



Washington State Climate Resilience Strategy

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Goals for today

- Provide an overview of the newly published strategy.
- Highlight relevant actions focused on water resilience.
- Chart our next steps for implementation.

What does the strategy do?

- Outlines 8 strategies to focus agency efforts on the most pressing impacts of climate change.
- Identifies clear, specific actions that agencies will take to build resilience.
- Centers the highest priority needs facing communities, infrastructure, and natural and working lands.



Why create a strategy?



Key climate stressors



Reduced water
availability/drought



Marine and
coastal changes



Flooding



Extreme heat



Wildfire
and smoke

Climate strategy goals



Community



Infrastructure



Natural and
working lands



Governance

Washington's eight climate resilience strategies

1. Coordinate how to best implement the strategy across state agencies.

Stressors addressed:



2. Plan for, respond to, and recover from climate-driven hazards and emergencies.

Stressors addressed:



3. Support tribes, local governments, and communities with technical assistance, guidance, and best practices.

Stressors addressed:



4. Support the vitality and viability of working lands under a changing climate through research, technical assistance, and incentives.

Stressors addressed:



Washington's eight climate resilience strategies

5. Reduce existing sources of pollution that exacerbate climate impacts.

Stressors addressed:



6. Implement innovative water conservation and management initiatives to ensure reliable and sufficient water for people, ecosystems, wildlife, and fish.

Stressors addressed:



7. Plan and invest in infrastructure and state assets to minimize vulnerability to climate impacts, maintain levels of service, improve performance and condition, increase equity, and promote nature-based solutions.

Stressors addressed:



8. Improve land management and restoration practices to help ecosystems, habitats, and species adapt to changing climate conditions.

Stressors addressed:



Relevant Actions led by Ecology

- **Action 6A:** Local drought preparedness program.
- **Action 6B:** Walla Walla Water 2050 strategic plan implementation.
- **Action 6F:** Irrigation efficiencies.
- **Action 6H:** Data sharing to support water management.

Ecology has submitted budget requests to implement these actions. Action by the Governor and Legislature is needed to fund this work.



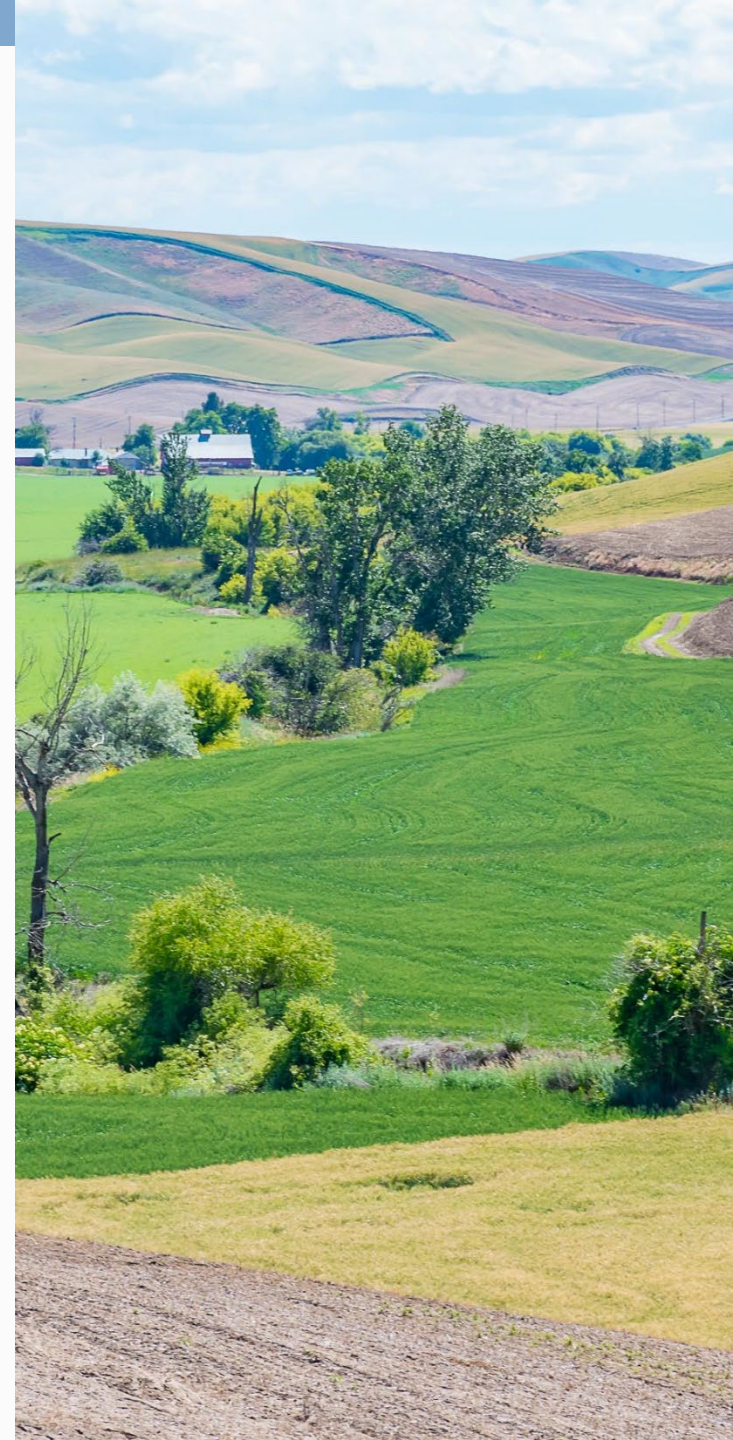
Relevant Actions led by Ecology

- **Action 6A:** Local drought preparedness program.
- Ecology will establish permanent funding for the drought planning and preparedness grant program.



Relevant Actions led by Ecology

- **Action 6B:** Walla Walla Water 2050 strategic plan implementation.
- Ecology will implement prioritized long- and short-term recommendations in the strategic plan.



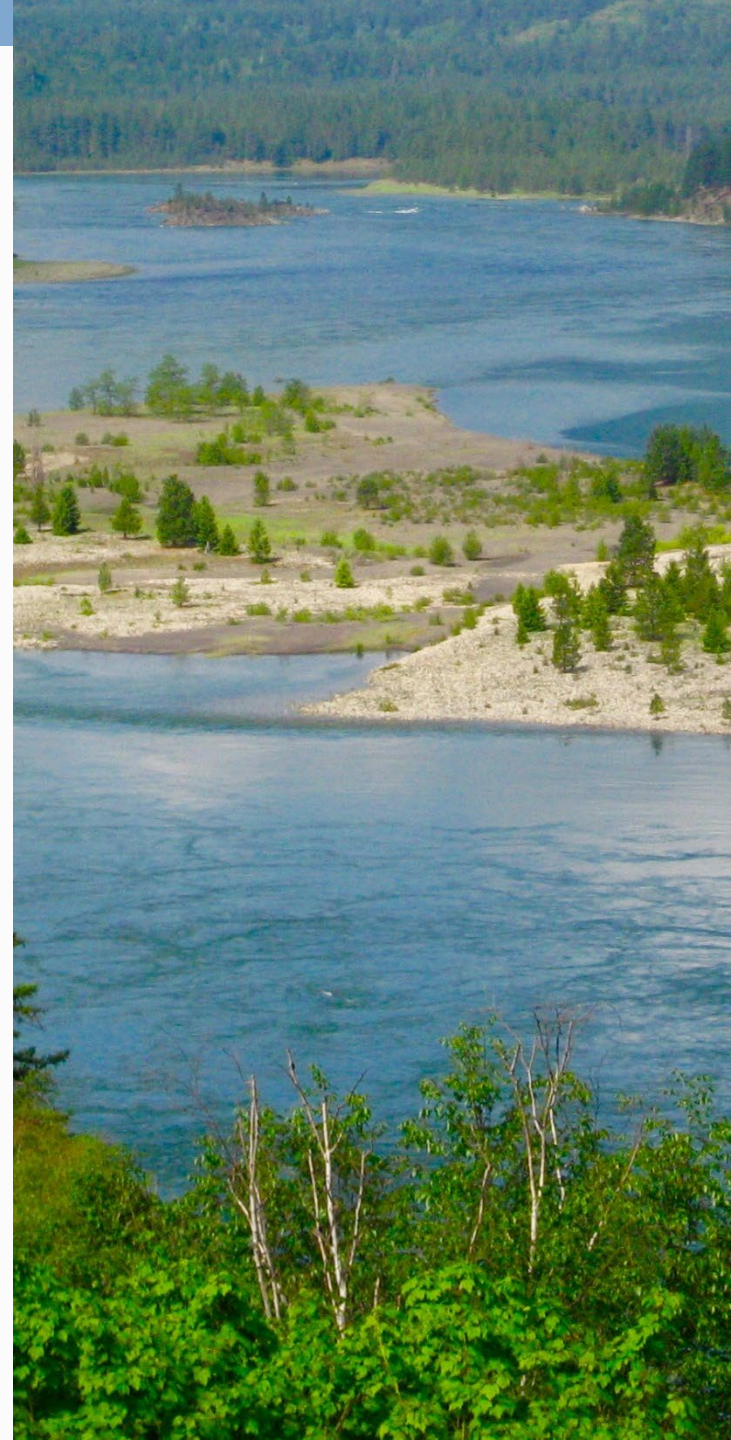
Relevant Actions led by Ecology

- **Action 6F:** Irrigation efficiencies.
- Ecology will pursue incentives for irrigators that convert from gravity irrigation systems to pump-based ones.
- Ecology will expand capacity to monitor water rights of agricultural users to promote compliance and better understand resource use.



Relevant Actions led by Ecology

- **Action 6H:** Data sharing to support water management.
- Ecology will work with other agencies to identify available water resources data, barriers to data sharing, and opportunities to improve coordination across state government.



What's next?

- Ecology has proposed agency request legislation to support strategy implementation.
- Agencies have submitted decision packages to support the majority of actions identified in the strategy.
- The first progress report is due in Sept. 2025, and the first update will come in 2028.

Questions?

- Visit our website to read the strategy and learn more.
- www.ecy.wa.gov/climate-strategy



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