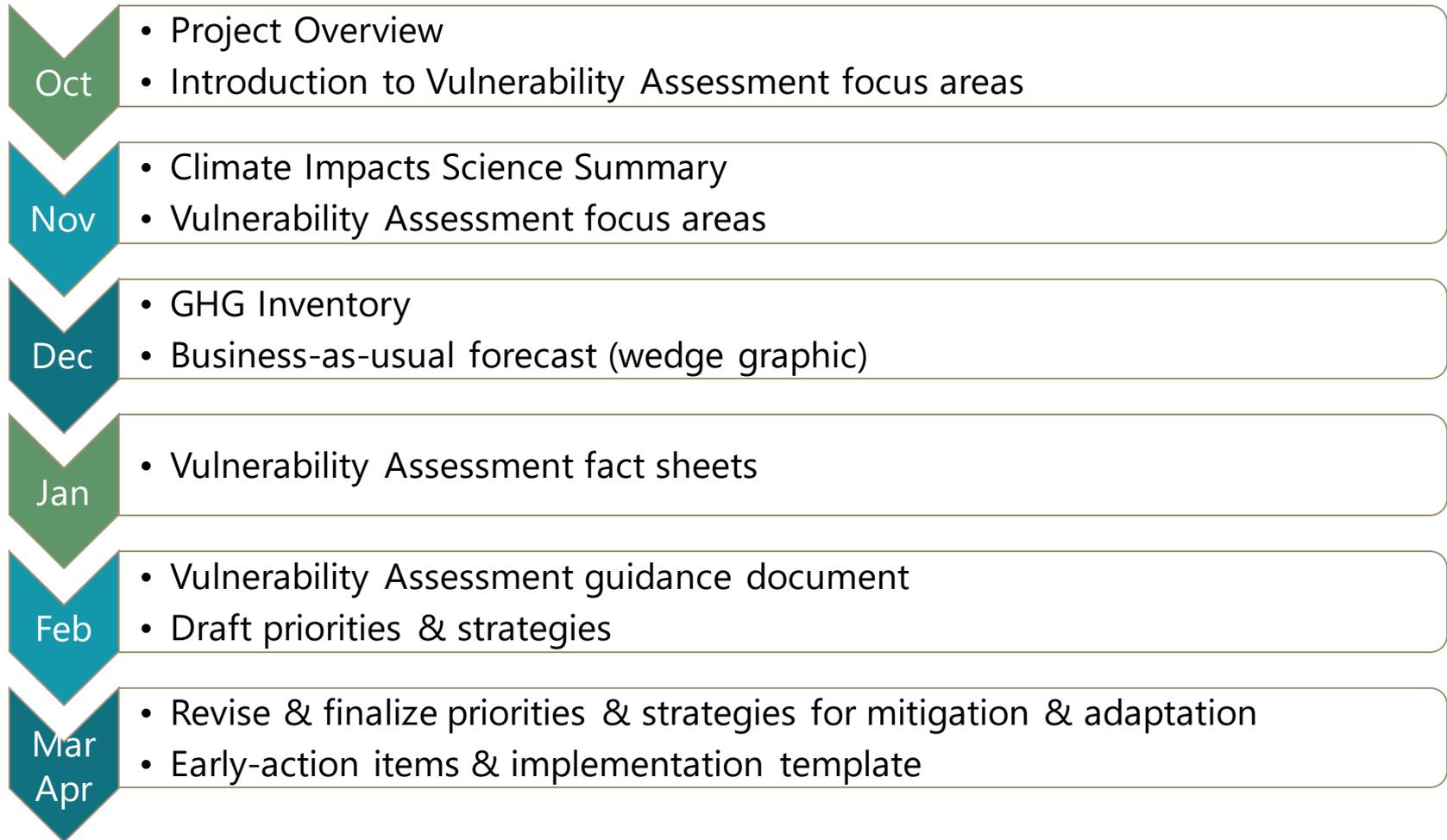


B. Climate Vulnerability Assessment,
Fact Sheets & Guidance Document



C. Review Implementation Status of 2007 CAP;
Prioritize Strategies for Mitigation & Adaptation

PROJECT TIMELINE



CURRENT STATUS & NEXT STEPS



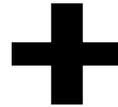
- **GHG Inventory** development in progress
 - Data Collection checklist
 - Gathering data from County and external sources
 - Compiling inventory data
- **Climate Vulnerability Assessment** initiated
 - Preparing Climate Impacts Science Summary
 - Introduction to potential focus areas
- **November 7 Committee** meeting
 - Climate Impacts Science Summary
 - Four focus areas for Climate Vulnerability Assessment

VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT PROCESS



Exposure Analysis

Determine whether a system (e.g. resource, population,) is physically located in an area that would experience climate change impacts.



Sensitivity Analysis

Evaluate the degree to which a system would be affected by climate change impacts.



Adaptive Capacity

Assess the ease with which the County and community can prepare for climate change impacts by taking actions that reduce exposure or sensitivity.

Vulnerability Assessment

Combine the analyses and categorize sectors, resources, and communities in the County by their vulnerability level.

POTENTIAL FOCUS AREAS

Goal is to choose **4 focus areas**, but this list can be grouped into umbrella categories.

- Critical areas and ecosystems
- Fish and wildlife habitats
- Parks, trees, and open spaces
- Transportation and mobility
- Housing, building, and development
- Health, safety, and wellbeing
- Energy utility
- Stormwater system and surface water quality
- Drinking water supply and quality
- Marine shoreline
- Forest health and wildfire
- Agriculture and ranchlands
- Recreation and tourism
- Waste and materials

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **What information is most needed at this time to inform planning decisions in the next 5 years?**
 - If a significant planning effort is currently underway for a particular sector, this type of information could have a powerful impact on informing that plan.
- **What major investments are planned or being considered?**
 - For instance, if the County intends to invest heavily in new transportation infrastructure, this information could help guide how those investments are made so they are worthwhile and support resilience to climate impacts.
- **What are the local priorities?**
 - For instance, some jurisdictions have a strong focus on health and equity with climate change, so a fact sheet focused on health and wellbeing aids decision-making.
- **What are the pillars of the local economy and society?**
 - Assessing the vulnerability of key industries of the local economy to climate impacts can help identify needs and opportunities to build economic resilience.

DEFINITIONS

Vulnerability is a function of exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity. High, medium, and low ratings depend on the specific sector being assessed. Examples are listed below.

Term	Definition	High	Medium	Low
Exposure	Whether a system (e.g. resource, population,) is physically located in an area that would experience climate change impacts. May be quantified in terms of portion of system and value of assets.	>75% of the resource or population is in an area will experience impacts	25-75% of the resource or population is in an area that will experience impacts	<25% of the resource or population is in an area will experience impacts
Sensitivity	The degree to which a system would be affected by climate change impacts.	Significant adverse effects from small changes in climate	Significant adverse effects from large changes in climate	Limited adverse effects, even for large changes in climate
Adaptive Capacity	The ease with which the County and community can prepare for climate change impacts by taking actions that reduce exposure or sensitivity. May be quantified in terms of the cost to adapt.	Adverse effects can be reduced for a low cost*	Adverse effects can be reduced for a moderate cost*	Adverse effects can be reduced for a high cost*

* = relative to other systems or relative to other parts of the system