

Special Session: Developing climate-smart strategies to conserve species and habitats through vulnerability assessments

Tribal Perspective

8th Annual Northwest Climate Conference
October 10, 2017

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Yakama Nation



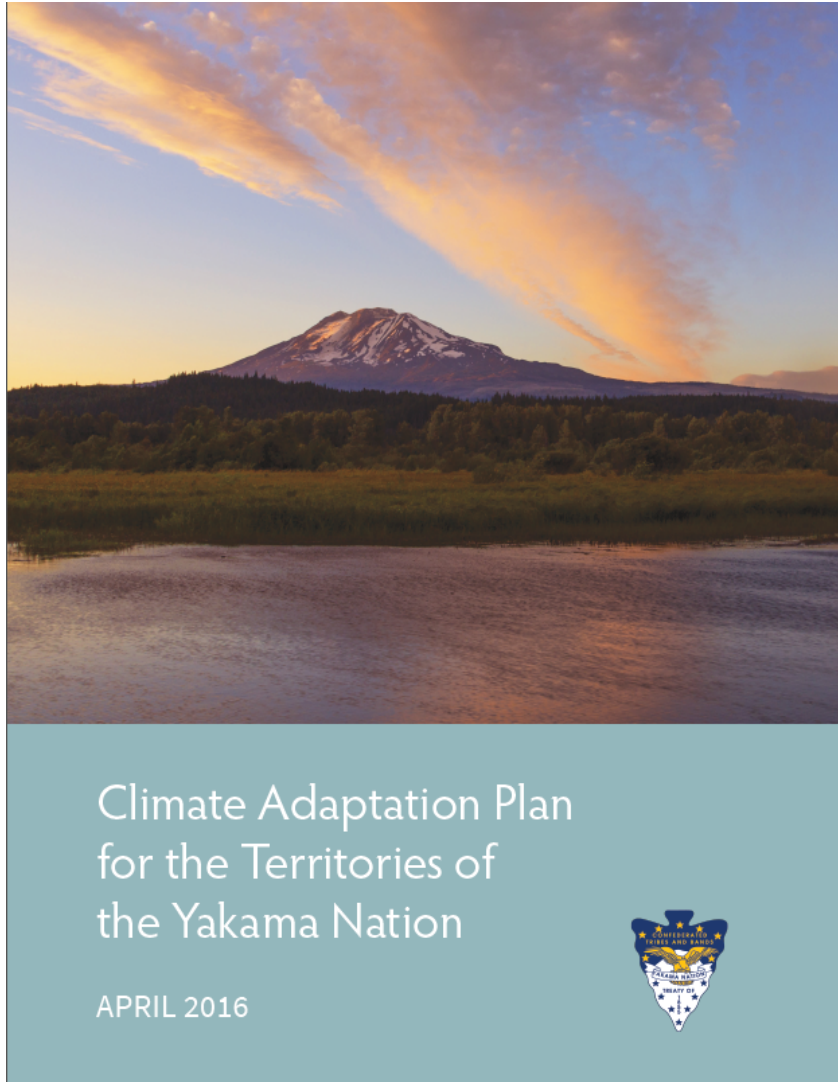
Yakama Nation Approach to Climate Planning

Phase 1: Climate Adaptation Plan for the Territories of the Yakama Nation, v1.
April 2016

Phase 2: Vulnerability and Risk Assessments -> Action Plan.
draft March 2018
final September 2018

Phase 3: Implementation, Monitoring and additional Planning
for future actions.

Phase 1: Climate Adaptation Plan completed in April, 2016.



The CAP provides tribal context.

Describes potential climate change impacts.

Describes activities and general direction for each of the following “Sectors”.

Community Resources

Health and Public Safety
Tribal Infrastructure
Lands and Agriculture

Environmental Resources

Forestry
Fisheries
Shrub-Steppe and Rangelands
Wildlife and Vegetation
Toxics

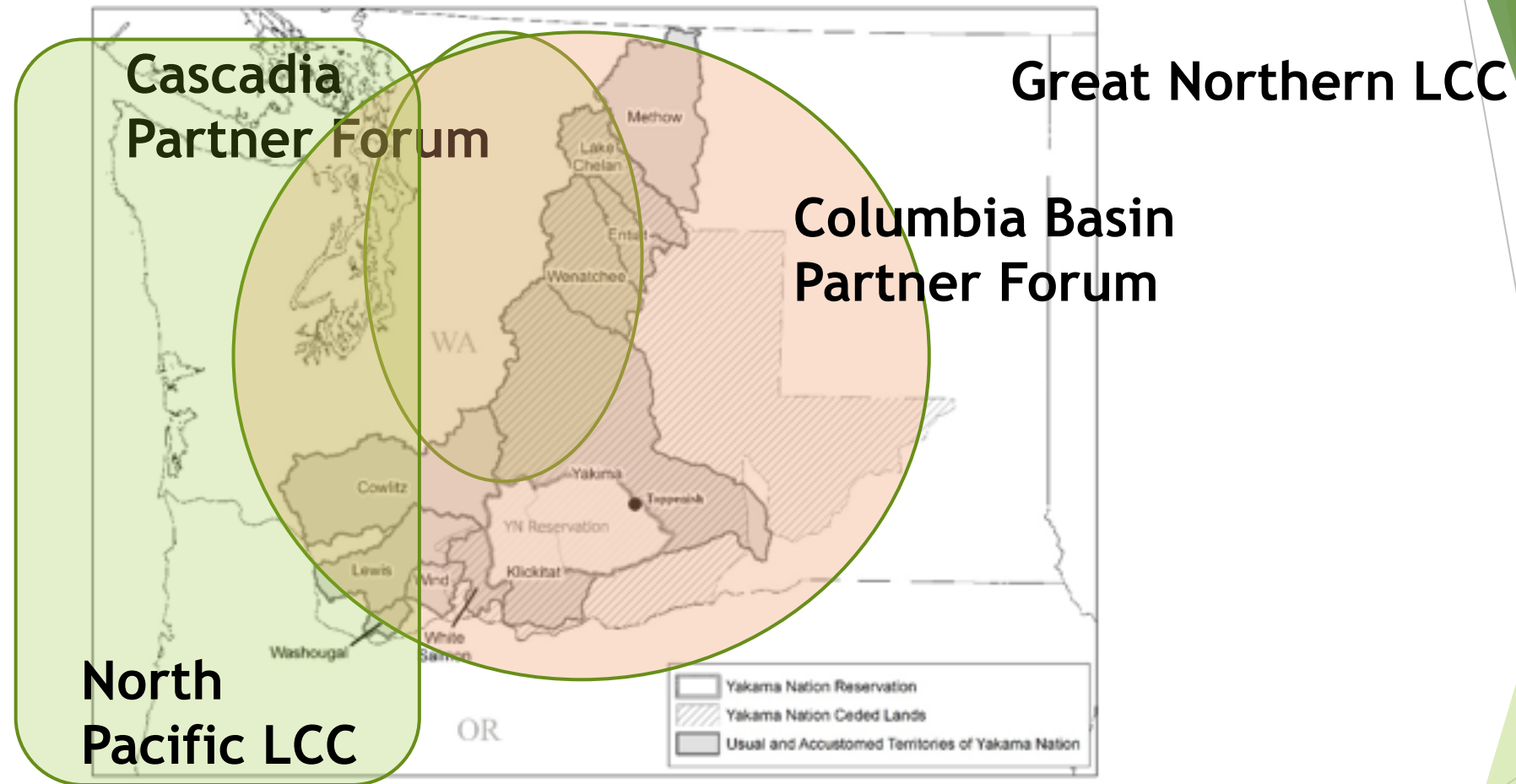
Phase 2: Yakama Nation Climate Action Plan.

Scope of Work on Technical Needs - but effort directed towards:

- ▶ Emphasis on **Foreseeable Actions**.
- ▶ Emphasis on **Federal Responsibilities** towards tribal interests.
- ▶ Recognition of need for more **technical information**.
- ▶ Need Vulnerability Assessments to direct **actions**.

Coordination and Collaboration Needs:

- ▶ Can't be developed in a vacuum
- ▶ Need consistency across Yakama territories
- ▶ Rely on existing assessments and information
- ▶ Work with Co-managers



Map 1. The territories of the Yakama Nation, including the ceded lands and the Yakama Nation reservation.

Many shared interests and shared resources.

The Yakama Nation shares resource interests with others actively trying to figure out how best to proceed in light of climate change.

Lots of land - lots of issues. But lots of technical support.

Technical folks are trying to figure out overlap and efficiencies - be difficult and not very successful yet.

Many other tribes are engaged - but all of us are having difficulty getting our arms and mind around it.

GNLCC Webinar: A three-step decision support framework for taking climate adaptation actions

Presenter: Molly Cross, Wildlife Conservation Society

Co-authors: Regan Nelson, Crown of the Continent Conservation Initiative; Lara Hansen, EcoAdapt; Gary Tabor, Center for Large Landscape Conservation



Step 1.

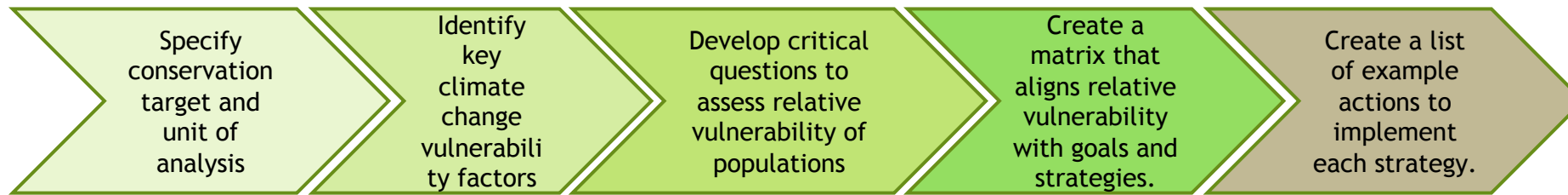
Identify key vulnerabilities at the species scale and create questions to help ranking individual populations within the range of possibilities

Step 2.

Identify range of strategies for a species based on key vulnerabilities

Step 3.

Apply Steps 1 and 2 to create vulnerability assessments for individual populations



Based primarily on existing information

Partners apply framework for their species of interest to support individual Climate Strategy and Action Plans (Tactics)

Columbia Basin Partner Forum

Attendees at February 2017 meeting:

US Geological Survey
US Fish and Wildlife Service
US Environmental Protection
Agency

Oregon Department of Fish and
Wildlife

Washington Department of Fish and
Wildlife

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish
Commission

Upper Snake River Tribes

Yakama Nation Fisheries

Nez Perce Tribe

Walker River Paiute Tribe

Northwest Power and Conservation
Council

Great Northern LCC

North Pacific LCC

WA Invasive Species Council

Wildlife Conservation Society

Center for Large Landscape
Conservation

Northwest Tribal Climate Change

Network - University of Oregon

Climate Impacts Group - University
of Washington

Great opportunity for collaboration

Commitments to collaboratively develop decision frameworks for the following species:

Pacific lamprey

Steelhead

Bull trout

Aquatic invertebrates

Pygmy rabbit

Canada lynx

Grizzly bear

Wolverine

Bald eagle

Sage grouse

White-headed woodpecker

Huckleberries

Black cottonwood

- All of these are underway, many of them are almost complete, several are complete
- A face to face CBPF meeting would encourage finalization

Next Steps:

Complete Decision Frameworks for focal species

Apply frameworks to create Species Action Plans with supporting Vulnerability Assessments

Integrate Species Action Plans to create habitat/landscape scale Climate Action Plans

Complete Yakama Nation Climate Action in September 2018

*We do not forget why we
are doing this....*

Questions and Discussion

