

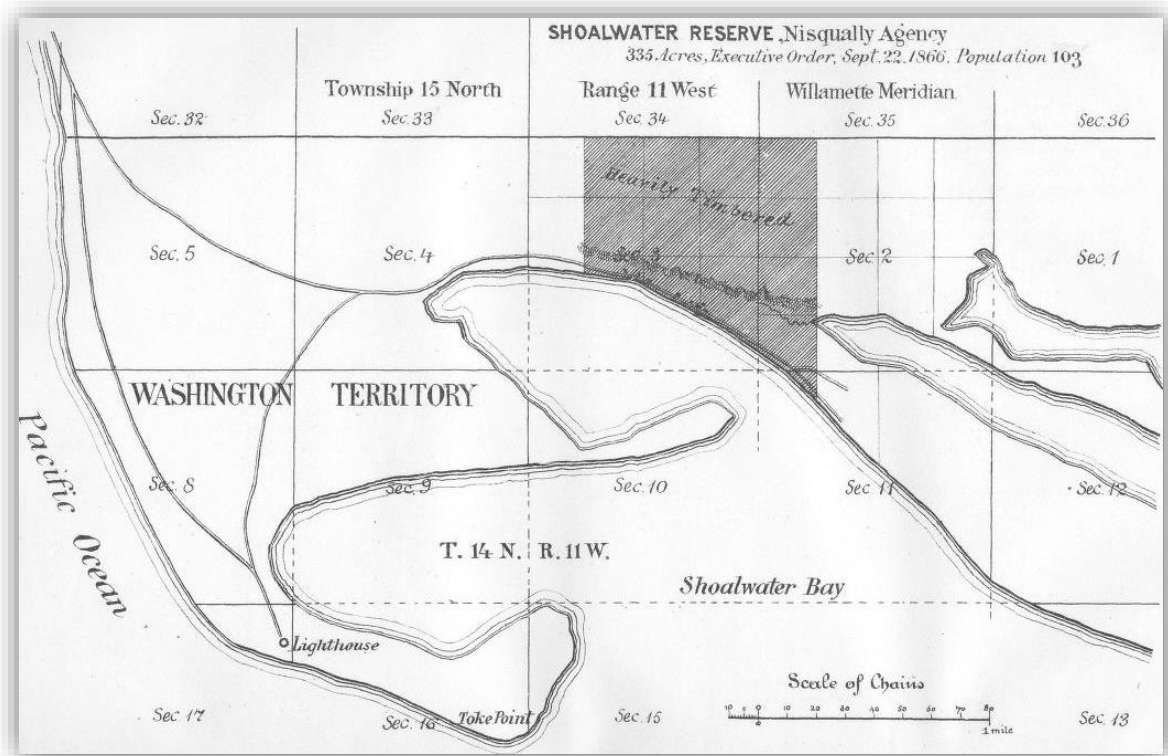


# Shoalwater Bay Tribe Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan

*Effective March 20, 2020 – March 19, 2025*







Shoalwater Reserve, Nisqually Agency, 1879  
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Shoalwater Bay Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan  
Effective March 20, 2020 – March 19, 2025

Funded by  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program  
&  
The Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe

Prepared by  
Shoalwater Bay Tribal Council  
&  
Shoalwater Bay Tribe Office of Emergency Management

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Updated for 2019  
With material reviewed and included from previous adopted versions 2009, 2014

*Cover photos:*  
*Shoalwater Bay Indian Reservation/North Cove looking southeast from SR 105/Cape Shoalwater*  
*Top: North Cove as it appeared August 17, 2007*  
*Bottom: North Cove as it appeared July 18, 2018*



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## INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE

Thank you for taking the opportunity to review and use the Shoalwater Tribe's 2019 Hazard Mitigation Plan, its second revision and update since its initial development and adoption in 2008.

The purpose of the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan is to guide current and future efforts to effectively and efficiently mitigate natural hazards (including earthquakes, tsunamis, coastal erosion and severe weather) on the Shoalwater Bay Tribe's reservation, properties and other areas of tribal interest that in the long-term, will make the Tribe, and its neighbors, more resilient to the negative effects of natural disasters.

This plan was developed with grants and assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), as well as other tribal, federal, state and local resources.

The plan was formally adopted by the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Council on March 18, 2020. The plan was approved by FEMA Region 10 on March 20, 2020.

The effective dates for the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan is March 20, 2020 – March 19, 2025.

## MITIGATION PLAN REQUIREMENT

The Stafford Act and Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) require that states, tribes, territories, and local governments develop and adopt FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plans as a condition for receiving certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance.

Specifically **44 CFR 201.7, Tribal Mitigation Plans**, requires a tribal government applying to FEMA as a grantee must have an approved Tribal Mitigation Plan meeting the requirements of § 201.7 as a condition of receiving non-emergency Stafford Act assistance and FEMA mitigation grants, including:

- Public Assistance Categories C-G (PA C-G)
- Fire Management Assistance Grants (FMAG)
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

Emergency assistance provided under 42 U.S.C. 5170a, 5170b, 5173, 5174, 5177, 5179, 5180, 5182, 5183, 5184, 5192 will not be affected.

Mitigation planning grants provided through the PDM program, authorized under section 203 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. 5133, will also continue to be available.

## PLAN UPDATE REQUIREMENTS

44 CFR 201.7 also requires tribal governments to review and revise their hazard mitigation plan periodically to reflect changes in development, progress in local mitigation efforts, and changes in

priorities, and resubmit it for approval within 5 years in order to continue to be eligible for non-emergency Stafford Act assistance and FEMA mitigation grant funding, with the exception of the Repetitive Flood Claims program.

The 2019 Shoalwater Bay Tribal Hazard Mitigation is a revision and update of the 2014 hazard mitigation plan, which in turn was an update of the initial 2008 plan.

## 2019 PLAN UPDATE – SUMMARY OF REVIEW AND REVISIONS

Hazard mitigation planning has come a long way since the Shoalwater Bay Tribe developed its Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan in 2008. A better understanding of tribal communities by the federal government and states has led to better coordination and planning tools utilized by all. Of critical importance was the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act, signed by President Obama in 2013, which amended the Stafford Act in several key areas in how tribal communities can coordinate federal assistance during and after disaster declarations.

- **The Stafford Act now clearly reflects federally recognized tribal governments’ status as sovereign nations**, giving them the same status as states when requesting federal disaster assistance. Prior to being amended, the Stafford Act mandated requests for an emergency or major disaster declaration by the President could only be made by the Governor of the affected state. As a result, federally recognized tribes were statutorily excluded from making a direct request for a Presidential declaration and were required to make a request through the state(s) in which they were geographically located.
- **The Stafford Act now allows consideration of all of a tribe’s affected land.** Disasters don’t respect borders – their effects can stretch across multiple counties and states, and the impacts can vary widely from community to community. Prior to the amendment of the Stafford Act, the federal and state governments made it hard to meet the needs of impacted tribes, especially when tribal nations cross over one or more state lines. Before the Stafford Act amendment, an affected tribal government would have to submit a request to the governor of each state within which the tribe’s lands are located to request an emergency or major disaster declaration.

In addition, FEMA guidance and assistance, although invaluable and appreciated, was not targeted or focused specially for tribal communities and their needs and customs, and thus could lead to confusion and frustration in regards to FEMA planning and program grant requirements, including tribal mitigation plans. Updates to FEMA policies have help overcome these roadblocks, and greatly improved coordination and assistance.

Changes and improvements in our scientific knowledge and understanding of natural hazards, increased public awareness through the better sharing of information through websites and social media, as well as increased public and government support for mitigation efforts after our nation has experienced unprecedented natural disasters over the last decade, has led the Shoalwater Bay Tribe to refocus on

how to develop its hazard mitigation plan to make it more accessible and useful to the tribal community, its staff and leaders, as well the greater Tokeland area and Pacific County and coastal region.

For this plan update, the tribe and its emergency planning committee, in conjunction with a planning consultant, reviewed and revised the mitigation plan to make the plan more readable and useful, meet revised FEMA tribal planning requirements, as well as updated to reflect changes in development, and tribal priorities. Improved scientific data and modelling, as well as progress on on-going mitigation efforts.

Specifically:

- **FEMA Tribal Mitigation Plan review**

Effective December 5, 2018, The Tribal Mitigation Plan Review Guide (Guide) is FEMA's updated policy on, and interpretation of, the requirements for Tribal Standard and Enhanced Mitigation Planning. This plan update has been reformatted to align with the Guide for ease of review, accessibility and future updates.

- **Changes in development**

Since the 2014 plan update, the Tribe has continued to expand its land and property holdings, as well as pursue economic development efforts. This plan will include updates on development, as well future development plans, and will analyze natural hazards, and its effects on these additional developments.

- **Improved data and modelling**

This plan will incorporate the most recent data and modelling, as well as historic past event data, on natural hazards, as available. This includes:

- Updates tsunami inundation and velocity models using more precise LIDAR data,
- Improved earthquake modelling, including subsidence projections,
- Updated modelling and projections on climate change, and
- Updated modelling and data on coastal erosion and flooding, including revised FEMA RISK maps.

- **Tribal priorities**

This plan will document and describe how the tribe reviewed and revised its priorities in regards to past successes, long-term goals, as well as better understanding of risks and vulnerabilities.

- **Progress on tribal mitigation efforts**

This update will also document and discuss how the tribe reviewed progress on current mitigation efforts, and revised and prioritized efforts and actions going forward.

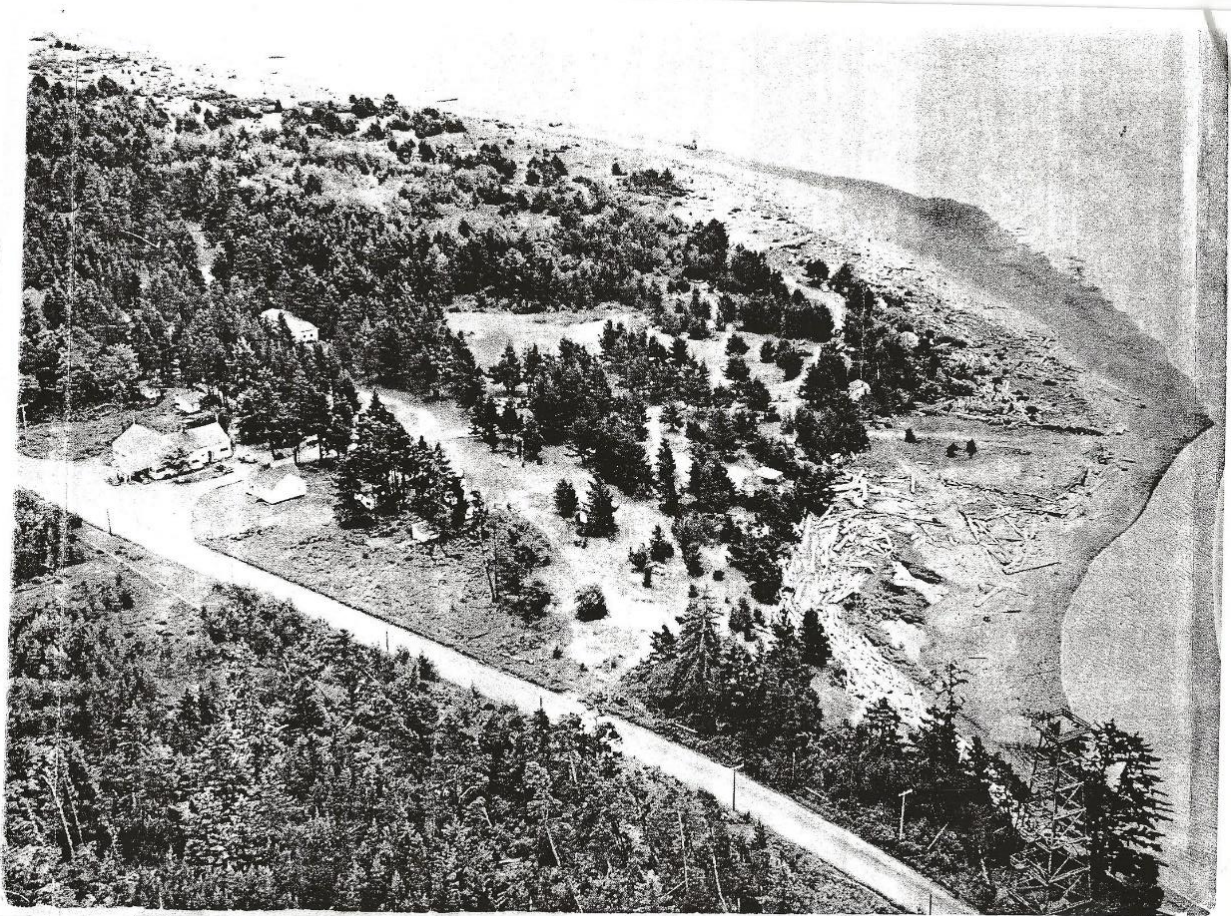


- **Streamlined planning document**

Although intended as a community planning document, mitigation plans have tended to be very long, full of technical and scientific jargon, which have diluted, rather than enhanced, the purposes and goals of a successful mitigation planning effort. The 2008 Shoalwater Bay Hazard Mitigation Plan was 180 pages, and the 2014 plan update was 322 pages!

Using the FEMA Tribal Planning Guide to ensure that the tribe meets planning requirements, this plan has been streamlined and edited to a more concise document that better clarifies the hazard exposure and vulnerability of the tribal community, as well as document the planning effort to identify, prioritize and implement its mitigation efforts. Detailed and technical information will be included in appendices, as needed, and the previous versions of the hazard mitigation plan will continue to be made available in order to ensure continuity and future review of past planning efforts.

**Figure 1: Georgetown in the 1930's. The buildings in the left center is where the current post office is located. Donated by Alice at Georgetown Library, June 13, 2007**



## 2019 PLAN UPDATE – SUMMARY

This section will provide an overview of the FEMA required updates of the Tribe’s Hazard Mitigation Plan. During review of the 2014 plan and update process, it was determined that a major update and reformat of the plan would be conducted, utilizing the updated 2018 FEMA Tribal Plan Review Guide, as well as updated hazards data and reports.

### CHANGES IN DEVELOPMENT

Since the 2014 Plan update, the Shoalwater Bay has acquired significant acreage of nearby and adjacent parcels to its original Reservation lands. As of 2019, the Shoalwater Bay Reservation, Trust lands and fee lands totaled an area of approximately 3,388 acres. This is significant growth from the 2008 plan, when tribal lands totaled about 845 acres. Although no major structural developments occurred, the Tribe has expanded some facilities, such as the Shoalwater Bay Casino and the tribe’s Georgetown Station, and acquired homes in the Dexter-by-the-Sea neighborhood. Properties acquired can be generally categorized as follows:

- **Upland forest and timberlands adjacent to the Tribe Reservation and Trust lands.**  
Also called the Green Diamond/Cedar River Timberlands. Comprised of about 5 sections, or 2,512 acres adjacent to the Reservation on the west, north and east, these lands will be used for the Tribe’s future development and relocation into safer higher grounds that are less vulnerable from seismic shaking, sea level rise and flooding from coastal erosion and tsunami. Other uses will be for conservation, recreation, and economic development. As of 2019, Tribe has purchased 208 acres, with agreement to purchase the remaining lands in the next few years.

One potential hazard concern for these heavily forested and overgrown former logging lands are the increased risk of wildfires due to changing climate. The Tribe has updated its Mitigation strategies and actions to reflect this concern.

- **Intertidal beach and bay lands and wetlands, including oyster beds.**  
Also referred to as the Larsen Purchase (excluding oyster beds). The tribe has acquired these properties to increase its land base, prevent development in hazard and environmentally sensitive areas, and to restore natural habitat. The oyster beds are being considered for economic development purposes.  
Although the impacts of natural hazards to people are structures are minimal in these areas, there is concern for continued coastal erosion, as well as rising sea levels that could damage oyster beds and reduce wetlands and habitat.
- **Residential properties in Dexter-by-the-Sea and Tokeland**  
These structures generally have the same vulnerability to natural hazards as other older tribal structures in the area. Updated hazards data show a reduced risk to flooding, but an increased severity of tsunami inundation and velocity.

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## BUILDING AND INFRASTRUCTURE CHANGES

For the plan update, the Tribe's GIS database of Tribal buildings was analyzed and updated. A list of the Tribe's insured facilities and equipment, housing, and commercial property (current for 2018-19) was also reviewed.

The updated GIS database indicated 108 structures owned by the tribe and/or on tribal lands. This is similar to the 75 structures identified in the 2014 plan update, as it was noted that additional garages, sheds and other outbuildings were mapped for the 2019 update. Tribal staff also noted that some buildings and sheds may have also been moved or torn down, affecting accurate comparisons.

**Table 1: GIS Summary of Tribal Structures, updated, 2019**

Tribal facilities and offices, including infrastructure	14
Commercial facilities & related structures	15
Residential structures (single, duplex, manufactured)	48
Storage sheds, garages and similar structures	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>108</b>

An analysis of the Tribe's insured structures and equipment can be summarized as follows:

**Table 2: Insured Value of Tribal Facilities & Equipment, 2019**

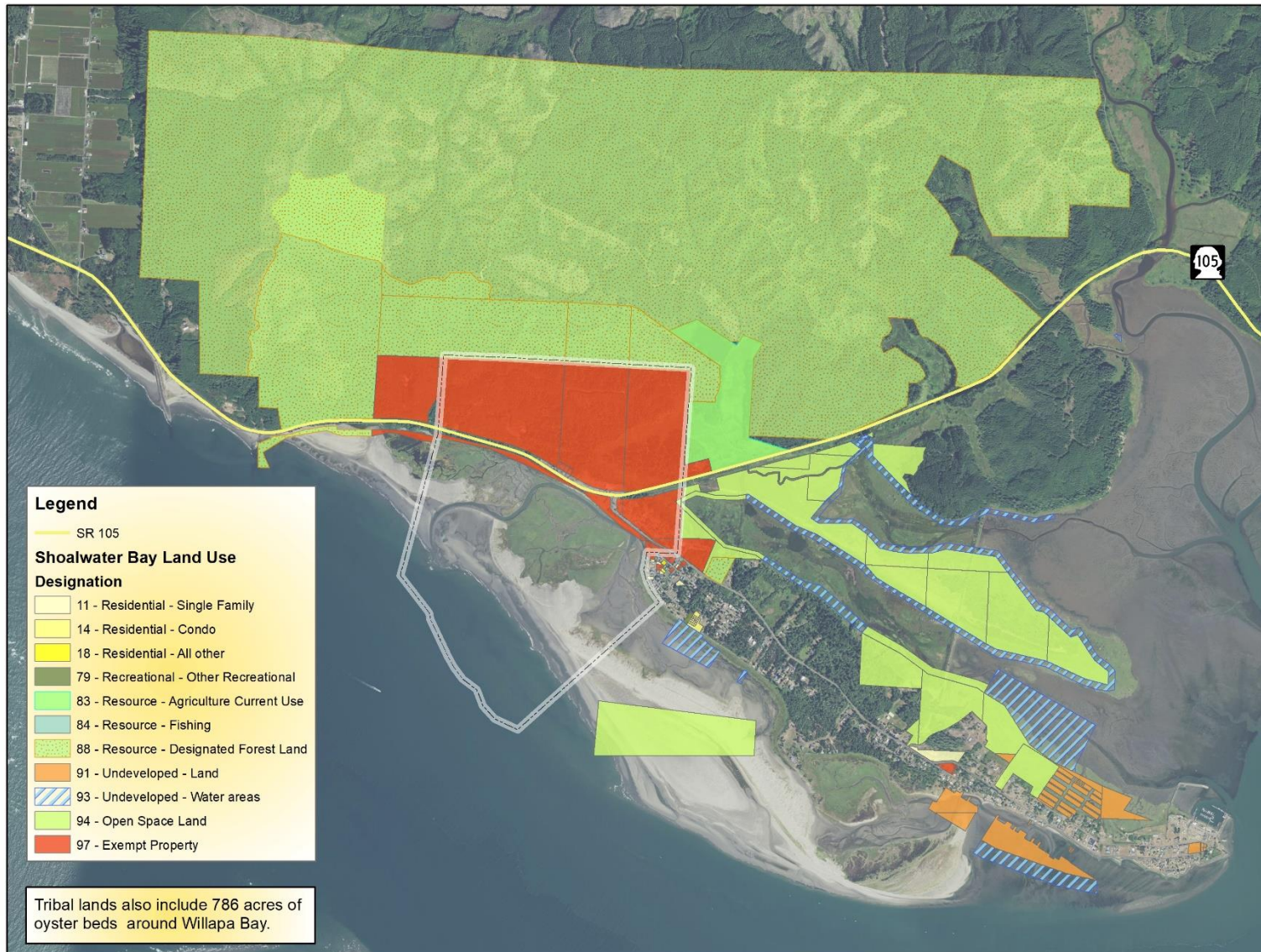
Tribal housing	30 structures	\$3.6 million, total insured value
Tribal facilities	28 structures, including equipment	\$14.78 million, total insured value
Willapa Bay Enterprises (tribal commercial facilities)	20 facilities and equipment	\$19 million, total insured value
<b>Total</b>	<b>78 structures &amp; equipment</b>	<b>\$37.38 million total insured value</b>

The 2014 plan update did not include updated estimates of values, and relied on data from the 2008 plan, which estimated about \$28 million in insured property.

The differences between the GIS database and the insured value list can be attributed to the presence of uninsured structures, privately insured structures, address discrepancies, as well as methods of compiling the lists.

- The **\$37.78 million/ 108 structures** estimate should be considered the total value/count of potential losses from a catastrophic hazard event for this plan update.

Figure 2: Tribal properties & land use



## REVISIONS DUE TO PROGRESS IN TRIBAL MITIGATION EFFORTS

### STATUS OF 2014 MITIGATION ACTIONS

The Tribe conducted a comprehensive analysis of the mitigation objectives and actions identified in the 2014 plan update, as well as reviewed the objectives and actions from the initial plan. Many actions in the initial plan were included in the 2014 update. This is noted in the review to better track long-term progress. Comments about each action are included in the review.

Many mitigation actions are on-going or part of a long-term strategy. These were included or revised in the updated mitigation strategy. Mitigation actions completed, or those that were redundant, not feasible, and/or didn't fulfill Tribe's current priorities, were also not included in the update.

The 2014 Plan update included 57 mitigation actions (The original plan included 19 actions). Of these 57 actions:

- 6 actions were completed
- 24 actions are on-going or in process of being completed, and included in the 2019 update
- 27 actions were considered not part of the Tribe's current priorities, redundant, or not feasible, and were removed.

Within these totals:

- 9 actions were carried over from the 2008 plan. Of these:
  - 7 actions are on-going and will be included and/or revise and included in the 2019 update.
  - 2 actions were not needed and removed

**Table 3: Status of 2014 Mitigation Actions**

2014 Mitigation Actions	progress/status		in 2008 plan?	comment
	completed			
	on-going			
	remove			
S-1—Develop a post-disaster action plan for all hazards of concern that addresses debris management, cultural/historical data gathering, substantial damage assessment, and grant management. This plan would be an appendix to the Tribe's Emergency Management Plan.	ongoing		N	The Tribe completed and updated numerous disaster action plans in 2019. Additional plans will be prepared while updating and improving current plans, as needed.
S-2—Adopt the Shoalwater Bay Tribe Hazard Mitigation Plan as an element of any comprehensive plan that the Tribe will create, in order to ensure linkage between the two documents.	remove		N	Not applicable to current tribal planning priorities, incorporate into related actions.

2014 Mitigation Actions	progress/status	in 2008 plan?	comment
	completed		
	on-going		
	remove		
S-3—Work with NOAA to develop an updated Tsunami model once new FEMA flood maps are adopted.	completed, remove	N	Updated tsunami models released in 2018, used for plan update and other efforts.
S-4—Pursue feasible, cost-effective home elevation or acquisition projects, targeting identified repetitive loss (none currently) or frequently flooded (including nuisance flooding) properties on the Reservation.	remove	N	No longer tribal strategy.
S-5—As climate change will undoubtedly impact water supplies in the future, consider working with local water providers and local jurisdictions to begin developing concepts and regulations regarding water	on-going	N	To better reflect tribal priorities, will be incorporated into related actions on water supply.
S-6—Consider codes and ordinances which positively influence the resiliency of the tribe from the hazards of concern, such as land use development; landscaping ordinance for fire fuel reduction; building codes for minimum seismic stability; flood damage prevention ordinance to cumulatively track substantial improvements and damage, etc.	on-going	Y	This action will be updated to reflect Tribe's current strategy related to implementing a fuel reduction program, and its adoption of federal building codes.
S-7—Considered adopting a regulatory freeboard standard for new construction to elevate homes above flooding.	remove	N	No longer a tribal strategy.
S-8—Consider stream bank and hillside stabilization projects to protect infrastructure, including natural plantings.	on-going	Y	Refocus action on hillside stabilization efforts, as stream bank issues are not relevant to tribal mitigation efforts.
S-9—Secure funding to acquire additional generators to maintain critical infrastructure on reservation, including for water systems, especially for new facilities being constructed or older facilities being renovated that do not already have generators.	on-going	Y	Generators will be only source of power after a hazard event, so the tribe recognizes importance of continuing to acquire generators where needed. Fuel sources for generators will also need to be considered.
S-10—Develop a stormwater management plan as development continues on the Reservation and in relation to the Casino site and new development.	on-going	N	This action will be incorporated into a broader tribal storm water management strategy.
S-11—Consider a building setback/spacing requirement for new construction in areas susceptible to wildfire exposure.	on-going	N	Merge with fuel reduction program action.
S-12—Join the Firewise program by adopting the program's policies for managing wildland-urban interface areas on the Reservation.	remove	N	Not applicable to tribal priorities, merge into fuel reduction program action.

2014 Mitigation Actions	progress/status	in 2008 plan?	comment
	completed		
	on-going		
	remove		
S-13—Consider planting standards in wildland buffer areas to include fire-resistant plants with loose branching habits, non-resinous woody material, high moisture content leaves and limited seasonal accumulation of dead vegetation.	on-going	N	Include as part of fuel reduction program include comment on use of native plantings.
S-14— Work with the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program to develop vertical evacuation routes for tsunami hazard.	completed and on-going	N	Tribe awarded FEMA grant in 2018 to develop vertical evacuation tower in Tokeland. Will continue to pursue similar opportunities.
S-15—Consider building codes that would harden new and existing structures from the potential impacts of earthquakes.	remove	N	Redundant to other efforts.
S-16—Conduct seismic vulnerability studies of all infrastructure, including critical facilities...	remove	Y	This has been completed via other efforts; redundant.
S-17—Promote the structural and non-structural seismic retrofit of structures built before 1974 by a targeted outreach to the owners of these structures, including a Reservation-wide tie-down program.	remove	N	No structures applicable for this action, not within tribal scope to regulate/mitigate.
S-18—Continue and enhance where feasible the Tribe’s drainage system maintenance program to reduce or minimize the impacts of stormwater flooding on the Reservation.	remove	N	Redundant, merge into stormwater-related actions.
S-19—Work with the Federal and State Departments of Transportation and two surrounding counties to identify landslide-risk areas along major roadways. Promote increased inspections on roadways along and on the Reservation to reduce risk from landslides and washouts. Seek ways to improve slope stability and drainage, and seek funding to plan for and repair future slope failures to reduce the potential for isolation and to provide for additional access to the Reservation.	completed and on-going	N	Reword action to indicate support for local/state efforts outside tribe's jurisdiction, including work done on SR 105.
S-20—Develop a public outreach strategy of ongoing programs providing multiple messages that support all phases of emergency management, including the maintenance of a 7-day supply of food and water. This should include CERT training. Training program should also include an outreach program for elders and sensitive populations to provide assistance as needed.	on-going	N	This continues to be an on-going, long-term effort.
S-21—Prior to new development, conduct a vulnerability assessment of water and wastewater utilities for exposure to all identified hazards of concern.	remove	N	Will be incorporated into other on-going development efforts.

2014 Mitigation Actions	progress/status	in 2008 plan?	comment
	completed		
	on-going		
	remove		
S-22—Review utility designs and standards for safety and competence under natural and human-caused disasters, utilizing information from this hazard mitigation plan. Once vulnerability determined, work with tribal and local providers to site harden utility service.	remove	N	This action is redundant to other efforts.
S-23—Develop a Reservation-wide comprehensive education program to educate tribal members about: hazards of concern on the Reservation, hazard mitigation opportunities, and evacuation routes.	remove	N	Same as S-20, redundant.
S-24— Assess the Tribe’s evacuation and primary response routes, and work with Tribal, County and Federal Departments of Transportation to develop alternate routes; develop right of way agreements as necessary, and negotiate removal or unlocking of gates with locks.	on-going	Y	Update as needed to reflect current strategies; discuss improvements to routes esp. those outside of tribal jurisdiction.
S-25 Assess potential debris accumulations along coastline and in water channels, to include debris from the 2011 Japanese tsunami, in an effort to develop recovery and response plans.	remove	N	Debris Mgmt. Plan adopted. Redundant to other efforts. 2011 Japanese Tsunami debris issue no longer relevant.
S-26— Support and participate in State and County efforts for public education programs, as well as self-sustainability campaigns and emergency preparedness.	remove	N	Redundant to similar efforts.
S-27— Update emergency response plans based on the information contained in this plan. Those plans should then be practiced and exercised so community members know the areas of concern and can evacuate appropriately when a disaster occurs.	completed, on-going	N	Plans have been updated in 2019, but require to be updated in future. List plans to be updated within 5 years.
S-28—Develop a protocol and system for capturing damage data on the Reservation for disaster reporting. Consider including flood depth data, dollar losses for all hazards impacting the Reservation, and duration of impact from the event. The data should be used to update the hazard mitigation plan.	completed	N	This action was completed via development of a Disaster Recovery Plan and other supporting plans.
S-29—Conduct LIDAR studies on any newly acquired properties to provide enhanced data for determining vulnerability to hazards of concern. Data acquired should be used to update this hazard mitigation plan as needed.	completed	N	Tribe utilizes LIDAR as it becomes available. Area well covered by multiple studies and data from different years to reflect changing conditions.
S-30— If owners are willing, relocate private and public residences or other facilities that have been repeatedly flooded to areas outside the floodplain through acquisition projects funded by the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program or Flood Mitigation Assistance.	remove	N	No areas of concern, not a tribal priority.



2014 Mitigation Actions	progress/status	in 2008 plan?	comment
	completed		
	on-going		
	remove		
S-31— Continue participation in NOAA’s StormReady Program.	on-going	N	In 2019, TsunamiReady & StormReady program renewed for 3 years. Participation will need to be renewed.
S-32— Seismically retrofit water towers and water storage structures to reduce the potential for collapse during an earthquake or significant flood event, and enhance water lines for firefighting. Once completed, the tower can be used to store water for firefighting on the Reservation.	on-going	N	On-going effort to secure funding to implement.
S-33 – Develop Fire Safe Council(s) to assist neighborhoods and communities in become more resilient to the impacts of fire.	completed	N	Tribe became member of regional fire authority, add to Capabilities. This specific action no longer priority.
S-34 Enhance water systems on Reservation to increase capacity of water storage facilities; obtain alternate sources (wells) and increase capacity to enable ability to utilize fire hydrants without damaging existing infrastructure and reducing capacity for residents.	on-going	Y	New fire hydrants added in 2019, add to Capabilities.
S-35 Establish policy which sets forth requirements for identifying and using suction supply water sources in areas without fire hydrants on the Reservation to assist in firefighting abilities. This may include working with outside agencies and federal departments to make certain all environmental requirements are considered. This initiative will include enhancing fire response apparatus capacity to support hauled water operations.	remove	N	Redundant to other efforts.
S-36 Purchase portable water storage tanks equipped with fire suppression supply connections which will be strategically located in areas with high fire danger for use in firefighting.	remove	N	Redundant to other efforts.
S-37 Train residents on use of portable water tanks to assist in firefighting efforts until first responders arrive.	remove	N	Redundant to other efforts.
S-38 Obtain hand tools which can be placed in community centers throughout Reservation which residents can check out to help maintain defensible space around residences, and to maintain areas along roadways.	remove	N	Redundant to other efforts.
S-39 Review potential to purchase a chipper for the Reservation which can be used to reduce fire fuel.	remove	N	Redundant to other efforts.

2014 Mitigation Actions	progress/status	in 2008 plan?	comment
	completed		
	on-going		
	remove		
S-40 Develop policy and plan for litter removal Reservation wide. This will be a multi-year plan which ultimately encompasses the entire Reservation, and includes private residents' participation.	completed	N	2019 - Debris Removal Plan adopted, add to capabilities.
S-41 Seek funding opportunities to assist homeowners in landslide areas to structurally retrofit homes, or for acquisition or relocation of homes currently in high landslide areas to other areas of the Reservation.	remove	N	Not applicable, not a tribal priority related to exposure.
S-42 Work with community members within fire units to determine areas where Shaded Fuel projects would be most beneficial in reducing fire severity. Prioritize projects and establish community events/work projects to focus on specific areas.	remove	N	Combine into "wildfire fuel reduction program" related actions.
S-43 Work with Pacific County to widen (Firewise recommendation ~ 24 feet) and clear bridges and roadways for fuel breaks and evacuation routes. Projects should be prioritized based on local emergency response and fire plans for prioritized evacuation routes.	remove	N	Redundant to other efforts.
S-44 Seek funding opportunities to assist with signage needs for streets for emergency response and evacuation.	remove	N	Redundant to other efforts.
S-45 Work with local Fire Safe Councils to pursue SNAP or NAP grants for low-income residents for defensible space.	remove	N	Not a tribal priority.
S-46 Seek funding opportunities to assist homeowners in home retrofitting projects for projects such as: new roofs, window and siding replacement, netting of eaves, aluminum wrapping of structures or other fuel reduction projects; seismic retrofits, flood reduction, and home tie-down projects.	remove	N	Work has been completed for wind storms, additional efforts not tribal priority.
S-47 Complete inventory of known cultural resources located in or near identified hazard areas.	completed and on-going	N	This work has been completed, but further research and assessments are needed.
S-48 Create Access and Functional Needs Working Group to increase community education concerning potential impacts from hazards on special needs population.	completed	N	"Individual Households & Special Needs Assistance Plan" completed
S-49 Install additional early warning and updated communication systems reservation wide, focusing in areas without adequate radio and telephone coverage. This includes mechanisms to address interoperability issues with Pacific County.	on-going	Y	On-going effort. Update action to reflect need for Verizon cell tower. Additional capability: tribal mobile command center, NOAA/Coast Guard radio tower on Reservation.

2014 Mitigation Actions	progress/status	in 2008 plan?	comment
	completed		
	on-going		
	remove		
S-50 Establish additional shelter capabilities which include generators due to lack of electrical infrastructure on much of the Reservation. These shelter locations which include, at a minimum, kitchen, shower facilities, and heating systems, and should meet the access and functional needs of all individuals.	on-going	N	Add need for tornado shelter/safe-rooms.
S-51 Work with Army Core of Engineers to conduct additional assessment work on erosion issue to make certain issue has not progressed.	on-going	Y	Update action to reflect need for on-going maintenance and improvements to coastal protection projects.
S-52 Seek grant funding to obtain additional NOAA weather radios for each facility and resident on the Reservation. This will provide advanced notice of approaching storms, tsunami evacuation and wildfire danger.	remove	Y	Funding for this specific action not needed.
S-53 Seek grant funding to construct a public safety facility to include a police and fire station, court house, meeting facility and EOC on the Reservation, and acquire personnel and equipment that can also accommodate the expansion to include wildland fire services on the Reservation.	on-going	N	Update to discuss on-going priority and need.
S-54 Fund a wildland engine crew, supervisors and equipment to assist in firefighting capabilities.	remove	N	Redundant to other efforts.
S-55 Seek grant funding to purchase two new fire trucks and a water tender to help with firefighting capabilities on the Reservation, as well as surrounding communities.	on-going	N	Update to include current priority of securing grant funding for Fire Safety Trailer.
S-56 Work with local utility service providers to install underground utility lines (power, phone, internet) to minimize disruption of service throughout Reservation.	on-going	N	Update to reflect on-going need. Note that some work is being done in surrounding areas outside of Tribal lands.
S-57 Pursue grant and other funding opportunities to assist communities in becoming more resilient to the impacts of hazards through educational public outreach on defensible space.	remove	N	Redundant to other efforts.

#### INCORPORATION INTO OTHER PLANNING MECHANISMS

The 2014 Hazard mitigation plan was incorporated into other tribal planning processes to the best extent possible. Much of the Tribe's on-going governance, management and planning is done with a keen understanding of the impacts severe storms, coastal erosion, and earthquakes/tsunami can have on the community. The mitigation plan helps guide land acquisition and development, as well informs

the Tribe's emergency planning documents. This will continue to be so for the 2019 plan update as the tribe continues to refine and develop its planning processes.

#### REVISIONS DUE TO UPDATES IN TRIBAL PRIORITIES

The Tribe conducted a comprehensive and objective review of its priorities during the community planning process. Emerging from this process, the Tribe's changes in priorities can be summarized as:

- Focus on relocating future development outside of high hazard zones, namely into the hillsides, which have less seismic impacts and are outside of tsunami inundation areas.
- Building evacuation facilities closer to housing and tribal offices/businesses for those that cannot quickly relocate to safe zones. Although included in the previous mitigation plan, this became a higher priority due to the availability of grant funding and political will and support to build a tsunami evacuation tower. After 3 tornado warnings in 2019, the tribe also wants to prioritize the construction of an evacuation shelter/saferoom for severe weather, such as tornadoes.
- Less focus on retrofitting and hardening of existing facilities and homes, many of which are older and nearing obsolescence. With limited resources available, and limited return-on-investment, the tribe has chosen to prioritize investment in its future developments outside of high hazard areas and with construction/development standards that can successfully withstand hazard impacts from severe weather, seismic shaking and wildfire.

These changed priorities, as well as continued priorities, are reflected in the Tribe's updated Mitigation strategies and actions.

## PLANNING PROCESS

This section will discuss the planning process used to update the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan.

### 2019 PLAN UPDATE

For this update, the Tribe employed a less formal planning process than was utilized in the 2014 update. Due to staff, time, and resource constraints, the Tribe chose to combine the mitigation planning and meeting process into its standing emergency planning committee schedule, which generally meets weekly to monthly, based on agenda and issues at hand.

The Tribe determined early on in the planning process what it wanted the consultant to focus on for the update, and to prioritize the public awareness and public comments aspect of the planning process. The main driver of this approach was the award by FEMA in June 2018 of a PDM project grant to build a tsunami vertical evacuation tower. The Tribe's limited staff, especially the Emergency Management Dept. and the Emergency Planning Committee, would be focused on this project during the plan update process.

Nonetheless, the Tribe determined that the tower project would generate massive national interest, and thus was an invaluable opportunity to integrate the hazard mitigation planning and public awareness effort into the public relations and awareness campaign for the tsunami evacuation tower.

### DOCUMENTATION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

The Tribe's 2014 Hazard Mitigation Plan will expire in September 2019, so in order to be compliant with FEMA grant requirements, to update the plan with the most current knowledge on hazard vulnerability, and evaluate on-going mitigation activities, the Tribe decided to update its Hazard Mitigation Plan as part of the 5-year plan maintenance cycle. The Tribe applied for a FEMA PDM planning grant in order to hire a consultant to assist with hazard analysis, and drafting the plan to be compliant with FEMA requirements.

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### PLANNING PROCESS

In March 2018, the Tribe submitted a Request-for-Proposal to hire a consultant. The Tribe assembled a team to review proposals based on qualifications, budget and work plan that met the Tribe's needs for the update.

During the RFP process, the Tribe, led by the Dept. of Emergency Management, and with guidance from Tribal Council, prioritized the following for the plan update:

- To revise the format of the plan to meet the format and updated requirements of Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plans, as outlined the FEMA’s newly adopted Tribal Mitigation Plan Review guide<sup>1</sup>. The guide was available in draft, with an effective date of December 5, 2018. It was also hoped, that by utilizing the updated Tribal Guidance, the Plan would be more accessible to the public, including tribal staff, tribal members, as well as local community and other partners.
- To integrate the planning update process into broader public awareness efforts. This became even more important after the Tribe was awarded FEMA grant in June 2018 to build a tsunami vertical evacuation tower.
- Update the risk assessment to include most recent analysis of exposure and vulnerability. Of focus was including updated tsunami inundation and velocity maps, as well as updated FEMA flood hazard data, which was not available during the previous update. More discussion of coastal erosion and climate change would also be included.
- Apart from the yearly review process, a more detailed evaluation of the Tribe’s priorities, as well as a detailed review and update of the Tribe’s mitigation actions.

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## PROJECT TIMELINE

In **April 2018**, Glenn B. Coil, who drafted the Tribe’s initial plan, and has over 15 years’ experience drafting Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plans, was selected as the contractor to update the Plan. Glenn advocates a more informal planning process that focuses on the tribal community’s needs and capabilities, while also respecting tribal staff capacity and cultural sensitivities.

**May 2018** – contract with consultant finalized, with work to begin end of May. The Tribe, via the EM Director and contractor, discussed the work plan and determined that the usual phased approach to mitigation planning (organize> risk assessment> public process> plan draft> plan review/adoption) would be combined and run concurrently. This approach was determined to be more efficient, as it would allow engagement of the public earlier, so as to not miss important opportunities, such as the annual Yellow Brick Road event in July. Also, the tribe was aware of updated vulnerability and hazards data, so did not need to wait for this to be drafted into maps and text in order to evaluate its priorities and mitigation actions. Generally the plan was to complete a draft in spring 2019, with final adoption and FEMA approval by late summer/fall 2019. Instead, due to staff focus on the vertical tsunami evacuation tower, the draft was completed in December 2019, which review, comments and adoption occurring in winter 2020.

Also discussed at this time:

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/18355>

- Initial planning team for this effort. This is composed of key tribal staff and council. It would consist of its standing Emergency planning Committee, with potential to add tribal staff, tribal members or local community members as needed.
- Discussion of outreach to outside partners, such as WA EMD, FEMA, Pacific County, Grays Harbor County, University of Washington
- Brief highlight of past mitigation accomplishments and future efforts.
- Risk assessment – include in update more information on climate change, chemical hazards, and wildfires. It was noted that wildfires have seemed to increase.

**June 2018** – FEMA announces \$2.5 million grant for Tribe to build a vertical tsunami evacuation tower in Tokeland. Because of anticipated national attention on this project, it was determined that the hazard mitigation plan update could be tied into outreach and public awareness efforts related to the tower. Vertical tsunami evacuation was included in the 2014 plan, thus fulfilling a mitigation action, and presents an example of the importance of hazard mitigation planning.

**July 2018** – EM Director and consultant discussed mitigation efforts and accomplishments

**July 18, 2018** – Shoalwater Bay Tribe Annual Yellow Brick Event. This annual community event brings in tribal staff and members, local community members, as well as local tribes and local, regional, state and federal partners to showcase and build awareness for the tribes’ hazard mitigation, public safety and emergency preparedness efforts. The highlight of the event is an approx. one mile walk from the Tribe’s gym to its tsunami evacuation area and emergency shelter on Eagle Hill Road. The purpose is drill the community on the location and evacuation time needed to get to safety in the event of a potential tsunami. The vent was also used to build awareness for the tsunami evacuation tower, as well as thank FEMA, WA EMD and other partners for their assistance in helping develop the grant for the tower. Media was on hand to report of this event and the tower. Consultant was also on hand to discuss the mitigation plan update and process.

**Summer/Fall 2018** – Consultant begin process to reach out to subject matter experts to update information on hazards, including tsunami, coastal erosion and climate change. Emergency Planning Committee continues to meet and discuss issues and review mitigation actions, as well as manage development of the vertical evacuation tower.

**October 17, 2018** – presentation at University of Washington, College of Architecture & Urban Planning-advanced urban planning studio “Community Engagement for Coastal Resilience”. Topic – “ Hazard mitigation and resiliency planning in tribal and rural communities”. As part of the collaboration effort between UW and Shoalwater Bay Tribe, the consultant gave a presentation at UW providing students insights on the challenges the Tribe’s face in regards to hazard mitigation, as well as ideas and lessons on long-term resiliency. The consultant also focused on the importance of economic development and tribal sovereignty as a key driver of resiliency.

**Winter 2019** – Begin drafting of plan

**Summer 2019** – July 23, Yellow Brick Road event. Survey was conducted, and maps and materials from draft plan, such as updated tsunami hazard maps were presented and discussed with staff, tribal members and local residents.

**August 22, 2019** – Consultant made site visit to discuss finalization of updated mitigation actions, results of community survey. Consultant also met with staff and tribal council to discuss future development and plans.

**Fall 2019** – Final draft prepared

**January 2020** – Plan submitted to Tribe for review and public comment. Plan submitted to FEMA for pre-approval

**February 2020** – FEMA pre-adoption approval

**March 18, 2020** – Tribal Council adoption of Plan

**March 20, 2020** – Approval of plan by FEMA, effective March 2020 through March 19, 2025.

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## PLANNING TEAM

For this plan update, the tribe did not create a separate committee to oversee the planning process. Instead the tribe used its standing **Emergency Planning Committee** as the lead on the mitigation plan. The committee oversees the on-going implementation of the hazard mitigation plan, and thus the tribe determined that the best use of limited staff, resources, and time was to include the hazard mitigation plan update into its on-going committee processes.

This committee also serves as the tsunami evacuation tower development committee. This process better integrates and coordinates planning and development processes.

Members of the Emergency Planning Committee are listed below. . The tribe had staff turnover during the planning process and in some cases multiple staff members in each respective role on the planning committee. Names listed were committee members as of August 2019.

**Table 4: Emergency Planning Committee – August 2019**

<b>Title, Department</b>	<b>name</b>
<b>Director, Emergency Mgmt</b>	Lee Shipman
<b>Member, Tribal Council</b>	multiple
<b>Police Chief, Tribal Public Safety</b>	Jim Bergstrom
<b>Director, Information Technology</b>	Jim Schaeffer
<b>Director, Natural Resources</b>	Larissa Pfleeger-Ritzman
<b>Coordinator, Cultural/Heritage</b>	Earl Davis



## PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe defines “public” as its Tribal Membership, Tribal Government and employees, the surrounding local communities and districts as well as County, State and Federal agencies and relevant non-government organizations. The Tribe maintains final authority on decision making related to this Plan.

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe is committed to having the public involved and committed to the hazard mitigation planning process. The tribe works closely and coordinates with its neighbors, and welcomes the expertise of state and federal agencies and their staff to help identify projects and funding as well as provide feedback and technical assistance in its mitigation efforts.

The following sections describe the public involvement efforts the tribe employed for the plan update.

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### EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

The tribe’s emergency planning committee is composed of the Emergency Management Director and key tribal staff that meets weekly to monthly, depending on need. Additional staff may be brought on or attend meetings as needed to conduct its work. This group oversees the mitigation implementation process, as well as the plan update process. The committee is able to provide input and feedback on the plan based on their department focus.

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### TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Emergency Management Director updates the Tribal Council at least monthly. This includes updates on the hazard mitigation plan. There is opportunity to discuss the plan, and provide input and feedback. The council will also adopt the plan after final review.

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### STAFF/AGENCY MEETINGS AND FEEDBACK

The EM Director and the consultant meet with tribal staff and community members as needed to discuss the mitigation plan and provide feedback. This includes in-person meetings, community events, phone/e-mail conversations, and site visits. The EM Director and consultant also reached out to outside agencies for feedback, ideas, data and technical assistance on the plan.

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### DRAFT REVIEW

A draft of the plan was made available to the community via the tribe’s website, as well as notification via staff email and the tribe’s newsletter. Feedback, comments and edits were collected and reviewed prior to final draft and tribal adoption and FEMA approval.

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### COMMUNITY EVENTS

Community events are the best method to involve the public in the mitigation planning effort. It helps show how mitigation planning ties into the tribe’s overall emergency management and public safety efforts. It provides the best opportunity to meet with local community and tribal members, many of

who are also tribal staff. These events also include outside partners and agencies, and provides a great opportunity for coordination and feedback.

## YELLOW BRICK ROAD


This the Tribe’s annual Tsunami Evacuation/ Health Walk, usually held in July. Tribal staff, membership, and the surrounding community are invited to participate. The one mile walk follows the tsunami evacuation route from the tribal gym along Tokeland Rd to SR 105 and up Eagle Hill Road to the 55 foot elevation safe zone area and evacuation shelter. Along the way, booths and tables are set up with participating agencies providing information on emergency management and health. Afterwards, everyone meets back at the gym for lunch and public speakers. The mitigation plan update was included as part of the event for 2018 and 2019.

### YBR – JULY 18, 2018

The main highlight of this year’s walk was to unveil and celebrate the awarding of a FEMA grant to build a tsunami evacuation tower on Tokeland Point. The consultant was on hand with a booth presenting information on the plan update, as well as to discuss the process of updating the plan. Feedback and discussion was encouraged. A community survey related to hazard mitigation was available in paper and online format for participants.

Figure 3: Plan Update flyer

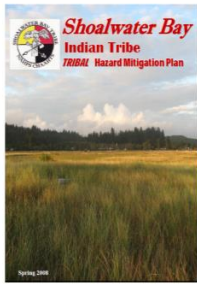
## Hazard Mitigation Plan – 2019 Update



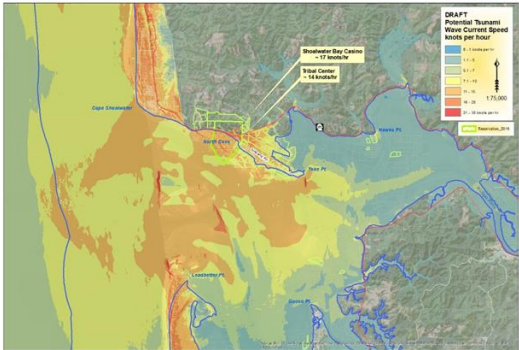
Shoalwater Bay Tribe is updating its FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan.

In 2008, The Shoalwater Bay Tribe drafted a **FEMA hazard mitigation plan** with the purpose of **identifying natural hazards** that can affect the local community, and **develop actions** to help make the community **safer and more resilient** to coastal storms, earthquakes and tsunamis, as well as to adapt to the effects of climate change and rising sea levels.

In order to be eligible for FEMA grant money, the Tribe is required to review and update its plan **every 5 years**.




\*\*\* Original 2008 plan \*\*\*



**DRAFT** Potential Tsunami Wave Current Speed water per foot

0.00	0.1 - 0.2
0.2 - 0.3	0.4 - 0.5
0.6 - 0.7	0.8 - 1.0
1.2 - 1.5	1.8 - 2.0
2.5 - 3.0	3.5 - 4.0
4.5 - 5.0	5.5 - 6.0
6.5 - 7.0	7.5 - 8.0
8.5 - 9.0	9.5 - 10.0
10.5 - 11.0	11.5 - 12.0
12.5 - 13.0	13.5 - 14.0
14.5 - 15.0	15.5 - 16.0
16.5 - 17.0	17.5 - 18.0
18.5 - 19.0	19.5 - 20.0
20.5 - 21.0	21.5 - 22.0
22.5 - 23.0	23.5 - 24.0
24.5 - 25.0	25.5 - 26.0
26.5 - 27.0	27.5 - 28.0
28.5 - 29.0	29.5 - 30.0
30.5 - 31.0	31.5 - 32.0
32.5 - 33.0	33.5 - 34.0
34.5 - 35.0	35.5 - 36.0
36.5 - 37.0	37.5 - 38.0
38.5 - 39.0	39.5 - 40.0
40.5 - 41.0	41.5 - 42.0
42.5 - 43.0	43.5 - 44.0
44.5 - 45.0	45.5 - 46.0
46.5 - 47.0	47.5 - 48.0
48.5 - 49.0	49.5 - 50.0
50.5 - 51.0	51.5 - 52.0
52.5 - 53.0	53.5 - 54.0
54.5 - 55.0	55.5 - 56.0
56.5 - 57.0	57.5 - 58.0
58.5 - 59.0	59.5 - 60.0
60.5 - 61.0	61.5 - 62.0
62.5 - 63.0	63.5 - 64.0
64.5 - 65.0	65.5 - 66.0
66.5 - 67.0	67.5 - 68.0
68.5 - 69.0	69.5 - 70.0
70.5 - 71.0	71.5 - 72.0
72.5 - 73.0	73.5 - 74.0
74.5 - 75.0	75.5 - 76.0
76.5 - 77.0	77.5 - 78.0
78.5 - 79.0	79.5 - 80.0
80.5 - 81.0	81.5 - 82.0
82.5 - 83.0	83.5 - 84.0
84.5 - 85.0	85.5 - 86.0
86.5 - 87.0	87.5 - 88.0
88.5 - 89.0	89.5 - 90.0
90.5 - 91.0	91.5 - 92.0
92.5 - 93.0	93.5 - 94.0
94.5 - 95.0	95.5 - 96.0
96.5 - 97.0	97.5 - 98.0
98.5 - 99.0	99.5 - 100.0

Community Survey –  
We need your ideas!



Take the survey online:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MMD5FMN>

If you have questions, feedback or ideas for mitigation actions please contact **Lee Shipman, EM Director** or **Glenn**, who is the consultant for the update – [glenn@outlook.com](mailto:glenn@outlook.com)

### Mitigation successes

With the hard work and dedication of Lee Shipman, as well as the Tribe’s staff and community, The Shoalwater Bay Tribe is a **national leader in implementing mitigation actions** to make the community more resilient to natural hazards.

Of the 19 mitigation actions identified in the original plan, 15 actions have been fully implemented or on-going:

Successes include:

- New evacuation routing and signage
- Expanded the protective berm to reduce coastal flooding
- Tsunami Evacuation tower
- Increased CERT training
- Community awareness and preparedness program




Figure 4: Plan update table



Figure 5: 2018 Yellow Brick Road event



#### YELLOW BRICK ROAD EVENT – JULY 23, 2019

This year, the consultant was located at the end of the walk, at the 55 foot elevation tsunami evacuation zone. The mitigation plan was tied into the walk, with a discussion of the tribe’s mitigation efforts, as well as updated hazard maps, such as tsunami inundation and velocity. The community survey developed for the plan update was available, with most participants who completed the walk responding. There was also great discussions and feedback with local tribal and community members.

Figure 6: View from Eagle Hill Rd. from shelter



Figure 7: Mitigation Plan information table



Figure 8: National Geographic producers interviewing tribal members after tsunami health walk, 2019



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## COMMUNITY SURVEY

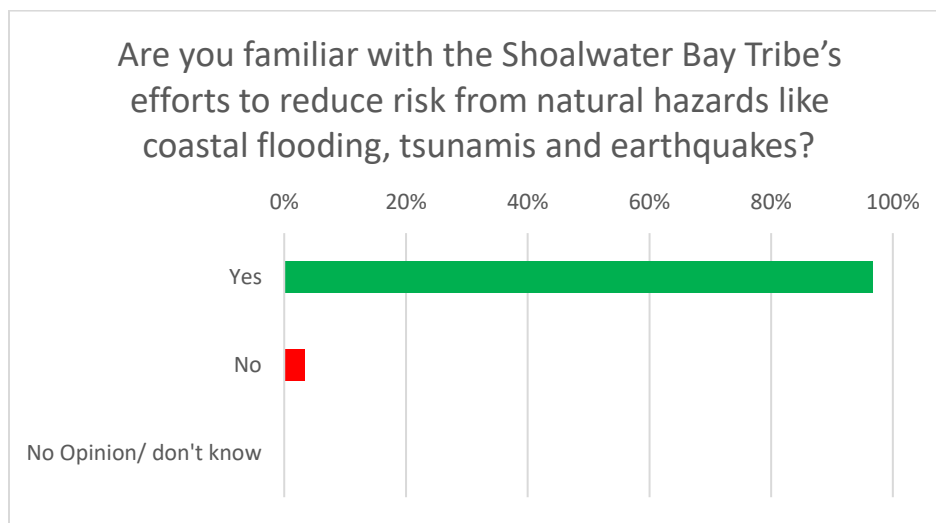
A survey was prepared to solicit feedback and ideas on the tribe’s mitigation efforts and input for the update. Compared to previous survey efforts, It was streamlined into five questions that was determined to measure the tribe’s current mitigation and preparedness efforts, as well provide opportunity for ideas and priorities. It was created using an online tool, Survey Monkey<sup>2</sup>, with paper copies available. Ideally response could have been better, but response was great during the 2019 Yellow Brick Event. The survey was made available in July 2018, with responses summarized as of August 2019.

For ease of use and convenience to survey takers, the survey was limited to five questions. The results are summarized below. Questions 4 and 5 responses are summarized as word clouds. Please note that raw responses were summarized and edited to provide clarity to issues and concerns noted in survey responses.

## SURVEY RESULTS

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Figure 9: Survey Question 1 Responses



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<sup>2</sup> Survey available at - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MMD5FMN>

Figure 10: Survey Question 2 Responses

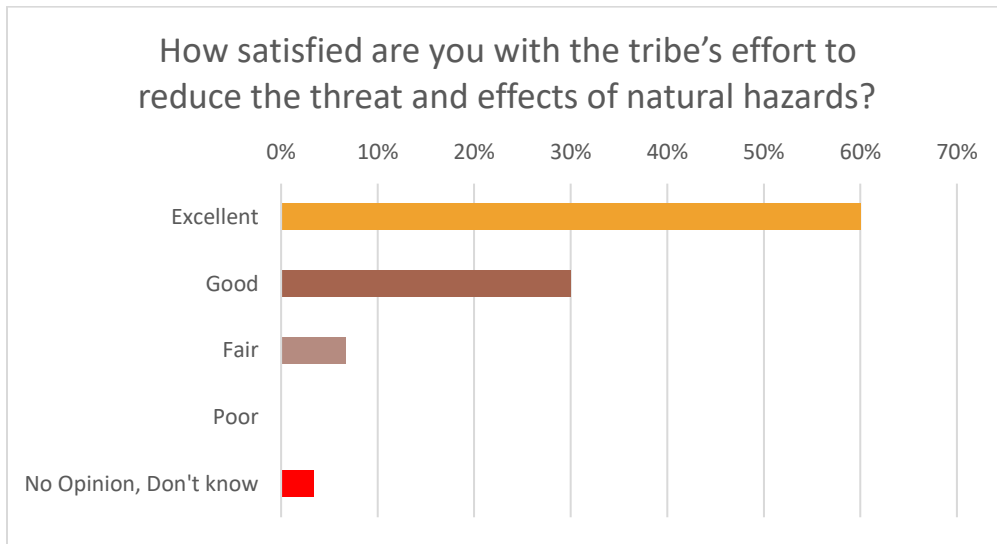
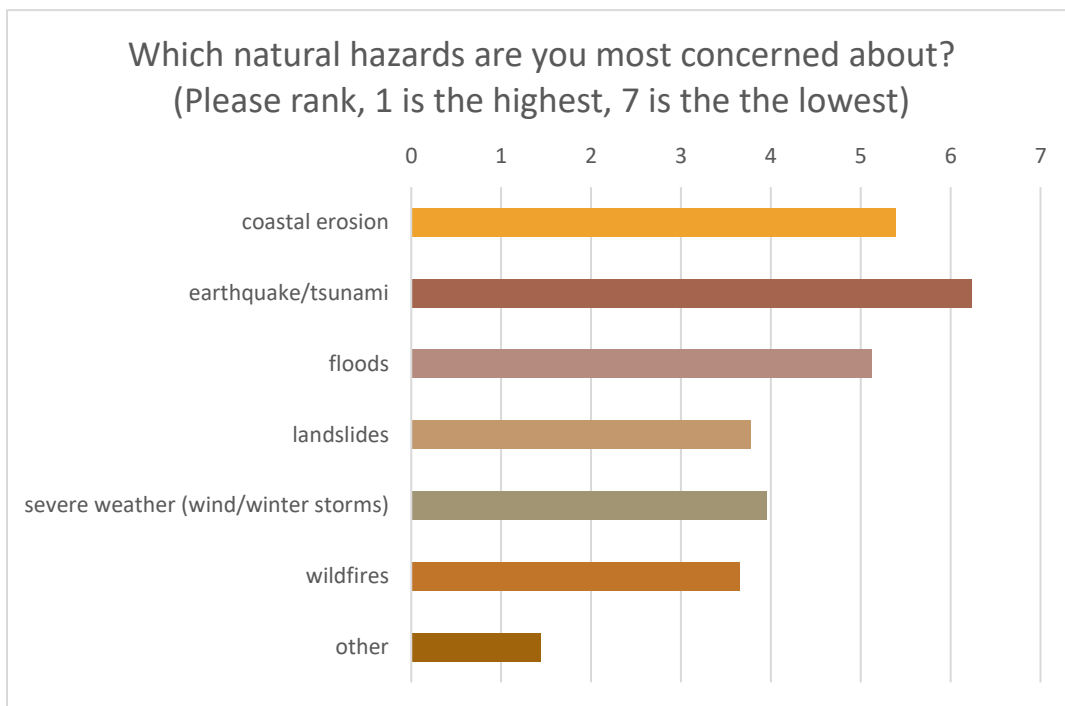


Figure 11: Survey Question 3 Responses





### PLAN PARTICIPANTS AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

Every effort was made to include all of the Shoalwater Bay Tribe's departments, employees, tribal members and residents of the Reservation as well as the local community in the planning process. . It should be noted that the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe is very small, and many of the tribal members who live on the Reservation also work for the Tribe.

Community events, such as the Annual Yellow Brick Road were set-up to include presentations on the plan, as well as provide opportunity for staff and community members to discuss hazards facing the community and current and potential mitigation efforts as. Meetings were also held individually with Tribal departments and staff as necessary. Tribe and consultant also reached out to local partners and agencies for feedback and technical assistance and data. An online community survey was prepared to allow individual feedback. A draft of the plan was made available for public comment and feedback, while the final plan will be made available on the Tribe's website.

Participating tribal departments and groups include:

- Shoalwater Bay Tribal Council
- Tribal Administration
- Emergency Management (project lead)
- Education Program
  - Cultural/Heritage
- Natural Resources Department
- Housing Department
- Wellness Center
- Tribal Library
- Human Resources
- Willapa Bay Enterprises
- Shoalwater Bay Casino
- Tribal Law Enforcement
- Information Technology Dept.

Other agencies involved include:

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
  - Assistant and data on North Cove coastal erosion
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
  - Technical assistance
- WA State Emergency Mgmt. Division
  - Technical assistance and review
- Pacific County
- Pacific County Emergency Management
- Pacific County Sheriff's Office
- Town of Tokeland
- Community of North Cove
- Pacific County Fire District #5
- WA Dept. of Ecology
- WA Dept. of Natural Resources – WA Geological Survey
  - Technical assistance ad data on tsunami hazard modelling
- University of WA – College of Architecture and Urban Planning
  - Autumn 2018 URBDP 508B Advanced Urban Planning Studio: Community Engagement for Coastal Resilience



## REVIEW AND INCORPORATION OF EXISTING PLANS, STUDIES AND REPORTS

The Shoalwater Tribe has made a deliberate effort to review and incorporate existing plans, studies and reports into the Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan update. Ideally, this review will synthesize and tailor this collective knowledge to the specific Shoalwater Bay Indian community. In turn, this plan will fit into an integrated and regional approach to disaster planning that leverages the capabilities of all the tribal, state and local partners.

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### 2019 UPDATE

There have been many developments since the 2014 hazard mitigation plan update, and thus it was imperative to review and incorporate any new plans, studies and reports that have been developed since the last update. FEMA tribal mitigation plan requirements have changed, older report and data may no longer be accessible, and new hazard data and studies have been released that need to be analyzed and included in the plan.

The following section will describe the major plans, studies, reports as well as additional sources that were reviewed and incorporated into this update. Also note that additional sources and reports incorporated are referenced by footnotes.

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### BACKGROUND/HISTORIC SOURCES

- Shoalwater Bay Tribal website - <https://www.shoalwaterbay-nsn.gov/>
- Pacific County Historical Society - <http://pacificcohistory.org/>
- Lower Chinook ethnographic notes – Verne F. Ray, 1938  
<https://digitalcollections.lib.washington.edu/digital/collection/lctext/id/8657>
- Shoalwater Bay Tribal Library

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### FEDERAL RESOURCES

- FEMA – Tribal Mitigation Plan review guide – 2018 <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/18355>
- FEMA website was also reviewed for NFIP status, disaster declarations and grant/program resources.
- US Army Corps of Engineers – numerous studies were reviewed regarding the study, development and upgrading of the protective berm along the Tribe’s shoreline. The Corps also provided an assessment in 2018 on Eagle Hill Rd, the existing water tank and the multi-purpose shelter.
  - Shoalwater Bay Erosion and Ecosystem Restoration:  
<https://www.nws.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Programs-and-Projects/Projects/Shoalwater/>

- FEMA Risk MAP Study for Pacific County... including Shoalwater Bay Tribe – July 2015: [https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gisresources/SEA/RiskMAP/Pacific/Pacific\\_Project\\_Docs/Pacific\\_RiskReport\\_Final.pdf](https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gisresources/SEA/RiskMAP/Pacific/Pacific_Project_Docs/Pacific_RiskReport_Final.pdf)

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## TRIBAL

Although much of the plan update was rewritten to follow FEMA planning guidance and to make more readable, the 2008 and 2014 Shoalwater Bay Tribal Mitigation Plans were used and referenced extensively for this plan. The consultant for the 2008 plan was used for this update, and was able to review and incorporate earlier research as applicable. The Tribe also updated and incorporated new GIS data and reports about tribal properties and structures, as well as development plans.

In addition, other tribal hazard mitigation plans for Northwest Coastal Tribes were reviewed for best practices, where available.

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## HAZARD DATA AND RESEARCH

Improved and updated hazard data and research was available for this update and was incorporated to fullest extent possible. This included updates to tsunami modeling and inundation, and better understanding of earthquake vulnerability, climate change and coastal erosion.

Sources include:

- WA Dept. of Natural Resources – tsunami hazard maps and models - <https://www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/geology/geologic-hazards/Tsunamis>  
A new study was released in 2018 for the southwest Washington coast, including Shoalwater Bay, showing updated tsunami inundation and velocity. This was incorporated into the risk assessment and mitigation strategy.
- WA Dept. of Ecology – Flood Hazard Maps - <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/coastalatlasc/tools/Flood.aspx>  
Updated FEMA flood risk maps for Pacific County and the Shoalwater Bay Reservation became effective May 18, 2015. This was too late to be included for analysis for the 2014 plan update, as noted in the plan, but has been utilized for the update.
- HAZUS - <https://www.fema.gov/hazus> -  
GIS software provided by FEMA used to estimate and visualize potential losses from natural hazards including earthquake and flood. Version 4.2, service pack 3 was released and utilized for this update.
- Tribal Climate Tool – <https://cig.uw.edu/resources/tribal-vulnerability-assessment-resources/tribal-climate-tool/>.  
This visualization tool enables users to explore and download climate change projections and climate change summaries for selected tribal areas.
- U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit, Tribal Climate Change Guide - <https://toolkit.climate.gov/tool/tribal-climate-change-guide>
- Assessment of Coastal Erosion and Future Projections for North Cove, Pacific County, WA Dept. of Ecology, June 2017. <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/1706010.pdf>

This study includes the Shoalwater Bay Tribe’s coastal areas. ECY staff provided updated data and visualizations for this mitigation plan update.

- Sea Level Rise Projections for Washington Coast, 2018, Prepared for WA Coastal Resilience Project. <http://www.wacoastalnetwork.com/wcrp-documents.html> .

This report contains latest projections of sea-level rise on Washington’s coast to the year 2150, and accounts for geological-driven land uplift on the Pacific coast, such as Shoalwater Bay, and sinking in Puget Sound. Land subsidence from an off-shore earthquake is also included.

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## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Pacific County WA 2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan - <https://www.pacificcountysheriff.com/plans.html>. This plan is being updated for 2020-21.
- Grays Harbor Hazard Mitigation Planning – 2018 - [http://www.co.grays-harbor.wa.us/departments/emergency\\_management/Hazard\\_Mitigation\\_Planning.php](http://www.co.grays-harbor.wa.us/departments/emergency_management/Hazard_Mitigation_Planning.php)
- WA State Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan – 2018 - <https://mil.wa.gov/enhanced-hazard-mitigation-plan>

## INTEGRATION INTO OTHER PLANNING EFFORTS

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe recognizes its exposure and vulnerability to natural hazards, and this knowledge plays a key role in much of its day-to-day operations and long-term planning. The Shoalwater Bay Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan serves as the basis for the tribe’s emergency management planning, as well as helps inform its land use and economic development planning and decision making.

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## INTEGRATION INTO TRIBAL PLANNING EFFORTS

As a tribal sovereign nation, with a small land base, the Shoalwater Bay Tribe does not have the need nor mandated requirement to implement formal planning processes such as land use or zoning plans that could be an area for integration. The tribe does follow best practices in land use and zoning that accounts for the threat from natural hazards, particularly from tsunami inundation, sea level rise and storm surge.

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## INTEGRATION INTO FEMA PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

This plan serves as the basis for the Tribe’s emergency management and preparedness efforts, and is a key component of its utilization of FEMA program and initiatives. The planning process allows the Tribe to update its knowledge of hazard exposure and vulnerability, and help focus its mitigation efforts.

Mitigation actions from this planning process can be used to pursue FEMA PDM grants, such as the recent project grant for a tsunami vertical evacuation tower. Issues identified in this plan also led to the Tribe requesting updated National Flood Insurance Program mapping and participation. In the event of

natural disaster, this plan and its planning process will be used to identify recovery initiatives and for utilization of FEMA recovery assistance, including grants and support.

#### METHOD AND SCHEDULE TO MONITOR, EVALUATE AND UPDATE PLAN WITHIN PLAN UPDATE SCHEDULE

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe's Emergency Management Director will be responsible for the on-going monitoring of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Plan and its implementation is a primary work responsibility of the Emergency Management Department. Monitoring efforts include:

- Tracking relevance of the plan over time and noting where priorities need to be updated and/or revised.
- Implementation of mitigation actions, including grant and resource management, as well as documenting efforts.
- Monitoring new tribal property, building, and infrastructure development and the effects of natural hazards on proposed and new developments.
- Tracking new hazard events, as well as documenting damages.
- Monitoring new and emerging research, data/models, and best available science on natural hazards and relevance to the Tribal community.

The Shoalwater Bay Emergency Planning Committee, led by the Emergency Management Director, will review the hazard mitigation plan annually and will update it every five years. Annual reviews will:

- Identify progress made on the implementation of mitigation measures and projects;
- Assess the impacts of recent disasters on the tribal community to determine whether the HMP should be revised based on the new information;
- Examine and ensure that the Mitigation Plan requirements, as well as goals, objectives and actions, are incorporated into current and future Tribal planning processes.

The annual review will occur during the last quarter of each calendar year to coincide with the tribal fiscal year and to prepare for PDM grant deadlines.

The effectiveness of projects and other actions will be evaluated at appropriate, project specific intervals or, at a minimum, when the THMP is updated every five years as required for Tribal plans submitted to FEMA.

The plan update, which will occur every five years, will at minimum, include the following FEMA-required reviews and changes:

- **Changes in Development**

The plan update shall describe changes in development that have occurred in hazard prone areas since the last plan was approved. If no changes are identified, the plan update shall validate the information in the previously approved plan.

- **Revisions due to progress in tribal mitigation efforts**

The plan shall describe the status of each mitigation action and/or project identified in the previous plan. For those actions not completed, the plan shall provide a narrative describing the status of the project, including why it was not implemented or removed. The plan shall describe how the tribal government incorporated the previous mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms, as applicable.

- **Revisions due to updates in priorities**

The plan shall describe if and how any priorities changed (for example, due to disaster events or changes in leadership) since the plan was previously approved. If no changes in priorities are necessary, the plan updates shall validate the information in the previously approved plan.

In addition to the review and revision required, for the Plan update, the Tribe will –

- Engage in a public planning process, as the tribe defines, in order to build community awareness for the plan, and gain feedback and ideas on current and proposed planning efforts and mitigation actions.
- Review and update, as needed, hazard assessments using current data and models and best available science.
- Review and update tribal capabilities and processes, as needed to reflect current conditions.

A draft plan will be submitted to FEMA for pre-approval and to ensure compliance with requirements. Upon pre-approval, the updated Plan will be presented to the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Council for approval and adoption before it is submitted to FEMA for re-approval.

#### PROCESS FOR CONTINUED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE PLAN MAINTENANCE PROCESS

In order to continue public participation in the Plan Maintenance and Update process, the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan will be available online on the Tribe’s website.<sup>3</sup> The Plan will also be available in hardcopy at the Tribal Emergency Management Office. Comments can be submitted via e-mail, telephone or in person at the Emergency Management office, or during Tribal Council meetings relating to the Plan.

The tribe also encourages continued public interest and feedback in the mitigation plan, and apart from formal processes noted, also encourages tribal leaders, staff and community members to discuss, brainstorm and provide feedback and ideas on mitigation initiatives as needed with emergency management staff.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.shoalwaterbay-nsn.gov/home/shoalwater-services/emergency-management/>

## HAZARD IDENTIFICATION & RISK ASSESSMENT

### INTRODUCTION & SUMMARY

This section will identify the natural hazards that affect the Shoalwater Bay Tribe and its lands, the impacts of the hazards as well as the Tribe's exposure and vulnerability to those hazards.

The Shoalwater Tribe's remote geographic location on a low, flat sand spit, facing the Pacific Ocean with a major subduction zone just off-shore, makes it vulnerable to a range of high impact hazards which include:

- Earthquakes
- Tsunamis
- Severe weather and storms

In addition, the tribe can be impacted from:

- Climate change effects
- Coastal Erosion
- Flooding
- Landslides
- Wildfire

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### PRIMARY THREATS

- The biggest threat to the tribe is **tsunami**. Although low frequency, the impacts would be cataclysmic, virtually destroying all of the Tribe's structures, except those on high ground, within minutes of an earthquake. Structural damage would be about \$38 million (total estimated value of Tribe's structures as of 2019). There is potential for mass casualties and injuries, especially the elderly and those with special needs who may not be able to evacuate rapidly. Economic losses from tribal businesses, such as the casino, and unemployment, as well as costs for temporary housing, debris removal and repairs, and rebuilding, would also be catastrophic for the Tribe.
- High frequency, but low to medium impacts are the annually recurring **severe fall and winter storms** that affect the Pacific Northwest coast. The tribe has made efforts to mitigate the effects of storms, but extremely severe events can still have major impacts, including loss of power and communications, isolation due to road closures caused by flooding and landslides, damage to structures from wind and toppled trees, and potential coastal flooding and debris from storm surge.
- **Coastal erosion** of Cape Shoalwater and Empire Spit will continue to be a long-term hazard. Although short-term impacts are minimal, without continued mitigation (such as monitoring, protective berms and beach nourishments projects), the probability of long-term impacts will

increase. These impacts include coastal flooding, loss of land and property, loss of natural resource areas, and increased severity of tsunami impacts.

- **Climate change and global warming** will have long-term impacts on the tribe, including increased precipitation and intensity from fall and winter storms, increased drought and heat during the summer, increasing risk of wildfires, and impacts to the natural environment from warming streams and sea-level rise.

This plan does not exclude from analysis any identified hazard that could potentially impact the tribe.

In addition to updates described in this plan, this 2019 update also incorporates and references information from the 2009 and 2014 plans. Please refer to these plans for additional data and information on the hazards discussed in this section.

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## 2019 UPDATE

This update included an extensive review of the natural hazards affecting the tribe, as well as an update of Tribal impacts based on

- Updated property and structural data and value estimates
- Updated hazards data and maps
- Updated tribal priorities

In general, the impacts to the tribe's people, property and infrastructure remain the same as compared to the previous plan update.

Important changes to highlight include:

- Updated earthquake modelling and scenarios. The severity of potential events increased, but total tribal impacts would be similar. Land subsidence after an earthquake may increase exposure to flooding.
- Tsunami inundation and velocity. New modelling indicated increased severity of an earthquake –triggered tsunami event, including higher inundation zones, as well as modelling indicating high velocities in the Tokeland area. Due to the previous understanding of hazard severity, impacts to the Tribe remain similar as previous estimates.
- Flooding impacts reduced. New FEMA flood zone maps indicate less exposure and impact from flooding. Earthquake-induced land subsidence may change exposure and impacts from flooding.
- Climate change- newly released data and modelling help in estimating potential severity and impact to the Tribe.
- Wildfire –planning committee staff noted an increase in brush and wildfires, possibly related to climate-change induced drought and dry conditions.

It should also be noted that this section has been reformatted to meet current FEMA tribal planning requirements and to better present relevant information about natural hazards and the Tribe's risks and impacts.

## TRIBAL PLANNING AREA

This plan update encompasses the current and historical lands, as well as any future properties acquired, of the Shoalwater Bay Tribe and its ancestors, including its Reservation, established in 1866 and expanded in 1977, as well as additional trust lands and fee properties. This includes all buildings, infrastructure, natural resources, and cultural/historic village & archaeological sites, as well as its tribal members, employees and guests on its lands and properties.

This planning scope does not limit in any way the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe's hazard mitigation and emergency management planning concerns or influence nor its sovereignty as a Tribal Nation.

This risk assessment will analyze the tribe's reservation and properties as of 2019, as well as properties planned to be acquired within the next few years, as applicable.

Figure 14: Shoalwater Bay Tribe - general location



The Shoalwater Bay Reservation is located along the north coast of Willapa Bay, Pacific County, Washington, centered around geographic coordinates **46.725 N, -124.02 W**.

State Route 105 and Tokeland Rd are the major roads serving the tribal community.

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## 2019 PLAN UPDATE

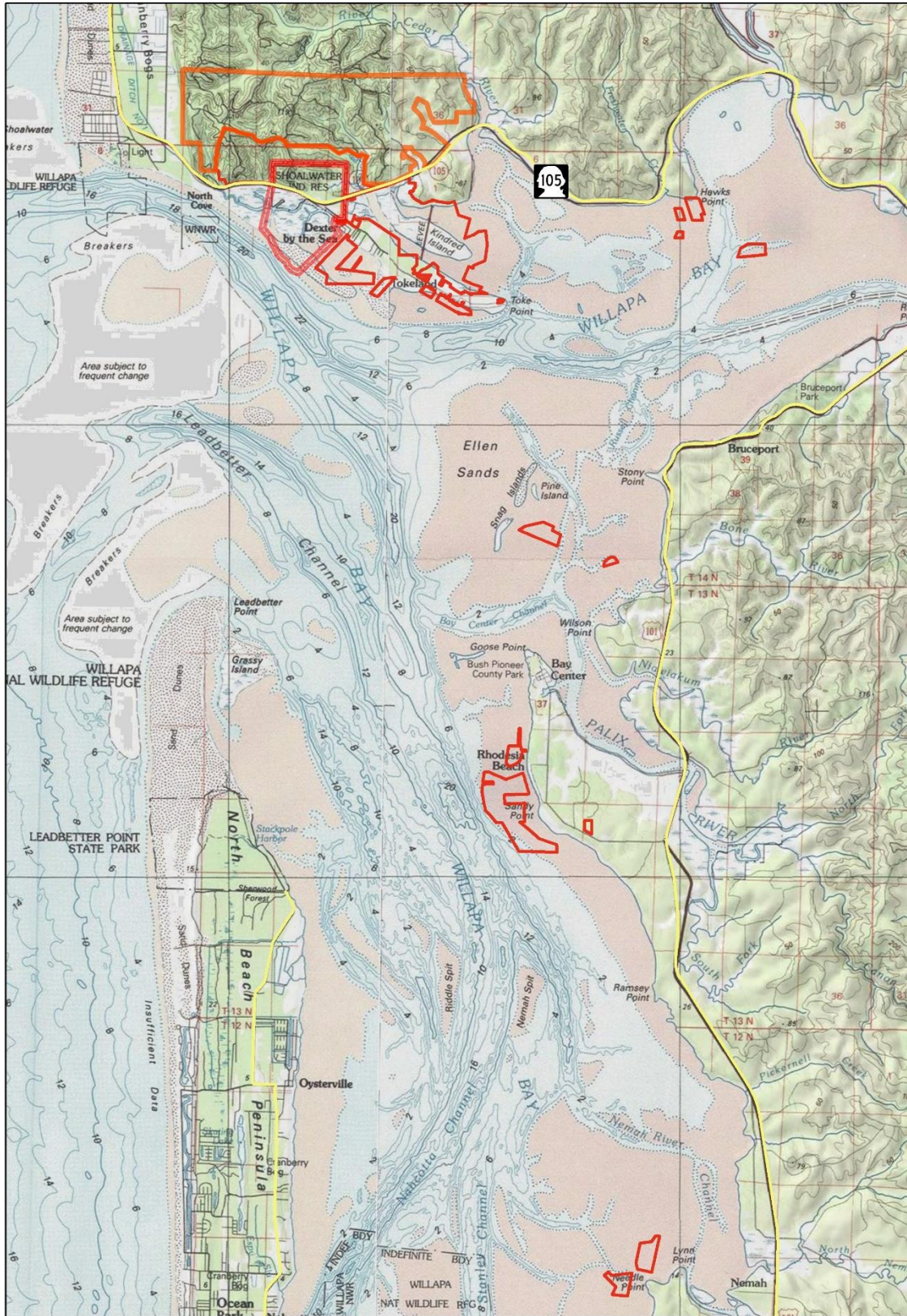
This risk assessment has been updated to include and analyze tribal properties, buildings and infrastructure that has been acquired, built or expanded since the previous plan update in 2014.

The Tribe's building inventory was updated for HAZUS-MH analysis, using 2018-9 building insurance data provided by the Tribe. Of the 108 structures mapped for the update, 73 were included for HAZUS. Missing structures generally include sheds and garages.

Due to cultural sensitivities, detailed analysis of historic village and archaeological sites was not conducted, although potential impacts will be discussed where applicable.



Figure 15: Tribal planning area - Willapa Bay (tribal land & properties in red)



### LOCATION AND EXTENT

Climate change is defined as the long-term shift in global or regional climate patterns. Although climates are always changing in the long-term, during the last half century, the planet has been experiencing a period of rapid climate change, along with a rise in global temperatures.

The 2016 report by the Northwest Treaty Tribes *“Climate Change Impacts to Tribal Rights and Resources”* notes<sup>4</sup>:

“Global warming is the increase in global average temperatures that has been recorded around the world. Rising temperatures cause changes to long-term patterns and variability of climate factors such as wind, humidity, and the type and amount of precipitation. The dominant driver is the human-caused buildup of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane, and other heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere, largely due to burning fossil fuels and changing land use.

The impacts of climate change are already happening. These impacts are projected to continue or accelerate into the future. In the Pacific Northwest (PNW), the observed and projected trends in physical systems include the following: ·

- Warmer air temperatures;
- Shrinking glaciers;
- Less snowfall;
- Decreasing summer streamflows;
- Increasing winter peak flows;
- Changes to timing of peak and base flows;
- Higher stream and lake temperatures;
- Lower levels of dissolved oxygen in streams;
- More sediment delivered into, carried by, and deposited in streams;
- Drying out of wetlands;
- Increased frequency and size of wildfires;
- Greater probability of landslides;
- Warmer ocean temperatures;
- Rising sea levels;
- Stronger storms and greater storm surge; and
- Changing ocean chemistry, including ocean acidification.”

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe’s traditional and current homelands on and around the Willapa Bay estuary will be affected by rapid climate change caused by global warming.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://nwtreatytribes.org/climatechange/> executive summary, p. vi

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## PAST EVENTS AND PROBABILITIES OF FUTURE EVENTS

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### PAST EVENTS

Although climates, on a long-term scale, are always in flux, the rapid climate change caused by recent global warming is a phenomena unprecedented in recorded history. Without past events, it is challenging to predict and mitigate against the effects of climate change.

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### PROBABILITY OF FUTURE EVENTS

For climate change, estimating probability of future events is not applicable for estimating impacts and vulnerability, as it's the secondary effects of climate change that will impact the Tribe. Instead climate projections using models will be used to estimate different impacts based on different scenarios.

The University of Washington Climate Impact Groups' "Tribal Climate Tool" was used for these estimates<sup>5</sup>. Analysis was conducted for the Shoalwater Bay Tribe. The model utilizes the WA Dept. of Ecology's Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 24, or Willapa watershed. The model utilizes two future greenhouse gas emissions (low and high) over three future time periods (2010-39, 2040-69, 2070-99).

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## DESCRIPTION OF IMPACTS, SUMMARY OF VULNERABILITY

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### IMPACTS

The Tribal Climate Tool was utilized to identify impacts from climate change to the Shoalwater Bay Tribe. For this mitigation plan, the impacts short term (2010-2039, compared with data 1971-2000) and a high emission scenario are summarized below. The tool lists a wide range of climate-related variables. This report will list those related to natural hazards in this plan. The full climate report can be found online<sup>6</sup>.

### PRECIPITATION

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From April to September, total precipitation is projected to decrease by 0.6 inches.

From October to March, total precipitation is expected to increase by 1.2 inches.

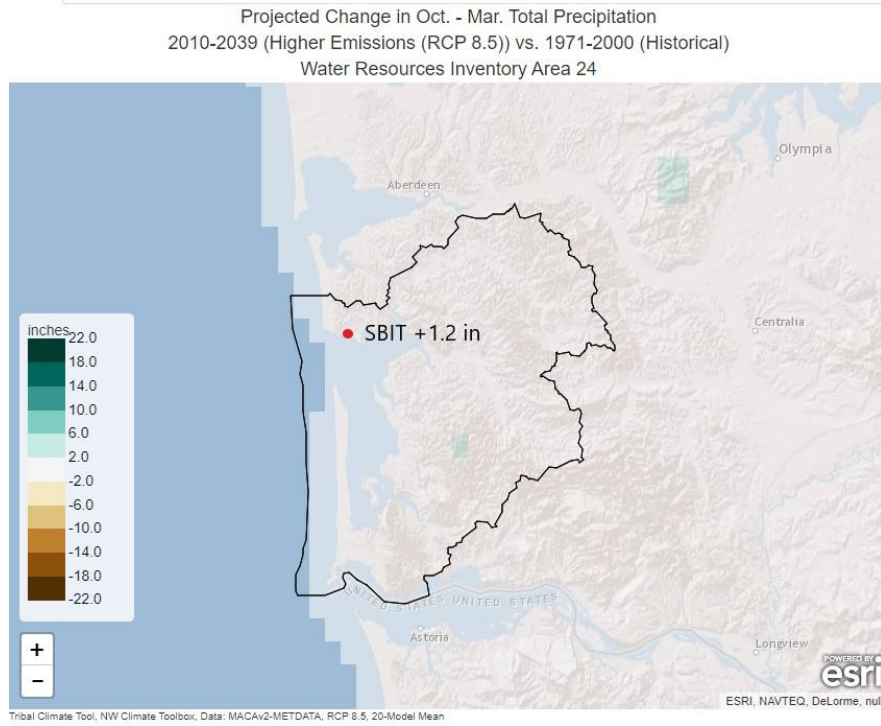
Decreased rain in the spring/summer will increase risk of drought and wildfires, while increased precipitation during the fall/winter rainy season will mean increased risk of severe weather, flooding and landslides.

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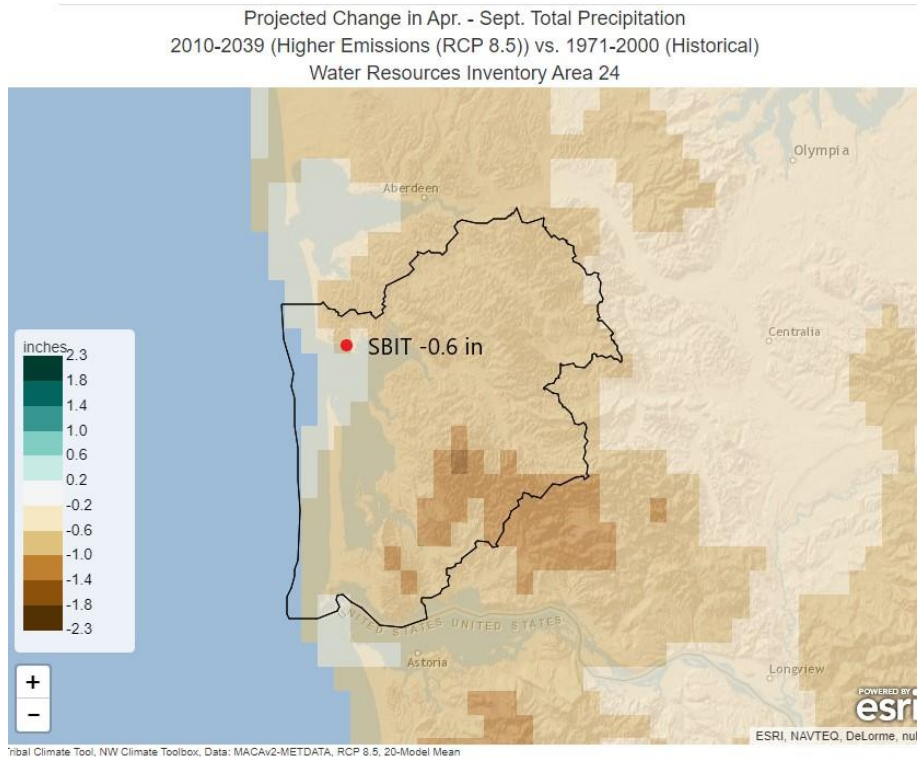
<sup>5</sup> <https://cig.uw.edu/resources/tribal-vulnerability-assessment-resources/tribal-climate-tool/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://climate.northwestknowledge.net/NWTOOLBOX/tribalProjections.php> select "Shoalwater Bay Tribe"

**Figure 16: Projected Change in Oct. - Mar. Precipitation 2010-39**



**Figure 17: Projected Change in Apr. - Sept Precipitation, 2010-39**



## FIRE DANGER DAYS

### Very High Fire Danger

The model projects that “Very high” Fire Danger days per year will increase by 7 days.

### Extreme Fire Danger

The model projects that “Extreme” Fire danger days will increase by 3 days.

Figure 18: Projected Change in Annual Days of "Very High" Fire Danger 2010-39

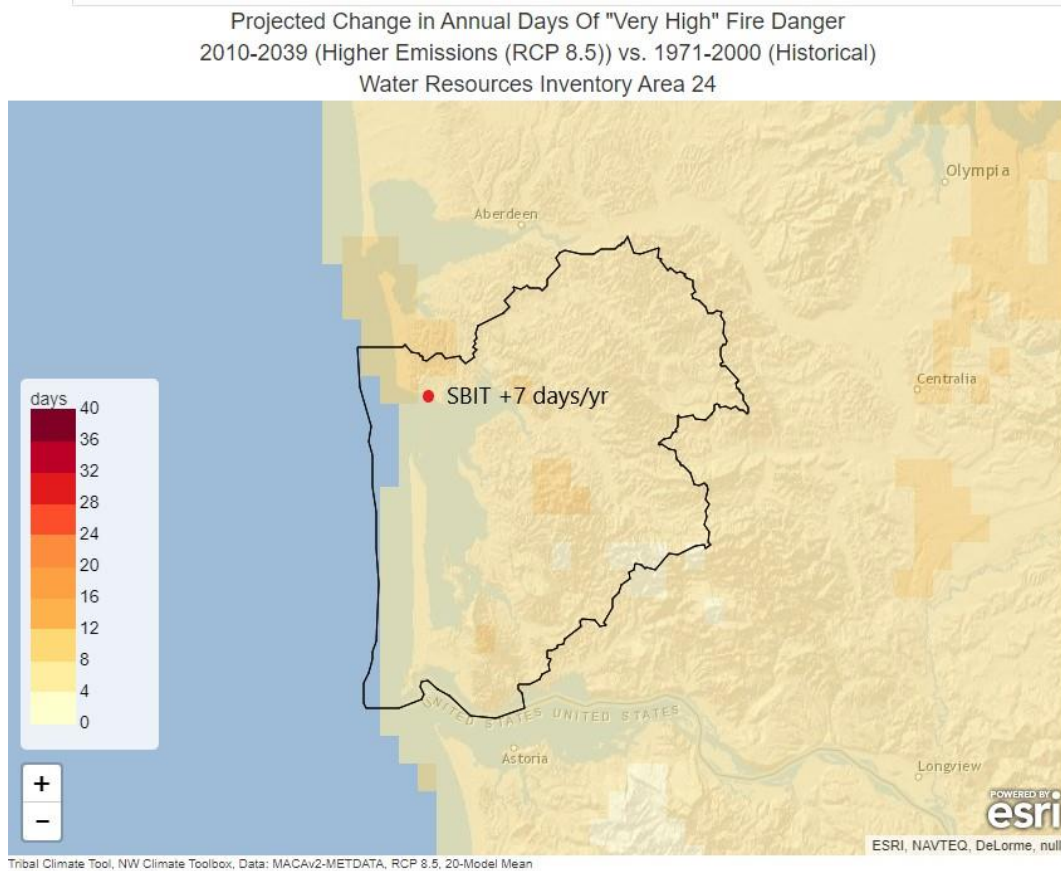
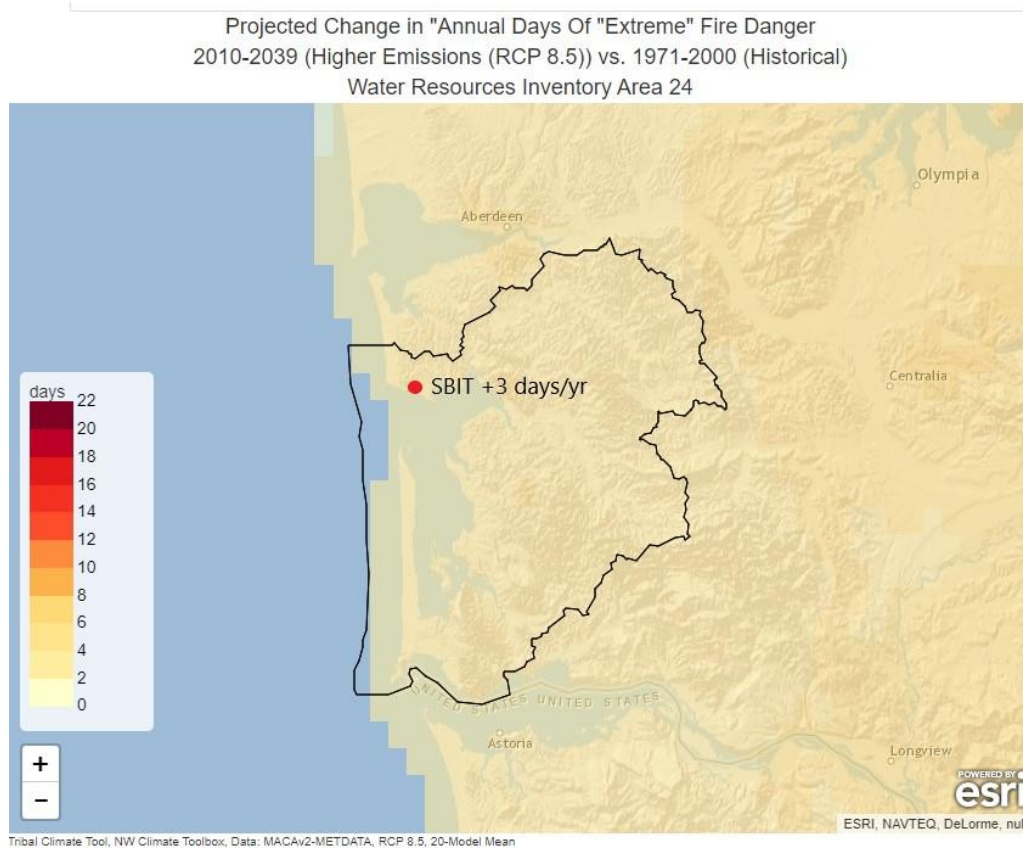


Figure 19: Projected Change in Annual Days of "Extreme" Fire Danger, 2010-39



## SEA-LEVEL RISE

The model estimates that for the time period 2020-39, sea-level around Shoalwater Bay Reservation will rise about 0.2 feet. It should be noted that the Pacific Coast of Washington is rising due to plate tectonics<sup>7</sup>. Of concern is the long-term estimate of sea-level rise. From 2090-2190, sea level at Shoalwater Bay is estimated to increase by 1.7 feet. A full list and description of sea-level rise projections and probabilities are listed in Appendix D.

## VULNERABILITY

This section will describes the Tribe vulnerability to climate change in the short term 2020-39. Longer term effects will increase identified vulnerabilities as well as create new ones.

## BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The main vulnerability will be due to increase Fire Danger days in the spring/summer as well as increased dry and drought conditions. This will lead to an increase threat from wildfire and brush fires,

<sup>7</sup> The Wa Coast Resiliency Project estimates that the Shoalwater Bay tribal area is rising 0.4 feet per century

which can threaten the Tribe's housing, enterprise and government buildings. Drought can affect water supplies, for drinking as well as fire suppression. Fires would be localized and limited to a small number of adjacent structures.

Sea-level rise and increased fall/winter precipitation are not major vulnerabilities in the short-term, but can potentially increase threat from coastal flooding, as well as landslides.

### ECONOMIC ASSETS

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The short-term effects of climate change would be minimal but could begin to affect the viability of the Tribe's oyster beds, timberlands and tourism industry. The selling of fireworks and celebrations around the Fourth of July may be affected as drought and fire danger days increase.

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### LOCATION AND EXTENT

The southwest Washington Coast has been a major erosion hotspot in the United States for the past century.

Erosion along Washington's southwest coast is affected by: jetties, dams, sediment supply, geologic history, wave action, and weather.

- **Jetties caused beaches to grow and possibly erode**  
Jetties have influenced accretion and possibly erosion patterns on the beaches over distances of 12 miles (20 kilometers) or more.
- **Dams on the Columbia River have reduced the sand supply**  
Dams on the Columbia River have reduced the sand supply to coastal beaches by two thirds.
- **Beach growth has slowed**  
Accretion rates along the coast have slowed dramatically over the past few decades.
- **Beaches that once grew rapidly are now eroding**  
High rates of erosion are occurring along sections of beach that previously grew most rapidly.
- **El Niño impacts the shoreline**  
El Niño, a recurring atmospheric phenomenon, can bring higher sea levels, intense storms, and extreme high waves from the southwest.
- **Earthquakes hit Washington's coast**  
Large earthquakes in the past caused the coast to sink 3 to 6 feet suddenly (1 to 2 meters).
- **Columbia River sand built beaches and barriers**  
Supplied by sand from the Columbia River, beaches on the Long Beach Peninsula grew for 4,000 to 5,000 years.

Washaway Beach and Empire Spit at Cape Shoalwater is the most rapidly eroding beach on the U.S. Pacific Coast. The Cape has been eroding an average of 100 feet year for the last century. At one time Cape Shoalwater provided protection to shallow North Cove and its excellent clamming, and the Shoalwater Bay Reservation on the landward side, from the full onslaught on winter storms and waves. Today Cape Shoalwater Spit is gone, North Cove has filled-in with invasive spartina grass, and the remaining Graveyard Spit and tide/marshlands serves as the only barrier for the Reservation from the ocean.

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### PAST EVENTS AND PROBABILITIES OF FUTURE EVENTS

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#### PAST EVENTS

During the early 1900s, Cape Shoalwater, a massive spit, began eroding rapidly. Between 1890 and 1965, the cape eroded 12,303 feet (3750 meters) at about 124 feet per year (37 meters).

During the 1920s, in the nearby town of North Cove, over 30 homes were claimed by erosion or relocated. In the years that followed, erosion destroyed a lighthouse, a life-saving station, a clam cannery, a school, and a Grange Hall. Erosion also forced the relocation of a cemetery and State Highway



105. In recent decades, erosion has destroyed 20 homes, private property, and part of the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge.

For the Shoalwater Bay Tribe, this led to extensive loss of its tidelands, as well as valuable clam beds and other tidal natural resources. It should be noted that erosion did not directly impact any tribal uplands or structures.

The Shoalwater Reservation has had a history of flooding and storm damage which was further exacerbated by coastal erosion. On March 3, 1999, a combined storm and high tide caused severe flooding of the Shoalwater Reservation shoreline and surrounding community. The Reservation also experienced severe flooding and debris damage from winter storms in February 2006 and December 2007. The flooding is believed to be a direct result of the erosion and breaching of the barrier dune on Empire Spit that fronts the Tokeland Peninsula.

Since the 2014 plan update, the beach has continued to erode, and the WA State DOT and US Army Corp of Engineers have implemented mitigation measures to reduce its hazard. WSDOT implemented Erosion control measures in 2015 and 2017 on State Route 105 northwest of the reservation to prevent its erosion.

The USACE constructed a barrier dune on Graveyard Spit in 2013 (sometimes the name Empire Spit is used) in 2013 to protect the Shoalwater Bay Reservation, which needed to be repaired and expanded in 2018.

Figure 20: Erosion of Cape Shoalwater since 1871



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## PROBABILITY OF FUTURE EVENTS

### CAUSES OF EROSION AT CAPE SHOALWATER

A tidal channel is deepening and migrating northward (an 8 to 12 year cycle.) As the channel migrates, it cuts into the shore. As the channel migrates northward, an underwater sand bar forms near the entrance of Willapa Bay. Waves push sand south, into Willapa Bay, forcing the northern channel to bend south. In time, the tidal channel breaks through the sand bar. The cycle begins again, as the separated sand bar moves to the center of Willapa Bay's entrance.

Figure 21: Cape Shoalwater Erosion Cycle



The Army Corps of Engineers has found in their Erosion Mitigation Study that the Shoalwater Bay Reservation is no longer threatened by direct coastal erosion of developed Tribal lands.

The northward migration of the Willapa channel has stopped. Since the mid-1980s, the slope of the north bank of the main channel has been constant and has remained in a fixed position. This strongly indicates that the channel encountered hard strata that are resistant to erosion, sparing the last of the severely damaged dunes fronting the Shoalwater Bay Reservation shoreline.

Nonetheless erosion to the remaining sand dunes and increased flooding associated with this erosion remains a major concern that needs to be mitigated.

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## DESCRIPTION OF IMPACTS, SUMMARY OF VULNERABILITY

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### IMPACTS

The impacts to the Shoalwater Bay Tribe from the erosion of Cape Shoalwater have been severe. Although the Tribe's properties and structures are not at risk of direct erosion, the erosion of Washaway Beach/North Cove have led to the loss of valuable clam beds and tidal marsh. Invasive spartina grass has taken root in the remaining lands.

The largest impact from coastal erosion has been the loss of protective barrier beaches that protects the Tribe's lands from storm surges, flooding and debris. A 1,700 foot berm was constructed in 2001 and extended by 300 feet in 2007 and has generally served its purpose in mitigating flooding, but storm surge and debris continues to be an issue.

Erosion has also continued to impact the tribe’s only road north, SR 105. WSDOT implemented erosion control projects for the road in 2015 and 2017 in order to maintain the viability of the road and allow access north to Westport.

The biggest impact from coastal erosion is loss of the barrier beaches which could buffer the inundation and velocity of a tsunami. Currently the Shoalwater Bay Tribe could bear the full brunt of an in-coming tsunami.

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## VULNERABILITY

### BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

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The tribe’s buildings and infrastructure are not directly vulnerable to coastal erosion, but continued erosion of Graveyard Spit and North Cove increase the impacts from storm surge and debris. Structures most vulnerable are those adjacent to the shoreline, such as the Tribal Center, Georgetown Station store/offices, Tradewinds Hotel and buildings/homes in the Dexter-by-the-Sea community.

### ECONOMIC ASSETS

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Storm surge and debris could potentially affect the Georgetown Station, which is located adjacent to the protective berm, as well as the Tradewinds Hotel. Although the Cape Shoalwater erosion destroyed the clamming industry, continued erosion threatens any potential for revitalization of this industry at North Cove.

### NATURAL RESOURCES

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Erosion has destroyed acres of the Tribe’s tidal lands, as well as critical habitat located within it. The remaining land has been overtaken by invasive spartina cordgrass, which “out competes native plant species, including rare and endangered plant species, reducing marsh biodiversity and ecology functions”<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup> <https://invasivespecies.wa.gov/prioritiespecies/spartina-cordgrass/>



### LOCATION AND EXTENT

The Pacific Northwest, along with California, is the most seismically risky area of the United States from large damaging earthquakes. Within Washington State, its Pacific Coast is the most vulnerable, subject to intense shaking, liquefaction, land subsidence, and devastating tsunamis.

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe, located on a sandy coastal plain at Willapa Bay, can be affected by Subduction Zone earthquakes and Deep earthquakes.

DNR data shows the existence of past Deep earthquakes around the Reservation/Willapa Bay area, but it is not known if these types of events can cause any significant damage.

DNR data also shows a complex of faults, named the Willapa Fault Zone, in the region, but it is not known at this time if these faults are seismically active or can cause damage.

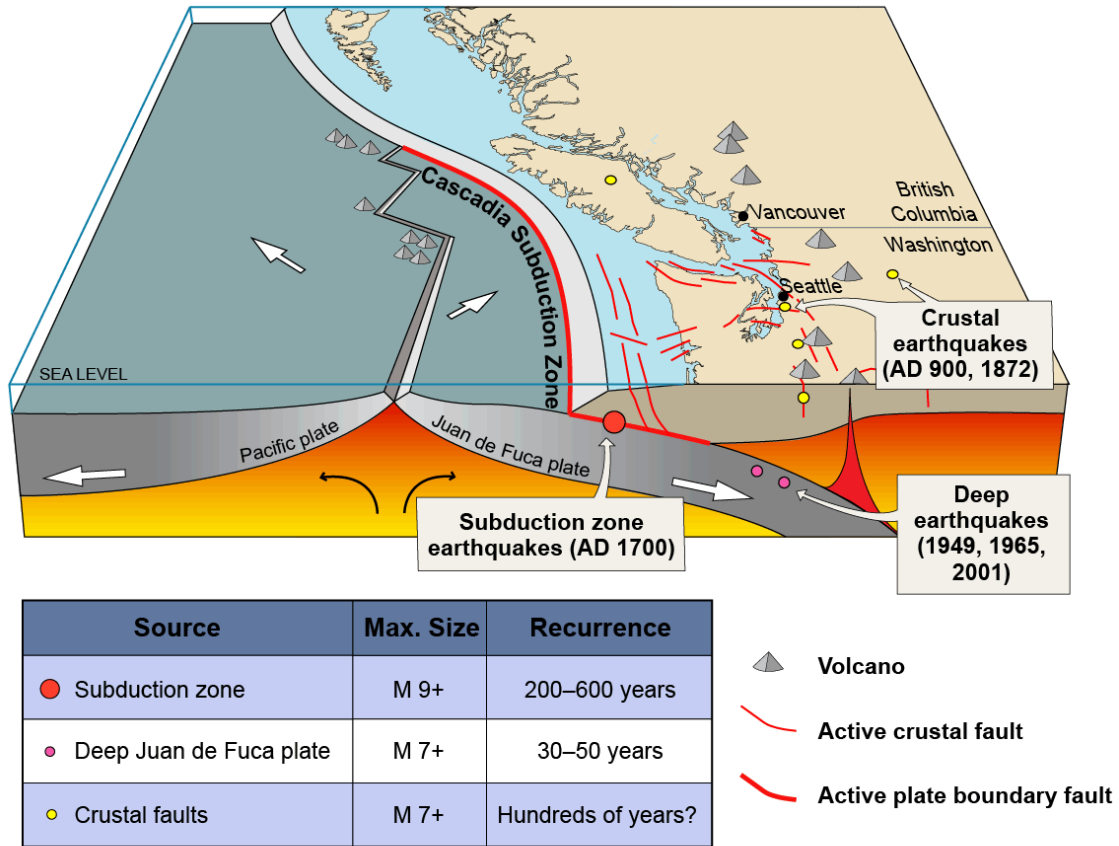
The primary threat to coastal communities, such as the Shoalwater Bay Reservation, is the Cascadia Subduction Zone, and the earthquakes/tsunamis generated by its rupture. It is located about 485 miles off the coast from the Reservation. It is estimated that an earthquake on this fault can generate a magnitude 9+ megathrust earthquake.

The secondary effects of Cascadia earthquake would have major impacts. Tsunami is discussed in its own section. The impacts and vulnerability to subsidence will be discussed in the Flood section in more detail.

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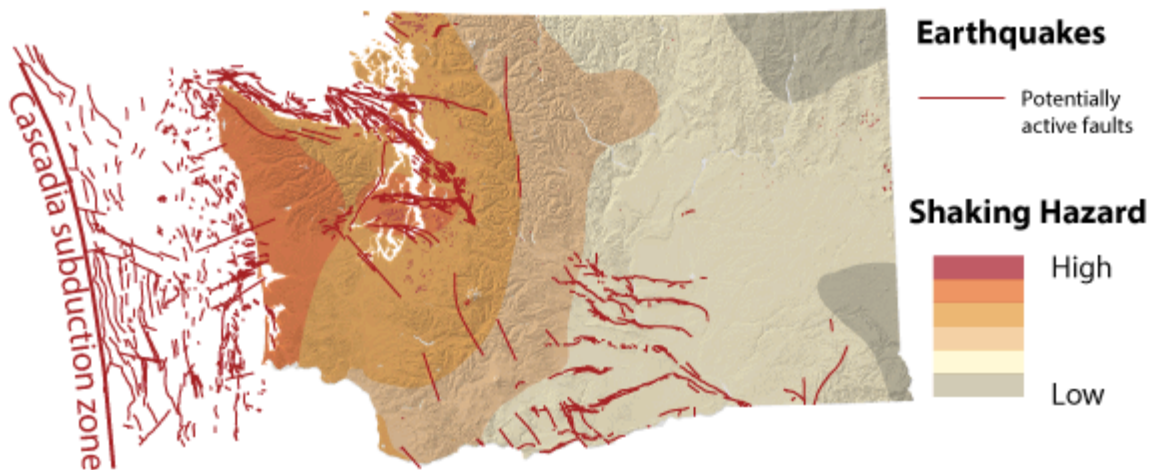
<sup>9</sup> Graphic theme of Nuu chaa nulth (Nootka) cloth screen depicting thunderbird and whale. (Malin, 1999) – accessed from <https://pnsn.org/outreach/native-american-stories/thunderbird-and-whale/totem-art>

Figure 22: Types of Earthquakes, Pacific NW



\*figure modified from USGS Cascadia earthquake graphics at <http://geomaps.wr.usgs.gov/pacnw/pacnweq/index.html>

Figure 23: WA Earthquake Shaking Hazard<sup>10</sup>

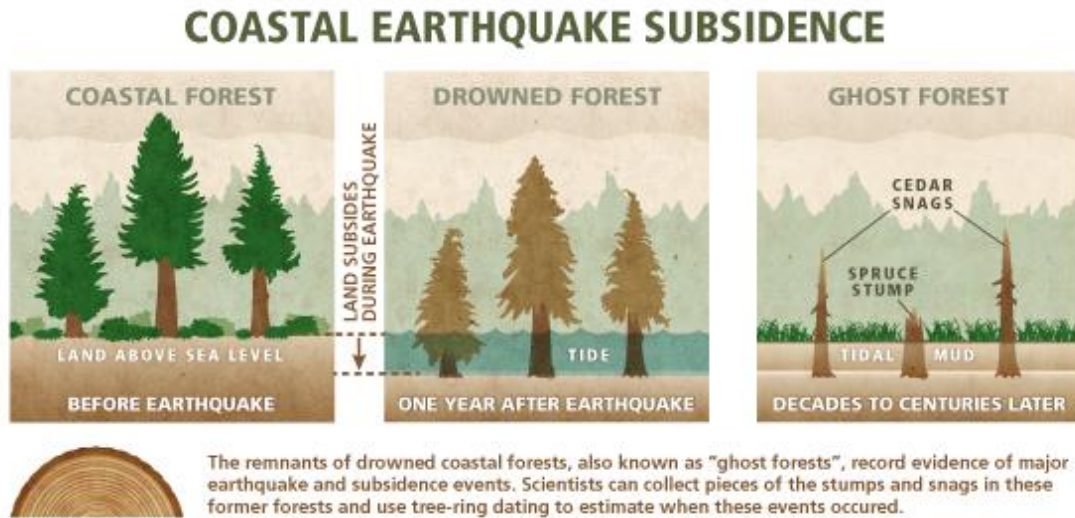


<sup>10</sup> <https://www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/geology/geologic-hazards/earthquakes-and-faults#.5>

## SUBSIDENCE

Based on the deformation model for the Cascadia L1 scenario Tokeland Peninsula has 2.3-2.6 meters (7.5-8.5 feet) of subsidence. The amount of subsidence from the next subduction zone event will vary depending on the severity of the earthquake, however in the 3,500 year land based record of earthquake subsidence, the largest preserved event only approached 1.75 meters (5.7 feet). Thus the modeled value of 2.6 meters would be a conservative value and appropriate for planning purposes.

Figure 24: Coastal Earthquake Subsidence process



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## PAST EVENTS AND PROBABILITIES OF FUTURE EVENTS

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### PAST EVENTS

There have been numerous earthquakes experienced in the Willapa Bay area for hundreds of generations of people. This section will recount some of the past events felt here, but is by no means exhaustive.

- **1700 Cascadia Subduction Earthquake**

Between 9:00 PM and 10:00 PM, local time, on January 26th 1700, a great earthquake shook the Pacific Northwest. This quake, with magnitude estimated at 9.0, rocked the region with strong shaking for several long minutes while coastal Washington plummeted as much as 5 feet relative to coastal waters. This earthquake generated a massive tsunami that affected many of the Indian Tribes living on the coast and adjacent bays and creeks and was recorded in their folklore and histories. The tsunami generated also affected Japan.

This earthquake is used as the basis to help predict and prepare for future events.

- **1872, Entiat, WA (Chelan Co.)** On the evening of December 14, 1872, severe earthquake shaking was widely felt in Washington, Oregon, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, and Alberta

- **1949**, Nisqually Delta Area north of Olympia: This earthquake had a magnitude of 7.1 on the Richter scale
- **2001**, Nisqually Delta Area north of Olympia: This earthquake had a magnitude 6.8 on the Richter scale.

The Pacific Northwest Seismic Network<sup>11</sup> published a compilation of past earthquake events in Southwest Washington that was produced by Pacific County Historical Society and Museum “**Columbia River Chronology Historical Dates**”

#### SW WASHINGTON EARTHQUAKES

- December 2, 1841 earthquake near Ft Vancouver Washington (*Wong and Bott p 128*)
- December 23, 1854 tsunami recorded at Astoria (*Lander p 121*)
- December 24, 1854 tsunami recorded at Astoria (*Lander p 121*)
- April 3, 1868 tsunami recorded at Astoria (*Lander p 122*)
- August 14, 1868 tsunami recorded at Astoria (*Lander p 123*)
- August 23, 1872 teletsunami recorded at Astoria (*Lander p 24, 47*)
- October 12, 1877 earthquake tremors felt in Astoria oscillating from east to west (*Daily Astorian October 13, 1877 p 1*)
- December 12, 1880 2 earthquakes shocks felt (*Daily Astorian [Dec?] 14, 1880 p 3; Algermissen and Harding*)
- April 30, 1882 Severe tremors (*Daily Astorian May 2, 1882 p 3*)
- May 3, 1882 p 3 mentions that earthquake was felt in Westport and Ft Canby about 10:30 pm [on] April 30. Daily Astorian May 4, 1882 tells that 3 shocks vibrated from SW to NE on April 30.
- March 27, 1884 earthquake felt in Hoquiam (*Workman p 38*)
- November 30, 1891 slight earthquake on Grays Harbor (*Workman p 49*)
- February 2, 1892 earthquake in Astoria (*Bott and Wong p 118*)
- February 26, 1895 earthquake hits Astoria (*Daily Morning Astorian p 4*)
- August 6, 1899 earthquake hits Astoria (*Astoria Daily Budget August 8, 1899 p 4*)
- November 20, 1899 tidal wave at Shoalwater Bay (*Astoria Daily Budget November 20, 1899 p 4*)
- September 12, 1903 quake hits city (*Astoria Daily Budget p 4*)
- March 16, 1904 Earthquake felt along Washington Coast and in Aberdeen, Hoquiam (*Lander p 59, 127 not mentioned in Astoria newspapers*)
- March 30, 1904 possible tsunami off Washington coast caused flooding (*Lander p 19 not mentioned in Astoria newspapers*)

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<sup>11</sup> <http://www.pnsn.org/>

- January 11, 1909 Grays Harbor Earthquake (*Workman p 68*)
- November 9, 1920 earthquake hits Astoria (*Astoria Budget p 1*)
- November 29, 1920 slight earthquake hits Astoria (*Astoria Budget p 1*)

There have been numerous other earthquakes felt in the Shoalwater Bay area over the years. The most severe of these can be attributed to the numerous faults found in Western Washington. The most severe crustal earthquake ever felt in Washington occurred in the North Cascades area in 1872. **Table 5** is a summary of large earthquakes that have occurred in Western Wa.

**Table 5: Large Earthquakes in WA State**

Date	Location	Magnitude	Type
1872	Entiat or North Cascades	6.8 or 7.4	Crustal Zone
1882	Olympic Area	6.0	Deep Zone
1909	Puget Sound	6.0	Deep Zone
1915	North Cascades	5.6	--
1918	Vancouver Island	7.0	--
1920	Puget Sound	5.5	--
1932	Central Cascades	5.2	Crustal Zone
1939	Puget Sound	5.8	Deep Zone
1945	North Bend	5.5	Crustal Zone
1946	Puget Sound	6.3	Deep Zone
1946	Vancouver Island	7.3	Deep Zone
1949	Olympia	7.1	Deep Zone
1965	Puget Sound	6.5	Deep Zone
1981	Mt. St. Helens	5.5	Crustal Zone
1990	NW Cascades	5.0	Crustal Zone
1995	Robinson Point	5.0	Crustal Zone
1996	Duvall	5.6	--
1999	Satsop, Grays Harbor Co.	5.6	Deep Zone
2001	Nisqually\Puget Sound	6.8	Deep Zone



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## PROBABILITY OF FUTURE EVENTS

The Cascadia subduction zone last ruptured over 300 years ago on January 26, 1700. The average time between large earthquakes is about 535 years, but has been as little as 200 years, and more than 1,000 years.

Other faults in the region, such as the Willapa Bay Fault Zone, could be produce strong earthquakes, but it is not known at this time if there has been past activity or what magnitude a future event could generate.

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## DESCRIPTION OF IMPACTS, SUMMARY OF VULNERABILITY

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### IMPACTS

Historic records and past events, previous versions of the Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan, a review of state and county plans, as well as FEMA-HAZUS MH models conducted for the Tribe and by WA DNR were used to determine impacts to the Tribe from an earthquake. HAZUS-MH analyses, including updated building inventory, will be maintained by the tribe.

A Cascadia 9.0 and Cascadia North 8.3 subduction zone earthquake will be used to discuss impacts, but it should be noted that other earthquake events would have similar, though less severe impacts.

Updated HAZUS-MH analysis utilized the modelled Cascadia 9.3 event to estimate impacts.

All of the Tribe's people, property and structures would be impacted by an earthquake. Disruptions caused by power outages and loss of communications would also have economic impacts, particularly to the Tribal Casino.

The area would experience severe shaking, a level 8 on the Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI) Scale and potentially cause liquefaction.

The USGS defines MMI 8 as "Damage slight in specially designed structures; considerable damage in ordinary substantial buildings with partial collapse. Damage great in poorly built structures. Fall of chimneys, factory stacks, columns, monuments, walls. Heavy furniture overturned<sup>12</sup>.

All of the Tribe's buildings and infrastructure, apart from those on Eagle Hill Road, are in a "Moderate to High" Liquefaction zone. This could further impact structures, and undermine foundations.

The Tribe has an estimated 108 structures as of 2019, worth about \$38 Million total. Updated HAZUS modelling, conducted in 2019, indicated increased earthquake impacts.

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<sup>12</sup> [https://www.usgs.gov/natural-hazards/earthquake-hazards/science/modified-mercalli-intensity-scale?qt-science\\_center\\_objects=0#qt-science\\_center\\_objects](https://www.usgs.gov/natural-hazards/earthquake-hazards/science/modified-mercalli-intensity-scale?qt-science_center_objects=0#qt-science_center_objects)

- 88% probability that ALL structures have at least extensive damage
- 66% probability that ALL structures have complete damage

Table 6 shows the HAZUS damage estimates conducted for the 2014 plan update. As the 2014 HAZUS data was not available for this report, it is not known how to account for differences in results.

Tribal infrastructure, such as the coastal berm, and the engineered dune on Graveyard Spit may also suffer damage and loss of functionality due to severe shaking and liquefaction.

**Table 6: Estimated damage to tribal facilities from Cascadia EQ events – 2014 update**

ESTIMATED DAMAGE TO FACILITIES FROM CASCADIA 9.0M EARTHQUAKE					
Category	No Damage	Slight Damage	Moderate Damage	Extensive Damage	Complete Damage
<b>Tribal Facility</b>	4.90%	35.20%	50%	9.20%	0.60%
<b>Commercial</b>	4.20%	34.30%	51.80%	9.10%	0.60%
<b>Industrial</b>	6.50%	45.50%	44.80%	3.10%	0.10%
<b>Residential</b>	7.50%	47.50%	42.30%	2.60%	0.00%
<b>Average</b>	6.60%	43.70%	45%	4.50%	0.20%
ESTIMATED DAMAGE TO FACILITIES FROM CASCADIA 8.3M EARTHQUAKE					
Category	No Damage	Slight Damage	Moderate Damage	Extensive Damage	Complete Damage
<b>Tribal Facility</b>	21.30%	48.10%	28.80%	1.70%	0.10%
<b>Commercial</b>	23.30%	50.60%	25.10%	1.10%	0.00%
<b>Industrial</b>	29.20%	55.00%	15.50%	0.30%	0.00%
<b>Residential</b>	29.80%	54.80%	15.20%	0.30%	0.00%
<b>Average</b>	27.60%	53.30%	18.50%	0.60%	0.00%

The secondary hazards caused by a Cascadia Earthquake would have much more severe impacts than the earthquake itself.

- Landslides could block SR 105, limiting access in and out of the Reservation, and prevent emergency services from accessing the area except by air or possibly boat.
- A tsunami would most likely destroy all the people, buildings and infrastructure at sea-level.
- Post –earthquake land subsidence of up to 8.5 feet, would permanently inundate all of the Tribe’s coastal properties at high tide.

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## VULNERABILITY

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe's remote geographic location, on a flat, narrow and sandy coastal plain, with one of the world's most active subduction zone fault just off-shore, makes it one of the most vulnerable communities in the nation to the impacts from an earthquake, as well as the secondary hazards of tsunami and land subsidence.

Limited governmental capabilities and economic assets also limit post-disaster response and recovery.

The populations most vulnerable to an earthquake are those with limited resources, with special needs, and the elderly. Many structures, as well as the personal property within them, may be damaged or destroyed. Vulnerable populations may rely on these structures and property after the disaster, and won't be able to utilize or replace, and will need to rely on outside help for personal needs and shelter.

Many structures, including tribal housing, are older and not built to the most current seismic standards, and thus are vulnerable to damage from severe shaking and liquefaction.

The tribe is also vulnerable to isolation from blocked roads, loss of power and communications. These systems are owned and operated by non-tribal entities, and the tribe would most likely have to wait while systems are prioritized and restored in higher population areas.

The Tribe's economy would also be affected, as the Tribe's casino may be closed or would have a significant loss of revenue while the region recovers from the earthquake. There is also concern of loss of employment by tribal members or staff as transportation and business closures prevent work and income.

Lastly, it should be noted that the secondary effects of a Cascadia earthquake, land subsidence and tsunami, is the Tribe's biggest vulnerability. Either event, or combined, would most likely make the Tribe's current development footprint on the coastal plain uninhabitable due to damage and future high tides and storm surges.

Figure 25: Cascadia 9M Shaking Intensity Map

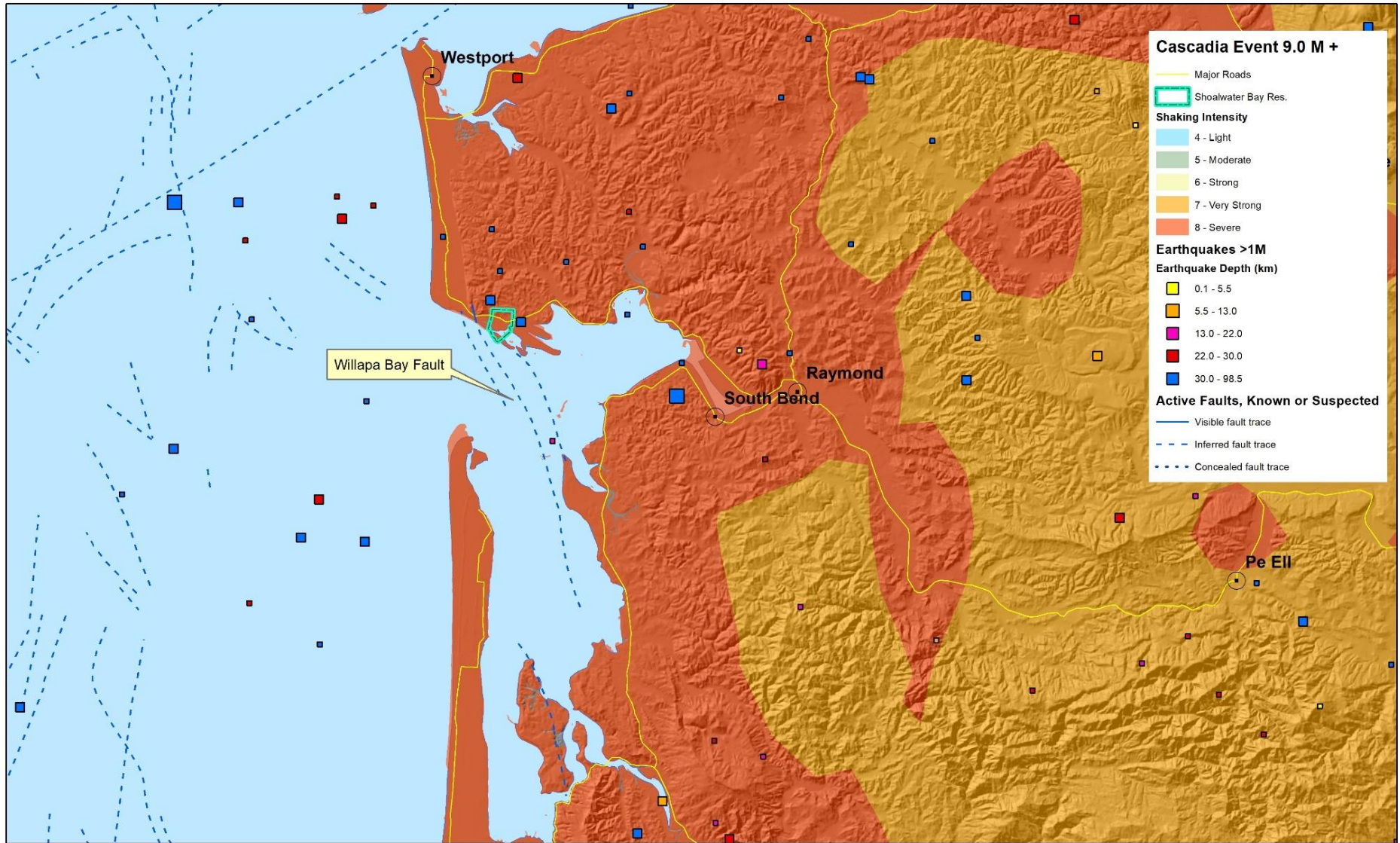


Figure 26: Cascadia North 8.3M Shaking Intensity Map

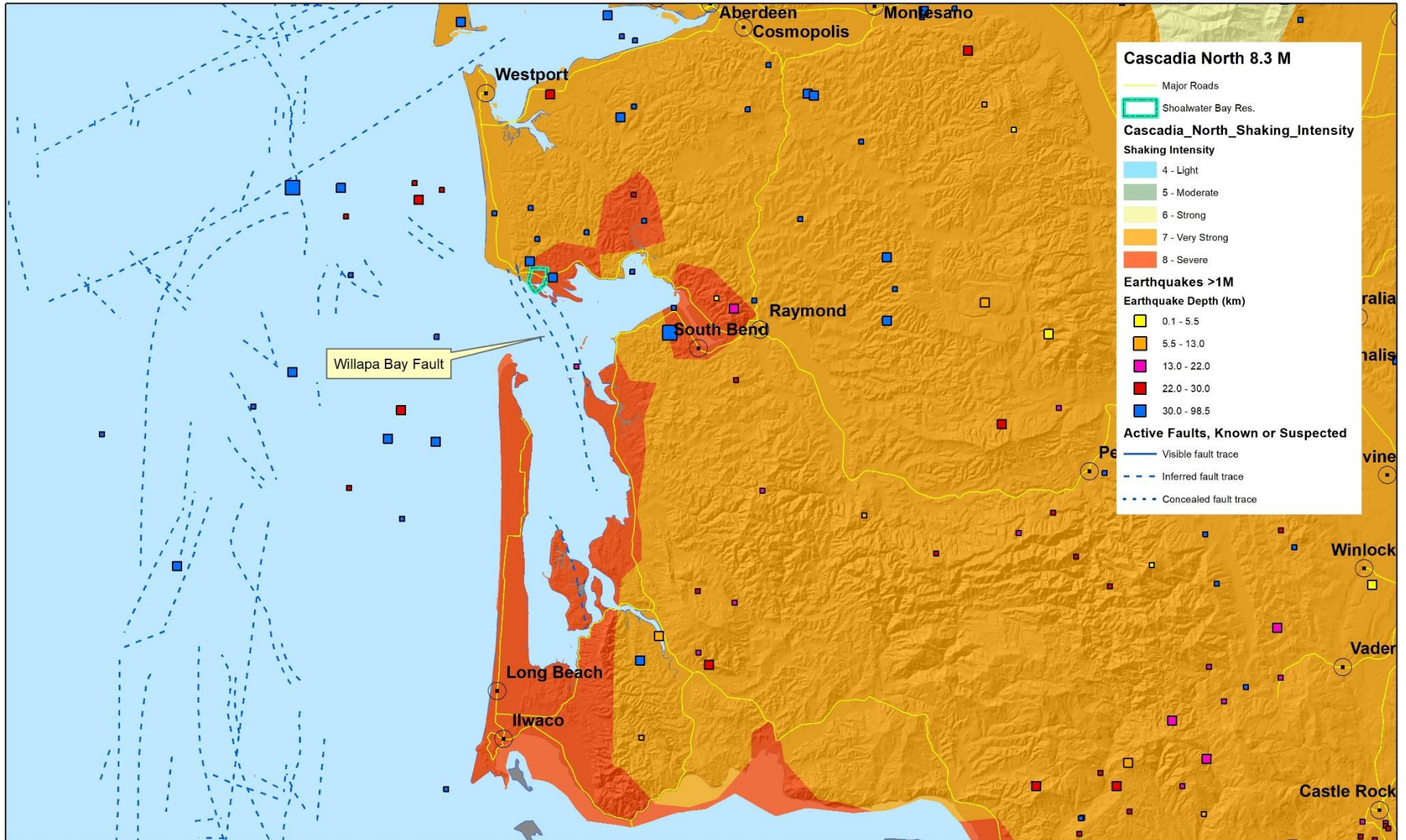


Figure 27: Liquefaction Risk – detail



Figure 28: Liquefaction Risk - regional



## FLOODING

### LOCATION AND EXTENT

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe is affected by coastal storm surge flooding.

The Georgetown area of the Reservation was generally protected from storm surges until the late 1800s when changing ocean patterns began eroding Cape Shoalwater, exposing the Reservation area to the full extent of ocean waves except for the protection from the remaining beach dune at Grave Yard Spit.

Until the 2015 FEMA Flood Risk map update, the Flood Insurance Rate Map showed most of the tribe's property and buildings exposed to floods. The revision, using more detailed mapping and reflecting the construction of the protective berm, shows little to no exposure from flooding.

Figure 29 - 1908 Flood at Tokeland<sup>13</sup>



### PAST EVENTS AND PROBABILITIES OF FUTURE EVENTS

#### PAST EVENTS

The Pacific Co Flood insurance Study (written in 1985) identified past flooding events:

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<sup>13</sup> Provided by Pacific Co. Historic Society #1998.63.14. No addition information is available about this hazard event



“Major coastal and tidal floods, in order of highest water, have occurred in 1934, 1933, 1973, 1969, 1972 and 1960.”<sup>14</sup>

More recent events include:

- **1999 storm surge**

On March 3, 1999, a storm surge of 4.6 feet, accompanied by 49.7 mile an hour winds, caused widespread coastal flooding. Wave heights exceeded 29.5 feet for over 5 hours, peaking at 34.8 feet. At Ocean Shores, several houses were damaged and a public restroom was destroyed. This combined storm and high tide caused severe flooding of the Shoalwater Bay Reservation shoreline and the surrounding community.

The flooding prompted the initiation of a Corps of Engineers emergency flood protection planning process. As a consequence, in March 2001, the Corps of Engineers constructed a riprap flood berm along a small portion (1,700 feet) of the Shoalwater Reservation shoreline. This flood berm provides protection from direct wave attack and further shoreline erosion during combined storm and high tide events only to this portion of the Reservation shoreline, including the Tribal headquarters building.

- **February 2006 flooding**
- November 2007 Flooding
- December 2007 Flooding: Disaster Declaration

For the 2006 and 2007 events, The USACE noted that the flooding on the Reservation was due to breaching of the barrier dune on Graveyard Spit that fronts the Tokeland Peninsula.

- The FEMA/NOAA Historical Flood Impact Tool<sup>15</sup> indicates eight (8) flooding events in Pacific County since 1996, including an event in 2012, and two in 2015. It is not known the impact the most recent events had on the Reservation.

There have been no reports of floods affecting the Shoalwater Bay Tribe since the last plan update in 2014, although tribal staff has noted there have been extreme storm surges and tides during this period that did not breach the berm.

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## PROBABILITIES OF FUTURE EVENTS

Floodplain maps updated indicate less impact from coastal flooding than previous FEMA floodplain maps.

Potential sea-level rise would increase exposure to coastal floods.

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<sup>14</sup> Pacific Co FIS, p. 6

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.fema.gov/data-visualization-floods-data-visualization>

The biggest potential impacts from future coastal flooding are from the following sources:

- Continued coastal erosion to Graveyard Spit, Washaway Beach
- Sea level rise from climate change related global warming
  - Median probability by 2039: 0.2 feet, likely range = 0.1-0.3 ft
  - Median probability years 2090 – 2109: 1.6ft , likely range: 0.9-2.4 ft
- Land subsidence from an offshore Cascadia earthquake.

“Based on the deformation model for the Cascadia L1 scenario **Tokeland Peninsula has 2.3-2.6 meters (7.5-8.5 feet) of subsidence**. The amount of subsidence from the next subduction zone event will vary depending on the severity of the earthquake, however in the 3,500 year land based record of earthquake subsidence the largest preserved event only approached 1.75 meters (5.7 feet). Thus the modeled value of 2.6 meters would be a conservative value and appropriate for planning purposes”<sup>16</sup>.

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## DESCRIPTION OF IMPACTS, SUMMARY OF VULNERABILITY

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### IMPACTS

Revised FEMA flood maps show minimal impacts from coastal flooding. The 3000ft berm near the Tribal Center has protected the Reservation from flooding and storm surge, although on extreme occasions some water and debris may overtop.

Repairs and nourishment the dune berm on Graveyard Spit in 2018 has also reduced the impacts from storm surge.

HAZUS-MH modelling indicated 4 structures exposed to a 500-year flood event: 2 homes on Toke Point, 1 home on Shoalwater Bay Drive closest to Tokeland Rd., and the Tradewinds Hotel meeting hall. Of a combined \$1.078 M in exposed assets, HAZUS estimates about \$180,000 in damage to the structures and contents. This estimate may not be accurate due to low level of detail on flood depth grids used for modelling.

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### VULNERABILITY

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe will remain vulnerable to coastal flooding and storm surge if current mitigation efforts are not sustained.

Longer-term, the Tribe’s vulnerability will decrease as the Tribe moves its development to higher ground. This would also mitigate its vulnerability to increased flooding from coastal erosion, sea-level rise and land subsidence.

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<sup>16</sup> Communications with D. Ungard, LG, WA Geological Survey, Dec. 2018

The Tribe also plans to remove the levee at Kindred Island, restoring the natural salt marsh habitat, but may also increase vulnerability from storm surge from the Kindred Slough marsh areas.

Vulnerability could increase due to four potential future conditions:

- **Continued erosion of Graveyard Spit and/or lack of monitoring and maintenance of beach barrier berm.** Although the additional beach barrier dune at Graveyard Spit (built in 2013) was successful in reducing storm surge, a strong El Nino year in 2015/16 severely damaged and breached the berm, increasing flood risk for the Reservation. It was repaired and hardened in 2018. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers estimates that the dune berm will be need to be re-nourished with sand at least every five years to maintain protection to the Reservation.
- **Deterioration of berm near Tribal Center.** The USACE-constructed berm provides the main barrier of protection from storm surge and coastal flooding. The initial 1,700 foot long was originally constructed in 2001 to protect the Tribal Center and other tribal development from flooding similar to that caused by the 199 flood. The berm was expanded by 300 feet in 2007.

Long-term the berm will need to be maintained. It may also need to be expanded to protect against changing conditions, such as increased coastal erosion, sea-level rise or land subsidence from an earthquake.

- **Sea-level rise**  
Geological condition cause the coastal area of Washington, including the Shoalwater Bay reservation, to slowly rise. This potentially mitigates from extreme sea-level rise that other areas may encounter but does not eliminate vulnerability. Estimated Sea-level rise with median probability ranges up to 2.4 feet. Newly adopted FEMA flood maps depict flood zones 3 feet above the official 100 year floodplain. This data indicates that no tribal assets are exposed at this time. Nonetheless storm surge and debris overtopping the berm may increase during storms combined with high tides.
- **Land subsidence**  
Following a Cascadia earthquake, the land may drop by as much as 8.5 feet. This would catastrophically change the Tribe's vulnerability to flooding, as subsidence this extreme would typically inundation all the Tribe's coastal assets during high tide. Even a lesser land subsidence would increase the Tribe's vulnerability to flooding during high tides, as well increased impacts from storm surge.

Figure 30: FEMA Flood Zones

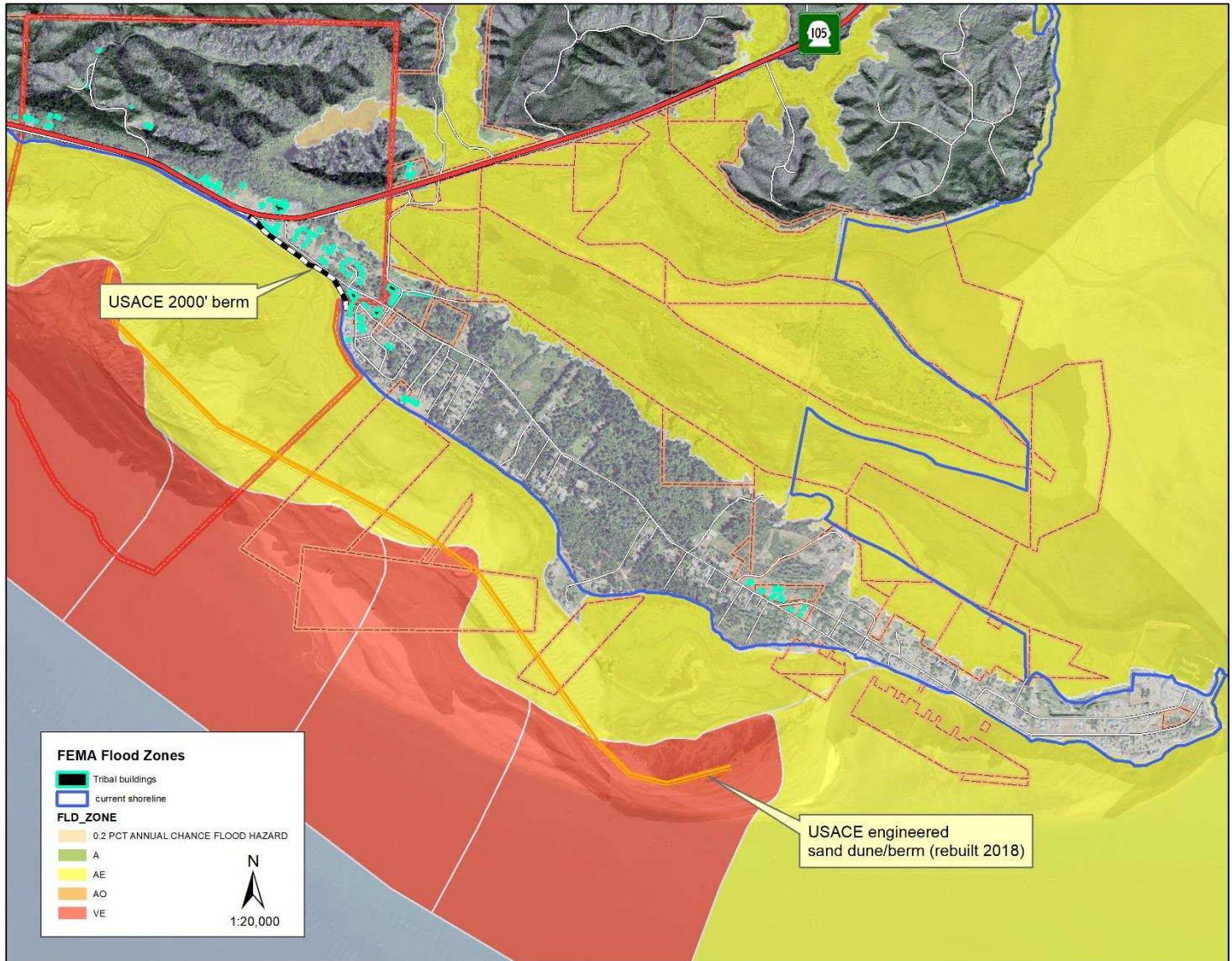


Figure 31: Mean Sea Level after EQ subsidence of 8.5 ft

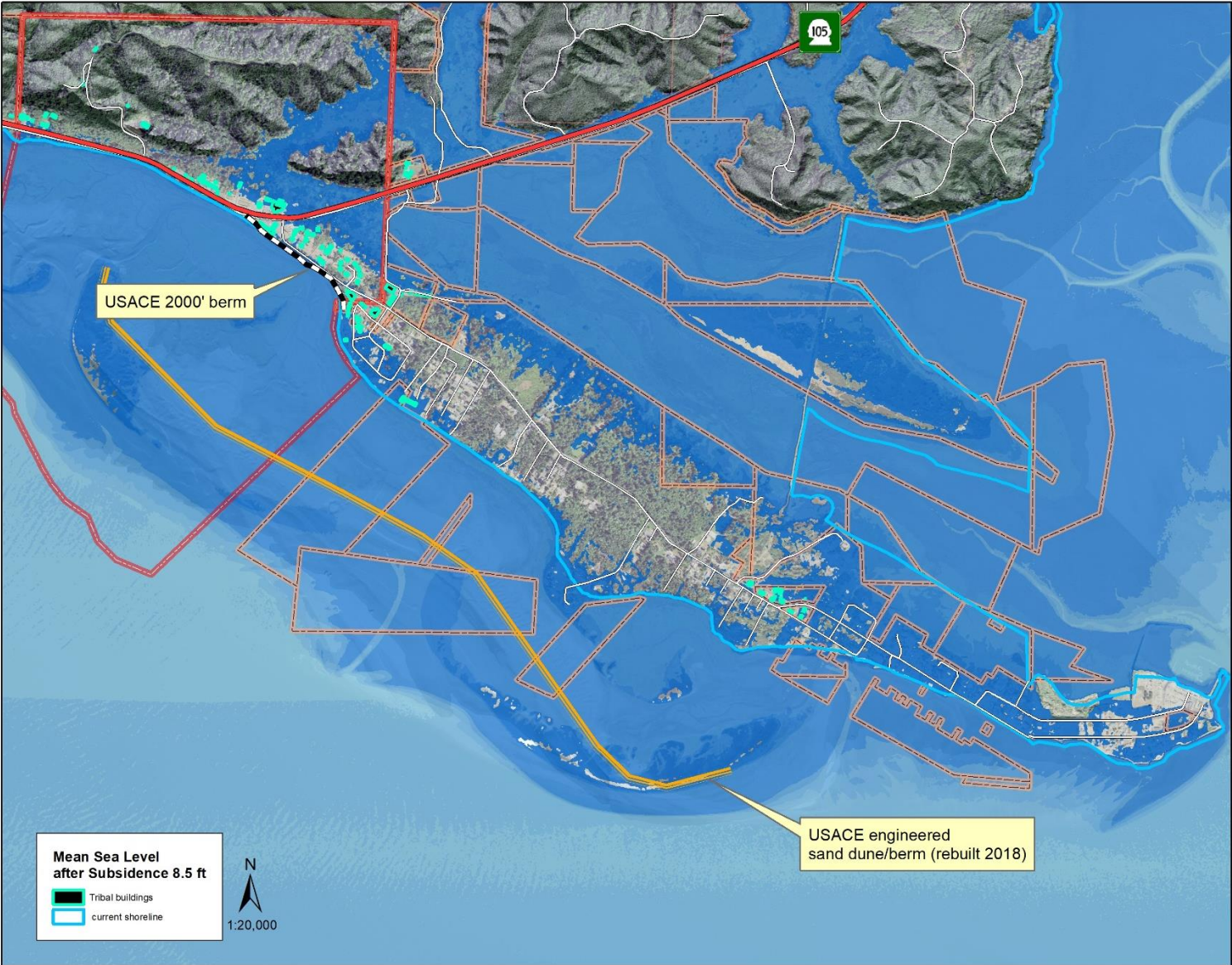


Figure 32: Mean High High Tide after EQ subsidence of 8.5 ft.

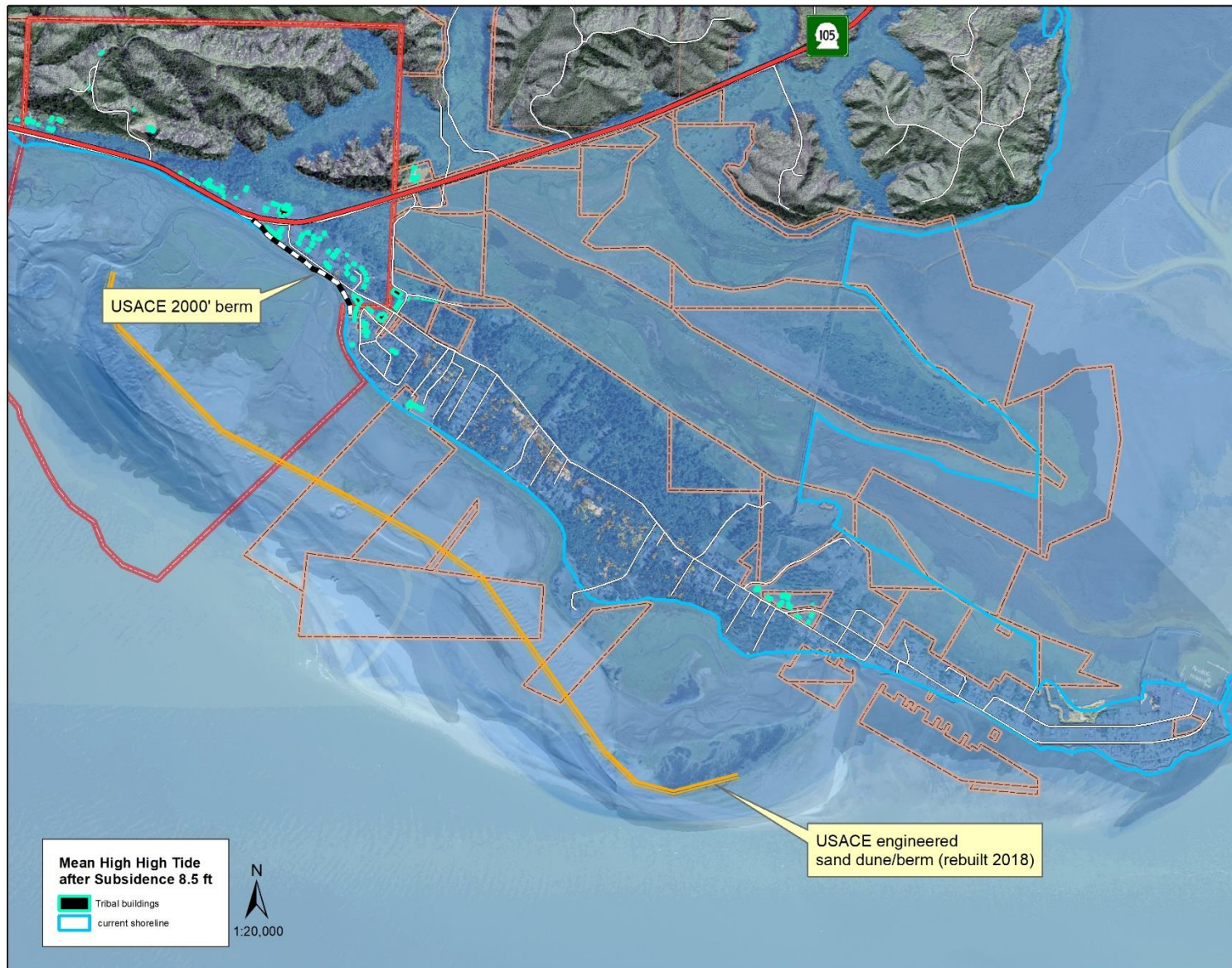
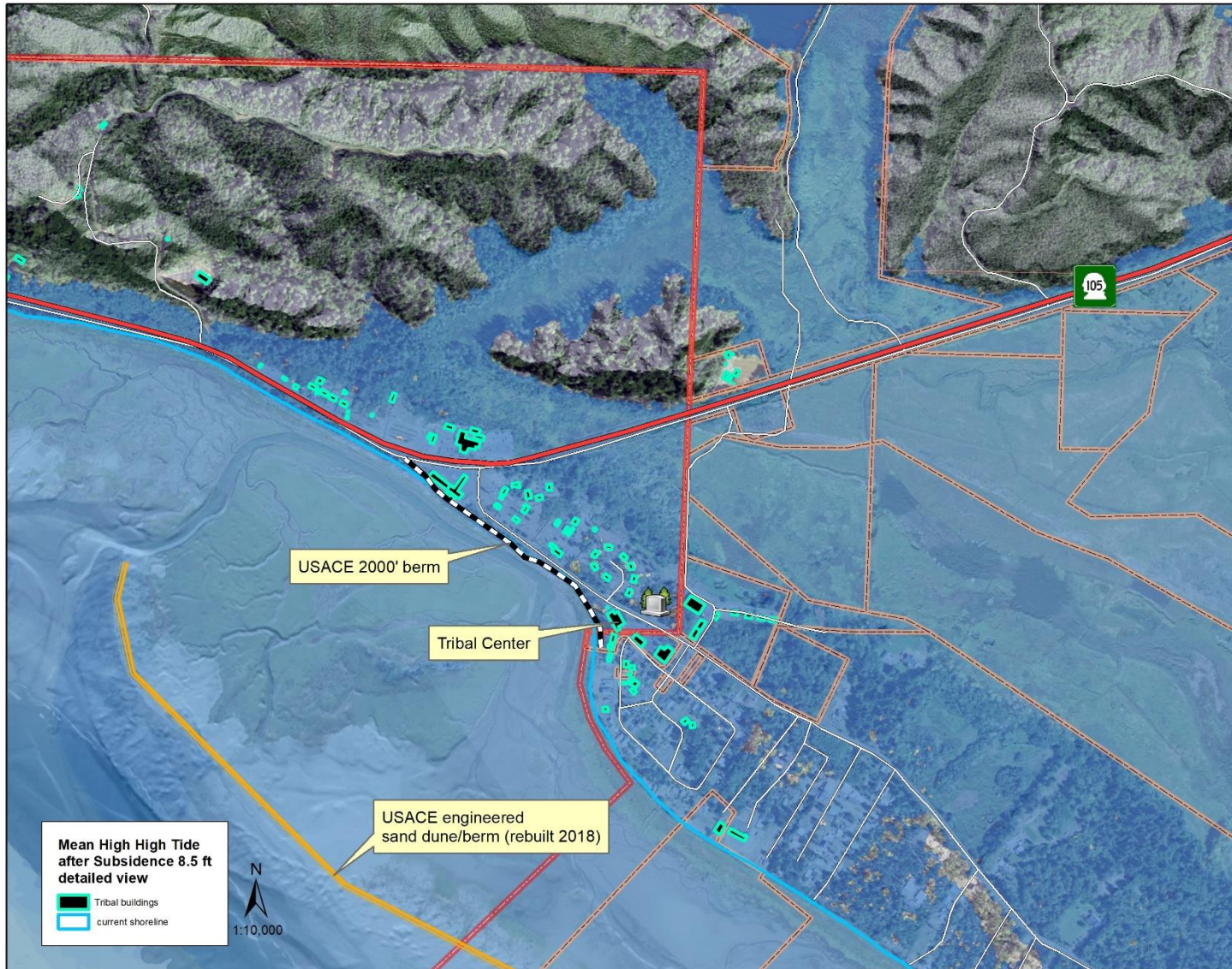


Figure 33: Mean HH Tide after EQ Subsidence of 8.5 ft - Detail



### LOCATION AND EXTENT

A landslide is the movement of rock, soil and debris down a hillside or slope.

The Shoalwater Bay Tribal lands are located in the SW Washington landslide province, one of the six landslide provinces of Washington State:

The primary characteristics of this landslide province are the lack of glaciation and localized exposure to glacial melt waters. In places, weathering processes exposed surfaces in this province for millions of years. Much of the province has deeply dissected terrain, with gentle slopes uncommon.

- **Earth flow** – This is the dominant form of landslide in the province. Both ancient and active earth flows are common, not only in the high and steep terrain, but also in the low, rolling hills of the Chehalis-Centralia area. Stream erosion along the toes of the flow usually causes reactivation of these landslides. Excavations, such as those for freeway construction, also may reactivate dormant earth flows or start new ones.
- **Debris flow** – These types of landslides are locally a problem in the western Cascades and Olympic mountains; they tend to occur where the rocks are strong and relatively un-weathered. These rocks tend to have steep slopes and smooth surfaces overlain by thin soils. Intense rainstorms, or rain on the wet snow in the mountains trigger these landslides.

Although the developed areas of the Shoalwater Bay Indian Reservation are on the flat coastal plain, the northern part of the Reservation is made up of steep hills subject to landslides. Eagle Hill Road and the Potable Water system are in this area. Future development of tribal lands in the hills may cross or be near landslide hazard areas.

Landslide hazards are not officially mapped for the Shoalwater Bay Tribal area. To identify potential landslide hazard areas, Pacific County's landslide hazard areas, as defined in its Critical Areas Ordinance<sup>17</sup> which includes slopes greater than 40%, and rock falls on slopes greater than 80%, were mapped using GIS lidar data.

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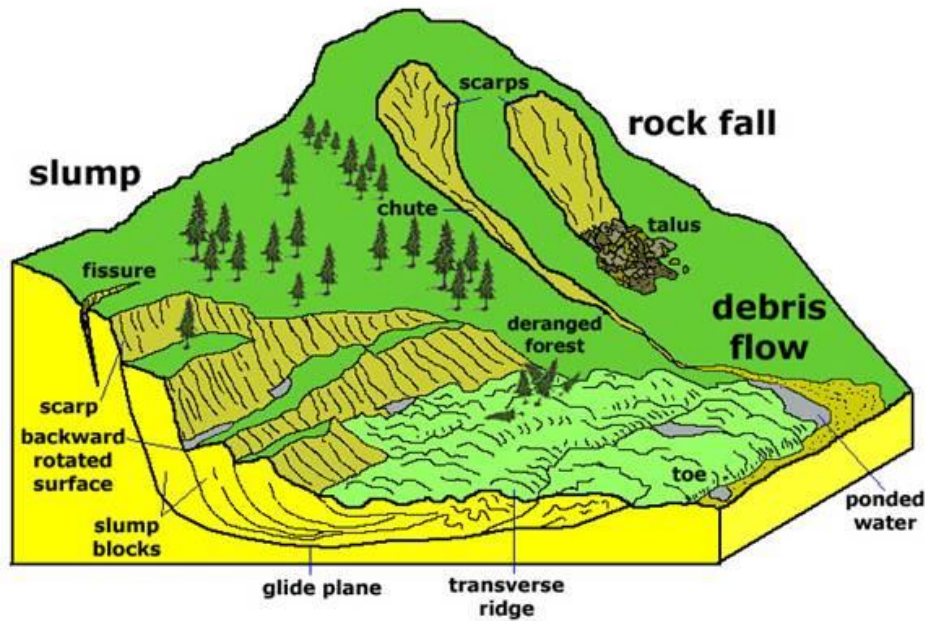
<sup>17</sup> <https://www.co.pacific.wa.us/ordres/Ord%20180.pdf> p.64



Figure 34: Landslide Hazard Areas (Slopes > 40%)



Figure 35: Types of Landslides



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## PAST EVENTS AND PROBABILITIES OF FUTURE EVENTS

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### PAST EVENTS

There have been no significant landslides recorded in the tribal planning area or region. It has been noted that minor mudslides and debris flows have affected the Eagle Hill Road area, but nothing causing any damage.

### PROBABILITIES OF FUTURE EVENTS

Determining the probability of future landslide events is difficult to determine as usually a record of past activity in an area determines the probability of future activity. The tribe's planning area and surrounding Pacific County has a minimal record of past landslides. Landslides are often triggered by other natural hazards such as earthquakes, heavy rain, floods or wildfires. Thus the probability of a landslide is related to the probability of future earthquakes, heavy rain, floods, and wildfires, in combination with areas of steep slopes.

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## DESCRIPTION OF IMPACTS, SUMMARY OF VULNERABILITY

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### IMPACTS

Impacts to the Tribe from landslides are minimal. Small landslides could block Eagle Hill Road, or worse case, affect the Tribe's water tower. No structures would be affected. Worst case damage loss to the Water tower and related infrastructure is approximately \$400,000, in addition to costs from temporary loss of water supply.

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## VULNERABILITY

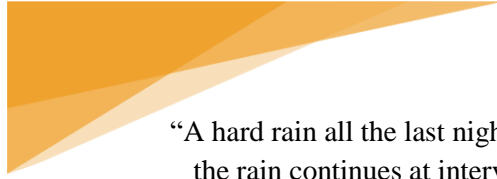
The Tribe's main vulnerability to a landslide is in conjunction with an earthquake and tsunami. Eagle Hill Road has a history of landslides, and a landslide following an earthquake, blocking and/or damaging the road, would hinder evacuation from a potential tsunami.

The tribe is also vulnerable to landslides that could block SR 105 outside of its tribal lands and which the tribe has no jurisdiction over. Landslides on SR 105 could prevent access to and from the Reservation, which would also be a concern following a major earthquake/tsunami.

Climate change may also increase rain and drought, as well as wildfire risk, which could lead to increases in landslides and unstable slopes.

Future development may also increase impacts from landslides. As the Tribe acquires the hills and uplands to relocate development away from tsunami hazard areas, the risk of development in or near landslide hazard areas increases. As the Tribe develops new structures, it must also build with landslide risks in mind and mitigate appropriately.

### LOCATION AND EXTENT



“A hard rain all the last night we again get wet the rain continues at intervalles all day. Wind verry high from SW and blew a storm all day ...and our situation is truly a disagreeable one.”

--- William Clark, Lewis & Clark Expedition,  
Monday, Nov. 11, 1805

Severe storms hit Washington's coast during the fall and winter, bringing heavy rains, strong winds, and high waves. Storms blow in about 70 to 100 inches of rain per year, the heaviest precipitation on the continent north of Guatemala. Coastal storm winds regularly top 40 miles per hour. The annual peak speed of 55 miles per hour can topple chimneys, utility lines, and trees.

The Shoalwater Bay Indian Reservation is continually affected by severe storms every fall and winter. A major storm in December of 2007 led to a Presidential Declaration and cut off the Shoalwater Bay Tribe's electricity and water supply (which runs on electricity) for days. Communications and access to the area were also limited.

The Tribe's primary concern, although infrequent, is the possibility of tornados and hurricane –force winds as strong weather systems approach the coast. The highest gusts recorded in the area were 140-150 mph.

### PAST EVENTS AND PROBABILITIES OF FUTURE EVENTS

#### PAST EVENTS

There is an extensive history of wind storms and related storm surges over the last century. Significant events, particularly those affecting the tribal lands include:

- October 12, 1962 – The Columbus Day Wind Storm
- December 1996 - January 1997 "Holiday Blast" Storm
- January – March 1999 – La Niña Winter Windstorms
- November 11-12th, 2007 Windstorm, numerous trees down around Reservation and Tokeland Peninsula. Power out to the Tribe. See Figure 36 and Figure 37 at the end of this Section.
- Tornado warning in Tokeland area – October 12, 2016

Tribal staff also noted that there were two tornado warnings in the Tokeland area in 2019.

Also of note is that El Niño weather cycles caused erosion and flooding to the Reservation in 1997/98 as well as 2015/16, which led to the initial development of the berm at Shoalwater Bay Reservation, as well as the subsequent rebuilding of the berm/barrier beach (initially built in 2013) on Graveyard Spit in 2018.

The NOAA Storm events database records 92 events in Pacific County since 2015.

Figure 36: Tree on Powerlines at Tribal Center, Nov 11, 2007<sup>18</sup>



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<sup>18</sup> Photo by Todd Ellingburg

Figure 37: Tree Down, from Different Angle, Nov 11, 2007<sup>19</sup>



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### PROBABILITIES OF FUTURE EVENTS

The probability of future hazard events can be measured by frequency of high winds, since severe weather can occur every year, predominately in the fall/winter.

- **Wind speeds exceed:**
  - 55 mph every year
  - 76 mph every 5 years
  - 83 mph every 10 years
  - 92 mph every 25 years
  - 100 mph every 50 years
  - 108 mph every 100 years

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### EL NIÑO RELATED EVENTS

El Niño is a recurring ocean-atmosphere phenomenon. Along Washington's coast, strong El Niños can bring extreme waves from the south-southwest, more frequent severe storms, increased sea levels, above average river flows, warmer than normal water temperatures, flooding, and erosion.

El Niño occurs every two to ten years.

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<sup>19</sup> *ibid*

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## DESCRIPTION OF IMPACTS, SUMMARY OF VULNERABILITY

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### IMPACTS

Due to the long and frequent history of dealing with severe weather and wind storms, the impacts from severe weather are minimal and mitigated to a level the Tribe is satisfied with. Severe weather can knock down trees and powerlines, knocking out power and communications, as well as damage structures. Strong winds may also affect older structures and/or those that have not had mitigation efforts in place.

Although damage estimates have not been prepared, extreme events can still potentially affect all of the Tribe's people, property and buildings.

Mitigation is in place to prevent storm surge related flooding, but further monitoring and replenishment of the beach barrier berm on Graveyard Spit needs to occur, or impacts will increase such as coastal storm surge and related flooding and debris.

The Tribe has not mitigated for extreme winds, such as those from tornadoes, and will focus its efforts on minimizing the impacts from those type of events.

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### VULNERABILITY

The Tribe's vulnerability to severe weather and related storm surge has been greatly reduced by the development of the protective berm along the coastline and the barrier beach berm at Graveyard Spit. Mitigation efforts to harden tribal facilities from strong winds have also reduced vulnerability.

The Tribe is still vulnerable to extreme wind events, such as tornados, and is seeking to develop mitigation efforts, such as storm shelters and safe rooms, to reduce this vulnerability.

Climate change could potentially increase the Tribe's vulnerability. Sea-level rise could increase storm surge and/or destroy and/or reduce the effectiveness of the storm berms and beach barriers in place. The tribe is also dependent on federal funding and support to monitor and maintain the berms.

Increased severe weather could lead to more frequent high wind events, including tornadoes, for would increase need for additional mitigation efforts to adapt current and future structures to these scenarios.

Historic village/camp and other cultural sites are also at risk of increased erosion from storm surge and sea-level rise as result of increased severe weather.

## TSUNAMI

### LOCATION AND EXTENT

A tsunami is a series of extremely long waves caused when an event, such as an earthquake, suddenly shifts water in the ocean or in a lake. A tsunami radiates outward in all directions from its source and can move across entire oceans in less than a day.

The Shoalwater Bay tribe can be impacted by two types of tsunami:

Table 7: Types of tsunamis that can impact Tribe

Type of tsunami	Description	Area of greatest impact	Time to evacuate
<i>Distant</i>	A tsunami is created by a distant earthquake or landslide and travels across the ocean	Pacific coastal communities	Hours
<i>Cascadia subduction zone</i>	Tsunami created by large Magnitude 8–9 earthquake off the Washington, Oregon, or British Columbia coasts	Pacific coastal communities	Tens of minutes

Recently updated data and modelling indicates the potential exposure of the Shoalwater Bay Reservation. Using a 9.0 Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake off of the coast of Washington as a worst-case scenario, models indicate that all of the Tribe’s people, property and lands below 40-50 feet elevation would be significantly impacted by tsunami inundation and high velocity waves.

### PAST EVENTS AND PROBABILITIES OF FUTURE EVENTS

#### PAST EVENTS

While tsunamis have caused significant damage, deaths and injuries elsewhere in the world, only one significant tsunami struck Washington’s Pacific coast in recent history.

The 1964 Alaska earthquake generated a tsunami that resulted in more than \$640,000 (in 2004 dollars) in damage. However, geologic investigations, combined with Native stories and other historical records, indicate that tsunamis have struck the coast a number of times over the last few hundred years.


#### 1700 CASCADIA TSUNAMI

The most recent Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake, estimated M 9, occurred at January 26, 1700 at about 9 PM PST. The subsequent tsunami overran Native fishing camps and villages and triggered



landslides that also destroyed some villages. Many native village sites were abandoned or relocated after this event.

The land also subsided by a few feet after the earthquake, covering the lands with tsunami deposits as the tides overtook formally dry upland.



*“... there was a big flood shortly before the white man’s time,  
... a huge tidal wave that struck the Oregon Coast not too far back in time ...  
the ocean rose up and huge waves swept and surged across the land.  
Trees were uprooted and villages were swept away. Indians said they tied their  
canoes to the top of the trees, and some canoes were torn loose and swept  
away.  
... After the tidal wave, the Indians told of tree tops filled with limbs and trash  
and of finding strange canoes in the woods. The Indians said the big flood and  
tidal wave tore up the land and changed the rivers. Nobody knows how many  
Indians died.*

*-- Beverly  
Ward,  
recounting  
stories told  
to her  
around 1930  
by Susan  
Ned, born in  
1842.<sup>20</sup>*

### 1960 CHILEAN TSUNAMI

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A magnitude 9.5 earthquake along the coast of Chile generated a tsunami that struck the Washington coast at Grays Harbor (small waves), Tokeland (two feet), Ilwaco (two feet), Neah Bay (1.2 feet), and Friday Harbor (0.3 feet). No damage occurred.

### 1964 ALASKAN TSUNAMI

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The tsunami generated by the March 27, 1964 Alaska earthquake was the largest and best-recorded historical tsunami on the southern Washington coast. Tsunami wave heights generally were greatest on the south coast and smaller on the north coast; additionally, the tsunami was recorded inland in the Strait of Juan de Fuca (Friday Harbor), Puget Sound (Seattle), and the Columbia River (Vancouver).

Observations were made of the tsunami in Grays Harbor County at Westport, Joe Creek, Pacific Beach, Copalis, Grays Harbor City, and Boone Creek.

Damages included debris deposits throughout the region, minor damage in Ilwaco, damage to two bridges on State Highway 109, a house and smaller buildings being lifted off foundations in Pacific Beach (the house was a total loss), and piling damaged at the Moore cannery near Ilwaco.

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<sup>20</sup> <https://pnsn.org/outreach/native-american-stories/dating-the-1700-cascadia-earthquake>

**Table 8 Recorded Height of Tsunami Waves from 1964 Alaska Earthquake**

Wreck Creek	4.5 meters	Neah Bay	0.7 meters
Seaview	3.8 meters	Taholah	0.7 meters
Moclips	3.4 meters	Hoh River Mouth	0.5 meters
Ocean Shores	2.9 meters	Friday Harbor	0.4 meters
La Push	1.6 meters	Vancouver	0.1 meters
Ilwaco	1.4 meters	Seattle	0.1 meters

## NOVEMBER 2006 TSUNAMI

On Nov 15, 2006, a magnitude 8.3 earthquake occurred near the Kuril Island northeast of Japan. Washington was put into a Tsunami Advisory which resulted in a 5 cm tsunami that was reported on the Neah Bay tide gage. However, after the cancellation of the Tsunami Advisory, a train of tsunami waves hit Crescent City, California six hours after the earthquake and destroyed docks, tore about a dozen boats lose from moorings, and sank at least one boat.

**Table 9 Recorded Height of Tsunami Waves from 2006 Kuril Island Earthquake**

La Push	0.15 meters
Neah Bay	0.3 meters
Port Angeles	0.11 meters
Westport	0.04 meters

## MARCH 2011 TOHOKU EARTHQUAKE

The March 11, 2011 magnitude 9.0 Tohoku, Japan earthquake (38.297 N, 142.373 E, depth 29 km) generated a tsunami observed over the Pacific region and caused tremendous local devastation as the impacts were experienced over a large area. While the tsunami did not cause any damage within the planning area, there was slight increased waive activity as a result of the earthquake, as well as debris found along the beaches of Pacific County for a few years after.

**Table 10: Recorded Height from tsunami waves from 2011 Tohoku Earthquake**

La Push	0.7 meters
Neah Bay	0.43 meters
Port Angeles	0.58 meters
Port Townsend	0.15 meters
Westport	0.45 meters
Toke Point	0.33 meters

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## PROBABILITIES OF FUTURE EVENTS

The 1700 Cascadia Earthquake/Tsunami is the modelled event for future scenarios, and similar M 9.0 megaquakes are estimated to recur every 500-600 years.

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## DESCRIPTION OF IMPACTS, SUMMARY OF VULNERABILITY

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### IMPACTS

The impacts from a tsunami, especially from a modelled Cascadia 9 Event, would be catastrophic.

In addition to the previous damage from the earthquake, a tsunami would destroy all of the Tribe's buildings and infrastructure except for the shelter and houses on Eagle Hill Rd. The depths of the waves would overtop most structures, and the overall velocity of multiple waves, combined with ocean and nearshore/beach debris, would most likely destroy any remaining buildings. Foundations will remain, but roads will be filled with debris and all wired communications and power lines will be destroyed.

After the final waves of the tsunami stop, a new situation becomes apparent – a land that dropped 8.5 feet, meaning that the highest tides now lap along the base of the hills as they inundate most of the property of the Tribe along SR 105 and Tokeland Rd. including the Tokeland peninsula, with low tide now considered similar to high tide before the earthquake.

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### VULNERABILITY

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe is one of the most vulnerable communities in the United States to the impacts from tsunami. Apart from an evacuation shelter built on Eagle Hill road, all the tribe's people, visitors, infrastructure, buildings and businesses are located at sea-level on the coastal plain.

Limited evacuation routes and staging areas also increases vulnerability. Evacuation is further hindered by the fact that the first tsunami waves could reach the Reservation within 30 minutes.

The community would already be impacted by the earlier earthquake, which could potentially cause massive property damage, injuries and debris, and hinder subsequent response, rescue and evacuation efforts.

Figure 38: Tsunami Wave Velocity

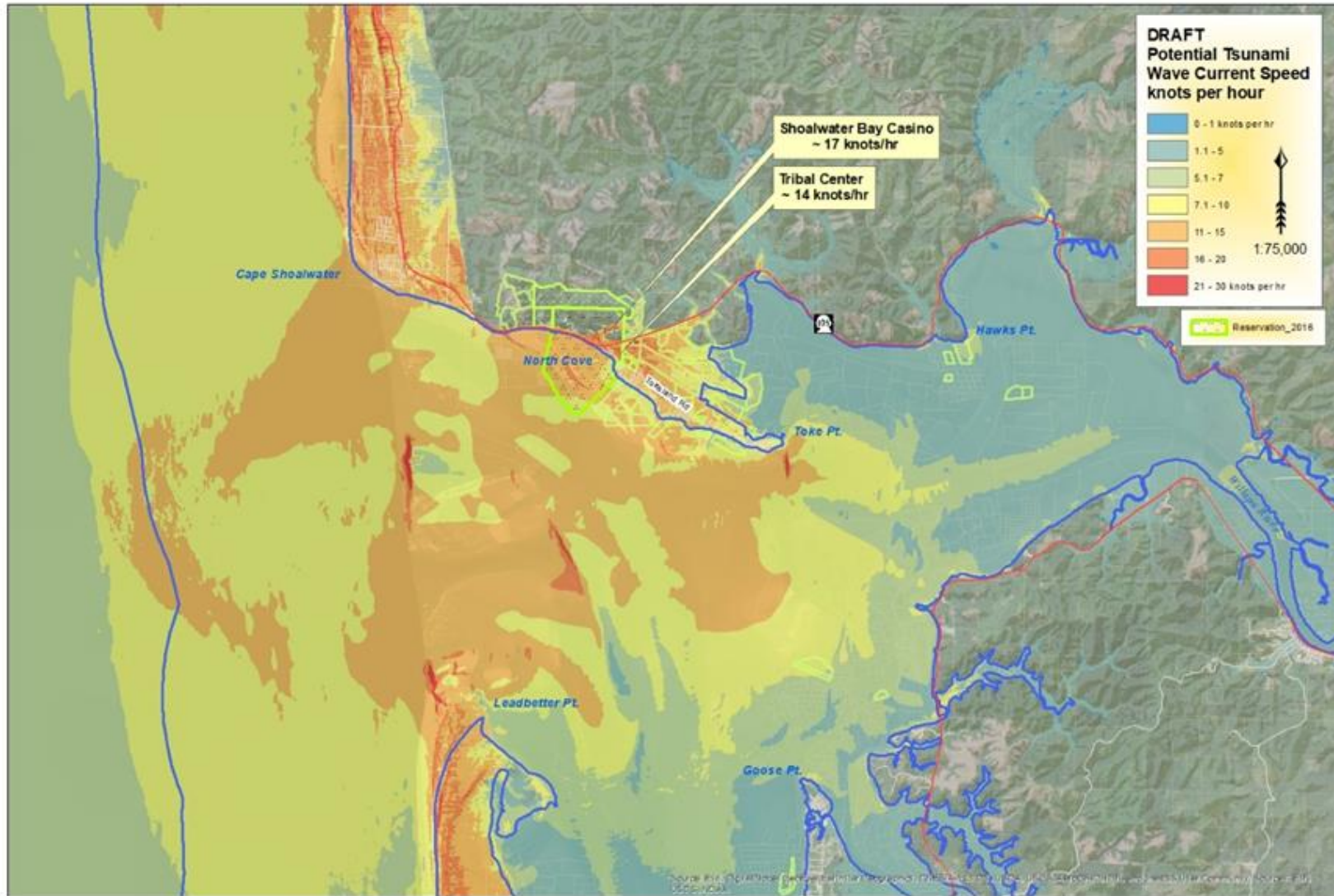
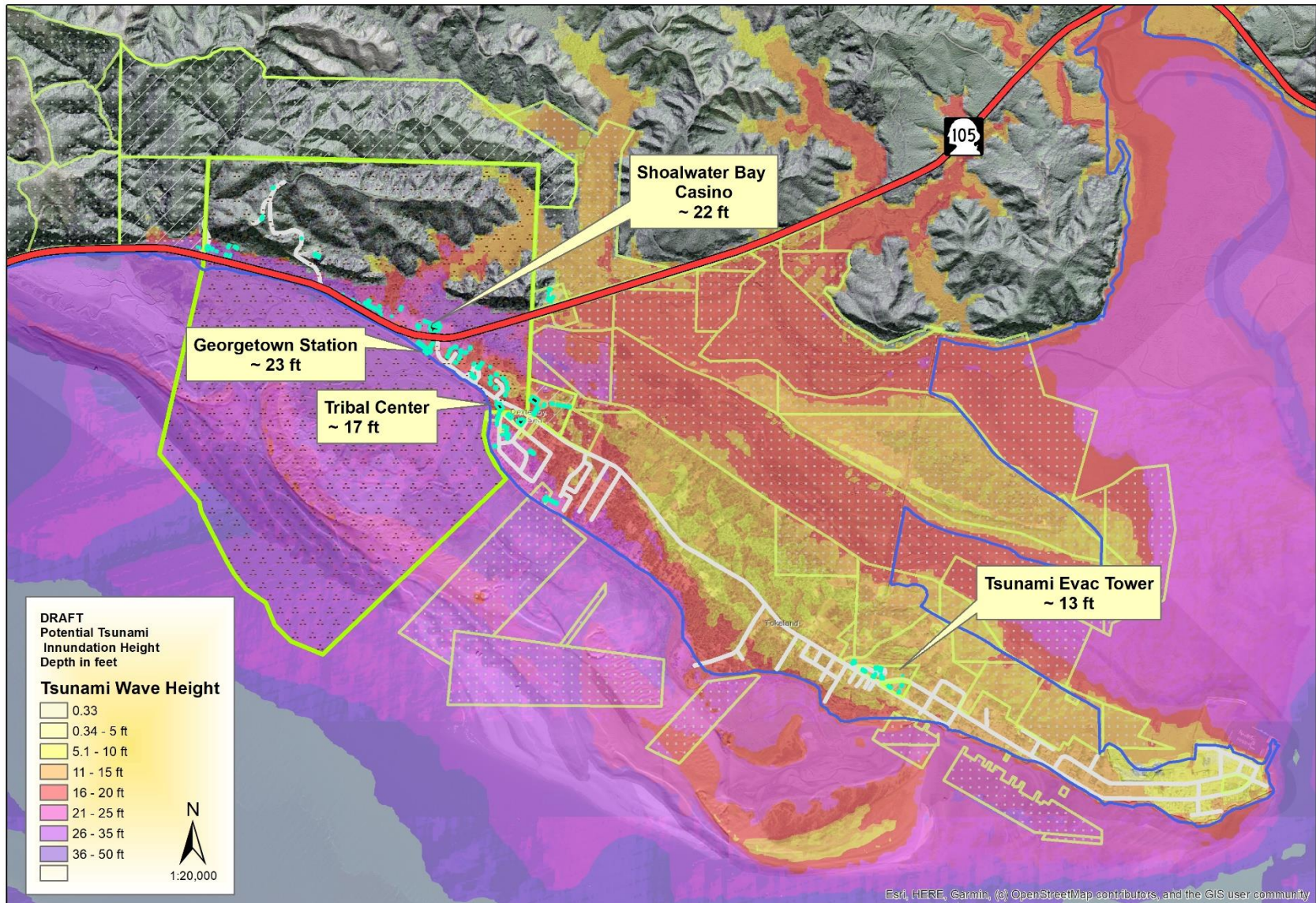


Figure 39: Tsunami Inundation Height



## WILDFIRES

### LOCATION AND EXTENT

Wildland fires are fires caused by nature or humans that result in the uncontrolled destruction of forests, brush, field crops, grasslands, and real and personal property in non-urban areas.

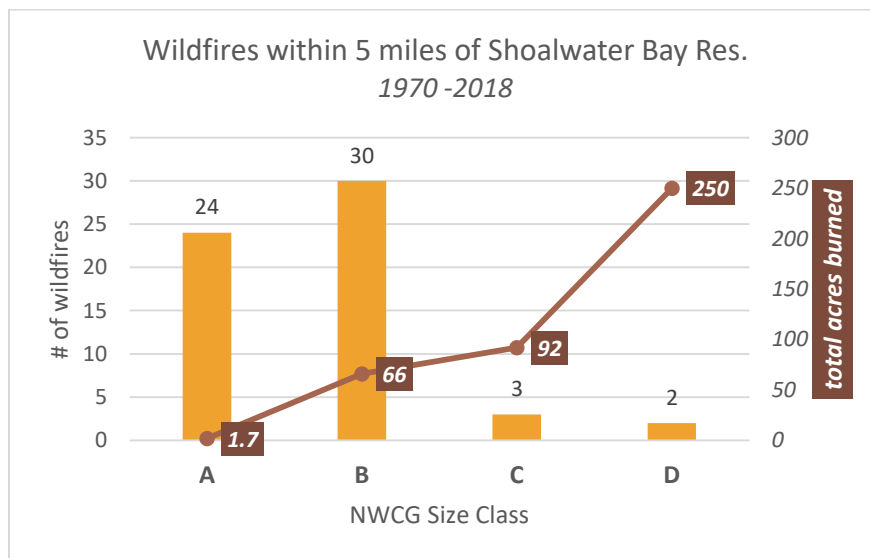
In Western Washington, wildfires generally occur during late spring and summer, ending when the rainy season begins October.

On the southwest Washington coast, wildfire risk is considered low. Although heavily vegetated, with a history of logging, the area's wet coastal climate leads to damp conditions that makes it difficult for wildfires to start naturally and spread.

The Wildfires that do occur tend to be small near the coast. The 59 past wildfires since 1970 analyzed within 5 miles of the Reservation, found that (excluding the top 4 largest fires, 29 acres or more) most fires burn on average 1.5 acres. Using the National Wildfire Coordinating Group size classification<sup>21</sup>, almost half of past events were less than ¼ acre, or 24 events totalling 1.7 acres burned.

Almost all fires in the area are caused by humans, primarily by logging related debris burns, as well as by campers and other recreational activities.

Figure 40: Wildfires by Size



<sup>21</sup> <https://www.nwcg.gov/term/glossary/size-class-of-fire>

Figure 41: Wildfires, by size, near Shoalwater Bay Res. 1970-2019

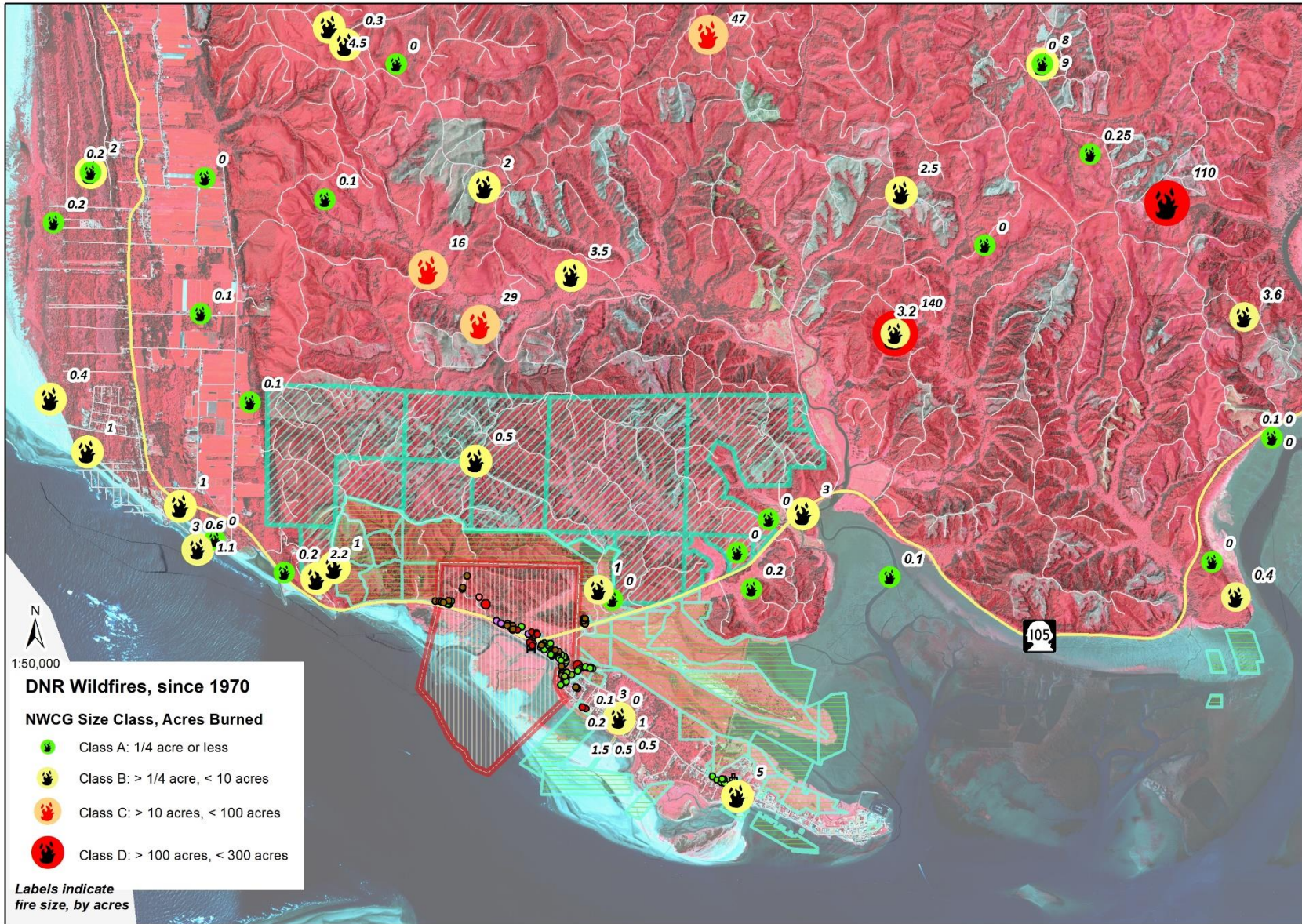
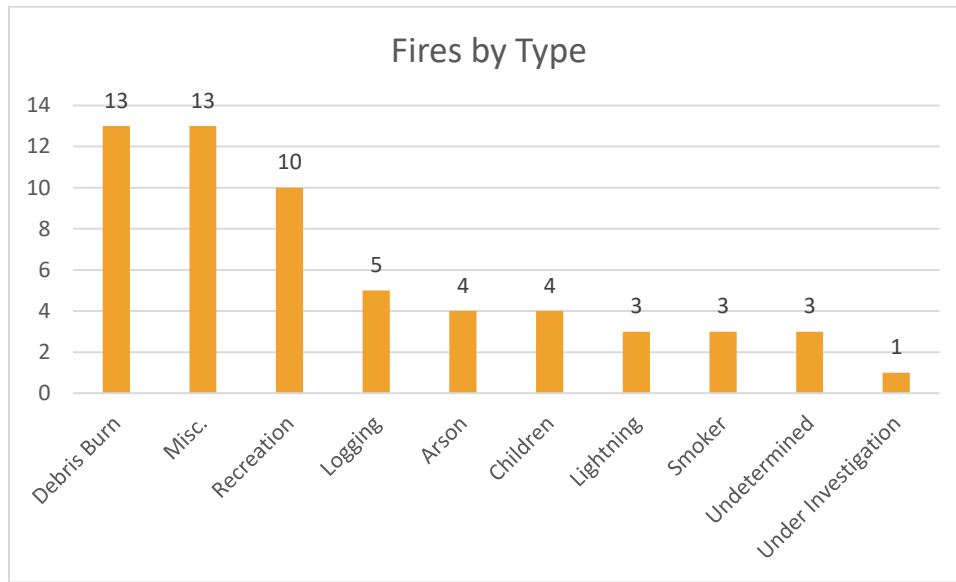


Table 11: Past Wildfires by Type



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## PAST EVENTS AND PROBABILITIES OF FUTURE EVENTS

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### PAST EVENTS

Historically, there not been any major wildfires in the Shoalwater Tribal area or surrounding region. GIS analysis was conducted of past wildfire events using WA Dept. of Natural Resources GIS data. All events from 1970 (earliest GIS data) to 2019 were identified and analyzed within five (5) miles of the Shoalwater Bay Reservation.

There have been 59 events since 1970. There have been 10 events since 2008. The largest fire in the study area occurred May 24, 1982, which burned 140 acres on the hill east of the Cedar River. The most recent large event was the Independence Fire, which burned 110 acres just west of North River.

The most recent events occurred in 2019, a 0.3 acre fire on the Tokeland Peninsula, and a 0.1 acre brush fire in the salt marsh near the mouth of the Cedar River.

There have been 6 past events on Tribal properties, all on timberlands. There have been no past fires on the Reservation or tribal trust lands.

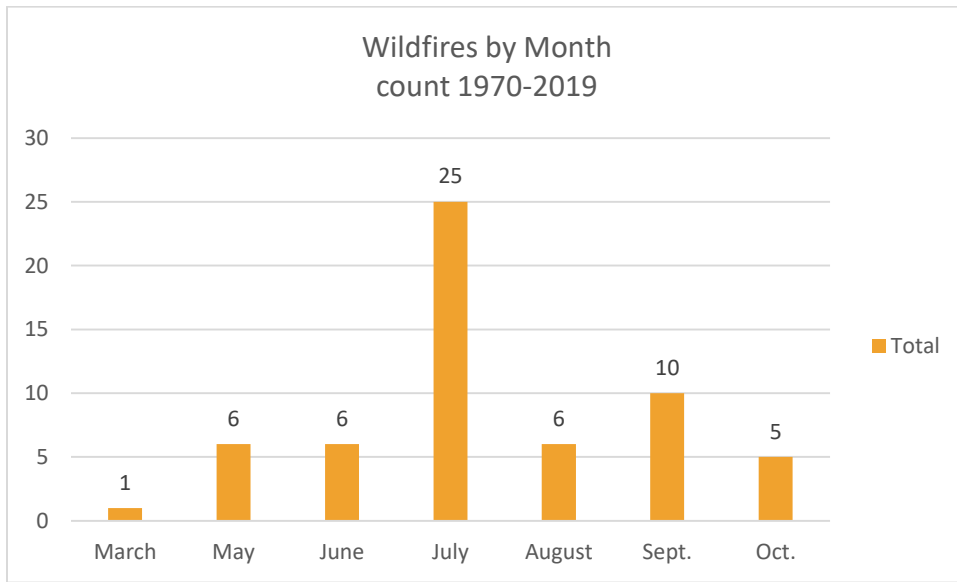
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### PROBABILITY OF FUTURE EVENTS

GIS analysis found that the Shoalwater Bay area can experience usually one wildfire every 1-3 years. May through early October is when wildfires occur, July being the most frequent month for events.



Table 12: Past Wildfires by Month



Climate change could bring an increase in number and severity of wildfires.

By 2069, the amount of “Extreme Fire Dangers” days in the area could increase by 6 days to 17 days per year, and the amount of “Very High Fire Danger” days could increase 47 days per year, and increase of 12 days.

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## DESCRIPTION OF IMPACTS, SUMMARY OF VULNERABILITY

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### IMPACTS

Impacts to the Tribe’s assets are considered minor to moderate. A wildfire event would be small and most likely affect one or two structures before suppression. Larger structures, such as the Casino and Tribal Center are well protected and have fire suppression systems in place to minimize risk of spread. The tribe estimates that worst case, a fire could cause \$500,000 in damage.

There is also concern of fires affecting the Tribe’s natural resource areas, such as the salt marshes and beaches. Fires could damage and destroy critical native plants and habitats and speed up erosion.

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### VULNERABILITY

The potential for a large wildfire on the Shoalwater Bay Reservation is extremely low. Improved fire spotting techniques, better equipment, and trained personnel are major factors, as are the Reservation’s wet climate and normally low fire fuel conditions.

Nonetheless, the Reservation is served by a small volunteer fire department which may take longer to deploy and fight the fire. Outside resources would also take a long time. The vegetation in the area is

composed of thick forests and logging debris or beach grasses and driftwood, both of which are potential fuel sources for wildfires.

Tribal members and staff are concerned with wildfires starting in the densely wooded hills behind the Reservation and spreading to nearby Tribal homes along SR 105. Staff also noted concerns with beach fires spreading onto tribal lands.

The main vulnerability is careless campers and hunters who could start fires that spread uncontrolled onto the Reservation, as well as errant or careless use of fireworks during the 4th of July holiday season.

## CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECTS AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

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Climate change is expected to bring hotter, drier summers (as well as wetter winters) to the Shoalwater Bay area. This could increase the fuels and conditions for increased number and sizes of wildfires.

The tribe's future development is vulnerable to these increased impacts from wildfire. Most new tribal development will be located in the hills above the current areas of coastal development. These hills are former timberlands, which will surround any new development and structures.

Mitigation actions will be identified and implemented by the Shoalwater Bay in order to reduce the risk of wildfires impacting these future developments.

## ADDITIONAL HAZARDS AND THREATS

For planning requirement purposes, FEMA considers the scope of this tribal hazard mitigation plan to encompass the impacts and vulnerability to natural hazards. Natural hazards are generally defined as geological and climatic related hazards.

Specifically, under the Stafford Act, a **major disaster** means any natural catastrophe (including any hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm or drought), or regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion in any part of the United States that the President determines causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant federal assistance.

Although the impacts from **infectious disease outbreaks** (epidemics and pandemics)' **civil unrest and terrorism**, and **hazardous materials events** (oil spills, nuclear reactor meltdowns) can be more severe than natural hazards, and with longer recovery times, these events are generally not considered in hazard mitigation plans.

Natural hazards planning generally considers these hazards to be secondary impacts from geological and climatic events, even when they do not have a source from a geological or climatic event.

Nonetheless it is vital to be aware of these hazards and to recognize the Shoalwater Bay Tribe's exposure and vulnerabilities.

This section will review the following additional hazards:

- Infectious disease outbreaks
- Civil unrest and terrorism
- Hazardous materials spills

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAKS

An infectious disease outbreak, whether a secondary effect of natural hazards, or spread from nature, can have devastating impacts on Native communities.

Specifically the Shoalwater Bay Tribe's ancestors in the lower Colombia River region were nearly wiped by epidemics in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and possibly impacted by earlier outbreaks. The worst disease outbreaks include smallpox, malaria and measles. Epidemics of Influenza, dysentery, yellow fever, bubonic plague, typhoid fever, cholera and whooping cough also caused many deaths.

In more recent history, tribal communities continue to be amongst the vulnerable in the United States from epidemics and pandemics. Native Americans are at an extreme risk due high rates of health problems, like diabetes and heart disease, , a large elder population, also with a higher rate of health

needs, less funding and access to adequate medical care, and also cultural considerations that imparts a large role in family and tribal gatherings that can spread diseases.

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## COVID-19 PANDEMIC

As this hazard mitigation plan was being finalized, a new coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, emerged in the United States in January 2020, with devastating impacts locally, nationally, and worldwide.

On March 22, 2020, the President approved a Major Disaster Declaration for the Washington State Covid-19 Pandemic, DR-4481<sup>22</sup>.

It is not known at this time what impacts the pandemic will have on the Shoalwater Bay Tribe, but it is vital that the tribe be proactive in its efforts to mitigate this and future infectious disease outbreaks.

## CIVIL UNREST AND TERRORISM

Although not a major threat or vulnerability for the Shoalwater Bay Tribe, impacts from civil unrest and terrorism can affect the Tribal community. In general, tribal communities have been impacted severely over the last few centuries from civil unrest and what is today referred to as terrorism.

There are numerous examples of racial massacres, rampant discrimination, criminal acts, and terroristic incidents against the native peoples of the Pacific Northwest. In the past decade, American-based right wing terror groups and sympathizers have emerged and gained power and visibility, with their targets often including tribal communities.

The Southern Poverty Law Center identified, as of 2019, at least 30 hate groups in Washington State, although none were identified as active in the Pacific County area<sup>23</sup>.

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe must remain vigilant to threats from hate groups, especially as their cultural and economic reemergence and success, as well as role as a major employer in an area where Native-Americans make up only 3% of the local population, may breed resentment and anger amongst certain groups and individuals in the community.

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RELEASES

Hazardous materials can cause widespread damage to people, property, and the natural environment. Hazardous materials can be released by a hazard event, such as an earthquake, flood, or even by severe weather (for instance, a truck accident during an icy winter storm).

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<sup>22</sup> <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4481>

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.splcenter.org/hate-map?state=WA>

Hazardous material spills may be the most deadly and dangerous secondary effect of natural hazards. That is why it is essential to identify all potential locations where hazardous materials may be spilled and what locations store hazardous materials on-site.

Overall, the Shoalwater Bay Tribe's impacts from hazardous materials spills are low and localized, and the Tribe's vulnerability is low.

The Shoalwater Bay has one potential hazardous materials site, the Georgetown Gas Station. There are underground gasoline storage tanks that could potentially rupture after an earthquake or tsunami, contaminating the local groundwater, North Cove, and surrounding marshes.

Additionally, during late June and up to the Fourth of July, many tribal members sell fireworks on the Reservation along SR 105. There is also an area on SR 105 near the casino to light fireworks. This has the potential to explosive and/or release explosive/hazardous materials into the area.

Other threats include localized spills from vehicle accidents and household/business-sourced spills, which in large or multiple quantities (for example after an earthquake or tsunami) also affect the groundwater and local marshes.

Regionally, oil spills onto the coastline or into and within Willapa Bay is a major concern. Oil spills could occur from the sinking or grounding of a ship near the treacherous shoals offshore from the bay.

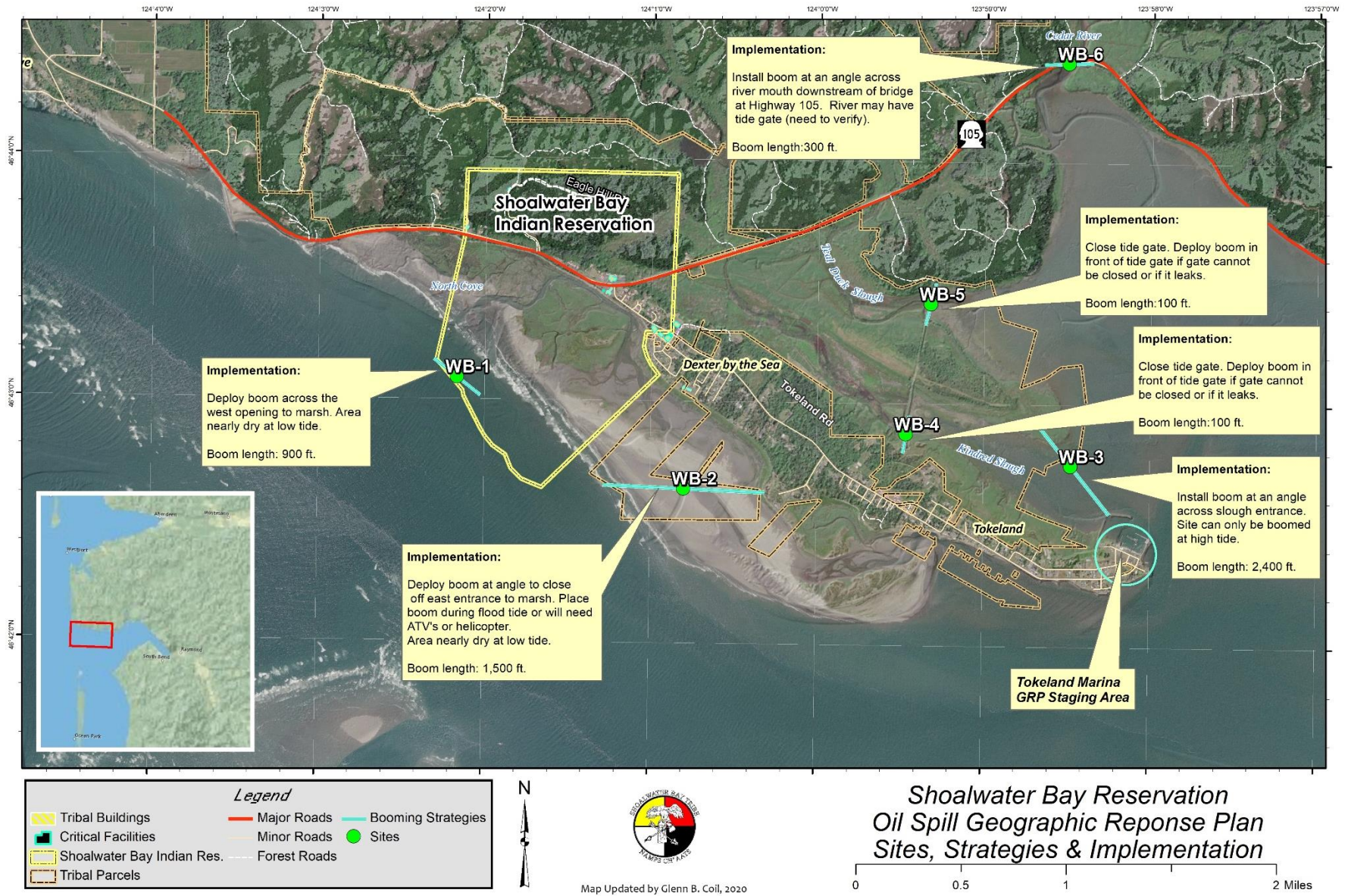
The WA State Department of Ecology maintains an oil spill **geographic response plan (GRP)** for the area around the Reservation and Willapa Bay<sup>24</sup>. The Willapa Bay GRP was last updated in 2003, but was scheduled for a review and update in 2019.

Geographic response plans have been created to guide the response and protection of valuable areas in case of a spill. There are six (6) strategies for the area around the Shoalwater Bay Reservation, and generally include the deployment of booms to block the entrance to marshes in the case of an oil spill.

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<sup>24</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Plans-policies/Contingency-planning-for-oil-industry/Geographic-response-plans-for-oil-spills>

Figure 42: Tokeland area Oil Spill GRP



## MITIGATION STRATEGY

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe's mitigation strategy serves as its long-term guide for action to reduce the tribe's potential losses and impacts from the natural hazards that affect the tribe.

For the 2019 plan update, this section was revised to meet FEMA tribal planning guidance, as well as to increase ease of use in implementation.

A comprehensive evaluation and update of the tribal government's existing authorities, policies, programs, and resources and its capability to use or modify these tools to reduce vulnerability from profiled hazards was conducted and included in this update.

## PRE- AND POST-MITIGATION CAPABILITIES; EVALUATION OF LAWS, REGULATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe in general, have limited capabilities in regards to pre- and post-disaster mitigation. Located in a rural, remote area of Washington State, the tribe has a small land base and population that limits the ability to increase its capabilities. Tribal laws, regulations and policies only cover tribal trust and reservation areas, thus limiting potential effectiveness. For its fee lands (private property), the tribe must adhere to Pacific County land use regulations and policies. In general, tribal funding comes from its business enterprises, primarily the Shoalwater Bay Casino, as well as from federal grants and programs. To a lesser extent, the tribe also a beneficiary of program and project funding from various Washington State agencies, such as Dept. of Ecology, Dept. of Health, and the Emergency Management Dept.

Nonetheless, with these limited capabilities, the Shoalwater Tribe has emerged as a national model in leveraging its limited capabilities to work with local, county, state and federal partners on numerous hazard mitigation and disaster planning related projects and programs.

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### 2019 UPDATE

For the 2019 plan update, the capability assessment from the 2014 plan was reviewed. Contractor worked with tribal staff to evaluate status of capabilities for the update, as applicable. It was determined during the evaluation to reformat the capability assessment to meet FEMA Tribal plan guidance and to streamline for clarity and ease of future review and update.

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### EXISTING CAPABILITIES

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe continues to expand and enhance its pre- and post-disaster hazard management policies and programs, with a focus of planning and community training/drills.

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### PROGRAMS

- National Flood Insurance Program

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe is in the NFIP and in good standing. Flood hazard maps were updated in 2015 and included for this plan update. The tribe does not have any repetitive or severe repetitive loss structures.

Table 13: NFIP Status

CID	Comm Name	County	Init FIRM Identified	Curr Eff Map Date	Reg-Emer Date	Init FHBM Identified	Tribal
530341A	Shoalwater Bay Tribe	Pacific Co.		5/18/2015	1/4/2002	5/18/2015	Yes

- TsunamiReady, StormReady
  - Recently updated for 3 years (2019)

## PLANS

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During the plan update process, the following plans were finalized, adopted and/or updated.

- FEMA Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan (updated for 2019)
- Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
- Continuity of Operations Plan
- Disaster Recovery Plan (new, 2019)
- Debris Management Plan
- Individual Households & Special Needs Assistance Plan (new 2019)

## TRAINING AND EXERCISES

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- Yellow Brick Road – yearly exercise for tsunami evacuation, awareness
- Community Emergency Response Team – continual training and exercise. Participation in community events. At least 200 members trained, including Tribal Council.
- Emergency management program conducts numerous emergency preparedness and response trainings for staff and community members.

## COMMUNICATIONS

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- AHAB warning sirens
  - Two All Hazard Alert Broadcast (AHAB) warning sirens are located on tribal lands, **GEORGE** serving the area around the tribal center and Casino, and **DAVE** providing coverage around Toke Point. The vertical evacuation tower be near the siren on Toke Pt. The sirens are funded to be upgraded in 2020. The tribe’s two tsunami warning sirens are named after retired WA EMD emergency managers Dave Nelson and George Crawford.
- Tribal RACES/Ham radio group: numerous tribal members licensed and trained to use ham races.



- Coast guard radio tower to be built at Emergency Building on Eagle Hill.
- NOAA radios in all tribal buildings

## EVACUATION

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- Evacuation routes and signage
- Evacuation staging areas – safe zones
- Tsunami vertical evacuation tower (to be completed fall 2020)

## EVALUATION OF EXISTING TRIBAL LAWS, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS

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The tribe has limited laws, regulations, policies, programs and resources related to hazard mitigation and development in hazard-prone areas, but nonetheless has been successful in using its capabilities.

The Tribe has chosen to limit the amount of formal laws and regulations it adopts due to limited jurisdiction (Reservation and trust lands only), as well as limited resources to implement and enforce.

## TRIBAL NATION STATUS

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The Shoalwater Tribe has unique capability to work directly with federal partners for funding and assistance related to hazard mitigation, as well as disaster response and recovery. Tribal leadership also has capability to work and meet directly with Executive and Congressional leadership and address congress and its committees.

## OPPORTUNITIES

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The tribe's main opportunities lie in its status as sovereign tribal nation within the United States, and its ability and agility to more directly manage its efforts in mitigation and resiliency.

- Nation to status –direct grant and funding partnership with state and federal agencies
- Economic development – The tribe has the ability for economic development that may not be available to local jurisdictions as it can set its own regulations and policies for activities that may not be permitted or highly regulated off Reservation and trust lands

## CHALLENGES

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- Limited resources – financial and staffing
- Limited land use authority – only subject to trust and reservation lands
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## TRIBAL FUNDING SOURCES FOR HAZARD MITIGATION

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### EXISTING FUNDING SOURCES

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### 2019 PLAN UPDATE

This section was revised to reflect updated FEMA plan requirements. A list of existing funding related to hazard mitigation was compiled.

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## NON-FEMA SOURCES

The Shoalwater Tribe generally utilizes tribal funding and funding from various federal agencies to support its hazard mitigation efforts. In addition, the Tribe utilizes technical support from various federal and state agencies that assists in its hazard mitigation efforts. This includes wider regional projects that overlap or affect the tribe's Reservation and properties, and thus contribute to the tribe's mitigation efforts. Recent examples include:

- **Eagle Hill Road Slope Stabilization, Road-Widening and Multipurpose Building Construction Project, 2012**  
U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded \$481,000 for construction of the multipurpose building. More detail of the project is discussed in FEMA-funded mitigation efforts.
- **SR 105 - North Cove Vicinity - Erosion Protection 2017 – WA Dept. of Transportation<sup>25</sup>**  
This \$3.6 million project updated previous repair work done in the area in 2015. High tides and several harsh winter storm events brought debris and water onto the roadway, causing damage and eroding sections of the shoreline and rock wall. This project, which occurred on the embankment alongside State Route 105, between mileposts 19.57 and 20.58, just north of the Reservation, replaced damaged sections of roadway by adding a revetment and debris berm. This project benefits the tribe by stabilizing SR 105 and minimizing road closures in a section subject to severe coastal erosion and damage. This is the only road that allows access to points north from the Reservation, including Westport.
- **Shoalwater Bay Berm Monitoring Report, WA Dept. of Ecology, August 2017<sup>26</sup>**  
From the introduction:
  - Over a period of two years, from September 2014 to September 2016, the WA State Dept. of Ecology Coastal Monitoring & Analysis Program (CMAP) performed a series of five surveys to collect continuous, high-resolution nearshore bathymetry and beach topography data of the Shoalwater Bay/North Cove area. The purpose of these surveys was to monitor a 2.5 km long berm constructed in 2012 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) along Empire Spit and quantify morphological changes along the shoreline extending from the SR 105 groin to Toke Point as part of the Shoalwater Bay Shoreline Erosion Project.

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<sup>25</sup> <https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR105/ncovevicerosionprotection/default.htm>

<sup>26</sup> <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/1706024.pdf>

As outlined by the USACE in the Cooperative Agreement, this monitoring program is needed to:

1. Provide the data necessary to quantify the level of protection provided by the Shoalwater dune restoration project. The restored dune provides coastal storm damage reduction for the Shoalwater Indian Reservation and requires periodic re-nourishment to maintain the designed level of protection. These monitoring data will be critical in determining the rate of erosion and quantities required for the next planned nourishment.
2. Monitor the morphology of Graveyard Spit over time to comply with prior agreements with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding habitat provided to listed Endangered Species Act species Western Snowy Plover.
3. Provide data necessary to refine the sediment budget for the Willapa Bay inlet which includes the rapidly eroding shoreline adjacent to SR 105.

- **Tsunami Vertical Evacuation Tower, 2018**

The Tribe was awarded a FEMA PDM project grant in 2018 to construct a 50' high tsunami vertical evacuation tower. The tribe is expected to contribute at least \$1 million to the project. In addition, in-kind planning, grant, and design assistance was provided by numerous agencies, including WA EMD, and WSDOT's Visual Engineering Resource Group.

Figure 43: Rendering of future Tsunami Evacuation tower, near Toke Pt.



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<sup>27</sup> Visualizations of tower courtesy of WSDOT Visual Engineering Resource Group

Figure 44: Aerial rendering of future Tsunami Evac Tower



## US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROJECTS

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The USACE has provided funding to protect the Shoalwater Bay Tribe from coastal erosion, storm surge and storm debris. Below is a list of existing efforts.

### 2001 – 1,700 foot flood berm

Winter storms in 1998-1999 caused two breaches to form in the barrier dune, resulting in storm wave run-up and flooding of shoreline areas where tribal development is concentrated. To provide partial protection to the Tribal Center, a 1,700-foot-long shoreline flood berm was constructed in 2001 by the Corps.

December 2007 – a 300 foot extension of the flood berm was a constructed by the Corps.

### 2009- Corps releases report on Shoalwater Bay Shoreline Erosion<sup>28</sup>

Six of the twelve extreme water levels recorded since 1973 have occurred since 1999. Coastal storms that coincided with these extreme water levels in March 1999, December 2001, February 2006, and December 2007 resulted in significant erosion and storm wave overtopping of the barrier dune, some erosion of the shoreline, and flooding of tribal uplands.

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<https://www.nws.usace.army.mil/Portals/27/docs/civilworks/projects/Shoalwater%20Decision%20Doc%20JULY%202009%20FINAL%20w%20errata.pdf>

These events created a growing sense of urgency on the part of the Shoalwater Tribe for implementation of long-term coastal erosion protection and storm damage reduction measures.

Barrier dune restoration (Alternative 6 in the report) was considered the most appropriate long term solution to the coastal erosion and resulting storm damage problems affecting the Shoalwater Reservation. It was estimated to cost \$25 million, and consisted of building a 12,500 berm like dune along the outer edge of Graveyard Spit..

October 2013 – **initial project to restore barrier dunes on Graveyard Spit completed.**

2018- **Barrier dune repair project**<sup>29</sup>

After initial construction in 2013, the Corps estimated that it would maintain the barrier roughly every five years by dredging material to place on existing dune.

However, the winter of 2015/2016 the dune was severely damaged by the strongest El Niño year in the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) cycle since 1997/1998. These storms generally caused greater coastal erosion than observed during the 1997/1998 El Niño. Events in March 2016 and October 2016 significantly eroded the northern 3,200 feet of dune resulting in over-wash and deposition of sand in the North Cove embayment.

Without the proposed project repair, the limited wave protection currently afforded by the eroded barrier dune would continue to decrease, and flooding of the Shoalwater Reservation and adjoining lands would occur at increasingly frequent intervals.

The proposed project repair consists of emergency restoration of the deteriorated barrier dune system to protect the Shoalwater Reservation. The \$19.9 M project was completed in the summer of 2018.

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#### FEMA-FUNDED HAZARD MITIGATION EFFORTS

The Shoalwater Bay has utilized and applied for numerous FEMA grants to supports its mitigation efforts. It has received three PDM planning grants to support development of its initial hazard mitigation plan in 2008, as well as for 2014 and 2019 Plan Updates.

With a FEMA-approved tribal hazard mitigation plan, the Tribe has also applied for PDM project grants.

The following table shows status of Shoalwater Bay Tribal applications through PDM grant program:

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<sup>29</sup> <https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p16021coll7/id/11060/>

Table 14: Shoalwater Bay PDM grant applications

<b>Shoalwater Bay Tribe PDM grant applications</b>			
<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Federal cost- share</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>FY18</b>	Water Tower Retrofit	\$37,464	Did Not Meet HMA Requirements
<b>FY18</b>	Generator Backup Systems Final	\$361,386	Did Not Meet HMA Requirements
<b>FY17</b>	Vertical Evacuation Tower	\$2,281,860	Awarded
<b>FY17</b>	Defensible Spaces Project	\$69,200	Identified for Further Review
<b>FY17</b>	Generator Backup Systems	\$143,430	Identified for Further Review

### EAGLE HILL ROAD SLOPE STABILIZATION, ROAD-WIDENING AND MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT – 2012

The tribe received a \$1.4 million HSGP grant to widen and stabilize the Tribe’s tsunami evacuation route, Eagle Hill Road, and construct a multipurpose building and evacuation staging area at an elevation of 55’, out of the tsunami inundation zone. HUD contributed \$481,000 towards construction of the multipurpose building. The rest of the funding came from the FY2011 Homeland Security Grant Program.

### TSUNAMI VERTICAL EVACUATION TOWER - 2018

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe was awarded a PDM grant in 2018 for \$2.2 million, a 90% federal match for the estimated \$2.5 million project to build a tsunami vertical evacuation tower adjacent to tribal housing on Toke Point. The safe refuge platforms will be built above the predicted tsunami wave crest height. With a total useable area of 3,400 square feet, it will accommodate the 386 people. The proposed site will provide a safe evacuation place for not just Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribal members, but also residents in the surrounding community. The project is designed in conformance with the 2012 FEMA P-646 Guidelines for Design of Structures for Vertical Evacuation from Tsunamis. This also fulfills Mitigation Action S-14 from the 2014 Plan update, which addresses tsunami vertical evacuation. The tower is planned to be completed by fall 2020.

### OTHER FEMA FUNDING

The Hazard Mitigation Grant program (HMGP) assists in implementing long-term hazard mitigation planning and projects following a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration. The Tribe has not applied for HMGP grants related to disaster declarations in the Pacific County area. Since the previous plan update in 2014, the only disaster declaration for the Shoalwater Bay Tribe/Pacific County has been DR-4253, for

severe weather, flooding and landslides in December 2015<sup>30</sup>. There is no record of the Tribe utilizing other FEMA funding, such as FMA, PA (C-G), and FMAG.

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## POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

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### 2019 PLAN UPDATE

A list of potential funding sources has not change since the initial plan development and 2014 update. The Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 (DRRA) passed by Congress at the end of 2018, will potentially provide new and/or expanded funding sources for tribal mitigation efforts. Details and processes have not been finalized during drafting of this plan, but generally include:

- Increases funding for hazard mitigation in a new national Pre-Disaster Mitigation account.
- Creates new funding for local, tribal and state wildfire prevention and mitigation practices.
- Authorizes FEMA to provide grants to state and tribal governments to directly administer housing construction, including reimbursement.
- Expands grants for Other Needs Assistance and Housing Assistance.

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### FEDERAL

Below are listed the primary federal programs and agencies that can potentially fund mitigation actions and planning.

**Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program**, which provides funds to develop mitigation plans and implement mitigation projects, is administered by FEMA;

**Hazard Mitigation Grant Program**, which provides post-disaster funds for hazard reduction projects (e.g., elevation, relocation, or buyout of structures), is administered by FEMA and the Washington State Emergency Management Division;

**Flood Control Assistance Account Program**, which provides funds for developing flood hazard management plans, for flood damage reduction projects and studies, and for emergency flood projects (e.g., repair of levees), is administered by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology);

**Flood Mitigation Assistance Program**, which provides funds for flood mitigation on buildings that carry flood insurance and have been damaged by floods, is administered by FEMA;

**Department of Homeland Security funding**, in addition to FEMA programs;

**U.S. Fire Administration**, which provides wildfire program funds;

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<sup>30</sup> <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4253>

**Environmental Protection Agency**, which could provide funds for projects with dual hazard mitigation and environmental protection goals as well as updates to this HMP and related planning efforts such as spill prevention and response planning;

**Indian Health Service**, which could provide funds for hazard mitigation projects that address public health and safety;

**Rural Development Agency, USDA**, which provides loan and grant funds for housing assistance, business assistance, community development, and emergency community water and wastewater assistance in areas covered by a federal disaster declaration;

**Community Development Block Grant**, which provides funds for a variety of community development projects, is administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development;

**Small Business Administration Loans**, which help businesses recover from disaster damages, is administered by the Small Business Administration; and

**Bureau of Indian Affairs**, which provides funds to support tribal activities.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**, which provides funding for coastal and waterway projects

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#### TRIBAL

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe is fully committed to the public safety and welfare of its residents and tribal members and to the goals of the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Tribe has only limited resources though to devote to mitigation planning. Nonetheless the Tribe may be willing to match grant funding, either through direct monies or through the allocation of resources, such as labor and expertise, in order to implement the actions discussed in this plan.

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#### STATE/LOCAL

In some cases, funding may be available from the State of Washington and/or Pacific County, especially on mitigation actions that overlap jurisdictions, such as road and flood mitigation projects. The main resource for funding opportunities from the State of Washington is from the Washington State Emergency Management Division, which helps fund mitigation projects. The Shoalwater Bay Tribe is continually building relationships with the State of Washington, Pacific County, Grays Harbor County as well as local communities such as Tokeland, in order to develop partnerships to implement mitigation measures that are regional in scope.

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#### PRIVATE

No potential funding from the private sector is currently identified. Nonetheless local businesses and residents will be encouraged to participate and contribute to the mitigation effort.



## MITIGATION GOALS

The following goals have been established by the Shoalwater Bay Tribe to guide its efforts and measure successful implementation of its hazard mitigation program. These goals support and further the Tribe’s Mission Statement:

*“To become self-sufficient and provide for the spiritual, social, economic and health of tribal members, while honoring traditions of the past and leaving a responsible legacy for future generations.”*

**Goal 1. Protect people, property and the natural environment**

**Goal 2. Ensure continuity of critical economic and public facilities and infrastructure**

**Goal 3. Promote and protect Tribal sovereignty and identity**

**Goal 4. Increase public awareness of natural hazards and involvement in hazards planning**

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### 2019 PLAN UPDATE

These goals were established during the development of the Tribe’s initial plan in 2008. For the 2014 plan update, these goals were affirmed. For the 2019 plan update, the goals were reviewed in conjunction with other tribal goals and priorities, implementation of mitigation actions, changes in development, as well as better understanding of hazards and tribal vulnerability. As a result, the tribe continues to affirm these goals.

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### PLAN STRATEGIES

The Shoalwater Bay developed 6 hazard mitigation strategies that support its overall Tribal Mission Statement as well as the four goals of its hazard mitigation program. In turn these strategies will be achieved by successfully implementing the mitigation strategies the tribe has identified during the plan update process.

**Table 15: 2019 Plan Strategies**

#### 2019 Shoalwater Bay Tribe Mitigation Strategies

- 1) Pursue relocation and future development outside hazard zones
- 2) Harden existing facilities, infrastructure, and homes as needed
- 3) Continue development and expansion of evacuation routes and emergency facilities
- 4) Reduce increased threat from wildfires
- 5) Reduce continued threat from coastal erosion
- 6) Continue to expand and improve emergency management preparedness and response capabilities

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## 2019 UPDATE

The Tribe for its plan update conducted a comprehensive review of its mitigation goals, objectives and actions identified in the original plan and in the 2014 plan update. The Tribe's mitigation priorities, as well as its successes and challenges implementing its mitigation program, were analyzed within the lens of the Tribe's overall community priorities and capabilities, as well as increased understanding of the impacts from natural hazards.

With this understanding, the Tribe, for this update, sought to refocus and streamline its mitigation objectives and actions. The 2014 plan update listed 15 objectives. For this plan, these were reprioritized as 6 Strategies. The mitigation actions subsequently identified in this plan are grouped under individual strategies to better clarify how said actions support the overall strategies. In the long- term, it is hoped that this format will help achieve success in identifying, prioritizing and implementing mitigation actions.

The 2014 Plan objectives can be found in **Appendix C: 2014 Hazard Mitigation Plan Objectives**

## IDENTIFY AND ANALYZE POTENTIAL MITIGATION ACTIONS

The following pages list the Shoalwater Bay Tribe's 2019 mitigation actions that when successfully implemented, will support the hazard mitigation strategies that will reduce the tribe's impact and vulnerability to the natural hazards identified in the risk assessment and meet the Tribe's overall mitigation goals and Mission Statement.

A wide range of projects were identified using feedback and suggestions from tribal leadership and staff, local, state and federal partners, as well as local community members. Projects were analyzed for relevancy to hazards threat and ability to reduce risk to existing and future buildings and infrastructure, as well as Tribe's capacity to implement.

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## 2019 PLAN UPDATE

Mitigation actions from the 2014 plan, as well as the 2008 original plan were reviewed. Best practices and alternative mitigation actions were identified from academic, state and federal sources. Generally the tribe sought to update and continue the mitigation actions identified in the 2014 plan, as well as add mitigation actions to reflect current priorities and address emerging threats/impacts. For this plan update, 25 mitigation actions are grouped under the six overall strategies that they support.

Please note that these actions are not prioritized within each strategy, and focus on implementation by lead department, potential funding sources and work plan timeline.

Strategy 1					
Pursue relocation and future development outside hazard zones					
<i>action</i>		<i>reference to 2014 plan</i>	<i>lead, other</i>	<i>funding source(s)</i>	<i>timeline</i>
1.1	Develop plan that identifies alternative sources and needed infrastructure for <b>potable water systems</b> that adequately meet Tribe's future needs and address impacts from drought and sea-level rise.	S-5	Planning	Tribal funds	3-5 years
1.2	Identify and implement <b>stormwater management actions</b> for current and future development that mitigate localized flooding and storm surge.	S-10	Natural Resources, Planning	Tribal funds	3-5 years
1.3	Seek grant funding to construct a <b>public safety facility</b> to include a police and fire station, court house, meeting facility and EOC on the Reservation, and acquire personnel and equipment that can also accommodate the expansion to include wildland fire services on the Reservation.	S-53	Emergency Mgmt., Tribal Council	Grant funds, tribal funds	3-5 years
1.4	Focus all <b>new development</b> , including critical facilities, infrastructure and housing, outside of tsunami inundation & high velocity areas as well as other high hazard areas.	new	Tribal Council	Tribal funds, BIA, HUD	long-term

**Strategy 2**

**Harden existing facilities, infrastructure and homes as needed**

<i>action</i>		<i>reference to 2014 plan</i>	<i>lead, other</i>	<i>funding source(s)</i>	<i>timeline</i>
2.1	Identify and implement <b>hillside stabilization projects</b> where needed to reduce current and future impacts from landslides and erosion, utilizing low impact natural systems.	S-8	Natural Resources	tribal funds	on-going
2.2	Secure funding to <b>acquire additional generators</b> to maintain critical infrastructure on reservation, including for water systems, especially for new facilities being constructed or older facilities being renovated that do not already have generators.	S-9	Emergency Mgmt.	FEMA grant funds, tribal funds	on-going
2.3	<b>Work with local partners</b> , including WSDOT and Pacific County, to reduce vulnerability and impacts from landslides and washouts along SR 105 outside of the Tribe's jurisdiction.	S-19	Emergency Mgmt.	WSDOT, WA EMD	on-going
2.4	<b>Seismically retrofit</b> water towers and water storage structures utilizing grant support.	S-32	Emergency Mgmt.	FEMA grant funds, tribal funds	3-5 years
2.5	Enhance and expand <b>existing water systems</b> on Reservation to increase capacity of water storage facilities; obtain alternate sources (wells) and increase capacity to enable ability to utilize fire hydrants without damaging existing infrastructure and reducing capacity for residents.	S-34	Bldg. Maintenance, Tribal Council	tribal funds, BIA	3-5 years
2.6	Identify potential mitigation actions to reduce impact of natural hazards to inventoried <b>cultural resources and sites</b> , such as historic camps and villages.	S-47	Education & Heritage/Cultural	tribal funds	1-3 years
2.7	Work with local utility service providers to harden and/or install <b>underground utility lines</b> (power, phone, internet) and add <b>additional repeaters and network capacity</b> , which will provide higher quality and less disrupted services.	S-56	Tribal Administrator, Tribal Council	private funds, tribal funds	on-going

**Strategy 3**

**Continued development and expansion of evacuation routes and emergency facilities**

<i>action</i>		<i>reference to 2014 plan</i>	<i>lead, other</i>	<i>funding source(s)</i>	<i>timeline</i>
3.1	Work with local and federal partners to improve existing <b>tsunami vertical evacuation structure</b> ; assess need for additional structures.	S-14	Emergency Mgmt.	FEMA grants, tribal funds	3-5 years
3.2	Continue to improve <b>evacuation routes and signage</b> as needed. Work with local partners outside of tribal jurisdiction to enhance evacuation routes and signage.	S-24	Emergency Mgmt.	tribal funds, local funds	on-going
3.3	Enhance <b>existing shelters</b> as needed to have back-up generators, communications systems as well as kitchen, shower/bathroom, and heating systems.	S-50	Emergency Mgmt.	FEMA grants, tribal funds	on-going
3.4	Build a tornado and severe <b>weather evacuation shelter and/or saferooms</b> . These shelter locations shall include, at a minimum, back-up power generators, communications, water and heating systems, and kitchen, shower/bathroom facilities. The shelters should meet the access and functional needs of all individuals.	new	Emergency Mgmt.	FEMA grants, BIA funds, tribal funds	3-5 years

**Strategy 4**

**Reduce increased threat from wildfires**

<i>action</i>		<i>reference to 2014 plan</i>	<i>lead, other</i>	<i>funding source(s)</i>	<i>timeline</i>
4.1	Develop a <b>forest fuels management program</b> that includes a fuels reduction strategy and promotes forest health, such as the planting of native fire-resistant plants.	S11, S-13	Natural Resources	tribal funds, grants	1-3 years
4.2	Working with South Beach Regional Fire Authority, <b>secure grant</b> to purchase a <b>mobile "Fire Prevention Safety Trailer."</b>	S-55	Emergency Mgmt.	FEMA grants, tribal funds	1-3 years

**Strategy 5**

**Reduce continued threat from coastal erosion**

<i>action</i>		<i>reference to 2014 plan</i>	<i>lead, other</i>	<i>funding source(s)</i>	<i>timeline</i>
5.1	Continue to actively <b>monitor coastal erosion</b> at North Cove/Graveyard Spit shoreline and work with local, state and federal partners to develop long-term mitigation solutions.	S-51, new	Natural Resources, Emergency Mgmt.	US Army Corps of Engineers, WA Dept. of Ecology, tribal funds	on-going
5.2	Work with federal legislators to fund continued Army Corps of Engineers' monitoring and on-going maintenance, enhancement and expansion of <b>barrier dune and related erosion control projects</b> at North Cove/Graveyard Spit beach.	S-51, new	Tribal Council	tribal funds	on-going

**Strategy 6**

**Continue to expand emergency management preparedness and response capabilities**

<i>action</i>		<i>reference to 2014 plan</i>	<i>lead, other</i>	<i>funding source(s)</i>	<i>timeline</i>
6.1	Develop (and update as required) a <b>post-disaster action plan</b> for all hazards of concern that addresses debris management, cultural/historical data gathering, substantial damage assessment, and grant management. This plan would be an appendix to the Tribe’s Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.	S-1	Emergency Mgmt.	tribal	1-3 years
6.2	Evaluate and adopt <b>tribal policies and codes</b> that increase resiliency to natural hazards, such as stronger building codes, stormwater and potable water management plans, wildfire management programs, and land use & development policies.	S-6	Tribal Council	tribal	on-going
6.3	Maintain and expand a <b>public outreach strategy</b> of on-going programs providing multiple messages that support all phases of emergency management, including the maintenance of a 7-day supply of food and water. This should include CERT training. Training program should also include an outreach program for elders and sensitive populations to provide assistance as needed.	S-20	Emergency Mgmt., Wellness Center	tribal	on-going
6.4	Continue to update as required and needed, <b>emergency plans</b> including: FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan, Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, Continuity of Operations Plan, Disaster Recovery Plan, Debris Management Plan, Individual Households & Special Needs Assistance Plan.	S-27	Emergency Mgmt.	tribal, grants funds	on-going
6.5	Continue <b>participation and renewal</b> in National Weather Service’s StormReady and TsunamiReady community program.	S-31	Emergency Mgmt.	tribal	on-going
6.6	Work with local, federal and private partners to install and maintain <b>additional early warning and updated communication systems</b> community-wide to provide enhanced coverage and redundancy. This includes additional towers, repeaters and support equipment.	S-49	Emergency Mgmt.	grant funds, tribal	on-going



## PRIORITIZE, IMPLEMENT AND ADMINISTER MITIGATION ACTIONS

### PRIORITIZE ACTIONS

Mitigation actions for this plan were prioritized via discussion amongst Tribal Council and the Tribe's Emergency Management Office and emergency planning committee, as well as feedback from the tribal community and outside partners and stakeholders. Mitigation actions were prioritized and included in the plan based on the following criteria:

- The action supported the Tribe's overall priorities as reflected in the updated Strategies. Previous Actions that were no longer a tribal priority were omitted. Mitigation actions that supported new priorities were added.
- On-going actions – previous mitigation actions that by definition are on-going or were in process of being implemented on a long-term basis were included if they also supported current tribal priorities and strategies.
- Feasibility – actions that were not feasible due to financial or capability limitations were not included.
- Redundancy – some mitigation actions were redundant or conflicted in terms of implementation. These actions were reprioritized and modified as needed to better align with the Tribe's overall strategy.

### RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION

The overall responsibility of implementing and administering the hazard mitigation strategies and actions shall be the Tribal Council and its Tribal Administrator/CEO. Day-to-day and program implementation and administration of the actions shall be managed by the Emergency Management Director, with support from the emergency planning committee, and tribal departments and staff as required.

### INCORPORATE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN INTO OTHER TRIBAL PLANNING MECHANISMS

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe is acutely aware of the hazards it faces, whether annual winter storms, long-term effects from coastal erosion and climate change, or the once-in-a-multi-generational earthquake/tsunami.

Through both formal and informal planning processes, the Tribe incorporates the overall goals, the findings of the risk assessment, and objectives/actions of the hazard mitigation plan into its public safety, community development, natural resources and economic development efforts.

As the tribe generally has not developed formal planning documents or processes, such as a zoning code or comprehensive land use plan, the process the tribe will utilize to incorporate the mitigation plan into other tribal planning mechanisms will consist of:

- Coordination with tribal staff and leadership through the Emergency Planning Committee.

This committee is made up of staff and directors from different tribal departments and council, and is the primary method for the Tribe to coordinate its efforts and ensure that individual departmental planning processes and projects incorporate and utilize the hazard mitigation plan.

- The Emergency Management Director will coordinate with tribal staff and departments as needed during any tribal planning processes to ensure that the mitigation plan, its findings and actions, are incorporated.
- The Emergency Management Director will lead on coordinating with the Tribal Administrator and Tribal Council to ensure that any on-going and future tribal planning processes and projects incorporate the hazard mitigation plan.

Currently the Tribe integrates the plan into its emergency management and preparedness program, used as a basis for all of the Tribe's emergency plans, as well as for training, drills and exercises.

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### 2019 PLAN UPDATE

For this update, other tribal planning efforts were reviewed to ensure that they were informed by the hazard mitigation planning process. The Tribe affirms that it will continue to incorporate the hazard mitigation plan into all current and future planning efforts, both formally and informally.

The 2014 plan identified planning documents the Tribe was developing that would be linked to the hazard mitigation plan, specifically a Comprehensive Plan. The plan update process indicated that the Tribe did not make progress developing a Comprehensive Plan or implementing other planning processes that could incorporate the hazard mitigation plan, so this section was revised to reflect the process the tribe will follow during the next five years.

### REVIEWING PROGRESS AND MONITORING IMPLEMENTATION

The process of reviewing progress and monitoring implementation of mitigation projects, including those not listed in this plan, or funded specifically by FEMA, will be led by the Director of the Shoalwater Bay Emergency Management Dept. The Tribal Council, Tribal Administrator, and/or the Director may direct or appoint tribal staff and committees, as needed, to assist in review and monitoring.

As part of its emergency management program, the Director will frequently review and track progress on the implementation of mitigation actions. The Director will also meet with staff from Tribal Departments, where applicable, to discuss progress of mitigation activities. The Director will report progress to the Tribal Council as requested, or at least annually.

The implementation of all short-term mitigation actions will be monitored by the Director on an ongoing basis until implementation is complete. Long-term actions being actively implemented will be monitored on an ongoing basis, or at least annually as needed. Long-term actions planned for the future will be reviewed during plan updates every five years.

For FEMA-funded projects, the Director of Emergency Management will lead in ensuring that tribal staff tracks, prepares, and submits all required progress reports and other grant compliance as needed. The Director will work with Tribal staff to ensure a timely and successful grant close-out process.

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## 2019 PLAN UPDATE

This section was revised to meet FEMA requirements for tribal hazard mitigation plans.

## ASSURANCES & PLAN ADOPTION

### ASSURANCES TO COMPLY WITH FEDERAL STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

The Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe assures that it will comply with all applicable federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding including 2 CFR Parts 200 and 3002. The Tribe will amend its mitigation plan whenever necessary to reflect changes in tribal or federal laws and statutes.

### TRIBAL ADOPTION

The 2019 Shoalwater Bay Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan Update was formally adopted by the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Council on March 18, 2020 as Resolution #3-18-20-14.



SHOALWATER BAY INDIAN TRIBE

P.O. Box 130 • Tokeland, Washington 98590  
Telephone (360) 267-6766 • FAX (360) 267-6778

SHOALWATER BAY INDIAN TRIBE

Resolution: # 3-18-20-14

WHEREAS, the Shoalwater Bay Tribe is a Federally recognized Tribe headquartered on the Shoalwater Bay Indian Reservation in the State of Washington, and

WHEREAS, the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Council is the governing body of the Shoalwater Bay Tribe in accordance with their Constitution and By-laws, and

WHEREAS, the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Council is charged with the responsibility and is committed to saving lives and to preserving the safety, health, and welfare of all people who live on, work on, and visit our reservation, and to the preservation of our lands, environment, and our culture; and

WHEREAS, the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Council] recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within the Shoalwater Bay Tribe, and

WHEREAS, the Shoalwater Bay Tribe has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan update, with the assistance of a contractor, in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and the requirements in Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations Section 201.7;

WHEREAS, adoption of this plan will make the Shoalwater Bay Tribe eligible for funding to alleviate the impacts of future hazards on the Reservation,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Council adopts the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan as its updated strategy to mitigate the effects of natural hazards.

CERTIFICATION

The above resolution was passed as an emergency Council response activated on March 18, 2020 at the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe, at which a quorum was established.

5 FOR      0 AGAINST      0 ABSTAIN

Charlene Nelson, Chairwoman

Lynn Clark, Secretary

## APPENDIX B: FEMA APPROVAL LETTER

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Region X  
130 228th Street, SW  
Bothell, WA 98021-8627



**FEMA**

March 20, 2020

The Honorable Charlene Nelson  
Chairwoman, Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe  
P.O. Box 130  
Tokeland, Washington 98590

Dear Chairwoman Nelson:

Congratulations, on March 20, 2020, the United States Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 10 approved the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan as a Tribal Mitigation Plan, in accordance with Code of Federal Regulations Title 44 Part 201.

An approval provides the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe eligibility to apply directly with FEMA for Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) programs, i.e., Pre-Disaster Mitigation project grants, Public Assistance (Categories C-G), Fire Management Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) projects through March 19, 2025. Recipients must develop and maintain hazard mitigation plans compliant with FEMA standards as a condition for receiving funds. To continue eligibility, within five years from date of this letter, tribes must review, revise as appropriate and re-submit plans for approval. For further assistance on hazard mitigation planning, please contact our Regional Mitigation Planning Program Manager, John Schelling, at (425) 487-2104.

FEMA evaluates applications for funding according to the specific requirements of the applicable program. A mitigation action identified in the plan may, or may not, meet a program's eligibility requirements. For assistance with hazard mitigation grant funding, please contact [FEMA-R10-HMA@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-R10-HMA@fema.dhs.gov).

We look forward to continuing a productive relationship between FEMA Region 10 and the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe. Our Regional Tribal Liaison Erin Ward, at (425) 487-4567, is available to facilitate this relationship and delivery of our programs. You are also welcome to contact me directly, at (425) 487-4604.

Sincerely,

VINCENT J  
MAYKOVICH

Digitally signed by VINCENT J  
MAYKOVICH  
Date: 2020.03.24 17:10:25 -0700

Michael F. O'Hare  
Regional Administrator

Enclosures

cc: Tim Cook, Washington Emergency Management Division

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

## APPENDIX C: 2014 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN OBJECTIVES

### 2014 SHOALWATER BAY TRIBE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN OBJECTIVES

Objective #	Objective Statement	Goals for which it can be applied
O-1	Acquire (purchase), retrofit, or relocate structures in high hazard areas.	1
O-2	Encourage open space uses in hazardous areas or ensure that if building occurs in these high-risk areas that it is done in such a way as to minimize risk.	1, 2
O-3	Use best available data, science and technologies to improve understanding of location and potential impacts of hazards, and to promote disaster resilient communities by discouraging new development in hazardous areas or ensuring that development is done in such a way as to minimize risk.	3
O-4	Consider the impacts of natural hazards in all planning mechanisms that address current and future land uses on the Reservation.	4
O-5	Educate the reservation residents and surrounding communities on the risk exposure to natural hazards and ways to increase the member's capability to prepare, respond, recover and mitigate the impacts of these events.	3, 4
O-6	Increase resilience and the continuity of operations of identified critical facilities within the Reservation.	3
O-7	Preserve the Cultural Resources of the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe.	3
O-8	Provide/improve flood protection through various means, such as with flood control structures and drainage maintenance where appropriate and feasible.	4
O-9	Consider NFIP with the ultimate goal to lower the cost of flood insurance premiums through the CRS program.	4

O-10	Establish a partnership among the Tribal Government and Tribal business leaders with surrounding area government and business community to improve and implement methods to protect life, property and the environment, while preserving the cultural integrity of the Shoalwater Tribe and its members.	4
O-11	Enhance community emergency management capability (i.e., prepare, plan, respond, recover, mitigate).	3, 4
O-12	Encourage the development and implementation of long-term, cost-effective and environmentally sound mitigation projects.	1, 3, 4
O-13	Develop or improve emergency warning response and communication systems and evacuation procedures.	3, 4
O-14	Enhance land use regulations to proactively impact the hazards of concern.	1, 2, 3
O-15	Encourage hazard mitigation measures that result in the least adverse effect on the natural environment and that use natural processes, while preserving and maintaining the cultural elements of the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe.	All

## APPENDIX D: SEA LEVEL RISE PROJECTIONS FOR SHOALWATER BAY RESERVATION/TOKELAND AREA

Source: Washington Coastal Hazards Resilience Network

<http://www.wacoastalnetwork.com/wcrp-documents.html>

data accessed August 30, 2019

Vertical land movement estimate and uncertainty (1 standard deviation) for this location:  $0.4 \pm 0.2$  feet/century (negative values represent subsidence)

In the event of a subduction zone earthquake some parts of the Washington coast may be subject to land level change

Based on multiple seismic deformation models, in the event of a subduction zone earthquake this area may be subject to land level change of:

-3.4 to -5.6 ft

where negative values represent land level fall, or subsidence. Coastal subsidence during a subduction zone earthquake would have the effect of RAISING local relative sea level

Sea level rise planning efforts may benefit from taking this into account

### RELATIVE SEA LEVEL PROJECTIONS FOR RCP 4.5 FOR THE COASTAL AREA NEAR: 46.7N, 124.0W

For more information about these projections go to [www.coastalnetwork.com/wcrp-documents.html](http://www.coastalnetwork.com/wcrp-documents.html)

**Table 1: Projected average sea level magnitudes, in feet, for different assessed likelihoods and time periods**

	Assessed Probability of Exceedance:										
	99	95	90	83	50	17	10	5	1	0.1	
<b>19 year period centered on:</b>											
<b>2010</b>	-0.1	0	0	0	0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	
<b>2020</b>	-0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	
<b>2030</b>	-0.1	0	0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	
<b>2040</b>	-0.1	0	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	1	
<b>2050</b>	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.7	
<b>2060</b>	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.9	1	1.1	1.5	2.4	
<b>2070</b>	-0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.7	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.9	3.4	
<b>2080</b>	-0.1	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.9	1.3	1.5	1.7	2.5	4.5	



2090		-0.1	0.2	0.4	0.6	1	1.6	1.8	2.1	3.1	5.6				
2100		-0.1	0.2	0.4	0.6	1.2	1.9	2.1	2.5	3.8	7.1				
2110		-0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.4	2.1	2.5	2.9	4.5	8.4				
2120		-0.2	0.3	0.5	0.8	1.5	2.4	2.8	3.3	5.2	10.1				
2130		-0.3	0.2	0.5	0.8	1.7	2.7	3.1	3.8	6.1	11.8				
2140		-0.4	0.2	0.5	0.8	1.8	3	3.5	4.3	7	13.7				
2150		-0.5	0.2	0.5	0.8	1.9	3.3	3.9	4.8	8	15.9				

**Table 2: Assessed likelihood (in percentages) of sea level reaching or exceeding a threshold for different sea levels and dates**

Average Sea Level Magnitudes in Feet Relative to 1991-2009 Average														
19 year period centered on:	0	0.5	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2010	79	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	89	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2030	95	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2040	97	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2050	98	39	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2060	98	61	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2070	98	75	24	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2080	98	82	40	10	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2090	98	85	53	20	6	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2100	98	88	63	33	13	5	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2110	98	90	69	43	21	9	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
2120	98	91	74	50	29	14	7	3	1	1	0	0	0	0
2130	98	91	77	57	36	21	12	4	2	1	1	0	0	0
2140	97	90	78	61	43	28	17	6	3	2	1	1	0	0
2150	97	90	79	65	48	33	22	9	4	2	1	1	1	0

**RELATIVE SEA LEVEL PROJECTIONS FOR RCP 8.5 FOR THE COASTAL AREA NEAR: 46.7N, 124.0W**

For more information about these projections go to [www.coastalnetwork.com/wcrp-documents.html](http://www.coastalnetwork.com/wcrp-documents.html)

**Table 1: Projected average sea level magnitudes, in feet, for different assessed likelihoods and time periods**

Assessed Probability of Exceedance:														
19 year period centered on:	99	95	90	83	50	17	10	5	1	0.1				

<b>2010</b>		-0.1	-0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2				
<b>2020</b>		-0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4				
<b>2030</b>		-0.1	0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6				
<b>2040</b>		-0.1	0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.8	1.1				
<b>2050</b>		0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.8				
<b>2060</b>		0	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.7	1	1.1	1.2	1.6	2.7				
<b>2070</b>		0.1	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.9	1.3	1.4	1.6	2.2	3.7				
<b>2080</b>		0.1	0.4	0.6	0.7	1.1	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.8	5				
<b>2090</b>		0.1	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.4	2	2.2	2.5	3.6	6.4				
<b>2100</b>		0.2	0.6	0.8	1	1.7	2.4	2.7	3.1	4.5	7.9				
<b>2110</b>		0.3	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.8	2.6	2.9	3.4	5.1	9.3				
<b>2120</b>		0.4	0.8	1.1	1.3	2.1	3	3.4	4	6	11.1				
<b>2130</b>		0.4	0.9	1.2	1.4	2.3	3.4	3.9	4.6	7.1	13.4				
<b>2140</b>		0.4	1	1.3	1.6	2.6	3.9	4.5	5.3	8.2	15.4				
<b>2150</b>		0.4	1	1.4	1.7	2.9	4.4	5.1	6.1	9.4	18.2				

**Table 2: Assessed likelihood (in percentages) of sea level reaching or exceeding a threshold for different sea levels and dates**

Average Sea Level Magnitudes in Feet Relative to 1991-2009 Average														
<b>19 year period centered on:</b>	0	0.5	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>2010</b>	76	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>2020</b>	91	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>2030</b>	96	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>2040</b>	97	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>2050</b>	98	48	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>2060</b>	99	72	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>2070</b>	99	86	38	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>2080</b>	100	92	61	23	6	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>2090</b>	100	95	75	41	16	5	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>2100</b>	100	96	84	60	33	15	6	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>2110</b>	100	98	87	64	38	18	9	3	1	1	0	0	0	0
<b>2120</b>	100	98	91	75	52	31	17	5	2	1	1	0	0	0
<b>2130</b>	100	99	93	81	63	43	27	9	4	2	1	1	0	0
<b>2140</b>	100	99	95	85	70	53	37	15	6	3	2	1	1	0
<b>2150</b>	100	99	95	88	76	62	47	23	10	5	3	2	1	1

## APPENDIX E : COMMUNITY PROFILE

### LOCATION AND GEOGRAPHY

The Shoalwater Bay Reservation is located on the north shore of Willapa Bay in Pacific County, Washington. At one-mile square, the original reservation is relatively small, with 2/3 lying at or below the intertidal zone. With additional trust lands and other land acquisitions over the last decade, the tribal land base is about 5.3 sq. miles. The Shoalwater Reservation is mostly in a flat area along the shore, with lands extending north toward a Pleistocene rock ridge, which generally runs east to west, and comes within 200 feet of the shore at Washaway Beach.

Washington SR 105 runs east west through the Shoalwater Reservation, with Toke Point Road running southeast off SR 105. Within the tidal portion of the Shoalwater Reservation (behind Graveyard Spit and including parts of North Cove) there are small bays, and extensive intertidal marsh communities. The marsh is a mix of native plants and invasive smooth cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*). None of the marsh adjacent to and within the reservation is listed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources as high quality natural heritage wetland.

### VEGETATION

Marsh plants dominate the intertidal areas of North Cove. Species present include beach grass, sedges, rushes, *Salicornia* sp., and *Spartina alterniflora*. Upland areas are composed of coastal woodlands and residential ornamental plants and grasses.

### SOILS

The area along the shore of northern Willapa Bay which contains the Shoalwater Reservation is classified generally as Ocosta Soils (NRCS, 2000). Three soil types dominate: Newskah Loam, Ocosta Silty Clay Loam, and Westport Fine Sand. The adjacent Dexter-By-the-Sea community is underlain with Yaquina loamy fine sand. Graveyard Spit has been described as Dunelands and Fluvaquents, with Ocosta Silty Clay Loam and Westport Fine Sands in the North Cove area.

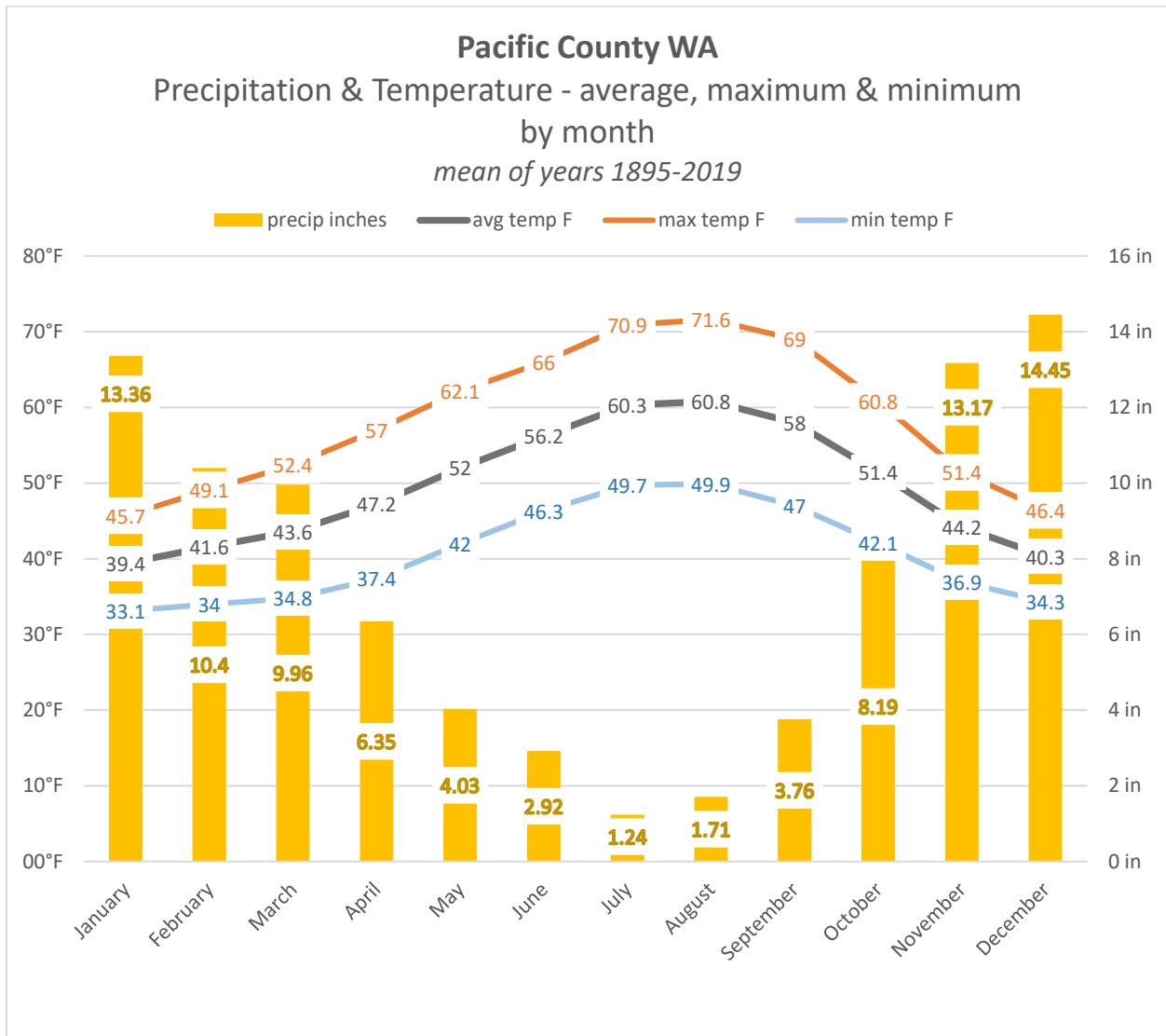
### CLIMATE

Average water temperature of the Pacific Ocean adjacent to Willapa Bay is 48° to 58°F, and water temperature in the Bay is likely similar to and influenced by ocean exchange. Average temperature ranges from 34.9° to 72.4 °F, and there is an annual total average of 86.9 inches of precipitation<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> NRCS, 2000

Figure 45: Pacific County area climate



## POPULATION AND ECONOMY

The Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe is small, but increasing in population. The Tribe currently has 311 enrolled members and a resident service population of 1,148, with an annual tribal budget of approximately \$2.5 million. About 110 members live on the Shoalwater Bay Indian Reservation. Many tribal members work at the Tribal Casino or in the Tribal Government. Tribal members are also commercial fishermen within Willapa Bay, and make use of local native plant species for Tribal crafts and ceremonial use.

The Shoalwater Tribe relied heavily, both historically and in recent times, on the diversity and productivity of the 700 acres of intertidal habitat and tide flats in the North Cove embayment. The barrier dune on Graveyard Spit afforded protection to the Cove from winter storm wave attack. The Shoalwater Tribe grew and harvested shellfish in North Cove, on which, along with ocean fisheries, they relied heavily for subsistence food supply. In addition, tribal members harvested local native plant species from the North Cove embayment for tribal crafts and ceremonial use.

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## PROPERTY, BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Since the 2014 Plan update, the Shoalwater Bay has acquired significant acreage of nearby and adjacent parcels to its original Reservation lands. As of 2019, the Shoalwater Bay Reservation, Trust lands and fee lands totaled an area of approximately 3,388 acres. This is significant growth from the 2008 plan, when tribal lands totaled about 845 acres. Although no major structural developments occurred, the Tribe has expanded some facilities, such as the Shoalwater Bay Casino and the tribe’s Georgetown Station, and acquired homes in the Dexter-by-the-Sea neighborhood.

For the plan update, the Tribe’s GIS database of Tribal buildings was analyzed and updated. A list of the Tribe’s insured facilities and equipment, housing, and commercial property (current for 2018-19) was also reviewed.

The updated GIS database indicated 108 structures owned by the tribe and/or on tribal lands. This is similar to the 75 structures identified in the 2014 plan update, as it was noted that additional garages, sheds and other outbuildings were mapped for the 2019 update. Tribal staff also noted that some buildings and sheds may have also been moved or torn down, affecting accurate comparisons.

**Table 16: GIS Summary of Tribal Structures, updated, 2019**

Tribal facilities and offices, including infrastructure	14
Commercial facilities & related structures	15
Residential structures (single, duplex, manufactured)	48
Storage sheds, garages and similar structures	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>108</b>

An analysis of the Tribe’s insured structures and equipment can be summarized as follows:

**Table 17: Insured value of Tribal Facilities & Equipment, 2019**

Tribal housing	30 structures	\$3.6 million, total insured value
Tribal facilities	28 structures, including equipment	\$14.78 million, total insured value

Willapa Bay Enterprises (tribal commercial facilities)	20 facilities and equipment	\$19 million, total insured value
<b>Total</b>	<b>78 structures &amp; equipment</b>	<b>\$37.38 million total insured value</b>

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### CRITICAL FACILITIES

- Tribal Center
- Shoalwater Bay Casino
- Wellness Center
- Tribal Police Station
- Shoalwater Bay Learning Center (library)
- Gymnasium (also used as Emergency Shelter)
- Eagle Hill Rd emergency shelter/all-purpose building

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### OTHER FACILITIES

- Natural Resources offices
- Smoke Shop
- Fireworks Stand
- The Tribe also operates an RV park adjacent to the Casino.

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### INFRASTRUCTURE

- The Shoalwater Bay Tribal water system consists of two wells and a 57,000 gallon storage reservoir.
- Main Tribal Municipal Sewer Treatment Plant. Located near Gym. Built by Indian Health Service. Designed for a capacity of 30 homes.
- Tribal roads: Eagle Hill Road, some residential roads/driveways, misc. logging roads
- Non-tribal roads: SR 105, Tokeland Rd, misc. residential streets
- power grid
- 1700 ft. protective berm, built by US Army Corps of Engineers in 2001. Run along coast parallel to Tokeland Rd from the RV Park to behind the Tribal Center.
- Two AHAB Warning Sirens
- Tsunami Evacuation tower

CULTURAL AND HISTORIC SITES

The ancestors to the Shoalwater Bay Tribe inhabited the shorelines of Willapa Bay for thousands of years. Early historical records note many of the former village and seasonal campsites around the bay and at the mouths of creeks. This plan does not specifically analyze such historic sites, but it remains a primary mitigation concern for the tribe, especially in regards to the effects of climate change and sea-level rise. In addition to village/campsites, the Georgetown Graveyard is of cultural significance for the Tribe.

Figure 46: Historic Tribal villages/camps - Willapa Bay, circa early 19<sup>th</sup> century



