

# Tsleil-Waututh Nation COMMUNITY CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE PLAN

Sarah Dal Santo, RPP, MCIP, Tsleil-Waututh Nation  
Robin Hawker, RPP, MCIP, Kerr Wood Leidal

Supported with funding from:

**Canada**  
Crown-Indigenous  
Relations and Northern  
Affairs Canada



Tsleil-Waututh Nation  
PEOPLE OF THE INLET



# Outline



- 1. About Tsleil-Waututh Nation**
- 2. About the Project**
  - Phase 1: Vulnerability Assessment
  - Phase 2: Resilience Plan
- 3. Lessons Learned**



# Tsleil-Waututh Nation: *People of the Inlet*





# Climate Change Impacts Today



Cedar die-back; Wildfire smoke



Changing ocean conditions (e.g. temp., pH, salinity) + urban water quality issues



Flooding at creek crossings



Coastal storms & flooding



Coastal erosion



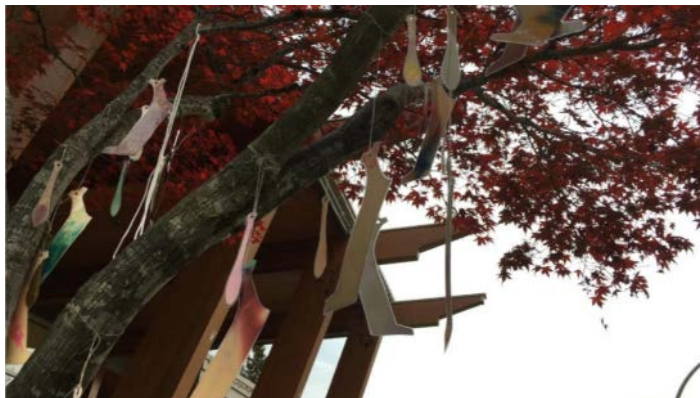
# Culture of Environmental Stewardship



Climate Change Summit  
*Summer 2018*



High Efficiency New  
Administration Bldg



Youth & Community  
Art Project



Community Shellfish  
Restoration



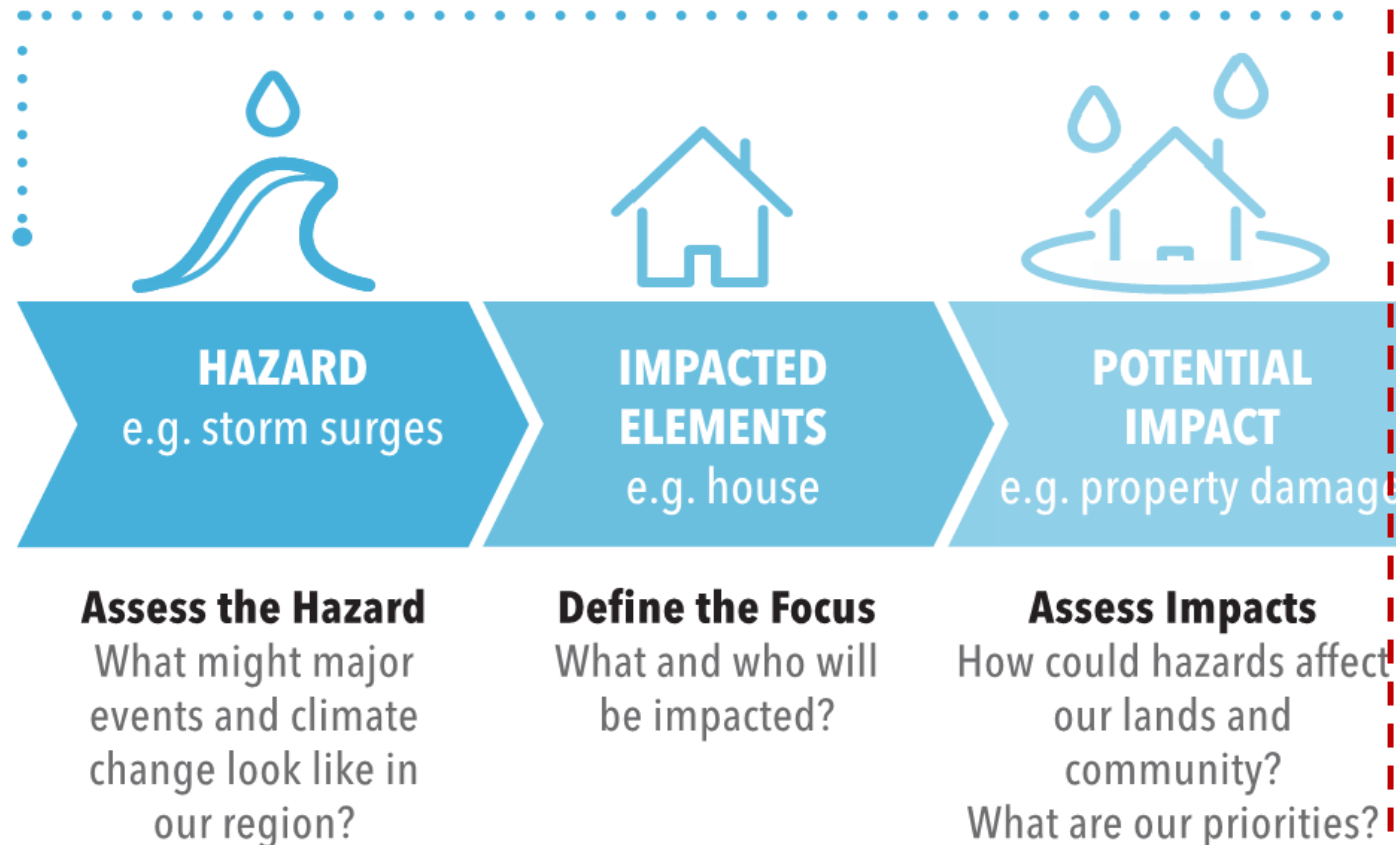
Burrard Inlet Action Plan  
October 2017



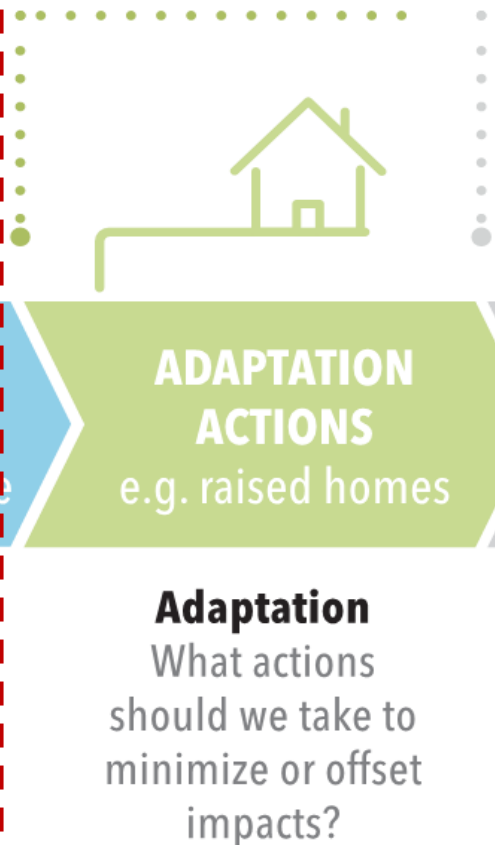
Community Solar  
Panel

# About the Project

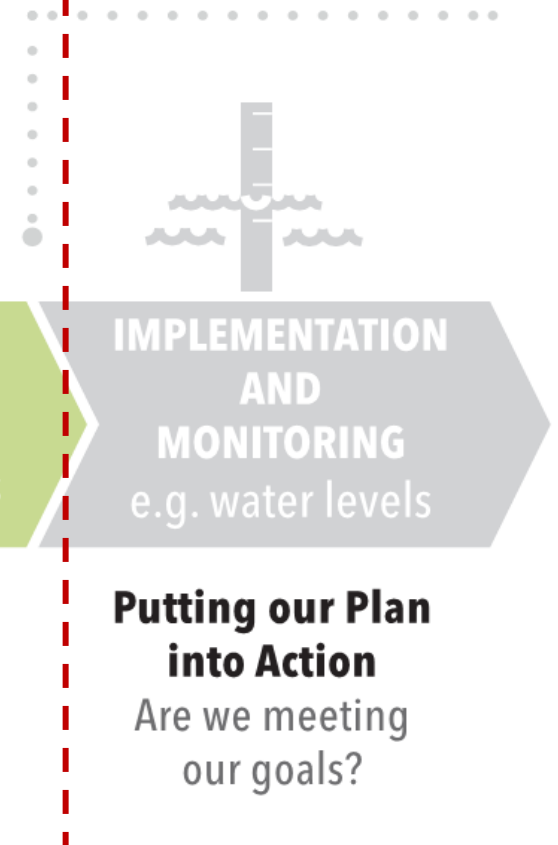
## Vulnerability Assessment Phase 1



## Action Plan Phase 2



## Implementation Phase 3



# Project Approach

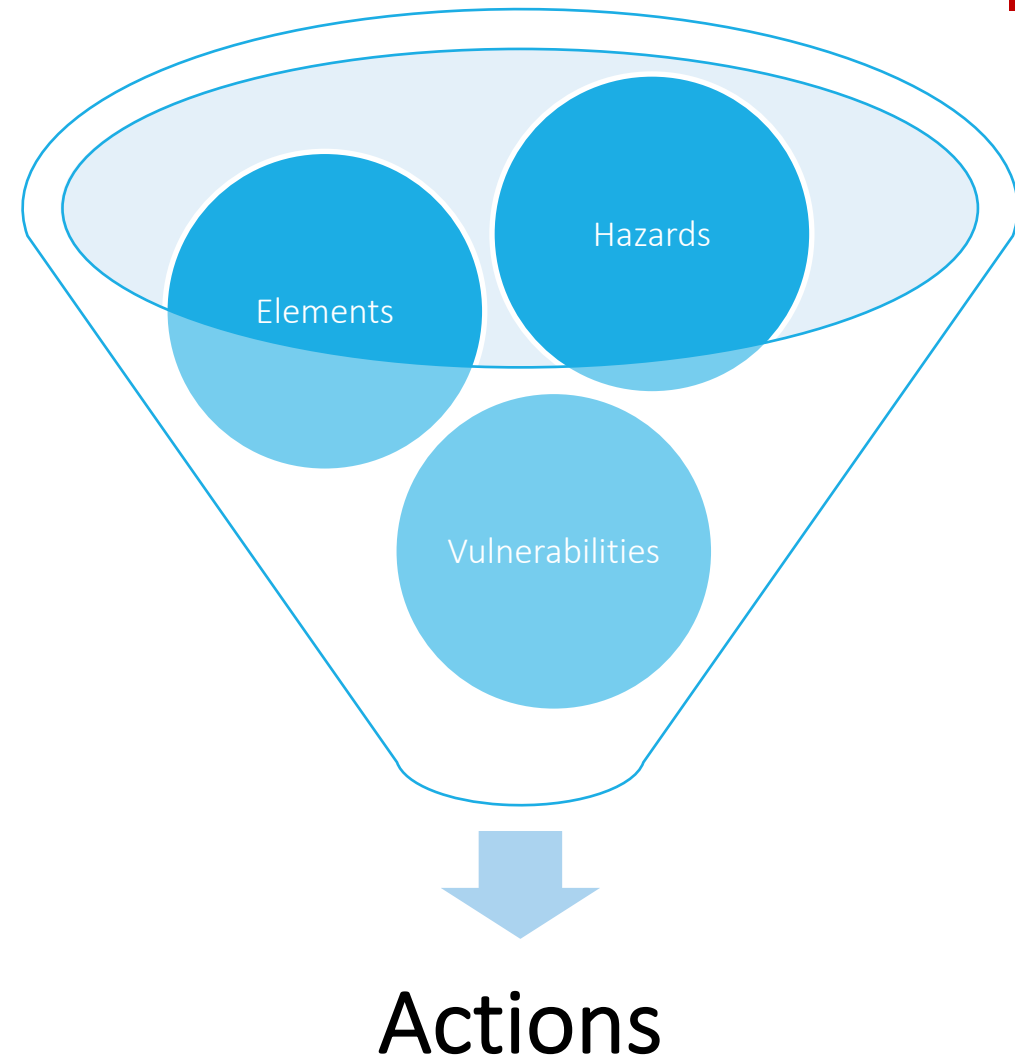
## Phase 1 – Defining Hazards & Elements

Screening Assessment

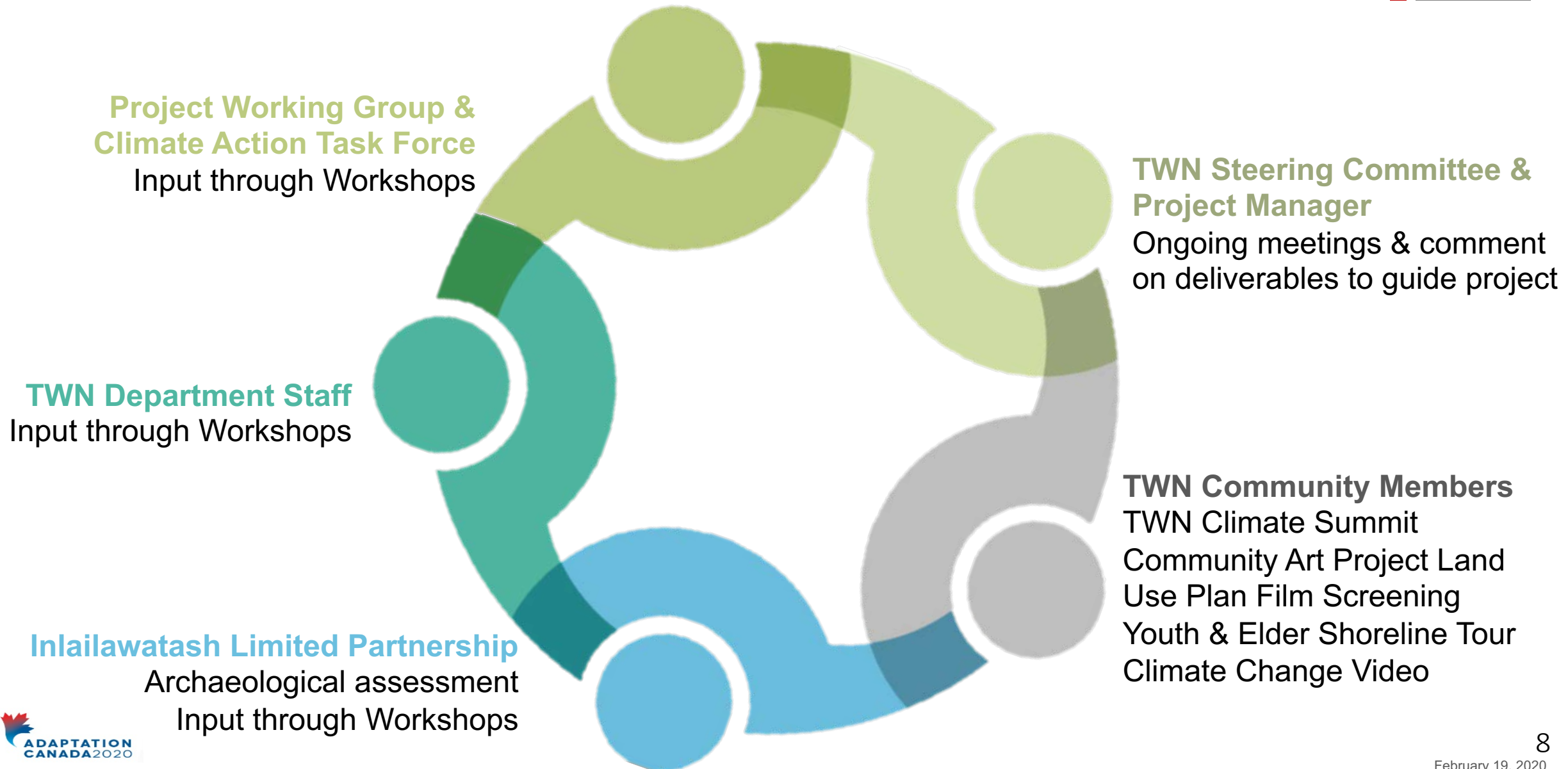
Detailed Hazard & Vulnerability  
Assessment

## Phase 2 – Setting a Vision & Goals

“Long-List” & Priority Actions



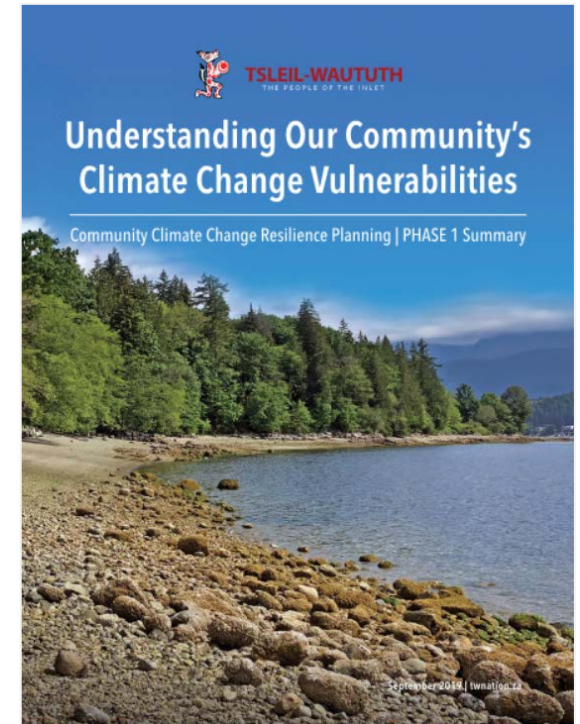
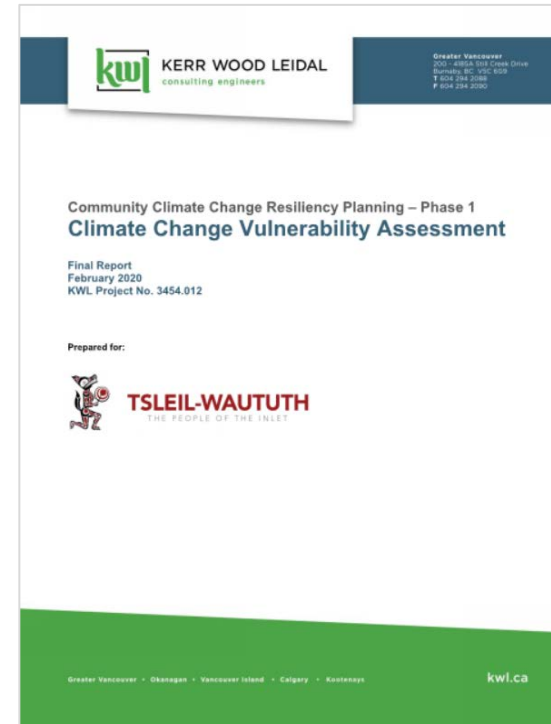
# Values-Base Approach: *Guiding the Methodology*





# PHASE 1: *Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment*

- What are the **climate change hazards** that will potentially impact the TWN community?
- What **aspects of the community (“elements”)** should the vulnerability assessment focus on?
- What are **our most vulnerable elements**?



Step 1  
Hazard Assessment

Step 2  
Define Elements

Step 3  
Vulnerability Assessment

Step 1  
Hazard Assessment

Step 2  
Define Elements

Step 3  
Vulnerability Assessment

Analytical Assessment



COASTAL  
FLOODING



COASTAL  
EROSION



INTERTIDAL  
AREA CHANGE



CREEK  
FLOODING



CREEK  
EROSION



URBAN  
FLOODING

Literature Review Assessment



WILDFIRE



EXTREME  
HEAT



INVASIVE  
SPECIES



OTHER OCEAN  
HAZARDS



OCEAN  
ACIDIFICATION



HARMFUL  
ALGAL BLOOMS



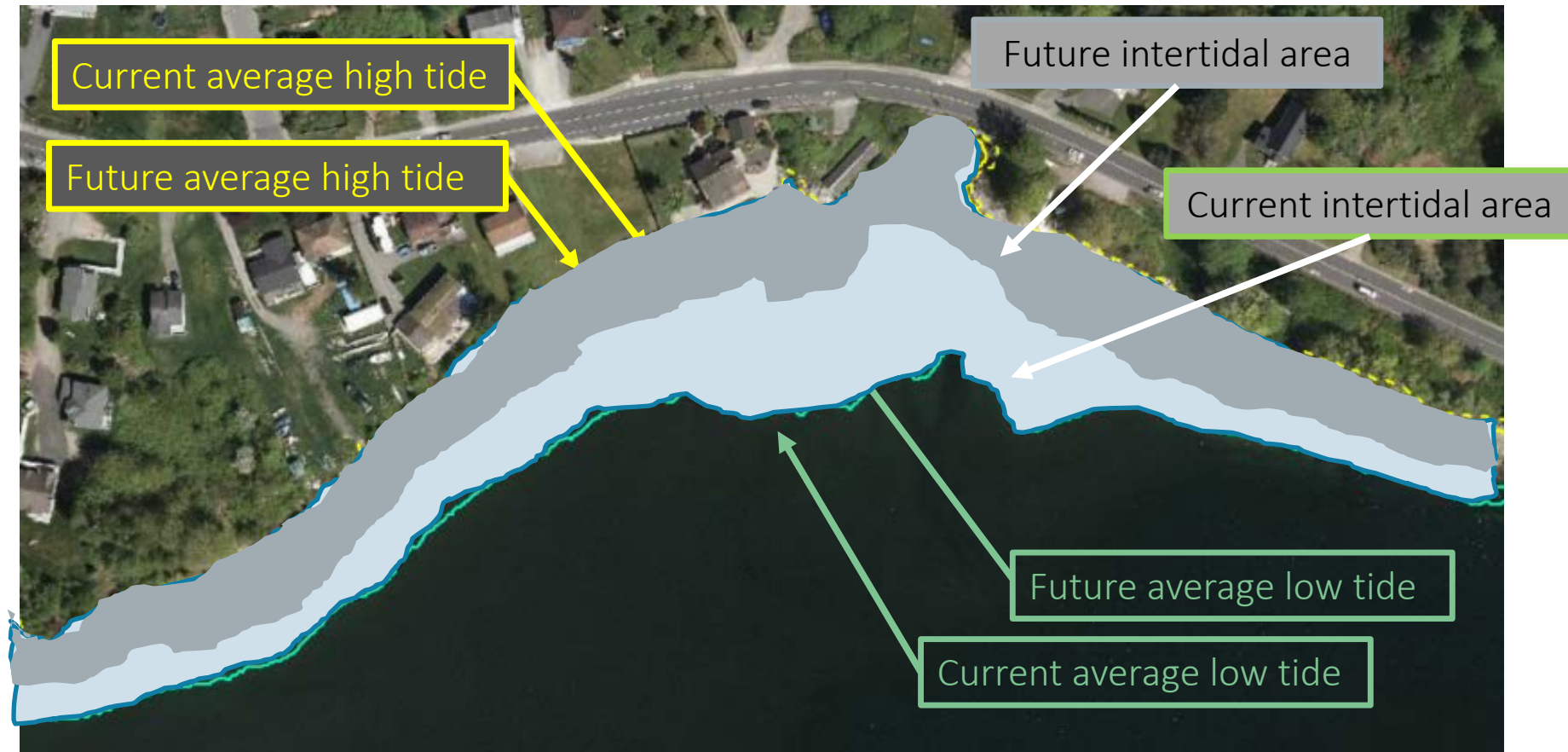
VECTOR-BORNE  
DISEASE



Step 1  
Hazard Assessment

Step 2  
Define Elements

Step 3  
Vulnerability Assessment





Total estimated net intertidal area change: -20% (16 ha)



Step 1  
Hazard Assessment

Step 2  
Define Elements

Step 3  
Vulnerability Assessment



**Ecological Systems**  
(e.g., impacts to shellfish  
and beaches)



**Land Use & Real Estate**  
(e.g., community housing  
and buildings)



**Infrastructure &  
Community Services**  
(e.g., water infrastructure  
and emergency services)



**Economy**  
(e.g., employment and  
business assets)



**Community &  
Cultural Health**  
(e.g., physical health and  
well-being)



**Archaeological & Cultural  
Heritage Sites**  
(e.g., archaeological sites  
and community cemetery)



Step 1  
Hazard Assessment

Step 2  
Define Elements

Step 3  
Vulnerability Assessment



**Ecological Systems**  
(e.g., impacts to shellfish  
and beaches)

- Shellfish
- Salmon
- Forage fish
- Other finfish
- Marine birds and waterfowl
- Marine and semi-aquatic mammals
- Beaches and shorelines
- Tidelands and marine habitats
- Marine water quality
- Upland wildlife
- Forested areas & medicinal plants
- Freshwater creeks, streams, wetlands, groundwater
- Air quality



**Infrastructure &  
Community Services**  
(e.g., water infrastructure  
and emergency services)

- Water and distribution system
- Wastewater collection system
- Stormwater system
- Roads & emergency access
- Energy and telecommunication systems



Step 1  
Hazard Assessment

Step 2  
Define Elements

Step 3  
Vulnerability Assessment

## Vulnerability



**HAZARD**  
e.g. storm surges



**IMPACTED  
ELEMENTS**  
e.g. house



**POTENTIAL  
IMPACT**  
e.g. property damage

### Assess the Hazard

What might major events and climate change look like in our region?





### Define the Focus

What and who will be impacted?

### Assess Impacts

How could hazards affect our lands and community?  
What are our priorities?

## PART 1 – SCREENING ASSESSMENT

			Coastal Flooding	Coastal Erosion	Intertidal Area Change	Ocean Acidification	Harmful Algal Blooms	Other Ocean Conditions	Creek Flooding	Creek Erosion	Urban Flooding	Extreme Heat Events	Wildfire	Vector-Borne Diseases	Invasive Species	OUR MOST VULNERABLE ELEMENTS 	
SECTOR	ELEMENT		SEA LEVEL RISE			OCEAN CHANGES			PRECIPITATION CHANGE			TEMPERATURE CHANGE					
	Ecological Systems	Shellfish		Med	High	High	Med	High		Low					Med		
		Salmon			High	Med	Med	High	Med	Low					Med		
		Forage fish		Med	High	Med	Med	High							Med		
		Other finfish			Med	Med	Med	High							Med		
		Marine birds and waterfowl		Low	High	Med	Low	High									
		Marine and semi-aquatic mammals		Low	Med	Med	Low	Med				Low					
		Beaches and shoreline	Med	High	High	Med				Med		Low	Med		Med		
		Tidelands and marine habitats	Med	Low		Med		High				Low			Med		
		Marine water quality	Low	Low			Med	High	Med	Low	Med	Low					
		Upland wildlife	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low		Med	High			
		Forested areas and medicinal plants	Med	Med						Low	Low		High	High		Med	
		Freshwater creeks, streams, wetlands, and groundwater	Med	Low						Med	Low	Med	High	Low			
		Air quality											High	High			
	Near-shore lands	Low	Low						Low	Low	Med		Med		Med		
	TWN community housing																



Step 1  
Hazard Assessment

Step 2  
Define Elements

Step 3  
Vulnerability Assessment

## PART 2 – DETAILED ASSESSMENT

**Exposure**



**Sensitivity**



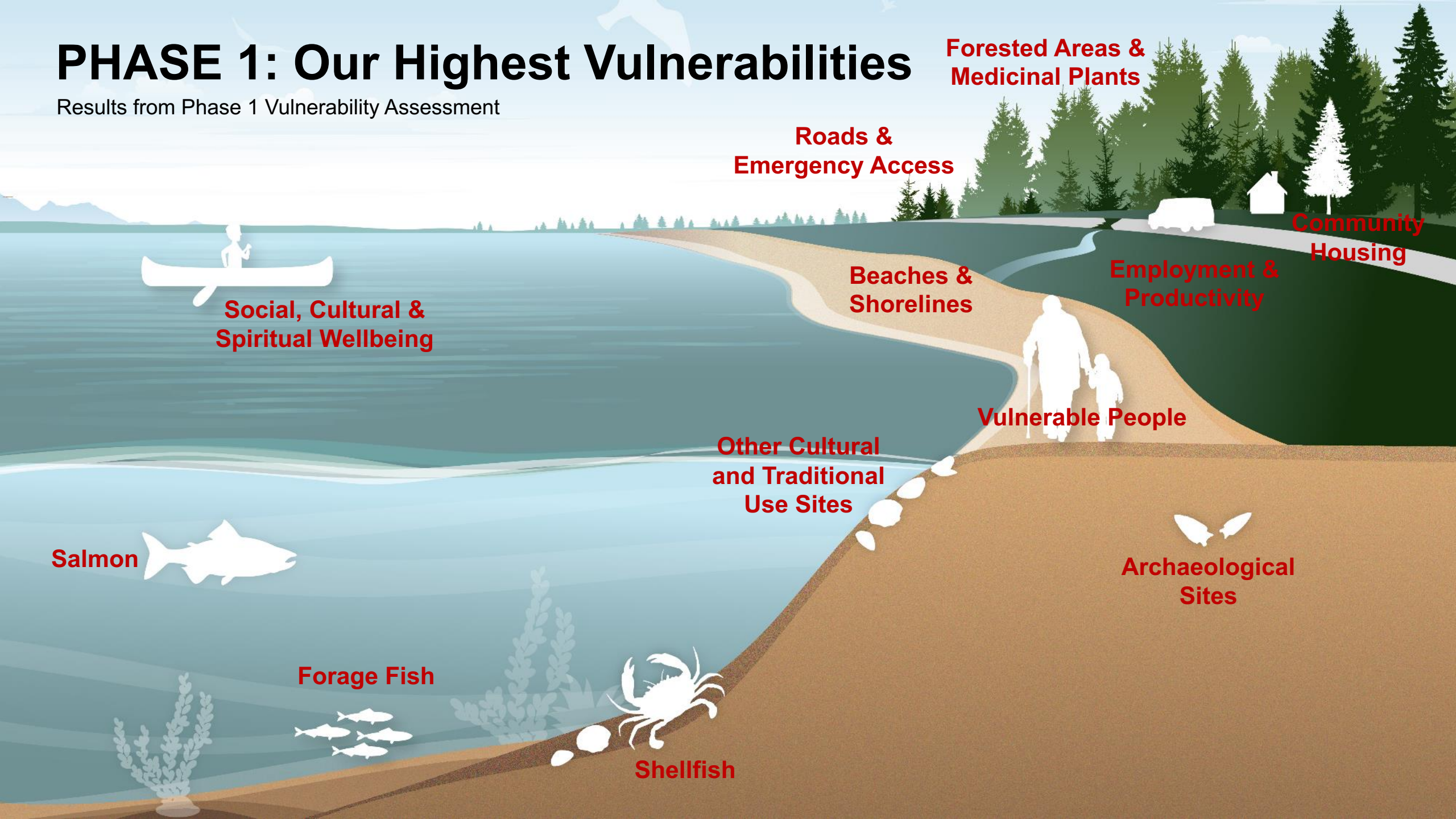
**Adaptive  
Capacity**

**Three Point Scale for each Component: Low (1) / Medium (2) / High (3)**



# PHASE 1: Our Highest Vulnerabilities

Results from Phase 1 Vulnerability Assessment



Forested Areas &  
Medicinal Plants

Roads &  
Emergency Access

Community  
Housing

Employment &  
Productivity

Vulnerable People

Other Cultural  
and Traditional  
Use Sites

Archaeological  
Sites

Social, Cultural &  
Spiritual Wellbeing

Salmon

Forage Fish

Shellfish



# PHASE 2: *Community Climate Change Resilience Plan*



- What will a **climate resilient community** look like in the future?
- What **adaptation actions** will we take to build resilience over the next 10 years?
- How will we **implement** our plan?



*Setting our Vision*

October - November 2019



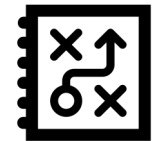
*Identifying our Options*

December - January 2020



*Defining  
Priorities*

February 2020



*Writing  
the Plan*

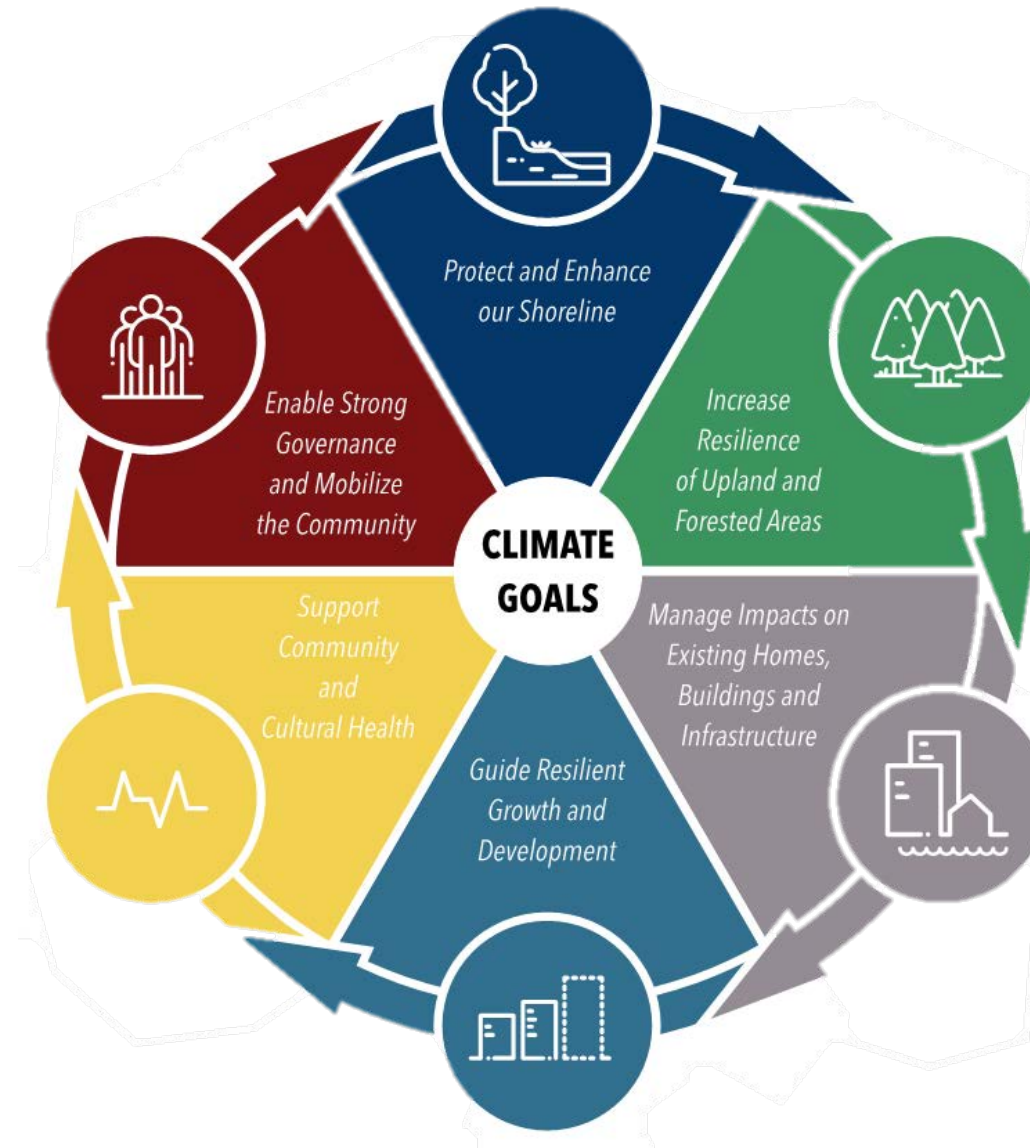
March 2020

Step 1  
Setting our Vision

Step 2  
Identifying Options

Step 3  
Defining Priorities

Step 4  
Writing the Plan





Step 1  
Setting our Vision

Step 2  
Identifying Options

Step 3  
Defining Priorities

Step 4  
Writing the Plan

**"Long-List" of Potential Adaptation Strategies**

Goal	Adaptation Strategies	
G1. Protect and enhance our shoreline, including coastal and marine habitats, waterfront homes and infrastructure, and cultural places.	Strategy 1.1 Understand Shoreline Dynamics	
		Strategy 1.2 Reduce Shoreline Erosion
		Strategy 1.3 Protect Community Spaces from Coastal Flooding
		Strategy 1.4 Preserve Intertidal and Marine Habitats
G2. Increase the resilience of natural spaces and habitats in upland and forested areas.	Strategy 2.1 Support Healthy Forests and Open Spaces	
	Strategy 2.2 Support Healthy Creek & Aquatic Habitats	
G3. Manage climate change impacts on existing homes, buildings, and critical infrastructure.	Strategy 3.1 Strengthen TWN-owned infrastructure resilience to climate change impacts	
	Strategy 3.2 Support Resilient Buildings	
	Strategy 3.4 Integrated Watershed Management	
	Strategy 3.5 Build Community Resilience to Wildfires	



**Structural  
Works**

**Policy, Planning,  
and Partnerships**

**Education**

**Resilient  
Infrastructure &  
Nature-Based  
Concepts**

**Community  
Preparedness**

**Scientific and  
Traditional  
Knowledge**



# Lessons Learned – Values-Based Approach



1. **Community values provide a starting point** - Focus on what members care most about
3. **Understanding community goals** and what we're working toward
3. **Community engagement** (working group, building awareness, sustaining interest)





# Lessons Learned

4. **Vulnerability-based Approach** enabled indigenous lens
5. **Multi-disciplinary team** for detailed hazard analysis and adaptation approaches
6. **Climate change opportunities** (co-benefits)
7. **Moving from planning to action**
8. **Managing costs of adaptation**





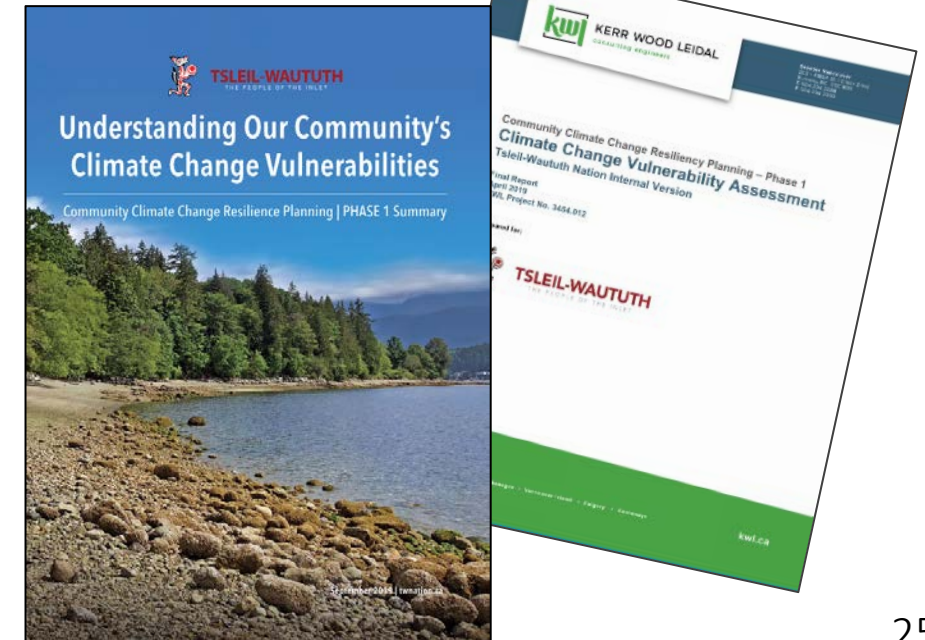
# Want to learn more?

July 2018 TWN Climate Change Summit Presentations

<https://twnation.ca/climate-summit/>

Phase 1 Summary Report (Technical Report pending)

<https://tinyurl.com/to63tyz>





# Thank You




Sarah Dal Santo, RPP, MCIP  
Natural Resources Planning Manager  
Tsleil-Waututh Nation  
*sdalsanto@twnation.ca*

Robin Hawker, RPP, MCIP  
Climate Adaptation Planning Lead  
Kerr Wood Leidal Associates  
*rhawker@kwl.ca*




# Example Vulnerability Assessment

Element: **SHELLFISH**

SIGNIFICANT HAZARD	EXPOSURE	+	SENSITIVITY	-	ADAPTIVE CAPACITY	=	VULNERABILITY
 INTERTIDAL AREA CHANGE	High (3)		Moderate (2)		Moderate (2)		<b>Moderate (3)</b>
 OCEAN ACIDIFICATION	High (3)		High (3)		Low (1)		<b>High (5)</b>
 OTHER OCEAN HAZARDS	High (3)		High (3)		Low (1)		<b>High(5)</b>
CUMULATIVE							<b>13</b>



# PHASE 1 – Step 3: Vulnerability Assessment - Example

			Coastal Flooding	Coastal Erosion	Intertidal Area Change	Ocean Acidification	Harmful Algal Blooms	Other Ocean Conditions	Creek Flooding	Creek Erosion	Urban Flooding	Extreme Heat Events	Wildfire	Vector-Borne Diseases	Invasive Species	OUR MOST VULNERABLE ELEMENTS 
SECTOR	ELEMENT		SEA LEVEL RISE			OCEAN CHANGES			PRECIPITATION CHANGE			TEMPERATURE CHANGE				
	Ecological Systems	Shellfish		Med	High	High	Med	High		Low					Med	
		Salmon			High	Med	Med	High	Med	Low					Med	
		Forage fish		Med	High	Med	Med	High							Med	
		Other finfish			Med	Med	Med	High							Med	
		Marine birds and waterfowl		Low	High	Med	Low	High								
		Marine and semi-aquatic mammals		Low	Med	Med	Low	Med				Low				
		Beaches and shoreline	Med	High	High	Med				Med		Low	Med		Med	
		Tidelands and marine habitats	Med	Low		Med		High				Low			Med	
		Marine water quality	Low	Low			Med	High	Med	Low	Med	Low				
		Upland wildlife	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low		Med	High			
		Forested areas and medicinal plants	Med	Med					Low	Low		High	High		Med	
		Freshwater creeks, streams, wetlands, and groundwater	Med	Low					Med	Low	Med	High	Low			
		Air quality										High	High			
		Near-shore lands	Low	Low					Low	Low	Med		Med		Med	
		TWN community housing														