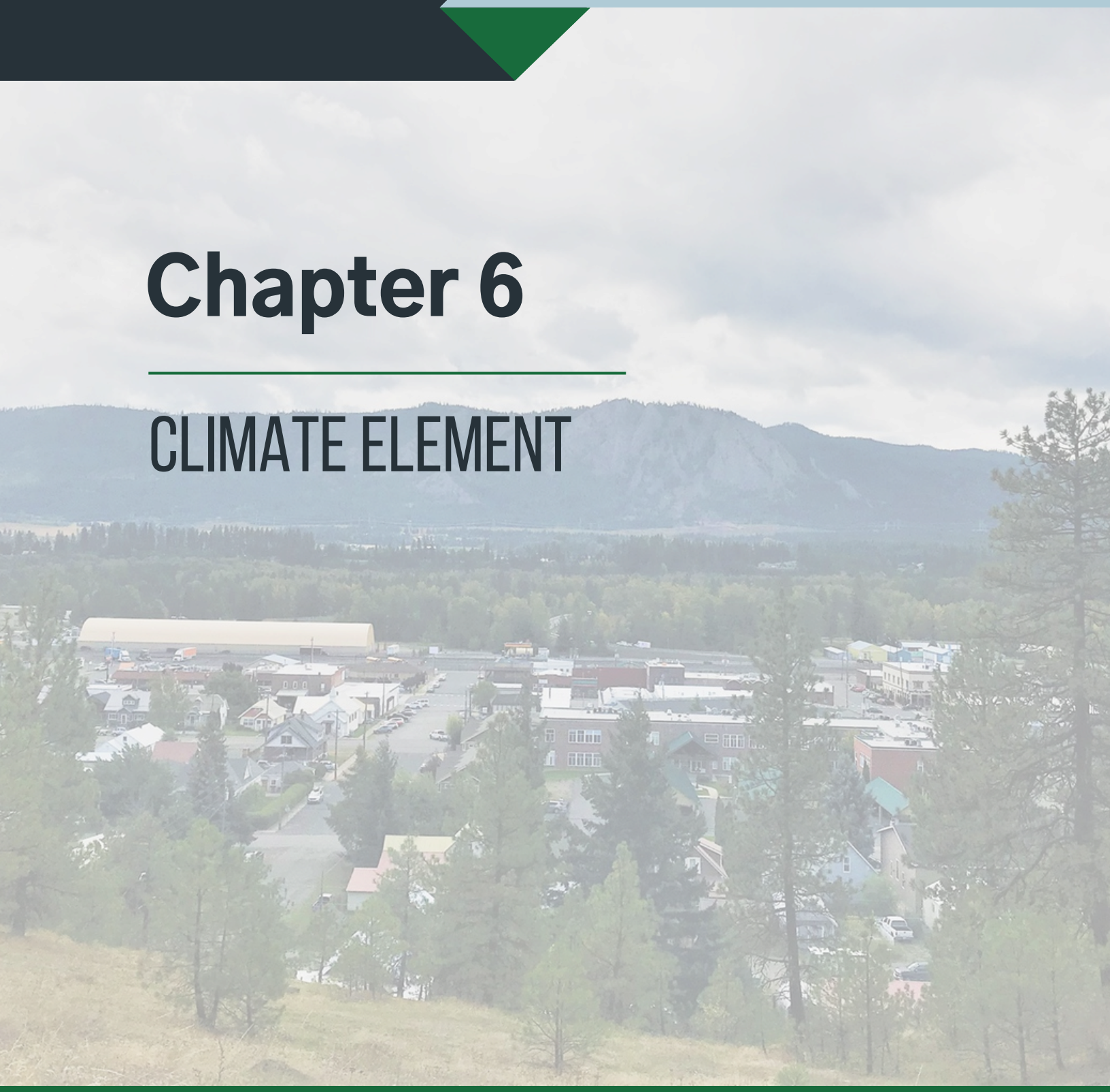
Chapter 6

CLIMATE ELEMENT



City of Cle Elum

CITY OF CLE ELUM

Climate Element

2026

I. Introduction

The WA Legislature passed House Bill 1181 into law in 2023 which requires Washington Cities to update their Comprehensive Plan to build community resilience and reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global climate change. This law integrates climate planning into Washington's Growth Management Act (GMA) by including the following:

- Adds a GMA climate change and resiliency goal to: "ensure that comprehensive plans, development regulations, polices, plans and strategies under RCW 36.70A.201 and chapter 47.80 RCW adapt to and mitigate the effects of a changing climate; support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and per capita vehicle miles traveled; prepare for climate impact scenarios; foster resiliency to climate impacts and natural hazards; protect and enhance environmental, economic, and human health and safety, and enhance environmental justice."

The WA State Department of Commerce developed an interim guidance document in December 2023 for cities to follow as they work towards implementation.

The City of Cle Elum received grant funding from Commerce in 2023, funded by Washington's Climate Commitment Act.

"The WA Department of Commerce climate planning grant is supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act. The CCA supports Washington's climate action efforts by putting cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health. Information about the CCA is available at www.climate.wa.gov."

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A. Geography, Demographics and Equity

The City of Cle Elum has a population of 2,157 people, 7% of whom are Hispanic or Latino. The city has 1,116 households and an average household size of 2.76 persons. English is the primary language spoken at home at 93.6%, 5.6% of homes speak Spanish.



The median age in Cle Elum is 48.6. 16.1% of the population is under 18 years old and 20.9% of the population is over the age of 65.



The median household income in Cle Elum is $56,645 which is below both Kittitas County ($66,800) and WA State ($91,306). Approximately 14% of Cle Elum residents have a bachelor's degree or higher.

The city has a 56.5% employment rate, with the top 3 sectors being Construction (19.2%), Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services (17.9%), and Retail trade (12.1%).

About 59.7% of homes are owned in the city limits. The median gross rent for rental housing is $1,116 per month.



B. Vision

The city of Cle Elum went through a robust visioning process during its 2017-2019 Comprehensive Plan Update process. The vision includes a more cohesive, pro-active community-wide strategy based on two central pillars: retaining its basic historic character as a moderate scale, rural community while at the same time transforming to a more sustainable economic base. The economic base's main focus would be the development of a vibrant, pedestrian oriented recreation service center that captures Cle Elum's strategic location and the regional trends already underway. Included in the vision is the retention and enhancement of Cle Elum's historic heritage as an "Era Town" along with strategies for destination tourism, downtown redevelopment, and the attraction of destination retail establishments.

The consensus desire is a vision that is proactive whereby the community directs and controls its own future outcome, rather than passively reacting to market forces. Issues of community enhancement and sustainability relate to economic conditions, urban form, and

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related quality of life factors – all of which are interrelated. Translated, those issues must include a vision to:

- Improve the downtown's urban form and vitality.
- Develop a cohesive strategy for economic base transformation that combines retention of the community's cultural and historic heritage.
- Generate an economic agenda to enhance income levels.
- Increase quality local employment opportunities to reduce the need for commuting.
- Enhance facilities and employment designed to encourage the retention and attraction of younger age cohorts in balance with the growing retiree and recreation demographics of the city and region.
- Support the expansion of retail and service businesses.
- Encourage a larger population of business base to finance infrastructure improvements.
- Pursue the availability of basic and emergency health care services.

The Washington State Legislates passed House Bill 1181 into law in 2023, which requires Washington Cities to update their Comprehensive Plan to add a Climate Element. The City of Cle Elum finds that the new Climate Element is consistent with the vision statement, and wishes to add the following to its existing vision for the community:

"Proactively support goals and policies that contribute to a more sustainable and resilient city. Cle Elum recognizes its history as an Era Town and is taking steps in the present to ensure that future generations can celebrate this important cultural and historic heritage."

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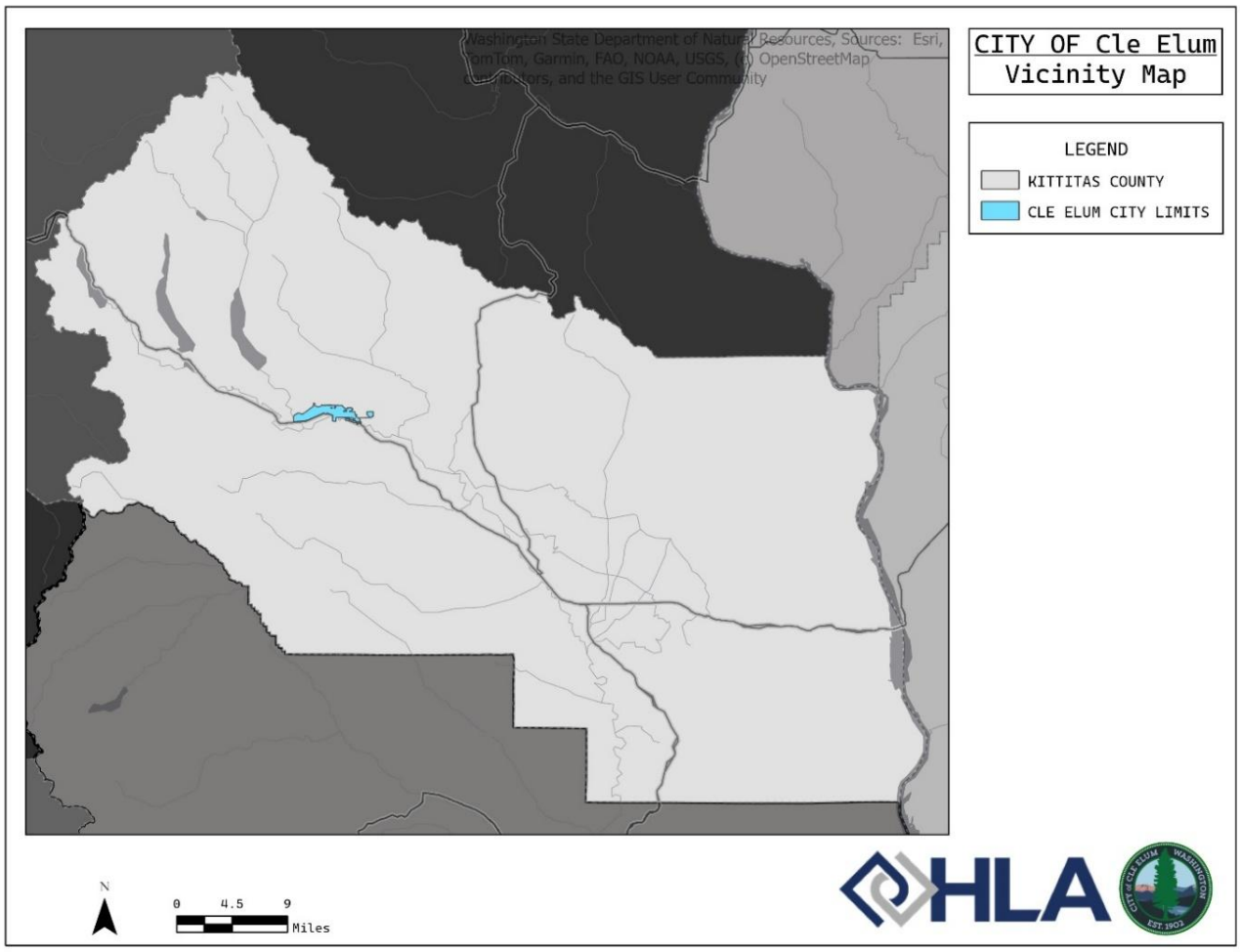


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II. Identified Assets, Hazards, and Threats

A. Assets

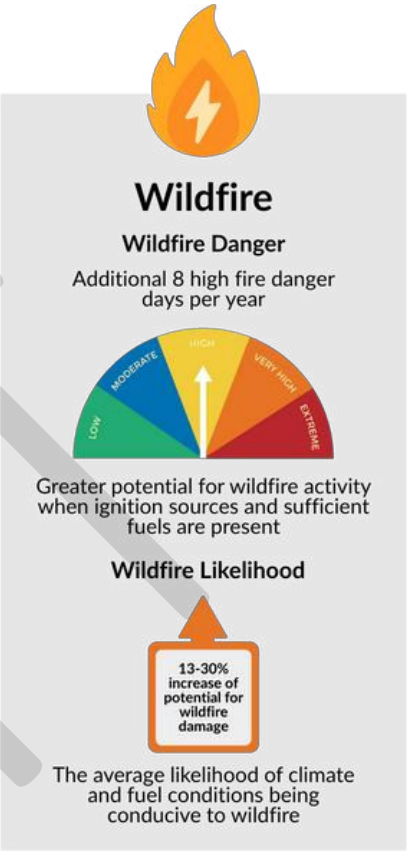
The City of Cle Elum contains a variety of sectors and assets. Sectors are defined as "Distinct categories related to human wellbeing, critical industries, or infrastructure and planning (UW Climate Mapping Tool)." Based on the 11 identified sector categories, several assets in Cle Elum were identified.

SECTORS:	ASSETS:
Agriculture & Food Systems	Forestry
Buildings & Energy	Commercial and Industrial Buildings, Power Substation
Cultural Resources & Practices	WA State Horse Park, Historic Structures
Economic Development	Local Retail and Service Establishments
Ecosystems	Forest, Shoreline/Creeks, Wetlands, Priority Habitat, Over Steepened Slopes, Public Parks, and Open Space
Emergency Management	Fire and Police Stations
Health & Well-being	Medical Practitioners, Hospital
Transportation	Roads, Sidewalks, Trails, Hwy 970, BNSF, Airport
Waste Management	Transfer Station
Water Resources	Water Reservoir/Wells
Zoning & Development	Single and Muli-Family Residences, Apartments, Commercial, and Industrial Properties

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B. Hazards and Threats

The following hazards were identified by the University of Washington Climate Mapping Tool - https://data.cig.uw.edu/climatemapping/ington County Climate Projections (uw.edu) The mapping tool looks at possible future conditions given a set of plausible assumptions about the future. The climate projections for the various hazard types are simulated based a simulated historical period. For most categories, the changes are calculated relative to the 1980-2009 simulated historical mean. The Climate Policy Advisory Team (CPAT) ranked the hazards based on their severity to Cle Elum.



Wildfire

Wildfire activity has a direct effect on Cle Elum due to its proximity to forest lands in the Cle Elum Ranger District. Nearby wildfires can cause a direct impact and wildfire The Wildfire hazard includes two sub-categories:

- Wildfire Danger
- Wildfire Likelihood

The vulnerability rating for wildfire around the city of Cle Elum, is "high or extreme," according to the 2025 Kittitas County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Based on this, the vulnerability rank for Wildfire is "High". This can affect the following assets:

- Residential, Commercial, Industrial Uses, and Buildings (Buildings & Energy)
- Transportation Infrastructure (Transportation)
- Forest, Shoreline, Wetlands, Priority Habitat, Over Steepened Slopes, Parks and Open Space (Ecosystems)
- Refuse Pickup (Waste Management)
- Water Distribution and Reservoir (Water Resources)
- Fire and Police Stations (Emergency Management)
- WA State Horse Park/Historic Buildings (Cultural Resources & Practices)
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Threats:

Identified Threat	Sub-Category	Associated Sector
More days with high wildfire danger are expected to affect businesses through more frequent closures of recreation areas and restrictions on outdoor activities during the wildfire season. More high fire	Wildfire Danger	Economic Development

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danger days will interrupt timber operations and outdoor recreation.		
More days with high fire danger will increase the need for fire bans and associated enforcement and capacity to respond to wildfires.	Wildfire Danger	Emergency Management
More frequent wildfires have the potential to increase damage to crops, livestock, agriculture infrastructure and operations. Wildfire smoke may reduce the quality of some crops and adversely affect farm workers and other outdoor laborers in the industry.	Wildfire Likelihood	Forestry
More frequent wildfires have the potential to damage cultural and historical sites, buildings, and cultural resources. More frequent wildfires can also reduce access to culturally important sites and resources for Northwest Tribes.	Wildfire Likelihood	Cultural Resources and Practices
More frequent wildfires are expected to affect businesses and economic development through more interruptions and closures of businesses and recreation areas due to wildfires and poor air quality. More wildfire could lead to higher insurance premiums or more difficulty insuring properties.	Wildfire Likelihood	Economic Development
More frequent wildfires have the potential to reduce timber, non-timber forest products, carbon storage, and forest habitat for some wildlife. Wildfires also increase establishment of invasive species. More frequent wildfires have the potential to increase runoff and sediment to streams, which can reduce aquatic habitat quality.	Wildfire Likelihood	Ecosystems
More frequent wildfires will require more response from emergency management services, increasing demand on resources and costs.	Wildfire Likelihood	Emergency Management
More frequent wildfires are expected to reduce human health through loss of life, injury and reduced mental health associated with displacement. Poor air quality due to more wildfire smoke can cause adverse respiratory health effects.	Wildfire Likelihood	Human Health
More frequent wildfires have the potential to affect energy transmission by damaging infrastructure and interrupting transmission and distribution. More frequent wildfires are expected to cause property damage and loss. Poor air quality due to wildfire	Wildfire Likelihood	Buildings and Energy

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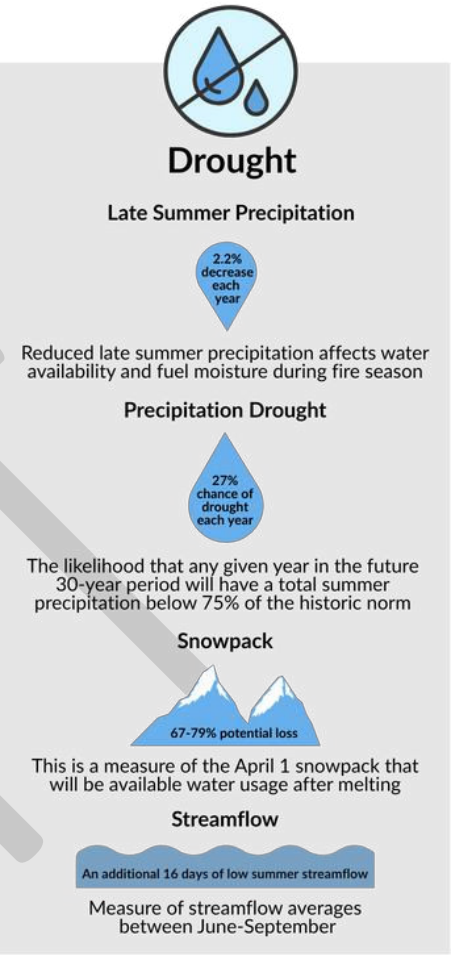
smoke could increase demand for air filtration systems in buildings.		
More frequent wildfires, and related smoke, can disrupt travel, increase road closures and delay construction projects. Wildfire smoke has the potential to affect labor in the transportation sector because of health effects on outdoor laborers. More roadside brush fires can create safety hazards and disrupt transportation.	Wildfire Likelihood	Transportation
More frequent wildfires have the potential to generate greater amounts of debris and waste. More waste will strain municipal cleanup and refuse capacity.	Wildfire Likelihood	Waste Management
More frequent wildfires have the potential to damage water distribution infrastructure and reduce water quality in reservoirs due to more runoff, erosion, and turbidity. Changes in water quality could increase the need for water treatment and filtration.	Wildfire Likelihood	Water Resources
More frequent wildfires are expected to increase damage to homes and infrastructure and displace residents.	Wildfire Likelihood	Zoning and Development

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Drought

Drought looks at changes in precipitation patterns throughout the year and the subsequent effect on water supplies. The data suggests a 2.4% increase in Total Annual Precipitation and a 2.1% increase or 2.2% decrease in Late Summer Precipitation, depending on location. However, since Eastern Washington generally sees lower precipitation than Western Washington, the modest gains in precipitation are still outweighed by the Precipitation Drought estimate. The data predicts a 27% chance that Cle Elum will see any year within the planning period where the total summer precipitation is below 75% of the historic average. Snowpack has a direct relation on spring and summer streamflows. Cle Elum could see a potential 67-79% loss in snowpack during the planning period. In turn, streamflows could decrease by 10% during the warming season, increasing to 36% during summer. Cle Elum could see an additional 16 days per year below the historic low summer streamflow The Drought hazard includes these sub-categories:

- Total Annual Precipitation
- Late Summer Precipitation
- Precipitation Drought
- Snowpack / Snowpack Drought
- Warm Season/Summer/Low Streamflow



The 2025 Kittitas County Hazard Mitigation Plan , the risk for drought in Cle Elum is moderate at 45. Based on this, the vulnerability rank for drought is medium. Drought can affect the following assets and sectors:

- Forest, Shoreline, Wetlands, Priority Habitat, Over Steepened Slopes (Ecosystems)
- Water Distribution, and Water Reservoir (Water Resources)

Identified Threat	Sub-Category	Associated Sector
Increases in annual precipitation have the potential to increase groundwater recharge. Changes in the timing and intensity of precipitation and increases in water demand and evaporation are expected to offset increases in groundwater recharge due to more annual precipitation.	Total Annual Precipitation	Water Resources
Less summer precipitation is expected to affect ecosystem types differently. In freshwater ecosystems, less summer precipitation will contribute to lower streamflows, reduce water quality, and increase water temperatures. In	Late Summer Precipitation	Ecosystems

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terrestrial ecosystems, less summer precipitation will contribute to drought stress and reduce the growth and productivity of some plants.		
Less summer precipitation is expected to contribute to summer water shortages for commercial and residential uses. Water quality may also decrease with less summer input and associated warmer water temperatures.	Late Summer Precipitation	Water Resources
More frequent and severe droughts due to low summer precipitation will reduce the amount of water available for livestock and irrigation during the same time that warmer temperatures and longer growing seasons are expected to increase the demand for irrigation water.	Precipitation Drought	Forestry
More frequent and severe droughts due to low summer precipitation are expected to increase the need for emergency services to plan, prepare, and respond to water shortages.	Precipitation Drought	Emergency Management
More frequent and severe droughts due to low summer precipitation have the potential to increase voluntary or mandatory conservation requirements and water use restrictions.	Precipitation Drought	Water Resources
Reductions in snowpack are expected to decrease opportunities for winter outdoor recreation and shorten the winter recreation season, with adverse effects on the economy and character of some communities. Warm season outdoor recreation opportunities may increase, shifting tourism from one recreation sector to another and into different seasons.	Snowpack	Economic Development
Reductions in snowpack have the potential to reduce snow-related road maintenance, road closures, and transportation delays. However, as more cold-season precipitation falls as rain rather than snow, transportation routes in mountainous areas may experience more damage from heavier winter rainfall and associated flooding, erosion, and washouts.	Snowpack	Transportation
Reduced snowpack and more winter rain is expected to increase water availability in winter for multiple uses including drinking water and hydropower generation, and decrease water availability in late	Snowpack	Water Resources

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spring and summer when demand is also expected to increase.		
Reductions in snowpack are expected to decrease opportunities for winter outdoor recreation and shorten the winter recreation season with adverse effects on the economy and character of some communities. Warm season outdoor recreation opportunities are expected to increase, shifting tourism revenue from one recreation sector to another.	Snowpack	Zoning and Development
More frequent droughts caused by low snowpack are expected to increase the need for emergency services to plan, prepare, and respond to water shortages.	Snowpack Drought	Emergency Management
More frequent droughts caused by low snowpack are expected to reduce the water available in the warm season for commercial, residential, agricultural uses and hydropower generation.	Snowpack Drought	Water Resources
Less streamflow in the warm season is expected to increase dependence on stored water and groundwater for irrigation. For some water rights holders, low streamflow may increase the frequency of years in which water rights are curtailed due to insufficient streamflow.	Warm Season Streamflow	Forestry
Less streamflow in the warm season is expected to increase dependence on stored water and reduce water available for residential and commercial uses, as well as hydropower generation. During the same time period, warmer temperatures are expected to increase water demand and energy demand for cooling.	Warm Season Streamflow	Water Resources
Less streamflow in summer will reduce the amount of water available for irrigation and livestock, which could challenge agriculture operations and limit forage production for livestock.	Summer Streamflow	Forestry
Longer periods of low streamflow in summer are expected to lengthen periods of poor habitat quality and change migration timing and success for salmonids and other aquatic species. Longer periods of low streamflow also contribute to warmer stream temperatures that create stress and thermal barriers for aquatic species that depend on cold water.	Duration of Low Streamflow	Ecosystems

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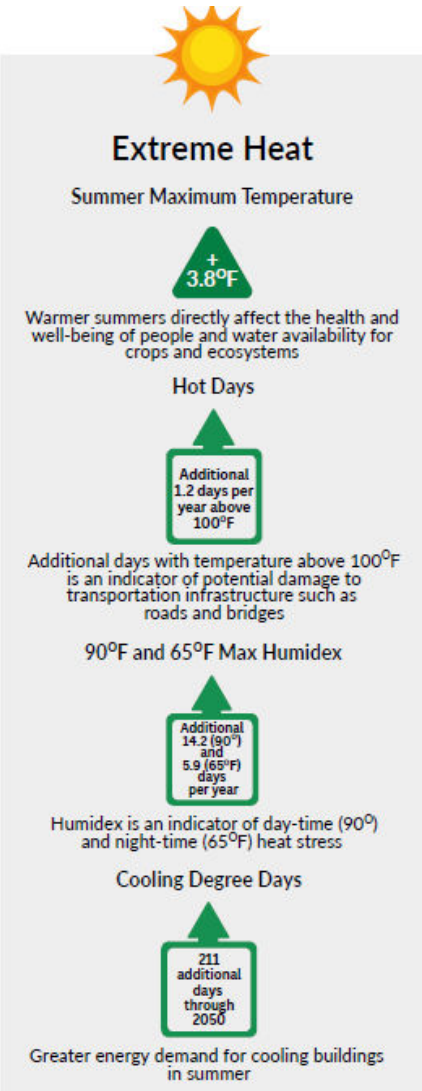
Lower streamflows in summer are expected to reduce habitat quantity and quality for salmonids and other aquatic species that are culturally important to Northwest Tribes.	Low Streamflow	Cultural Resources and Practices
Lower summer streamflows are expected to reduce the amount and quality of habitat for salmonids and other aquatic species. Lower streamflows can limit migration, increase competition for resources, and increase susceptibility to disease and predation.	Low Streamflow	Ecosystems
A shift in streamflow timing, with more streamflow in winter and early spring, will change the timing of water available for irrigated agriculture. This may or may not align with changes in the timing of the growing season for different crops.	Streamflow Timing	Forestry
A shift in streamflow timing, with more streamflow in winter and early spring, will change the timing of hydropower generation. Timing changes have the potential to affect energy costs for residents and businesses.	Streamflow Timing	Economic Development
Earlier spring snowmelt and associated changes in streamflow timing are expected to alter migration timing and survival rates for salmonids.	Streamflow Timing	Ecosystems

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Extreme Heat

Extreme Heat is an indicator on heat stress for people, ecosystems, and infrastructure. Cle Elum is expected to see the average summer temperature increase 3.8°F, an additional 1.2-days per year above 100°F, and an additional 14-days per year above 90°F. The Extreme Heat hazard includes these sub-categories:

- Summer Maximum Temperature
- Hot Days
- 90°F Humidex Days
- 65°F Humidex Days
- Heating Degree Days
- Cooling Degree Days
- August Stream Temperature



The 2025 Kittitas County Hazard Mitigation Plan includes a moderate risk score of 42 for heat wave/extreme heat hazards. Based on this, the vulnerability rank for extreme heat in the City of Cle Elum is "Medium". Extreme Heat can affect the following assets and sectors:

- Residential, Commercial, Industrial Uses and Buildings (Buildings & Energy)
- Local Retail and Service Establishments (Economic Development)
- Medical Practitioners (Emergency Management, Health & Well-being)
- Transportation Infrastructure (Transportation)

Identified Threat	Sub-Category	Associated Sector
Warmer summers are expected to increase the potential for heat stress on some crops and livestock and decrease crop yields. Some agricultural pests are expected to have grater survival rates and population size with warming.	Summer Maximum Temperature	Forestry
Warmer summers are expected to reduce summer soil moisture and increase physiological stress for some plants and animals.	Summer Maximum Temperature	Ecosystems

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Warmer summer temperatures could decrease opportunities for warm season recreation activities in some areas.	Summer Maximum Temperature	Economic Development
Warmer summers are expected to increase concentrations of air pollutants, such as ozone and some vector-borne illnesses, such as West Nile Virus.	Summer Maximum Temperature	Human Health
More very hot days have the potential to damage the surfaces of roads and bridges, leading to greater maintenance and repair costs and more frequent traffic and service disruptions such as warped and buckling pavement on roads.	Hot Days	Transportation
More frequent extreme daytime and nighttime heat events are expected to increase the demand for emergency services to plan, prepare, and respond to human health impacts. Extreme heat may also impact emergency services due to transportation and travel disruptions such as warped and buckling pavement on roads.	90°F and 65°F Humidex Days	Emergency Management
An increase in the number of days with a maximum humidex above 90°F and 65°F is expected to increase heat related deaths, illnesses and hospitalizations.	90°F and 65°F Humidex Days	Human Health
A decrease in heating degree days is expected to reduce energy demand for heating. This has the potential to reduce energy costs for businesses and residents, but decrease utility revenue to support infrastructure and operations.	Heating Degree Days	Buildings and Energy
An increase in cooling degree days is expected to increase energy demand for air conditioning and industrial cooling systems in the summer when regional hydropower supply is expected to decrease. Demand for air conditioning and infrastructure with cooling systems is also expected to increase where it does not already exist.	Cooling Degree Days	Buildings and Energy
Warmer stream temperatures are expected to reduce habitat quality for Salmonids and other aquatic species that depend on cold water. This reduces the	August Stream Temperature	Cultural Resources and Practices

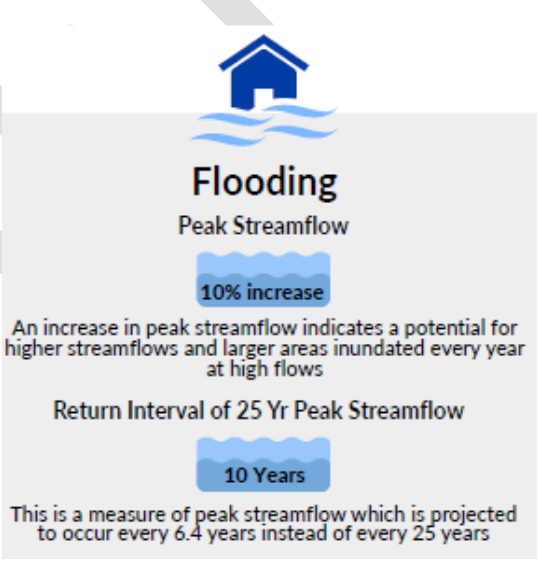
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abundance of, and access to, these culturally important species for Northwest Tribes.		
Warmer summer stream temperatures are expected to decrease the quality of habitat for salmonids and other aquatic species that depend on cold water. Warmer stream temperatures have the potential to create barriers to salmonid migration and higher rates of mortality.	August Stream Temperature	Ecosystems
Warmer stream temperatures have the potential to reduce the ability to meet water quality standards and the effluent limits (amount discharge to the water body) set on existing wastewater treatment facilities.	August Stream Temperature	Zoning and Development

Flooding

Flooding looks at increases in annual peak streamflows and the 25-year peak streamflow. Based on the data, Cle Elum could see a 10% increase in maximum streamflow during the planning period. Increasing streamflows could result in the 25-year peak streamflow occurring every 10 years instead of every 25 years. Flooding includes the following sub-categories:

- Peak Streamflow
- Return Interval 25-yr Storm



The 2025 Kittitas County Hazard Mitigation Plan provides a significant amount of data for flooding in Cle Elum. Based on this, the vulnerability rank for flooding is "High". Flooding can affect the following assets:

- Transportation Infrastructure
- Forest, Shoreline, Wetlands, Priority Habitat, Over Steepened Slopes (Ecosystems)
- Refuse Pickup (Waste Management)
- Local Retail and Service Establishments (Economic Development)

Identified Threat	Sub-Category	Associated Sector
Higher streamflows are expected to increase damage to all types of infrastructure in flood zones and could expand the flood zone in some areas leading to damage of development not currently in flood zones.	Peak Streamflow	Zoning and Development

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Higher streamflows are expected to directly affect salmonid populations and alter salmonid habitat, reducing the quantity of a culturally important species for Northwest Tribes.	Peak Streamflow	Cultural Resources and Practices
Higher streamflows can scour the streambed and remove or crush salmon eggs, increasing mortality and reducing return rates. Higher streamflows reduce the availability of slow-water habitat and can increase sedimentation that affects habitat quality.	Peak Streamflow	Ecosystems
Higher streamflows are expected to increase riverine flooding within existing floodplains and could expand flooding to new areas not currently in existing floodplains. More flooding has the potential to increase the demand for emergency services to plan, prepare, and respond to flood events.	Peak Streamflow	Emergency Management
Higher streamflows are expected to increase riverine flooding, which can damage roads, bridges, and railways and overwhelm drainage structures, such as culverts.	Peak Streamflow	Transportation
More frequent high streamflows are expected to increase the frequency of flooding impacts to businesses and the economy by disrupting travel and shipping routes and damaging property. More frequent flooding has the potential to increase insurance premiums or make some properties more difficult to insure.	Return Interval of 25-yr Peak Streamflow	Economic Development
More frequent high streamflows can reduce populations of salmonids and other fish species over time by increasing the frequency with which juvenile salmonids are flushed downstream prematurely, reducing salmonid migration returns, and inhibiting incubation and migration life stages for steelhead.	Return Interval of 25-yr Peak Streamflow	Ecosystems
More frequent high streamflows are expected to increase riverine flooding and the need for emergency services to plan, prepare, and respond to flood events.	Return Interval of 25-yr Peak Streamflow	Emergency Management
More frequent high streamflows are expected to increase the frequency of flood damage to roads, bridges, and railways, leading to higher costs for operation and maintenance. Service delays, cancellations, and reroutes are expected to become more common.	Return Interval of 25-yr Peak Streamflow	Transportation

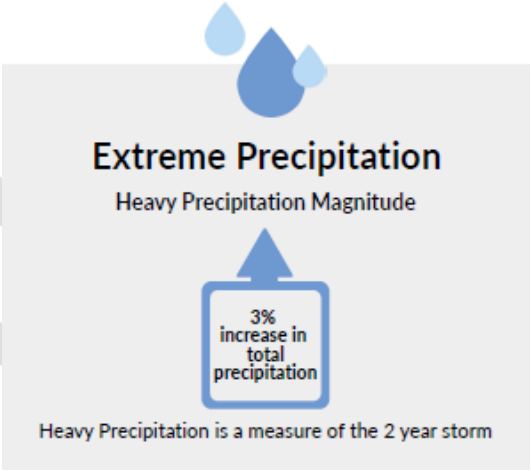
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More frequent high streamflows are expected to increase flooding, which can generate more debris and waste. More waste will strain municipal cleanup and refuse capacity. Flooding of waste management facilities can release contaminants and hazardous materials.	Return Interval of 25-yr Peak Streamflow	Waste Management
More frequent high streamflows are expected to increase damage to assets and property located in flood zones. This could reduce the suitability of some areas for certain land uses and require relocation of some development.	Return Interval of 25-yr Peak Streamflow	Zoning and Development

Extreme Precipitation

Extreme Precipitation looks at changes in the intensity of precipitation and the effects on the built environment. The Extreme Precipitation hazard includes two sub-categories:

- Heavy Precipitation Magnitude
- Extreme Precipitation Magnitude



The 2025 Kittitas County Mitigation Plan Provides a significant amount of data for precipitation in Cle Elum. Based on this, the vulnerability rank for extreme precipitation is “low”, however, extreme precipitation can affect the following asset:

- Refuse Pickup (Waste Management)
- Transportation Infrastructure

Identified Threat	Sub-Category	Associated Sector
Heavier precipitation is expected to intensify flooding and inundation of agricultural lands, which can delay spring planting, affect crop quality and quantity, increase erosion and runoff, and increase susceptibility to root diseases.	Heavy Precipitation Magnitude	Forestry
Heavier precipitation is expected to intensify flooding in low-lying areas and require higher capacity storm water drainage systems.	Heavy Precipitation Magnitude	Economic Development
Heavier precipitation events are expected to intensify flooding, landslides, and erosion, which can interrupt	Heavy Precipitation Magnitude	Transportation

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transportation routes, damage infrastructure, and increase maintenance and repair costs.		
Heavier precipitation events are expected to intensify urban flooding and demands on storm water systems, which can affect zoning restrictions on new buildings, and require revised building codes for development in more frequently flooded areas.	Heavy Precipitation Magnitude	Zoning and Development
Heavier precipitation is expected to increase flooding and inundation of agricultural lands, which can delay spring planting, affect crop quality and quantity, increase erosion and runoff, and increase susceptibility to root diseases.	Extreme Precipitation Magnitude	Forestry
Heavier precipitation is expected to increase the extent of flooding in low-lying areas and flood zones. Businesses are expected to have more disruptions to operations and damage to infrastructure.	Extreme Precipitation Magnitude	Economic Development
Heavier precipitation is expected to increase flooding, landslides, and erosion, which can interrupt transportation routes, damage infrastructure, and increase maintenance and repair costs.	Extreme Precipitation Magnitude	Transportation
Heavier precipitation has the potential to increase the demand for emergency response services by intensifying flood events and increasing other emergencies associated with heavy precipitation.	Extreme Precipitation Magnitude	Emergency Management
Heavier precipitation has the potential to increase storm damage to infrastructure and generate more waste and debris. More waste will strain municipal cleanup and refuse capacity.	Extreme Precipitation Magnitude	Waste Management
Heavier precipitation is expected to increase the extent of flooding in low-lying areas and flood zones. This could reduce the suitability of some areas for certain land uses and require relocation of some development.	Extreme Precipitation Magnitude	Zoning and Development

III. Resiliency Sub-Element

The resiliency sub-element is intended to identify ways that Cle Elum can adapt and become more responsive to potential changes in the climate. RCW 70A.65.010 defines Climate Resilience as

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"The ongoing process of anticipating, preparing for, and adapting to changes in climate and minimizing negative impacts to our natural systems, infrastructure, and communities."

What this means for Cle Elum is determining what potential policy changes can be incorporated to help the city deal with projected hazards such as more frequent wildfires, longer heat waves, more frequent drought, and stronger storms. It is an analysis of community preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.

This resiliency sub-element will identify goals and policies that Cle Elum may pursue during the Comprehensive Plan planning cycle to improve resiliency to projected climate impacts. In accordance with RCW 36.70A.070(9), the sub-element must prioritize actions that benefit overburdened communities that will disproportionately suffer from compounding environmental impacts and will be the most impacted by natural hazards due to climate change. Specific goals, policies, and programs of the resiliency sub-element must include, but are not limited to, those designed to:

1. Identify, protect, and enhance natural areas to foster resiliency to climate impacts, as well as areas of vital habitat for safe passage and species migration;
2. Identify, protect, and enhance community resiliency to climate change impacts, including social, economic, and built environment factors, that support adaptation to climate impacts consistent with environmental justice; and
3. Address natural hazards created or aggravated by climate change.

A. Goals and Policies

The purpose of establishing goals and policies is to provide an implementation framework to meet the City's vision and state requirements for the Climate Resiliency Element. Goals provide a general statement or broad concept of the desired outcome. Policies then include a set protocol or proposal designed to achieve the stated Goal.



To achieve this, Cle Elum decided to pursue a combination of Pathway 1 and Pathway 2 by identifying existing goals and policies to incorporate by reference or modify along with developing new goals and policies with the help of the Climate Policy Explorer. By combining the two pathways, Cle Elum is acknowledging the existing climate-related work that has already been adopted into its plans and policies.

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New Goals and Policies

The following goals and polices are adapted from the Washington State Department of Commerce's "Climate Policy Explorer."

Goal CE-1 Develop a comprehensive, communitywide wildfire resilience strategy to improve emergency response capabilities, create fire resilient landscapes, promote fire adapted communities, protect the economy, and foster short- and long-term recovery.

Policies:

CE-1.1 Support the development of a city-focused community wildfire protection plan (CWPP)

CE-1.2 Create evacuation plans and outreach materials to help residents plan and practice actions that make evacuation quicker and safer.

CE-1.3 Provide private forestland owners and residents living in Wildland-Urban (WUI) areas information about fire prevention (e.g. Firewise) practices, and support application of such practices via building code provisions.

CE-1.4 Map transportation infrastructure that is vulnerable to repeated floods, landslides, and other natural hazards, and designate alternative travel routes for critical transportation corridors when roads must be closed.

CE-1.5 Analyze how the municipal water system maintains adequate pressure during a major wildfire event (e.g. multiple structures burning) and how it will look under current and projected drought conditions.

Goal CE-2 Adopt fire-resilience standards for new and redeveloped sites in high-risk wildfire areas.

Policies:

CE-2.1 Identify and implement strategies for reducing residential development pressure in the wildland-urban interface (WUI).

CE-2.2 Require new subdivisions to bury electricity transmission lines and associated infrastructure to reduce damage from storms and wildfire ignition risks.

CE-2.3 Support local businesses' efforts to bolster climate preparedness and continuity of operations.

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Goal CE-3 Ensure that the local transportation system – including infrastructure, routes, and travel modes – is able to withstand and recover quickly from the impacts of extreme weather events and other hazards exacerbated by climate change.

Policies:

CE-3.1 Improve street connectivity and walkability; including sidewalks and street crossings, to serve as potential evacuation routes.

Goal CE-4 Develop and implement a comprehensive drought resilience strategy for different drought stages.

Policies:

CE-4.1 Manage water resources sustainability in the face of climate change through smart irrigation, stormwater management, preventative maintenance, water conservation, wastewater reuse, plant selection, and landscape management.

CE-4.2 Construct and maintain new water-storage systems (e.g. large cisterns, water towers, ad reservoirs) to provide back-up water supplies during droughts and support climate resilience.

CE-4.3 Support the use of green infrastructure and low-impact development to address increased storm intensities and stormwater runoff.

CE-4.4 Choose native drought- and pest- resistant trees, shrubs, and grasses in restoration efforts to support climate resilience.

CE-4.5 Analyze how the municipal water system maintains adequate pressure during a major wildfire event (e.g., multiple structures burning) and how it will look under current and projected drought conditions.

Goal CE-5 Consider a program/identify funding sources to install cooling systems and heat pumps, and upgrade insulation and windows/doors; prioritizing households with residents most vulnerable to extreme temperature events.

Policies:

CE-5.1 Develop or modify design standards to integrate exterior building features that reduce the impacts of climate change and increase resilience.

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CE-6 Establish regulations that incorporate best practices for reducing the risk of wildfire, extreme heat, flooding, and other climate-exacerbated hazards.

CE-6.1 Consider overlays, special zoning districts, design standards, or other strategies to increase resilience to climate hazards.

Goal CE-7 Ensure the protection and restoration of streams, riparian zones, estuaries, wetlands, and floodplains to achieve healthy watersheds that are resilient to climate change.

Policies:

CE-7.1 Promote the restoration of floodplains and connectivity to improve the resilience of streams and rivers and reduce flood risk.

Goal CE-8 Require the design and construction of commercial and residential buildings and their surrounding sites to reduce and treat stormwater runoff and pollution.

Policies:

CE-8.1 Reduce stormwater impacts from transportation and development through watershed planning, redevelopment and retrofit projects, and low-impact development.

Incorporation of Existing Goals and Policies

The following existing goals and policies are found within various sections of the Cle Elum Comprehensive Plan and are incorporated herein by reference.

Land Use Element:

- Policy LU 6.1: Discourage the disturbance of vegetation when not in conjunction with the actual development, except to incorporate firewise principles.

- Policy LU 6.3: Lands designated for open space should be designed with Firewise practices in mind, and provides for multiple open space benefits whenever possible, including active or passive recreation opportunities, scenic amenities, fish and wildlife habitat, etc.

- Policy LU 6.4: Provide incentives for owners of public and private property to preserve open space as a visual amenity and Firewise strategy through techniques such as

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defensible space, conservation easements, transfer of development rights and density bonuses to encourage clustering.

Capital Facilities Element:

- Policy CF 3.7: Development proposals within the city should incorporate construction designs including, but not limited to, gray/green infrastructure, alternative energy sources (solar, wind, etc.), and resilient building materials which minimize water and energy consumption.

Housing Element:

- Policy H 5.1: Consistently enforce building maintenance, health and safety codes for the city's housing stock to limit the potential damage resulting from wildfires or other extreme weather events.

- Policy H 5.2: Encourage programs that offer assistance with renovations and home improvements including those that will help efficiency for wildfire smoke and extreme heat, and maintenance efforts such as creating defensible space so that residents can stay in their homes even when their housing needs change.

Parks and Recreation Element:

- Goal PRO-5: Establish an open space pattern that will provide definition of and separation between developed lands to establish defensible space buffers and provide open space linkages among parks and recreation resources.

- Policy PRO-10.1: Furnish trail systems with appropriate improvements including: directory and interpretive signage; rest stops; shade structures; drinking fountains; restrooms; emergency call boxes; and other services.

In addition to the Comprehensive Plan, the City of Cle Elum also adopted the 2025 Kittitas County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan on September 23, 2025 (Resolution 2025-019). Incorporated by reference are the following goals, objectives and mitigation actions:

Goal 1: Protect life, property and the environment.

Objective 1.A: Reduce natural hazard-related risks and vulnerability to populations, critical facilities and infrastructure within the planning area.

Objective 1.B: Establish a partnership among all levels of government and the business community to improve and implement methods to protect property.

Objective 1.C: Encourage hazard mitigation measures that result in the least adverse effect on the natural environment and the use or natural processes.

Objective 1.D: Identify and implement inclusive actions that reduce vulnerability for Kittitas County residents and visitors.

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Goal 2: Continuously build and support local capacity to mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from the impact of hazards and disasters.

Objective 2.A: Minimize the impacts of natural hazards on current and future land uses by encouraging use of incentives for hazard mitigation (i.e. NFIP, CRS).

Objective 2.B: Prevent (or discourage) new development in hazardous areas or ensure that if building occurs in high-risk areas that it is done in such a way as to minimize risk.

Goal 3: Establish a hazard and disaster resilient economy.

Objective 3.A: Update the plan annually to integrate local hazard mitigation plans and the results of disaster- and hazard-specific planning efforts.

Objective 3.B: Use the best available data, science and technologies to improve understanding of the location and potential impacts of natural hazards, the vulnerability of building types, and community development patterns and the measures needed to protect life safety.

Objective 3.C: Review new and existing policies to determine where climate change resiliency strategies can be included.

Goal 4: Promote public awareness, engage public participation and enhance partnerships through education and outreach.

Objective 4.A: Educate the public on the risk exposure to natural hazards and ways to increase the public's capacity to prepare, respond, recover and mitigate the impacts of these events.

Objective 4.B: Encourage home and business owners to obtain and maintain flood insurance through the NFIP or other insurance providers.

Goal 5: Encourage the development and implementation of long-term, cost-effective mitigation projects.

Objective 5.A: Integrate hazard mitigation policies into land use plans within the planning area.

Objective 5.B: Retrofit, purchase, or relocate structures in high hazard areas including those known to be repetitively damaged.

Mitigation Action 1: Consider participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) program

Mitigation Action 2: Adopt appropriate regulatory standards that will reduce the risk of natural hazards through updates of existing code affecting critical areas regulations, flood hazard regulations, shoreline regulations, and updates City's Comprehensive Plan

Mitigation Action 3: Repair, design, implement permitting, and construct left bank of the Yakima River adjacent to Interstate 90 and Hanson Ponds.

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Mitigation Action 4: Maintain compliance and good standing under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Mitigation Action 5: Consider participation in the National Weather Service "StormReady" Program.

Mitigation Action 6: Where appropriate, support retrofitting, purchase, or relocation of structures in hazard-prone areas to protect structures from future damage, with properties with exposure to repetitive losses as a priority.

Mitigation Action 7: Support and maintain participation in the Firewise Program by expanding the number of project sites within the City of Cle Elum and promoting Firewise strategies through active community outreach.

Mitigation Action 8: Develop and implement a Continuity of Operation Plan (COOP) and/or Post-Disaster Recovery Plan to ensure critical City functions remain operational after an incident or disaster.

Mitigation Action 9: Conduct public outreach on natural hazards, their risks, and alternatives to reduce risks and impacts through existing public outreach programs in the City of Cle Elum.

Mitigation Action 10: Support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of the Kittitas County Hazard Mitigation Plan, as outlined in Volume 1 (Countywide Planning Elements).

Mitigation Action 11: Support, through active participation, the Countywide initiatives identified in Volume 1 (Countywide Planning Elements) of the Kittitas County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Mitigation Action 12: Implement fuels reduction strategies and vegetation maintenance to reduce wildfire vulnerability and impacts in the Wildland Urban Interface across all property ownerships.

Mitigation Action 13: Provide emergency power for all City critical facilities and infrastructure.

Mitigation Action 14: Elevate the Cle Elum River backup wellfield controls to protect the back-up water sources.

Mitigation Action 15: Implement alternative methods and strategies to provide sustainable vegetation and debris removal in the Wildland Urban

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Interface by incorporating equipment to better dispose and reuse material (i.e., Tub Grinders). Sustainable processing of vegetation and organic matter can ultimately lead to new opportunities for biomass energy utilization and material needed for restoration.

The City of Cle Elum is in the process of developing a Fire Resiliency Plan (FRP), with completion of initial fire hazard reduction phase by December 2028. While the FRP is not final or adopted as of the drafting of the Climate Element, it is being incorporated by this reference as a draft document that is relevant to the Climate Element. The draft plan identifies three primary phases:

1. Initial Hazard Reduction: Address city owned properties and right of ways with high fire risk.
    a. Prioritize high-risk areas, roadways, parks and public facilities;
    b. Reduce fuel loads through targeted vegetation removal and maintenance;
    c. Improve defensible space around critical infrastructure.
2. Ongoing Maintenance: Establish a long-term sustainable vegetation management program to prevent hazardous fuel accumulation.
    a. Implement routine inspection and maintenance schedules;
    b. Monitor seasonal vegetation growth and changing fire risk conditions;
    c. Maintain treated areas to preserve long-term wildfire resilience.
3. Community Education and Code Compliance: Increased community-wide vegetation management through thoughtfully curated code paired with education and outreach.
    a. Assess existing and create specific code for vegetation management on personal and city property for existing and new development.
    b. Educate residents on defensible space and wildfire risk reduction.
    c. Foster a shared responsibility between the city and community for long-term resilience.

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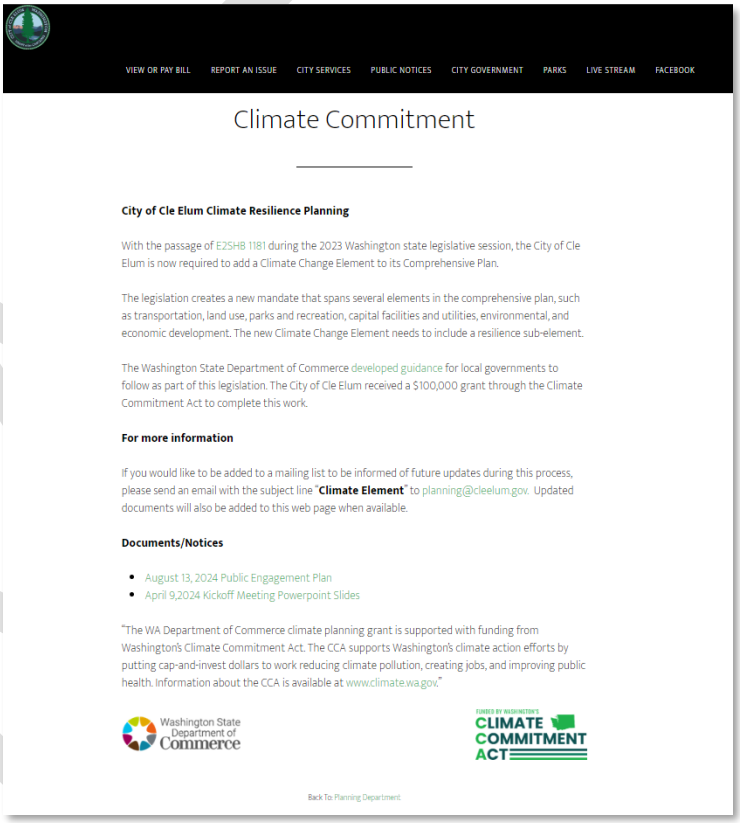
IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A. Introduction

Early and continuous public engagement is an important component of any long-range planning effort. The purpose of public participation is to reach a diverse population in equitable and meaningful ways. Through public participation, the city hopes to better understand how the effects of climate change are felt throughout the community.

B. Project Webpage

The city established a project webpage to disseminate information. The webpage was updated throughout the project as new documents were made available.



C. Climate Policy Advisory Team

Creating and seating members onto a Climate Policy Advisory Team (CPAT) is the first step toward the creation of a new Climate Element. Policy team member responsibilities will include:

- Advising staff on project priorities;
- Sharing a broad range of perspectives to inform the plan;
- Assist with development of the public participation plan and vision statement;
- Reviewing and providing feedback on key project deliverables;
- Developing goal and policy recommendations through a consensus-based approach; and,
- Encouraging community members to participate in the public process.

Name	Organization	Interest
Jon Cornelius	Planning Commission/Council	Sustainability

Ingrid Vimont	Hospital District Commissioner	Healthcare
Sharon Stuart	Small Business Owner	FEMA, Coordination
Phil Hess (advisory)	Cle Elum Fire Advisory	Forest Practices

The CPAT met through the duration of the project and was instrumental in developing key documents for public review.

CPAT Meeting 1 – June 17, 2024
The first meeting of the CPAT included introductions, a review of the purpose of the Climate Element and relevant task outlines for the team. Drafts of the Vision Statement and Public Engagement Plan were presented for CPAT review at the next meeting.

CPAT Meeting 2 – July 22, 2024
The bulk of meeting 2 was spent reviewing hazards identified by the UW Climate Mapping Tool. After review, the CPAT ranked the hazards and sectors by their severity to Cle Elum. The Public Engagement Plan was also finalized and recommended for Council approval.

CPAT Meeting 3 – August 21, 2024
Meeting 3 consisted of reviewing and finalizing documents and the strategy for the scheduled September 24, 2024 meetings at the Senior Center and City Council. The CPAT acknowledges that the public has generally not been receptive to discussing climate-related issues, and so an FAQ document was developed to help answer any pressing questions the community may have.

CPAT Meeting 4 – October 21, 2024
In meeting 4, the CPAT looked asset-hazard pairs in the Climate Element Workbook and reviewed them based on identified climate indicators.

CPAT Meeting 5 – December 2, 2024
Meeting 5 included an introduction to the city's vulnerability assessment. Discussion included an initial review of the vulnerability assessment pages in the Climate Element Workbook.

CPAT Meeting 6 – January 13, 2025
During meeting 6, the final results of the vulnerability assessment were reviewed. All asset-hazard pairs considered during the vulnerability assessment are recommended for action. The CPAT also discussed draft goals and policies and scheduling for the March 11, 2025 open house.

CPAT Meeting 7 – October 20, 2025
Meeting 7 included a recap of the remaining work completed during the 23-25 grant cycle, which ended on June 30, 2025. The CPAT did not meet after the March 11, 2025 open house as the remaining grant funding and timing was used to finalize those grant requirements and

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prepare materials for the 25-27 grant. The CPAT reviewed updated exhibit maps created in GIS and finalized a draft survey for public issuance.

CPAT Survey Results – March 31, 2026
CPAT members were provided full survey results and a summary via email on March 31, 2026.

CPAT Meeting 8 – August 5, 2026
For its final meeting, the CPAT reviewed and discussed the draft Climate Element and reviewed the final adoption timeline. After review, the CPAT recommended approval of the Climate Element, which will be presented to Planning Commission and Council for final recommendation and adoption.

D. Public survey

An online survey was available during November 2025. The survey was promoted on Social Media and sent as a flyer with utility bills. In total, 183 responses were provided.

Highest concerns included:

- Impacts from Wildfire and Drought
- Loss of Life and Property
- Limited Water Availability and Lower Water Quality
- Ingress and Egress during an event
- Insurance Costs Rising and Property Values Decreasing

The full survey results are included in Appendix B.

E. Public Meetings

The city planned for a wide variety of public and stakeholder engagement opportunities throughout this process. A Public Engagement Plan (PEP) was approved by the City Council on August 13, 2024. Members of the public were invited to submit written comment about the Climate Element via email or through an online application form on the city webpage. A total of four public meetings are scheduled, in addition to the final adoption at City Council, as follows:

Meeting 1 – Project kickoff
The project kickoff meeting was held on April 9, 2024, at the City Council Business Meeting. A rough outline will be presented including some background information, formation of the CPAT, the importance of meaningful public engagement, necessary steps to complete the Climate Element, and the project timeline. Interested stakeholders are encouraged to attend the kickoff meeting to discuss next steps and provide contact information so they can be informed about key timelines and deliverables.

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Meeting 2 – Showcase data exhibits

Meeting 2 was scheduled for September 24, 2024, at the Senior Center. Despite the efforts of two CPAT members to invite people from the Senior Center to attend, there were no members of the public who participated. In preparation for this meeting, a powerpoint presentation, FAQ, and informational posterboards were developed. These documents were uploaded to the project webpage.

Also on September 24, 2024, a progress update and summary of identified hazards was provided to City Council. The meeting provided an update of progress completed, including the seating of the CPAT and adoption of the Public Engagement Plan. A summary of the ranked climate hazards was also provided, including a timeline for next steps.

Meeting 3 – Review planning process and present new goals and policies

Meeting 3 was held on March 11, 2025, at the Senior Center. In addition to the project consultant and three CPAT members, three additional members of the public were present. The meeting focused on a review of the draft goals and policies.

Meeting 4 – Present draft Climate Element and receive final public comment – Planning Commission

The final scheduled public meeting is where the draft Climate Element was be presented to the Planning Commission at its public hearing on October 13, 2026. The draft will include a summary of the previous public engagement meetings along with a list of all comments received. This will be the final meeting to submit public comments prior to presentation of the Climate Element to City Council for adoption.

Final adoption

Once all public comments have been received and implemented into the draft Climate Element, it will be presented to City Council for adoption at an open public meeting.

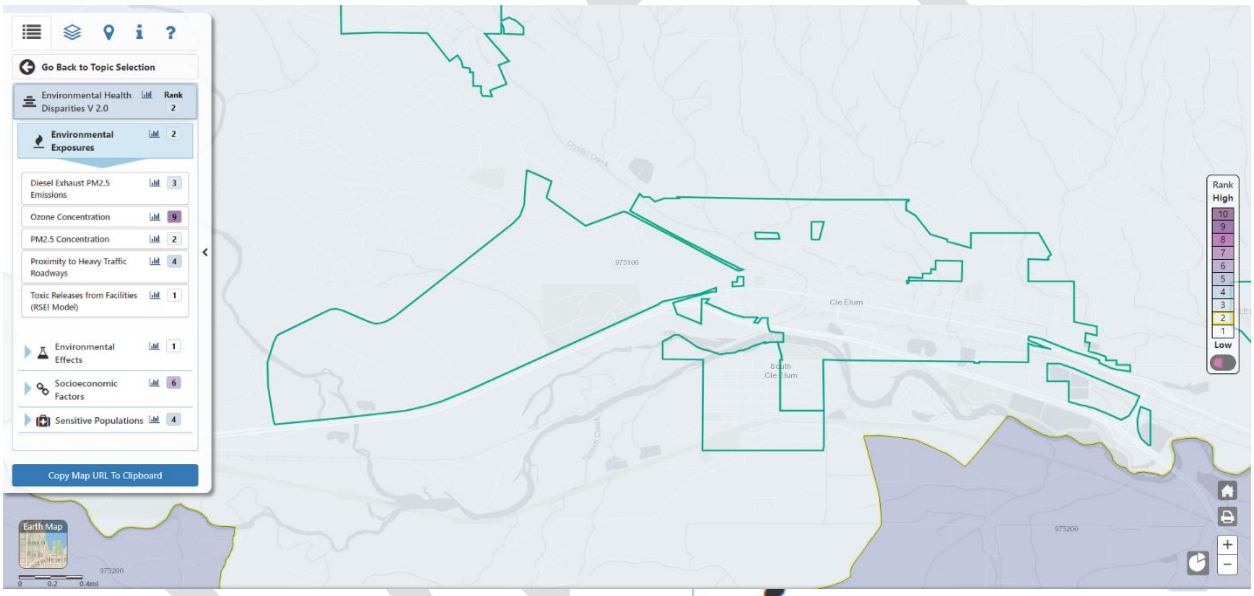
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V. Appendix

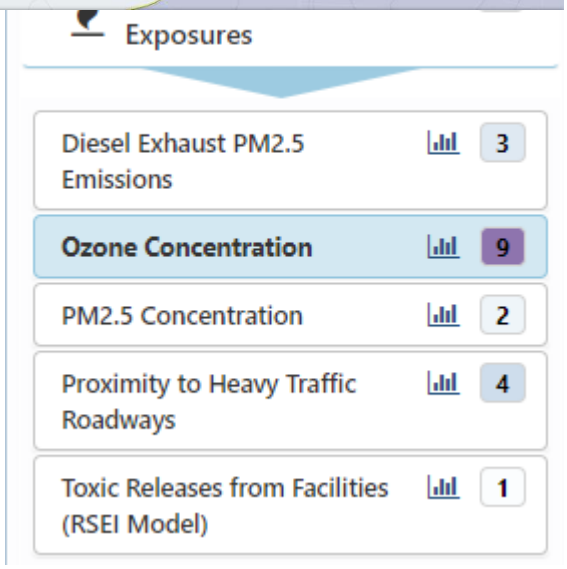
A. Equity Analysis

WA State Department of Health
The Washington State Department of Health developed a mapping tool for health disparities that displays location-based information to help identify health disparities in a community. The mapping tool includes a variety of datasets showing information on health outcomes, social determinants of health, and economic determinants of health. The City of Cle Elum lies within Census Tract 530379-75100.
[Information by Location | Washington Tracking Network (WTN)]

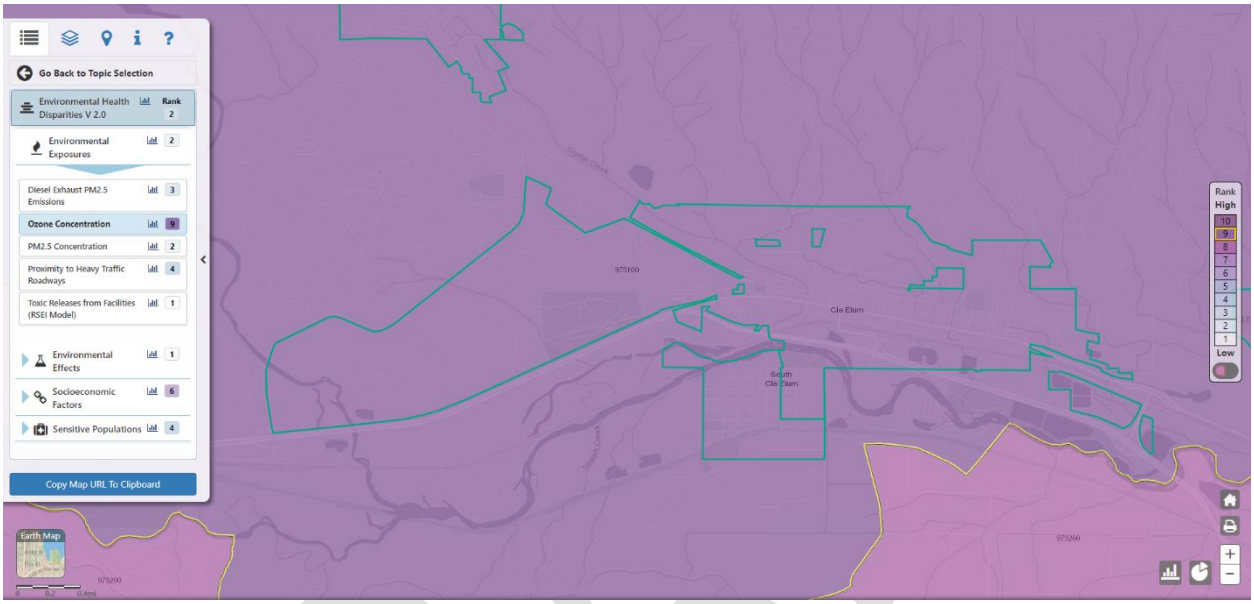
Environmental Health Disparities
Overall, the City of Cle Elum ranks 2/10 for Environmental Health Disparities.



Environmental Exposures
For overall Environmental Exposures, the City of Cle Elum ranks 2/10. However, the city ranks 9/10 for Ozone Concentration.



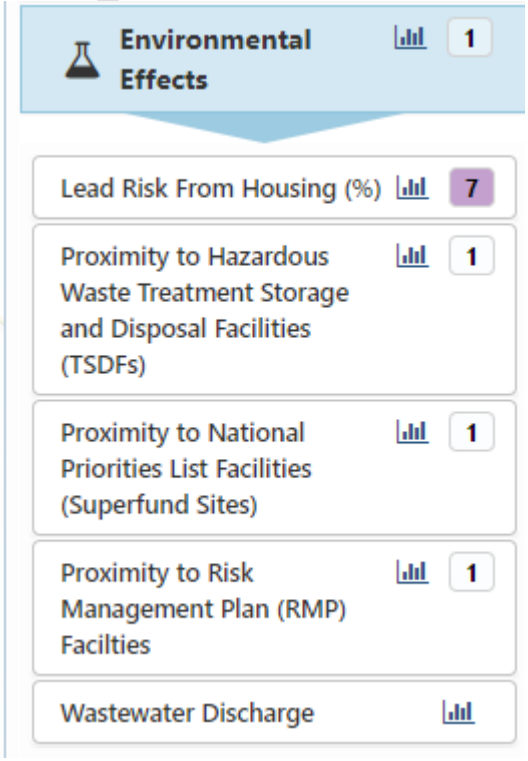
Ozone Concentration: Ozone is a highly reactive gas consisting of oxygen atoms. Sources include motor vehicles, biogenic sources, solvent use, residential wood combustion, gasoline pumps, and industrial sources. Exposure to ozone pollution can result in adverse health outcomes including increased risk of mortality. Health risks include higher rates of asthma, increased daily deaths, and increased cardiovascular and respiratory mortality.

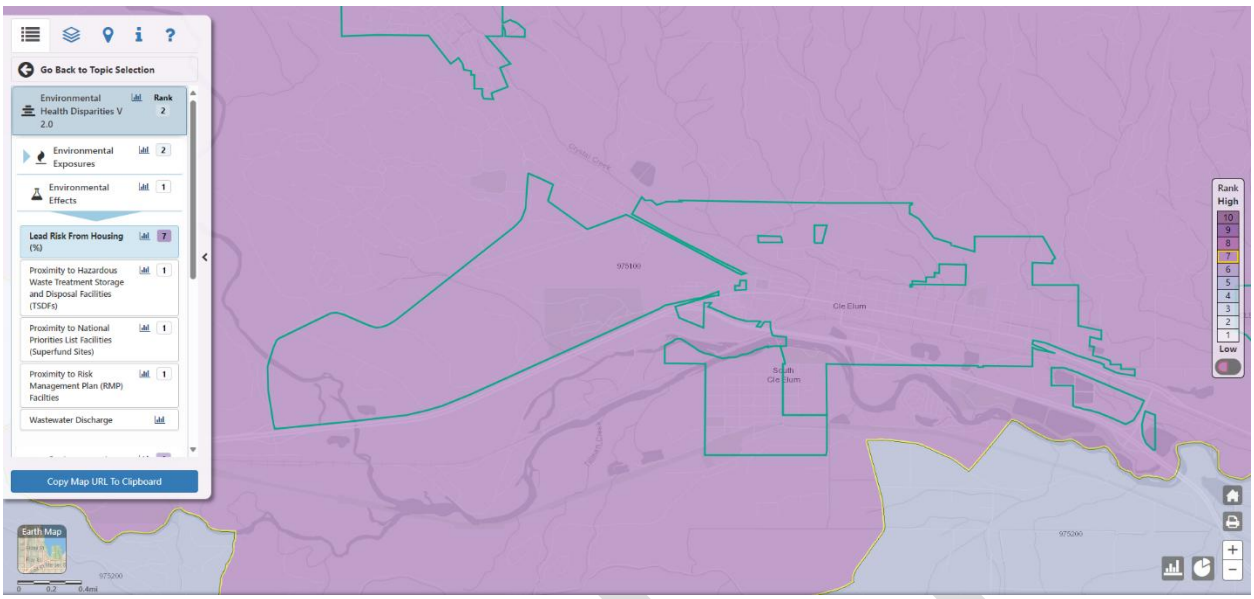


Environmental Effects

The City of Cle Elum ranks 1/10 for Environmental Effects. However, the city ranks 7/10 for Lead Risk from Housing.

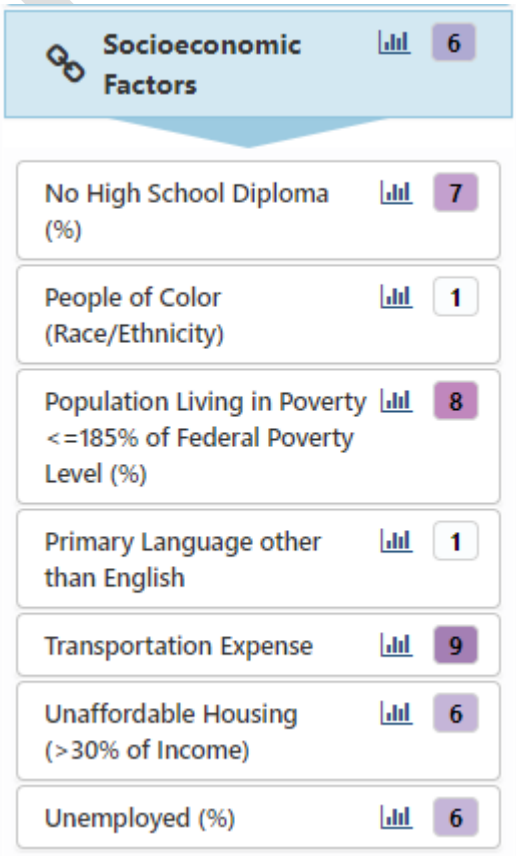
Lead Risk From Housing: Lead poisoning is a serious but preventable public health issue. Lead is a naturally-occurring toxic heavy metal. Much of the lead found in human environments is due to the use of lead in products such as gasoline and house paint. There are no known safe levels of lead exposure, and even small amounts can lead to significant health implications. Exposure can lead to chronic health conditions, neurological defects, and nervous system damage. Those that live in low socioeconomic housing or in poverty are more likely to live in older homes and be exposed to lead poisoning.





Socioeconomic Factors

The City of Cle Elum ranks 6/10 for Socioeconomic Factors, including: No High School Diploma (7/10), Population Living in Poverty (8/10), and Transportation Expense (9/10), Unaffordable Housing (6/10) and Unemployed (6/10).



No High School Diploma: Educational attainment is a very important social determinant of health as it provides insight into individual and community health and well-being for various health outcomes. Those who have a high school diploma or higher have less risk of mortality caused by particulate matter pollution. Communities with lower educational attainment are more susceptible to developing asthma and other air pollution-related cardiopulmonary health outcomes.

Population Living in Poverty: Poverty is a primary social determinant of health and is strongly associated with exposure to environmental pollutants. Low-income communities are significantly impacted by their socioeconomic status. Economic status shapes one's nutrition, occupation, housing, access to healthcare resources, and more. Due to increased psychosocial stress and decreased resilience, individuals experiencing poverty bear poor mental and physical health. Furthermore, many do not have the resources or access to healthcare services or delay healthcare due to financial insecurity. Thus, underlying pre-existing health conditions in low income communities may be exacerbated by exposure to environmental pollutants. Individuals in low

socioeconomic status face higher concentrations of air pollutants, making them more susceptible to chronic respiratory health outcomes such as asthma. In addition, those experiencing poverty may not have access to safe or healthy living conditions, leading to additional vulnerability to infectious diseases and exposure to environmental hazards.

Transportation Expense: Transportation affordability captures many of the socioeconomic conditions that affect social health and well-being. As a social determinant of health, this indicator may influence the effect of exposure to environmental pollution. Those that experience a transportation burden may be at a greater risk of living in areas of environmental degradation and increased levels of air pollution. Individuals living in areas of heavy traffic and limited transportation options may be exposed to a greater extent of air pollution and experience vulnerability to respiratory health outcomes and increased mortality. Additionally, those that experience transportation burdens may delay medical care and services and suffer more long-term impacts due to financial insecurity or distance to resources. Low-income and financially vulnerable individuals may also experience greater periods of instability, resulting in increased vulnerability to chronic and acute health conditions. Such health effects include stress and depression.

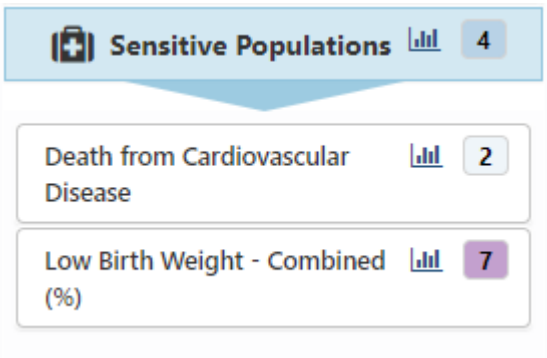
Unaffordable Housing: The housing burden captures many of the socioeconomic conditions that affect social health and well-being. As a social determinant of health, this indicator may influence the effect of exposure to environmental pollution. Those that live with a housing burden may be at a greater risk of living in areas of environmental degradation and increased levels of air pollution. Individuals experiencing a housing burden are at greater risk of exposure to air pollution and higher mortality. Those that experience a housing burden may delay medical care services and suffer more long-term impacts due to financial insecurity. Low-income and financially vulnerable households may also experience greater periods of residential instability, and increased vulnerability to chronic and acute health conditions. Such health effects include stress and depression.

Unemployed: Unemployment is a major factor when considering individual health and well-being. Unemployment can significantly impact mental and physical health as financial and emotional stress increases. This stress may lead to an increased susceptibility to environmental pollutants. With unemployment, individuals may experience the burden of financial strain, resulting in reduced access to healthcare resources, insurance, and nutritious food, leading to an increased risk of poor health outcomes related to environmental pollutants. When experiencing unemployment, individuals experience high levels of biological stress and long-term unemployment may lead to increased morbidity and mortality. Unemployment may lead individuals to seek housing in lower-income areas, which are often associated with higher levels of air pollution and environmental decline. In addition, in communities with high rates of unemployment, the increased cardiovascular disease persists.

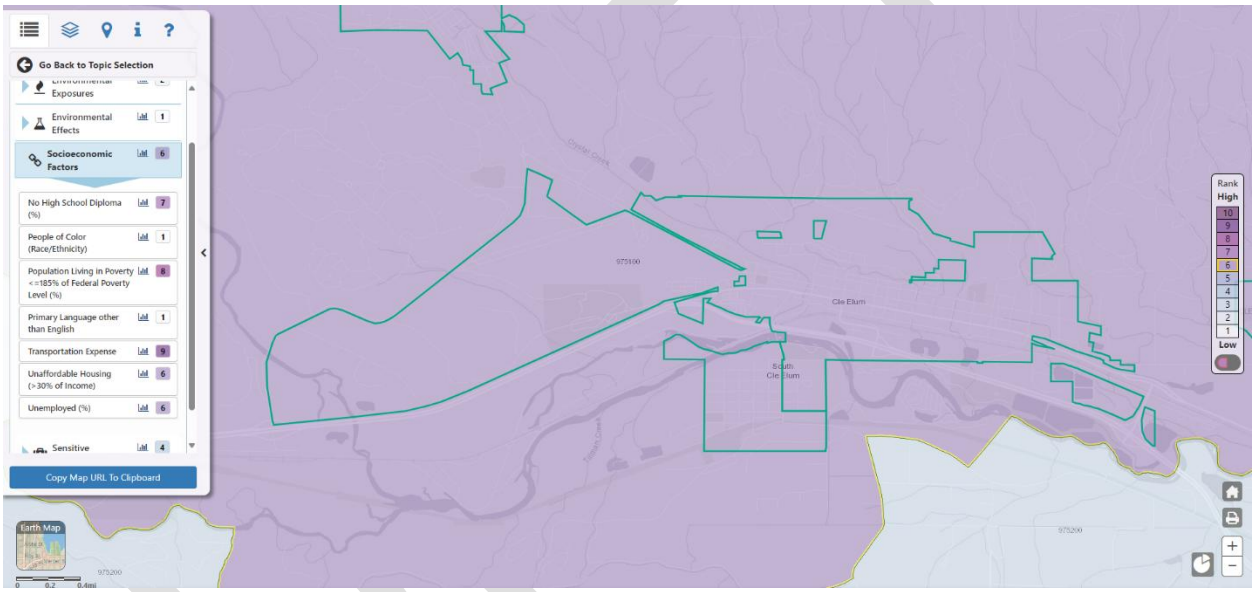
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Sensitive Populations

The City of Cle Elum ranks 4/10 for Sensitive Populations. This health disparity metric looks at Low Birth Weight (7/10).

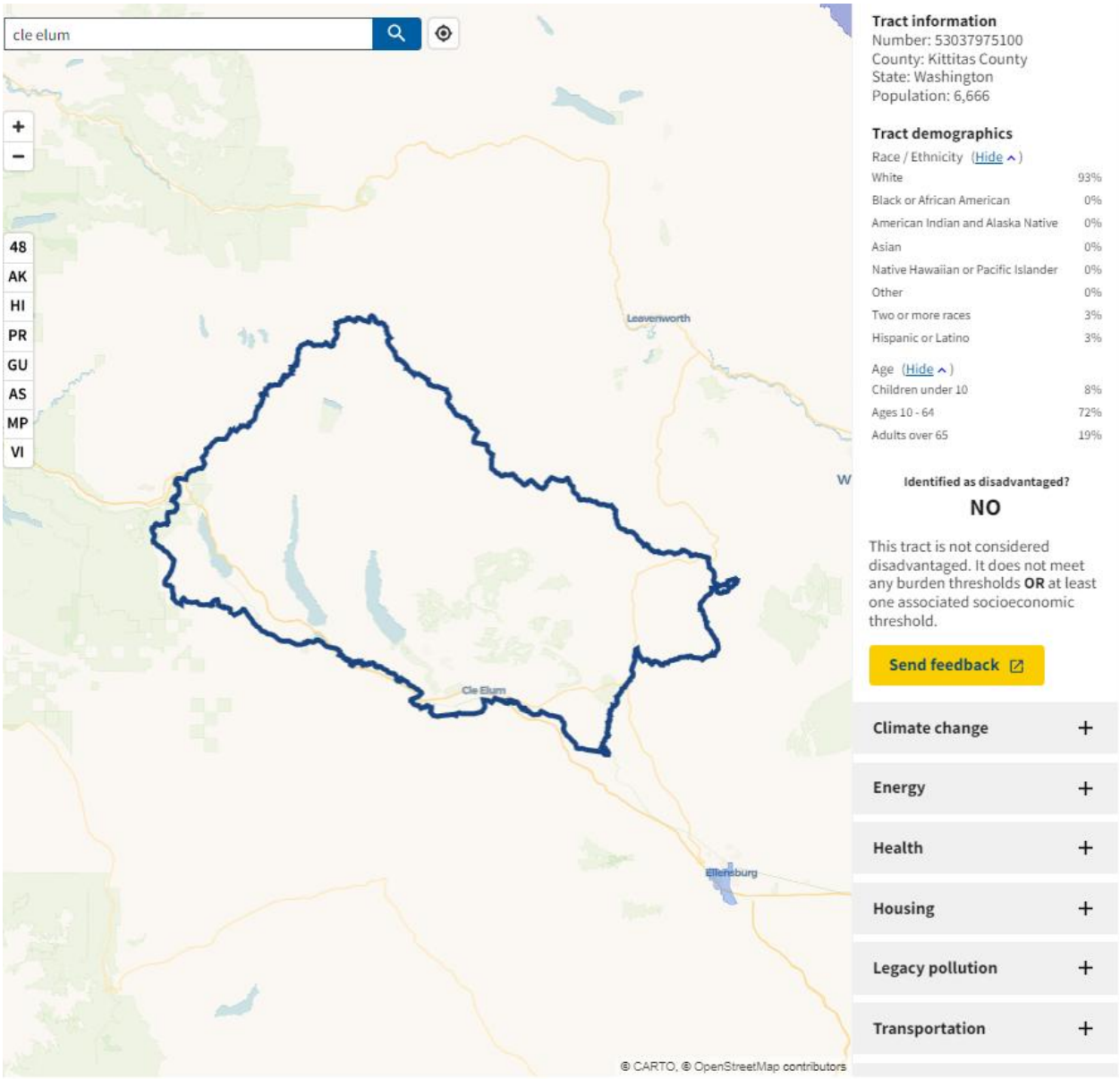


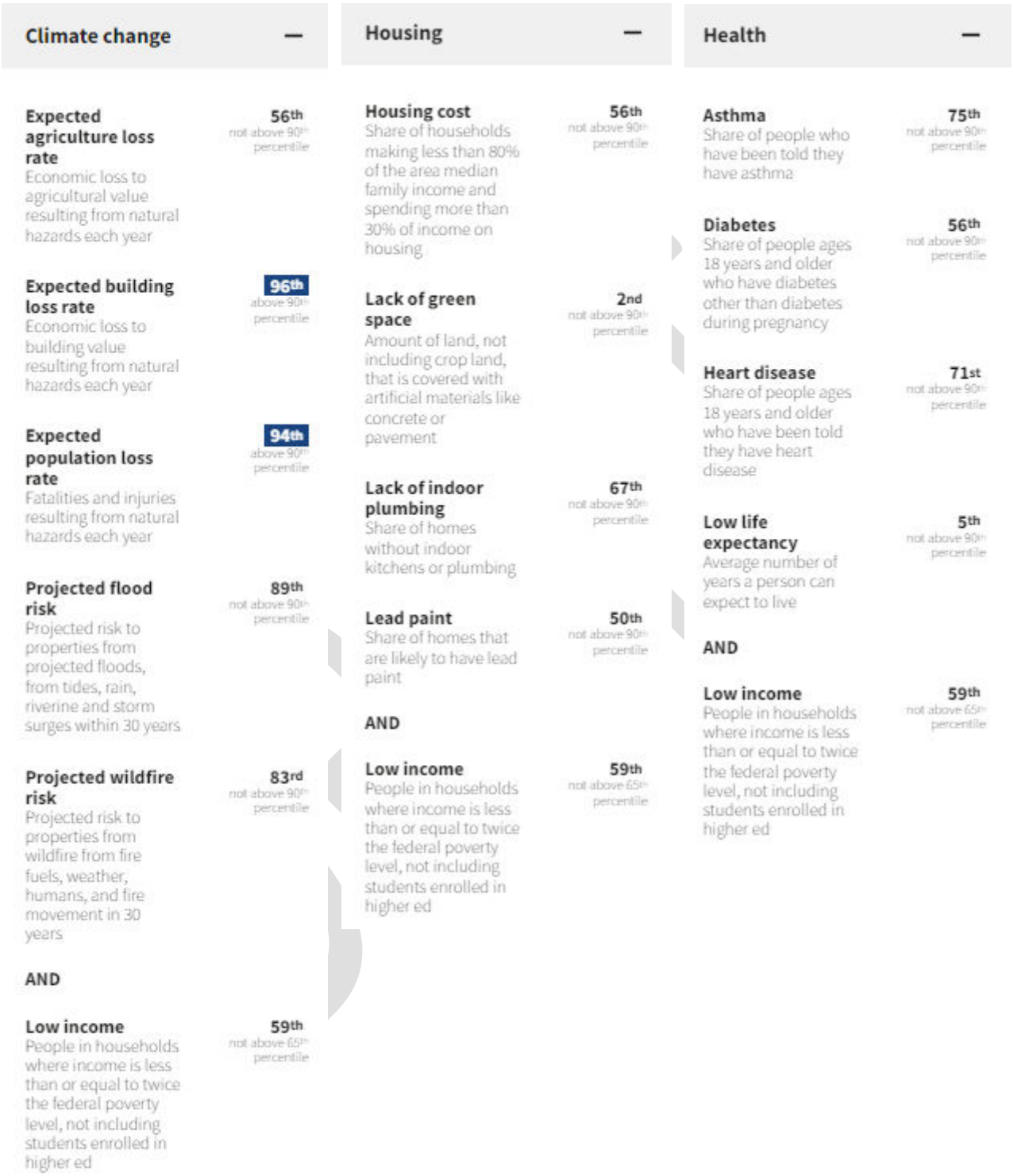
Low Birth Weight: Outcomes such as Low birth weight (LBW) is a globally recognized marker for population health due to existing disparities because certain demographics put infants at risk of LBW. For example, Black or Hispanic women have a higher risk of giving birth to a LBW baby, or older women have higher risk of delivering a LBW baby. Additional risk factors associated with LBW include nutritional status, lack of prenatal care, stress, and maternal smoking. There is evidence that environmental stressors not only impact LBW infants throughout their lifetime but also put infants at risk for LBW before birth.



Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool

The White House Council on Environmental Quality developed a Climate and Economic Justic Screening Tool that examines overburdened and underserved areas at the census tract level. Cle Elum is located in Census Tract 530379-75100, which is not identified as disadvantaged. https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#8.77/47.3628/-121.0362




Climate change
Expected agriculture loss rate
Economic loss to agricultural value resulting from natural hazards each year
56th
not above 90th percentile
Expected building loss rate
Economic loss to building value resulting from natural hazards each year
96th
above 90th percentile
Expected population loss rate
Fatalities and injuries resulting from natural hazards each year
94th
above 90th percentile
Projected flood risk
Projected risk to properties from projected floods, from tides, rain, riverine and storm surges within 30 years
89th
not above 90th percentile
Projected wildfire risk
Projected risk to properties from wildfire from fire fuels, weather, humans, and fire movement in 30 years
83rd
not above 90th percentile
AND
Low income
People in households where income is less than or equal to twice the federal poverty level, not including students enrolled in higher ed
59th
not above 65th percentile
Housing
Housing cost
Share of households making less than 80% of the area median family income and spending more than 30% of income on housing
56th
not above 90th percentile
Lack of green space
Amount of land, not including crop land, that is covered with artificial materials like concrete or pavement
2nd
not above 90th percentile
Lack of indoor plumbing
Share of homes without indoor kitchens or plumbing
67th
not above 90th percentile
Lead paint
Share of homes that are likely to have lead paint
50th
not above 90th percentile
AND
Low income
People in households where income is less than or equal to twice the federal poverty level, not including students enrolled in higher ed
59th
not above 65th percentile
Health
Asthma
Share of people who have been told they have asthma
75th
not above 90th percentile
Diabetes
Share of people ages 18 years and older who have diabetes other than diabetes during pregnancy
56th
not above 90th percentile
Heart disease
Share of people ages 18 years and older who have been told they have heart disease
71st
not above 90th percentile
Low life expectancy
Average number of years a person can expect to live
5th
not above 90th percentile
AND
Low income
People in households where income is less than or equal to twice the federal poverty level, not including students enrolled in higher ed
59th
not above 65th percentile

Legacy pollution —

Abandoned mine land
Presence of one or more abandoned mine land within the tract
Yes

Formerly Used Defense Sites
Presence of one or more Formerly Used Defense Site within the tract
-- missing data

Proximity to hazardous waste facilities
Count of hazardous waste facilities within 5 kilometers
7th not above 90th percentile

Proximity to Risk Management Plan facilities
Count of Risk Management Plan (RMP) facilities within 5 kilometers
2nd not above 90th percentile

Proximity to Superfund sites
Count of proposed or listed Superfund (or National Priorities List (NPL)) sites within 5 kilometers
9th not above 90th percentile

AND

Low income
People in households where income is less than or equal to twice the federal poverty level, not including students enrolled in higher ed
59th not above 65th percentile

Energy —

Energy cost
Average annual energy costs divided by household income
83rd not above 90th percentile

PM2.5 in the air
Level of inhalable particles, 2.5 micrometers or smaller
7th not above 90th percentile

AND

Low income
People in households where income is less than or equal to twice the federal poverty level, not including students enrolled in higher ed
59th not above 65th percentile

Transportation —

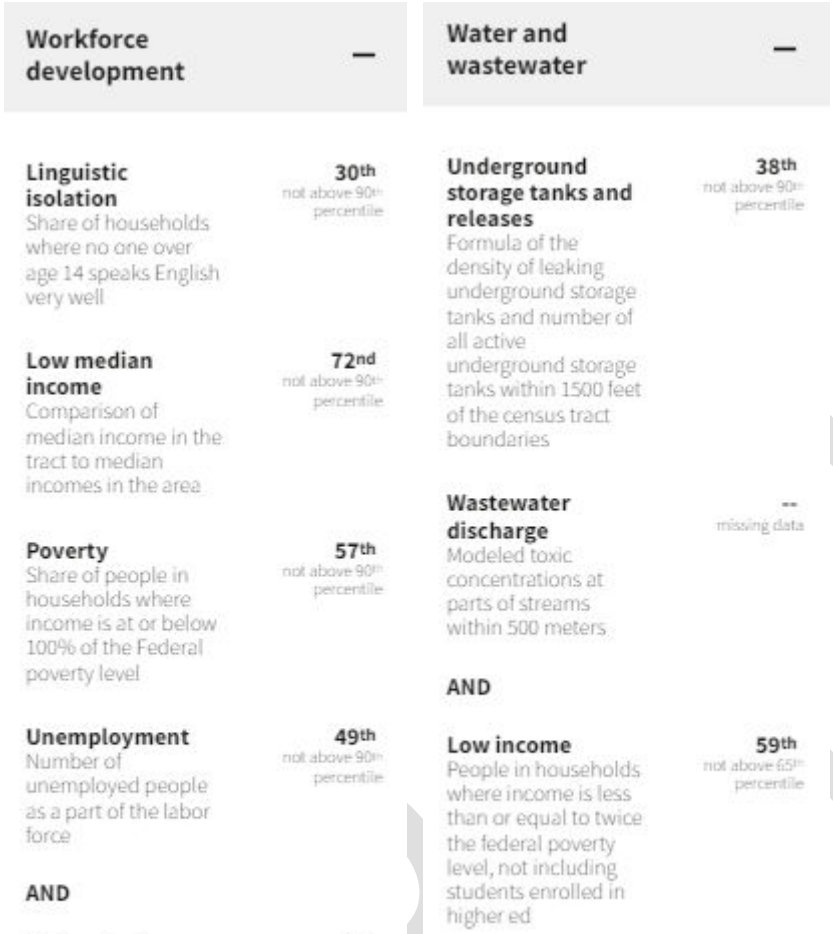
Diesel particulate matter exposure
Amount of diesel exhaust in the air
2nd not above 90th percentile

Transportation barriers
Average of relative cost and time spent on transportation
51st not above 90th percentile

Traffic proximity and volume
Count of vehicles at major roads within 500 meters
25th not above 90th percentile

AND

Low income
People in households where income is less than or equal to twice the federal poverty level, not including students enrolled in higher ed
59th not above 65th percentile

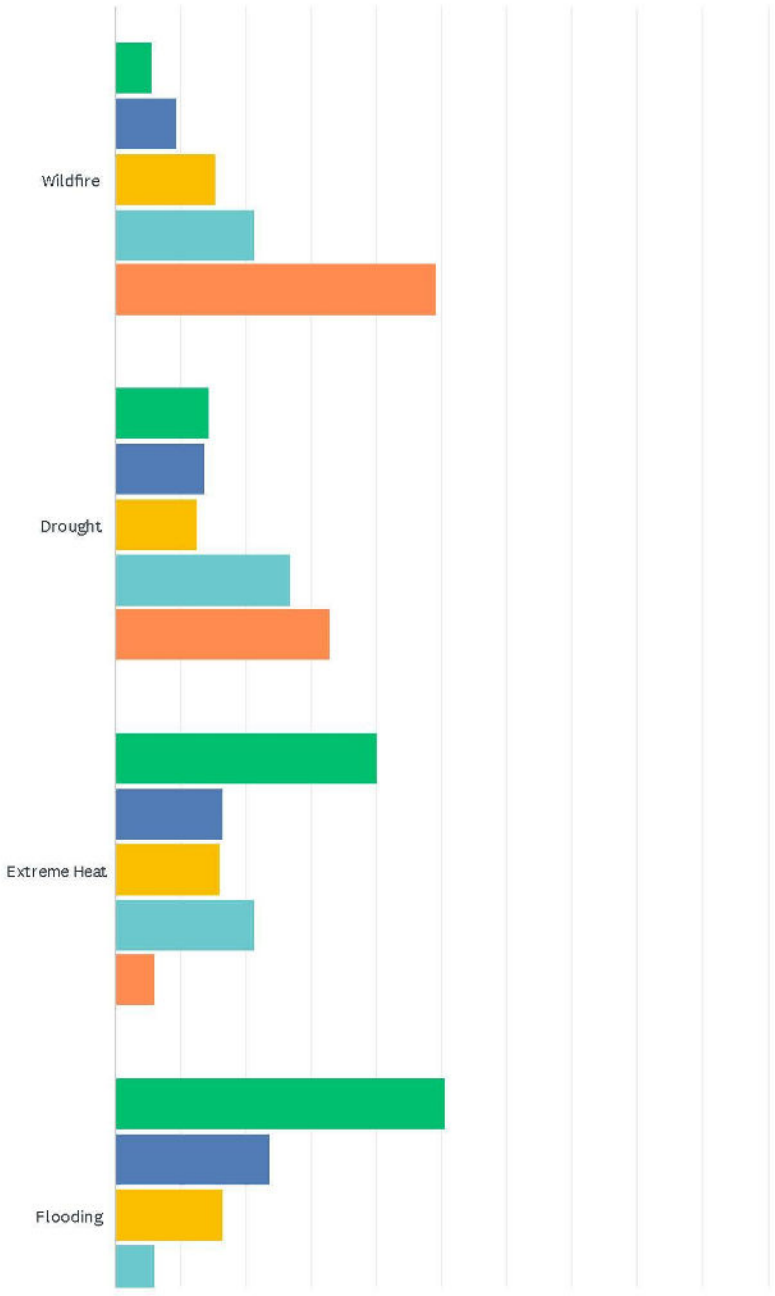

Workforce development
Linguistic isolation
Share of households where no one over age 14 speaks English very well
30th
not above 90th percentile
Low median income
Comparison of median income in the tract to median incomes in the area
72nd
not above 90th percentile
Poverty
Share of people in households where income is at or below 100% of the Federal poverty level
57th
not above 90th percentile
Unemployment
Number of unemployed people as a part of the labor force
49th
not above 90th percentile
AND
High school education
Percent of people ages 25 years or older whose high school education is less than a high school diploma
8%
not above 10% percent
Water and wastewater
Underground storage tanks and releases
Formula of the density of leaking underground storage tanks and number of all active underground storage tanks within 1500 feet of the census tract boundaries
38th
not above 90th percentile
Wastewater discharge
Modeled toxic concentrations at parts of streams within 500 meters
--
missing data
AND
Low income
People in households where income is less than or equal to twice the federal poverty level, not including students enrolled in higher ed
59th
not above 65th percentile

B. Survey Results

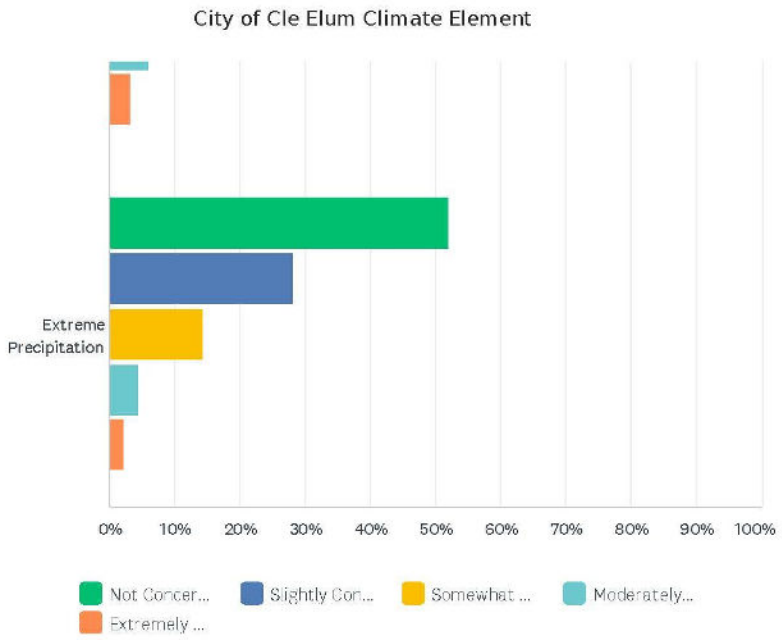
City of Cle Elum Climate Element

Q1 How concerned are you about the impact of each hazard in Cle Elum?

Answered: 183 Skipped: 0



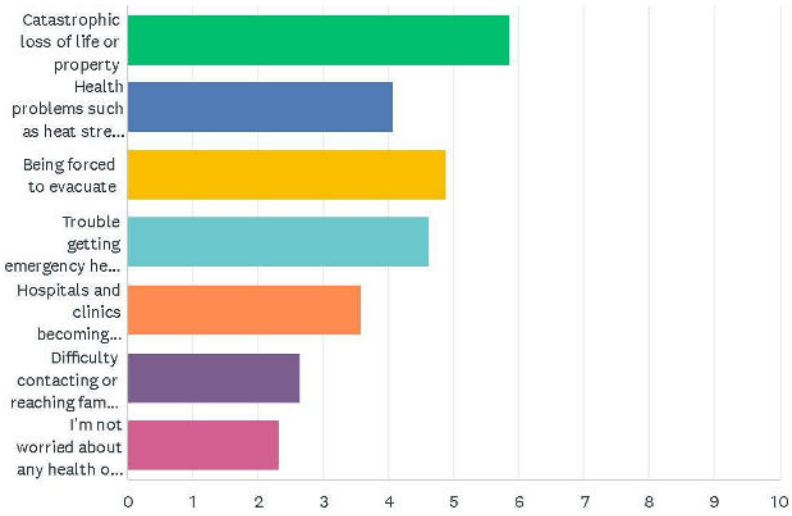
1 / 32



	NOT CONCERNED AT ALL	SLIGHTLY CONCERNED	SOMEWHAT CONCERNED	MODERATELY CONCERNED	EXTREMELY CONCERNED	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Wildfire	5.46% 10	9.29% 17	15.30% 28	21.31% 39	49.18% 90	183
Drought	14.21% 26	13.66% 25	12.57% 23	26.78% 49	32.79% 60	183
Extreme Heat	40.11% 73	16.48% 30	15.93% 29	21.43% 39	6.04% 11	182
Flooding	50.55% 92	23.63% 43	16.48% 30	6.04% 11	3.30% 6	182
Extreme Precipitation	51.93% 94	28.18% 51	14.36% 26	4.42% 8	2.21% 4	181

Q2 What health or well-being challenges due to these hazards concern you most?

Answered: 179 Skipped: 4



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	TOTAL	SCORE
Catastrophic loss of life or property	56.98% 102	16.20% 29	7.26% 13	6.15% 11	5.59% 10	5.59% 10	2.23% 4	179	5.87
Health problems such as heat stress, breathing issues, or mental health issues	10.06% 18	15.08% 27	16.20% 29	17.88% 32	21.23% 38	11.73% 21	7.82% 14	179	4.08
Being forced to evacuate	8.38% 15	32.40% 58	28.49% 51	12.85% 23	7.82% 14	7.26% 13	2.79% 5	179	4.88
Trouble getting emergency help during high impact events	6.15% 11	22.91% 41	24.58% 44	25.14% 45	17.32% 31	3.35% 6	0.56% 1	179	4.63
Hospitals and clinics becoming overwhelmed	1.68% 3	7.82% 14	14.53% 26	24.02% 43	32.40% 58	13.97% 25	5.59% 10	179	3.58
Difficulty contacting or reaching family and friends	1.68% 3	3.35% 6	6.70% 12	11.73% 21	12.85% 23	49.16% 88	14.53% 26	179	2.64
I'm not worried about any health or well-being issues	15.08% 27	2.23% 4	2.23% 4	2.23% 4	2.79% 5	8.94% 16	66.48% 119	179	2.32

Q3 Please include any additional health and well-being challenges not listed above.

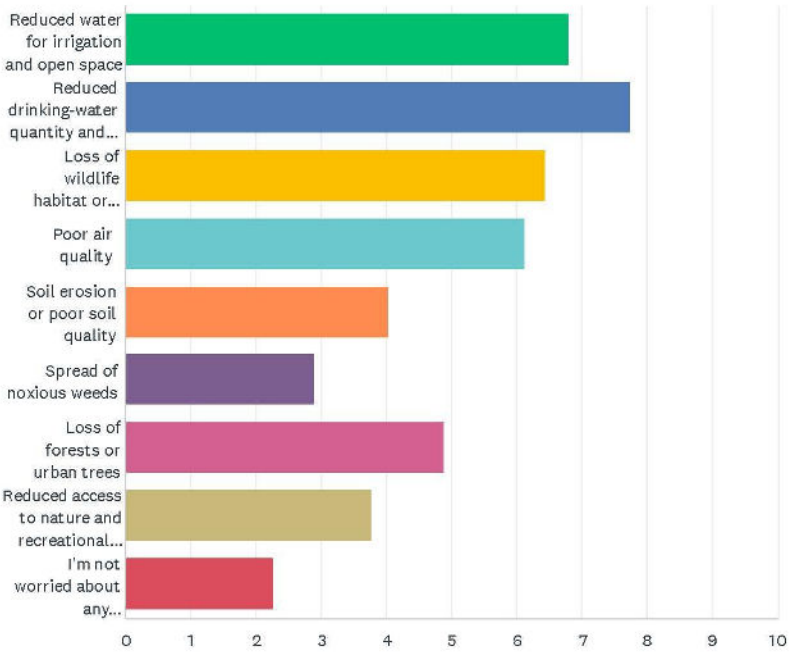
Answered: 39 Skipped: 144

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Please use common sense policies to properly maintain our forest.	11/21/2025 5:34 AM
2	This dumb survey is challenging my mental health, where are instructions about ranking and why do my feelings matter? Waste of money.	11/18/2025 10:44 AM
3	Old rubber tires on city property boarding my property.	11/12/2025 10:35 AM
4	Incoming from West side if they have a disaster.	11/11/2025 11:23 AM
5	Not sure what the arrows mean...	11/10/2025 5:41 PM
6	I worry about town being grid locked in the summer months and there being an medical emergency and I can't get anywhere, I also worry about the level of care I'm given at the local hospital/ urgent care	11/8/2025 5:06 PM
7	Low humidity and it's impact on respiratory system and environment; low ground water levels and drought conditions effects on environment.	11/7/2025 2:07 PM
8	Limited Evacuation routes for people coming from Roslyn, Ronald, Lake Cle Elum Area. Only having 1 grocery store and people panic buying.	11/7/2025 1:53 PM
9	Too many people in areas with one way out only and yet more building permits being issued	11/7/2025 8:12 AM
10	Cle Elum needs a fully paid staffed fire station	11/7/2025 7:59 AM
11	Too many pot stores, people not cleaning up their yards, it creates a tumble weed effect during the wind and fire season	11/7/2025 7:54 AM
12	Exposure to smoky air	11/7/2025 6:15 AM
13	Wood heat stove smoke.	11/6/2025 11:48 PM
14	Our tax dollars being wasted on unreliable programs and services. Keep things basic and live within the means of the city budget not projected budgets.	11/6/2025 10:39 PM
15	All resources going towards what ever natural problem is occurring and no available resources to help the original locals of this town. Because its getting used by new westsiders who have moved and built in our woods causing more fire concerns and iresponsible non knowledgeable choices affecting us locals!	11/6/2025 9:24 PM
16	Lower equity and lower home values as a result of catastrophic risk.	11/6/2025 8:26 PM
17	Mental stress about loosing home insurance due to high fire risk.	11/6/2025 6:57 PM
18	Emergency food, water and shelter plans	11/6/2025 6:38 PM
19	None. Maybe stop draining our reservoirs to save fish. https://news.oregonstate.edu/news/study-finds-experimental-extreme-draining-reservoir-has-unexpected-ecological-impacts#:~:text=Christina%20Murphy%20is%20a%20doctoral%20student%20in,consequences**:%20*%20Changes%20the%20aquatic%20food%20web	11/6/2025 6:36 PM
20	The constant burning of the ridge has greatly affected our family because of air quality. Our back yard should not be used as a training ground for firefighters. No more training.	11/6/2025 3:43 PM
21	This is nothing but a money grab.	11/6/2025 12:49 PM
22	Don't know how to make my answer show, instructions would help. My answer is trouble getting emerg help	11/6/2025 12:11 PM

23	State & Federal agencies poorly managing our water resources.	11/6/2025 11:13 AM
24	Our first responders need equipment, staffing and training.	11/6/2025 10:25 AM
25	Roadways being blocked or heavily impacted out of certain areas during a major event like a fire or something along the train tracks.	11/6/2025 9:51 AM
26	CCA is a scam	11/6/2025 9:22 AM
27	I am more concerned about how they handle these issues and who they delegate the authority to. Mini industries in Washington are suffering because our state government fired them for not following the vaccine and mask mandates and now we have an experienced unmotivated dei hires in almost every local agency and it seems to always have a negative impact on results and the ROI to taxpayers.	11/6/2025 9:00 AM
28	Hazmat issues from high volume freeway	11/6/2025 8:45 AM
29	Water availability for fire fighting. We keep building homes in the WUI.	11/6/2025 8:37 AM
30	I worry more for elder or immunocompromised folks than myself or my family. Weather will always be weathering, can't change that. Bring proactive and using city/county funds in a smarter way will help to mitigate loss. Looking at thr big picture not just dealing with the issue in front at the time.	11/6/2025 8:22 AM
31	Trouble getting emergency help during holidays or weekends when roads are backed up and blocked for locals.	11/6/2025 8:22 AM
32	The list listed above is fear mongering.	11/6/2025 8:10 AM
33	Areas that are not firewised, but should be. Sky meadows, pineloch sun etc More houses and neighborhoods being built and not enough infrastructure to go around.	11/6/2025 8:03 AM
34	Loss of life and property leads to mental health and physical health concerns and a housing shortage, plus economic downturn	11/6/2025 7:25 AM
35	Increased stress from additional climate taxes	11/5/2025 9:33 PM
36	NA	11/5/2025 7:14 PM
37	The biggest issue we have is water. No water, it's poorly managed by all the liberals on city council, mismanagement. Yet they still keep building more and more houses…. Stop building houses in or near Cle ELUM!!!	11/5/2025 3:34 PM
38	Too many people cramming into this little area = STRESS about how this area will be able to maintain a quality of life for families. Housing developments keep getting built, but lack of water and ingress/egress (incase of emergency) issues are not being dealt with. The way things are going in Upper Kittitas County... UKC might be the next big life altering disaster that could have and SHOULD have been dealt with before a possible disaster.	11/4/2025 8:18 PM
39	Wildfire related concerns like smoke or loss of home.	11/4/2025 7:44 PM

Q4 What environmental challenges due to these hazards concern you most?

Answered: 180 Skipped: 3



City of Cle Elum Climate Element

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	TOTAL	SCORE
Reduced water for irrigation and open space	18.33% 33	24.44% 44	19.44% 35	13.89% 25	11.11% 20	7.78% 14	3.33% 6	1.67% 3	0.00% 0	180	6.80
Reduced drinking-water quantity and quality	41.67% 75	25.56% 46	16.11% 29	7.22% 13	3.89% 7	3.33% 6	1.11% 2	1.11% 2	0.00% 0	180	7.74
Loss of wildlife habitat or species diversity	6.11% 11	21.67% 39	22.22% 40	28.89% 52	10.56% 19	6.67% 12	1.11% 2	1.11% 2	1.67% 3	180	6.44
Poor air quality	10.00% 18	15.56% 28	17.22% 31	22.78% 41	14.44% 26	12.78% 23	3.89% 7	3.33% 6	0.00% 0	180	6.13
Soil erosion or poor soil quality	0.00% 0	1.11% 2	1.11% 2	7.22% 13	26.11% 47	26.67% 48	31.67% 57	5.56% 10	0.56% 1	180	4.04
Spread of noxious weeds	1.11% 2	0.00% 0	1.67% 3	1.67% 3	3.33% 6	18.33% 33	28.33% 51	38.89% 70	6.67% 12	180	2.91
Loss of forests or urban trees	6.67% 12	7.78% 14	12.22% 22	8.89% 16	18.89% 34	11.11% 20	21.11% 38	12.22% 22	1.11% 2	180	4.89
Reduced access to nature and recreational areas	4.44% 8	3.33% 6	7.78% 14	8.33% 15	11.11% 20	11.11% 20	9.44% 17	34.44% 62	10.00% 18	180	3.78
I'm not worried about any environmental challenges	11.67% 21	0.56% 1	2.22% 4	1.11% 2	0.56% 1	2.22% 4	0.00% 0	1.67% 3	80.00% 144	180	2.27

Q5 Please include any additional environmental challenges not listed above.

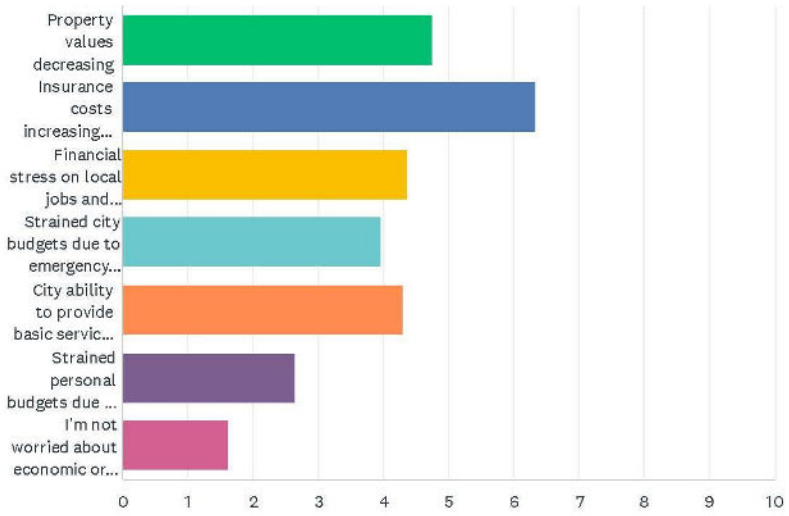
Answered: 25 Skipped: 158

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	There are no real concerns other than not being good stewards of our forests.	11/21/2025 5:34 AM
2	You felt like you HAD to spend money on this BS but couldn't honor a binding legal contract? Where are your priorities	11/18/2025 10:44 AM
3	The IPCC suggests inland basins at northern latitudes will see decreasing snowpack and shifting precipitation patterns that lead to longer drier summers and our local data support this. With growing population forecasts, an antiquated water management system, and a changing climate, water availability in the future is a real concern.	11/17/2025 12:30 PM
4	Not sure what the arrows mean...	11/10/2025 5:41 PM
5	Allowing so many new houses to be built and not enough water for everyone. Again back to the roads, there 1 way in and 1 way out	11/8/2025 5:06 PM
6	Sufficient water pressure in case there's a need to fight fire inside the residential nucleus Cle Elum , during high fire hazards season.	11/7/2025 2:07 PM
7	Same answer. Stop new development that are pushing wildlife out and making crowded conditions with no new infrastructure to support it	11/7/2025 8:12 AM
8	Bring back logging and hunting with dogs. Cute both problems.	11/6/2025 11:48 PM
9	Westsiders coming over with no common sense there recklessness is in turn causing fires. more trash littering, loss of backwoods, decline in animals in town quietness of road noise, loss of seeing the stars at night because of the city lighting up all of 1st street. What happened to the town I call home.	11/6/2025 9:24 PM
10	Using the wrong ice melt on the sidewalks so they errode	11/6/2025 6:38 PM
11	None	11/6/2025 6:36 PM
12	Northrup needs be called out by name every single time there is news/updates about the city bankruptcy. Use his name not his business name.	11/6/2025 3:43 PM
13	Climate change is not in out control.	11/6/2025 12:49 PM
14	Reduced water	11/6/2025 12:11 PM
15	Loss of property rights	11/6/2025 11:13 AM
16	Wolves and cougar not regulated. The forests unmanaged create fires.	11/6/2025 10:25 AM
17	CCA is a scam to tax the people	11/6/2025 9:22 AM
18	Mismanagement of resources and labor fat and experience lean agencies misappropriating taxpayer dollars raising false flags when unnecessary and not raising the proper flags when necessary seems to be a bigger underlying issue.	11/6/2025 9:00 AM
19	We are losing farmland to development. We will never get it back.	11/6/2025 8:37 AM
20	Our beautiful area is being destroyed with garbage and people tearing up the grounds 4 wheeling, soon we wont be able to access any of the areas we've grown up enjoying.	11/6/2025 8:22 AM
21	Bogus climate environmental challenges.	11/6/2025 8:10 AM
22	The environmental challenges are all linked, i.e. spread of noxious weeds is due to loss of forests/urban trees and soil quality. This leads to reduced access and loss of habitat.	11/6/2025 7:22 AM
23	NA	11/5/2025 7:14 PM

24	Our water system isn't adequate for flooding or even melting snow.	11/5/2025 4:28 PM
25	People not being held accountable for trashing the woods and people from the west side coming to Cle Elum and bringing their liberalism to this town. We don't need any more people. Sun cadia ruined our town. Stop building million dollar homes and raising property taxes on the long term life long residents.	11/5/2025 3:34 PM

Q6 What economic and financial challenges related to these hazards concern you the most?

Answered: 174 Skipped: 9



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	TOTAL	SCORE
Property values decreasing	17.24% 30	27.59% 48	13.79% 24	13.79% 24	12.64% 22	12.07% 21	2.87% 5	174	4.75
Insurance costs increasing and/or difficulty obtaining coverage	54.60% 95	29.89% 52	10.34% 18	4.02% 7	1.15% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	174	6.33
Financial stress on local jobs and businesses	3.45% 6	13.22% 23	29.89% 52	29.89% 52	17.82% 31	5.75% 10	0.00% 0	174	4.37
Strained city budgets due to emergency response and infrastructure damage	4.60% 8	8.62% 15	18.39% 32	27.59% 48	30.46% 53	9.20% 16	1.15% 2	174	3.97
City ability to provide basic services as a result of the pending bankruptcy	12.07% 21	17.82% 31	19.54% 34	9.77% 17	23.56% 41	14.94% 26	2.30% 4	174	4.31
Strained personal budgets due to lost wages or property damage	1.15% 2	1.15% 2	8.05% 14	13.22% 23	13.22% 23	53.45% 93	9.77% 17	174	2.64
I'm not worried about economic or financial challenges	6.90% 12	1.72% 3	0.00% 0	1.72% 3	1.15% 2	4.60% 8	83.91% 146	174	1.62

Q7 Please include any additional financial challenges not listed above.

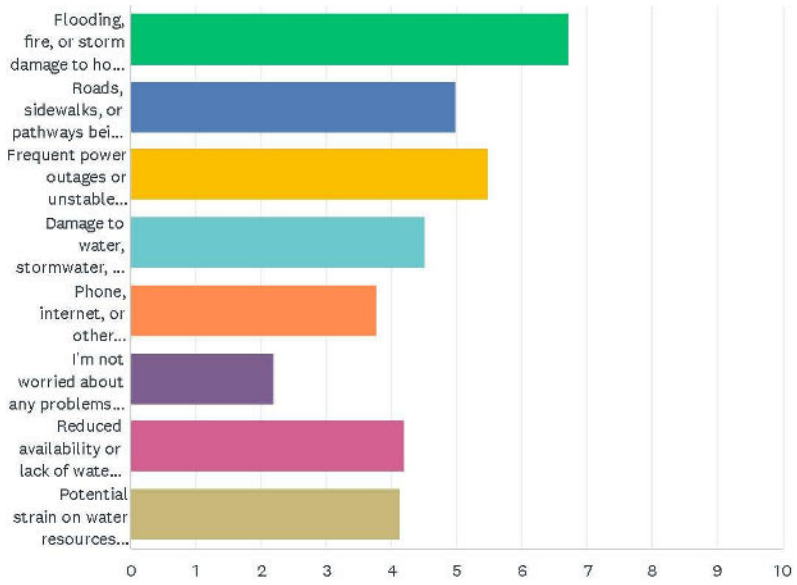
Answered: 28 Skipped: 155

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The implication of not properly maintaining our forest can cost the environment damage from the smoke from fires due to not properly maintaining our forests.	11/21/2025 5:34 AM
2	Who. Cares. What the public thinks they know about climate.	11/18/2025 10:44 AM
3	Cost to repair damages not covered by insurance.	11/11/2025 11:23 AM
4	Not sure what the arrows mean...	11/10/2025 5:41 PM
5	I recently purchased a home / investment property in Cle Elum. It was extremely difficult to obtain insurance coverage due to perceived fire risk.	11/10/2025 11:49 AM
6	If the bankruptcy judge lowers the settlement to 10% of the King County judgment, we should manage okay.	11/7/2025 2:07 PM
7	My insurance has doubled and worry that I won't find a buyer when I try and sell my house due to poor city management	11/7/2025 8:12 AM
8	#1 Increases in fuel and property taxes due to climate hysteria.	11/7/2025 5:03 AM
9	The people shouldn't have to pay the Enders bill.	11/6/2025 11:48 PM
10	The price of living in town has more then trippled in last 14 yrs, and with all the westsiders coming over the more tearing down and building they do the more the city raises the garbage prices,water,sewer, even rent its forcing locals to move further from cle elum where there is affordable rental, water garbage we let suncadia in and look what its done.	11/6/2025 9:24 PM
11	Traffic congestion at city build out; I believe TIA is insufficient for build out	11/6/2025 8:26 PM
12	Taxes and utilities being forcefully increased due to city bankruptcy. Still haven't received the last survey that went out and we're registered voters in this county.	11/6/2025 7:52 PM
13	Our insurance just went up $400% this year and it's now unaffordable to have a second home in Cle elum	11/6/2025 6:54 PM
14	Being financially soild with a plan. Hire someone if needed to help	11/6/2025 6:38 PM
15	Climate change is nothing but a money grab.	11/6/2025 12:49 PM
16	Insurance costs, financial stress on jobs, city's ability to provide seevices	11/6/2025 12:11 PM
17	Development fees increasing due to environmental regulations.	11/6/2025 11:13 AM
18	The city bankruptcy will work out. We did not become Pottersville. That's a win.	11/6/2025 10:25 AM
19	Not prepared for influx of thousands of people who are displaced from FL/LA (hurricanes) and from west coast under 100' above sea level if overdue tsunami or NM/CO/NV/AZ for lack of water	11/6/2025 10:00 AM
20	We need to spend far less money not add to the budget! How about we cut some fat instead of increasing taxes? The solution has and always will be less taxes and less government.	11/6/2025 9:00 AM
21	We keep being charged more and more when all are barley surviving, its forcing people to have to consider leaving Cle Elum all together as the cost of living is just too high.	11/6/2025 8:22 AM
22	Taxation without representation.	11/6/2025 8:10 AM
23	If the forest is gone, who would want to rebuild? Every resident, business, and the city should have this at the top of their concerns.	11/6/2025 7:25 AM
24	Strained budgets and resources of nonprofit organizations that support the community	11/6/2025 7:22 AM

25	Increased climate taxes and regulations	11/5/2025 9:33 PM
26	NA	11/5/2025 7:14 PM
27	The city leaders, through their own dereliction of duty, have jeopardized the citizens of Cle Elum with their lack of planning and focus.	11/5/2025 4:28 PM
28	The bankruptcy could have been avoided. Now the city is considering making the residents pay for the mess they created?? No. I don't think so. We shouldn't be punished for the mess they created. We need accountability.	11/5/2025 3:34 PM

Q8 What challenges related to buildings, roads, and services due to theses hazards concerns you most?

Answered: 172 Skipped: 11



City of Cle Elum Climate Element

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	TOTAL	SCORE
Flooding, fire, or storm damage to homes and businesses	46.51% 80	19.19% 33	13.95% 24	9.30% 16	4.65% 8	4.07% 7	2.33% 4	0.00% 0	172	6.72
Roads, sidewalks, or pathways being blocked or damaged	4.07% 7	20.35% 35	19.19% 33	16.28% 28	16.28% 28	15.12% 26	7.56% 13	1.16% 2	172	4.98
Frequent power outages or unstable electricity	6.40% 11	20.35% 35	26.16% 45	20.35% 35	18.02% 31	5.81% 10	2.33% 4	0.58% 1	172	5.47
Damage to water, stormwater, or sewer infrastructure	2.33% 4	8.14% 14	14.53% 25	26.74% 46	18.60% 32	20.93% 36	8.72% 15	0.00% 0	172	4.51
Phone, internet, or other communication problems	2.91% 5	6.40% 11	7.56% 13	9.88% 17	24.42% 42	22.09% 38	25.00% 43	1.74% 3	172	3.78
I'm not worried about any problems with buildings, roads, and services	8.72% 15	0.58% 1	1.16% 2	0.58% 1	1.74% 3	14.53% 25	12.79% 22	59.88% 103	172	2.20
Reduced availability or lack of water resources	6.40% 11	15.70% 27	12.79% 22	10.47% 18	9.88% 17	9.30% 16	26.16% 45	9.30% 16	172	4.19
Potential strain on water resources and/or transportation routes to accommodate planned and pending development (City Heights, Bullfrog Flats, etc.)	22.67% 39	9.30% 16	4.65% 8	6.40% 11	6.40% 11	8.14% 14	15.12% 26	27.33% 47	172	4.14

Q9 Please include any additional building, road, or service challenges not listed above.

Answered: 33 Skipped: 150

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Snow removal capabilities	11/13/2025 6:42 PM
2	I am incredibly worried about all of these challenges because the City leadership is inept and I have no confidence in their ability to address any of these issues.	11/11/2025 12:58 PM
3	City's ability to maintain services with population growth.	11/11/2025 11:23 AM
4	Not sure what the arrows mean...	11/10/2025 5:41 PM
5	There aren't enough exits from those development areas that are in the works. Bullfrog is way too limited, and I'm concerned we're going to have a serious traffic jams if we needed to exit quickly from the area once all those residential areas are fully developed. 2,000 plus new units from Roslyn ridge down to I-90 on bullfrog could create a huge congestion problem.	11/7/2025 2:07 PM
6	With all the tourist and recreational people here on weekends it's harder to get around, get groceries or gas in case of emergency	11/7/2025 8:12 AM
7	Main Street , city potholes	11/7/2025 7:54 AM
8	Traffic	11/7/2025 6:15 AM
9	Change Main Street to back in. All you would have to do is change the angle of the lines.	11/6/2025 11:48 PM
10	I'm very concerned for where I live and at the bridge was permanently closed leaving us a very, very narrow road to get out of and a flooding happens or fire it could cause loss of life and property and nobody seems to be concerned about it	11/6/2025 8:46 PM
11	Apparent lack of evacuation planning in the event of level 3 evac resulting from wildfire	11/6/2025 8:26 PM
12	If there are concerns, then focus should be on existing homes and citizens and future projects put on hold. Why put resources towards city heights or bullfrog flats when the current citizens need support?	11/6/2025 7:52 PM
13	We need lines painted on the roads.	11/6/2025 6:38 PM
14	All new builders should pay for road expansion. There should be higher property taxes on every single new build. These builders need to pay for everything to be fixed or build out.	11/6/2025 3:43 PM
15	Scaring people to receive more tax money should be imprisonment offense.	11/6/2025 12:49 PM
16	Regular maintenance of streets and sidewalks and litter and brush and gravel all over town	11/6/2025 12:26 PM
17	Phone/internet outages, ability to flee areas with limited access	11/6/2025 12:11 PM
18	None	11/6/2025 11:13 AM
19	Snowplowing must be kept up with.	11/6/2025 10:25 AM
20	Mother Nature lives on a cycle just like we humans. Some years are hot and some are cold.	11/6/2025 9:22 AM
21	These only pose issues if our local government restricts or shuts down access to these necessities in the name of public safety which is almost always a laughing joke because nobody elected you to 'keep everybody safe'.... With freedom comes risk and as a small American town we should not be so quick to seek authority or government intervention for every and any issue that arises because of the environment or whether. That's not to say that we shouldn't help our neighbors in need or manage our forest but with management often comes government overreach and abuse of restrictions and authority. The argument that if people cross your line and then require rescuing later you have to divert resources is also	11/6/2025 9:00 AM

	irrelevant, allow those people to make their choice and take that risk and then do not send rescue if they choose to take their own life and their own hands.	
22	One greedy developer has destroyed both ridges now and has bankrupted the city. Let that be a lesson to others.	11/6/2025 8:37 AM
23	What grocery stores are these new occupants going to use? What schools? Were maxed out as it is and to add more housing is insane!!	11/6/2025 8:22 AM
24	One road out from upper county recreational areas terrifies me	11/6/2025 8:16 AM
25	Complete fear mongering about farce climate change.	11/6/2025 8:10 AM
26	Our roads are too small for the large developments	11/6/2025 7:57 AM
27	Damage to infrastructure is the same as reduced/lack of water and strain on water resources.	11/6/2025 7:22 AM
28	NA	11/5/2025 7:14 PM
29	Not sure if I'm answering correctly?	11/5/2025 7:09 PM
30	Emergency evacuation routes	11/5/2025 5:16 PM
31	The city has done a poor job for 20 years maintaining and improving city streets. The pothole patches are a band aid on an ulcer.	11/5/2025 4:28 PM
32	How'd we manage to get approved for all the curbing that the city put in, in the first place? The new sidewalks were a complete waist of money, we get so much snow and salt gets put down, they should have left it alone. The side walks are already destroyed and chipped up from it. Waist of money. Should have left it alone and put that money else where.	11/5/2025 3:34 PM
33	Too many people in a small area. If a major climate issue such as a massive FIRE were to happen... how does everyone get out with the limited roads?	11/4/2025 8:18 PM

Q10 When you think about these identified hazards, what areas in Cle Elum are you most concerned about? This could include places you live, work or visit.

Answered: 87 Skipped: 96

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	City of Cle elum and surrounding areas	12/1/2025 8:23 AM
2	Residential areas.	11/18/2025 1:40 PM
3	Super concerned about City Hall in particular. Get your priorities straight.	11/18/2025 10:44 AM
4	All	11/17/2025 12:30 PM
5	Egress routes during fast moving wildfire.	11/14/2025 8:36 PM
6	The forest / city interface, areas along 6th Street, some city-owned, not firewised. The entire city, as far as water shortages from planned developments, particularly with current restrictions already in place.	11/14/2025 10:14 AM
7	UGA areas being susceptible to wildfires causing potential spread to the city.	11/13/2025 6:42 PM
8	Forested residential areas	11/13/2025 1:09 PM
9	Too many developers allowed in!	11/12/2025 10:35 AM
10	Forested areas north of 5th Street	11/11/2025 8:49 PM
11	Same answer as above	11/11/2025 12:58 PM
12	Downtown area	11/11/2025 11:23 AM
13	Obviously, my home and property are at the top of mind and the first thoughts when considering these issues, as they are the most directly connected to me. However, we are a small community and can't help but be interconnected. Therefore, the city/community as a whole needs to be considered.	11/9/2025 4:47 PM
14	Impact growth has on our infrastructure	11/9/2025 2:11 AM
15	Fire and the fact that my home insurance keeps going up making my mortgage unaffordable	11/8/2025 2:33 PM
16	Flooding and fire hazards between Cle Elum and Easton	11/8/2025 8:50 AM
17	Everything north of the 903 and I90	11/7/2025 3:24 PM
18	Thoughtful analysis of the Roslyn ridge and Cle Elum ridge properties in addition to the bullfrog Blue Fern properties adds up to a lot of people having to exit quickly if there were an out-of-control fire or flooding. When we DeForest everything for the sake of building homes, you're talking about mudslides and enhancing drought conditions and other environmental impacts. There should be at least two more more exit roads from 903 due south to access I-90, eventually built into the area to accommodate a mass Exodus should the need arise.	11/7/2025 2:07 PM
19	The outskirts of Cle Elum. The wooded areas. Wildfires.	11/7/2025 12:54 PM
20	outlying areas	11/7/2025 11:36 AM
21	The Cle Elum ridge area, downwind of the forests.	11/7/2025 10:19 AM
22	The people at City Hall.	11/7/2025 9:19 AM
23	I live across the street from Ederra west. The increase of traffic has doubled at least. The wildlife is pushed into are yards. Cougar and bear are seen more frequently	11/7/2025 8:12 AM
24	Fire next to the city burning into the city	11/7/2025 7:59 AM

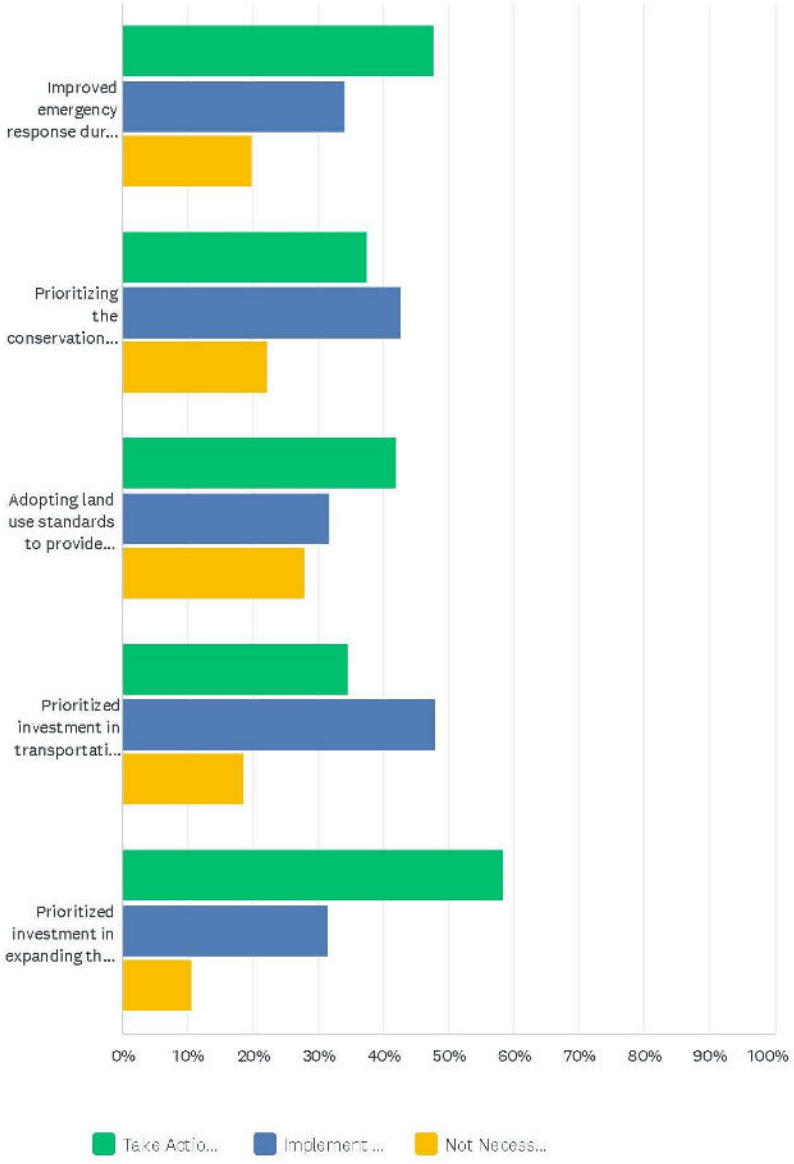
25	Egress	11/7/2025 7:54 AM
26	Closed highways or bottle neck leaving town.	11/7/2025 5:30 AM
27	Fire danger. Need to start selective logging and active forest management again.	11/7/2025 5:03 AM
28	Enders and building outside fires. This should have been negotiated like Suncadia. No outside fires.	11/6/2025 11:48 PM
29	I'm concerned about the roads not being maintained for longevity.	11/6/2025 10:39 PM
30	The hills (Hillcrest,7 hill, etc) All areas the are up against the ridge	11/6/2025 9:56 PM
31	Home and downtown	11/6/2025 9:40 PM
32	The fact cle elum isnt what it used to be and with all this growth the town is losing its values, founding families, forest land, animals are you not going to be concerned till our home looks and feels as loud and bright as issaquah till its no longer the peaceful quiet home you grew up in. Or when its your grandparents home thats being sold off just so you can afford to keep the water sewer garbage from getting cut off so there's food on the table. Enough is enough.	11/6/2025 9:24 PM
33	Same answer as above	11/6/2025 8:46 PM
34	South of the river and south Cle Elum have poor access to I-90; Bullfrog road and 903 traffic congestion at build out of BF flats and Suncadia	11/6/2025 8:26 PM
35	None. I don't worry about climate. I think government makes it more of a problem	11/6/2025 7:58 PM
36	The ridge north of town. But please alert citizens of any activity before starting. Also being mindful of city spending to not affect taxes or utility increases.	11/6/2025 7:52 PM
37	Fire and water and their relation to each other. Keeping our property green reduces our fire risk. What if we can't do this next summer? I'm not overly concerned about basic needs supplied by the city as I expect that bankruptcy protects basic needs assets. I am concerned about anything beyond basics.	11/6/2025 6:57 PM
38	My home. I can help more in emergencies if I know my home will be ok.	11/6/2025 6:38 PM
39	Lake Cle Elum, Teanaway Community Forrest	11/6/2025 6:21 PM
40	The new construction in the previous or current Urban Growth Areas are more exposed to wildland fire danger.	11/6/2025 4:54 PM
41	Stop the houses in Bullfrog. Another supermarket besides Safeway.	11/6/2025 4:26 PM
42	The biggest hazards are the builders not building out new roads, putting in lights, not putting in a grocery store and not paying higher property taxes. Make them pay.	11/6/2025 3:43 PM
43	Downtown cle elum	11/6/2025 1:38 PM
44	None, it was similar before and will be similar after I'm gone	11/6/2025 12:49 PM
45	The whole city	11/6/2025 12:26 PM
46	Just about everywhere in the upper county	11/6/2025 12:06 PM
47	City Hall - appears severe lack of competence present at this location	11/6/2025 11:42 AM
48	North and west ends of the City. Urban growth areas.	11/6/2025 11:13 AM
49	Do not take away from the existing taxpayers resources to accommodate big money and developers. They should be responsible to put in place what is needed for their development.	11/6/2025 10:25 AM
50	Everywhere, but we live on E 3rd.	11/6/2025 10:13 AM
51	Our whole town. I very concerned about fire and lack of water	11/6/2025 10:12 AM
52	My home, neighborhood, schools and public utilities	11/6/2025 10:10 AM
53	Forested areas (Cle Elum Ridge, Peoh Point, Teanaway) and low-lying areas adjacent to Yakima River or Cle Elum River.	11/6/2025 10:00 AM
54	Downtown corridor, I90 interchanges, south Cle Elum and Teanaway	11/6/2025 9:51 AM

55	3rd street	11/6/2025 9:49 AM
56	Teanaway, to escape from fire	11/6/2025 9:44 AM
57	If we all had ponds on our land we could mitigate draughts and be used as irrigation.	11/6/2025 9:22 AM
58	Worried about fire damage to Suncadia.	11/6/2025 9:18 AM
59	Main arterial road ways. Truck and road traffic from I90 spill over. Forest edge properties on Cle Elum ridge.	11/6/2025 9:06 AM
60	I'm concerned with our local government pushing for more development and higher taxes when they are bankrupt it's absolutely ridiculous!	11/6/2025 9:00 AM
61	Cuddling up to a developer not only ruined our recreation and environment but crippled our city. We need a moratorium on new developments NOW	11/6/2025 8:37 AM
62	All of upper county from my thorp to Easton	11/6/2025 8:36 AM
63	Power outages were a complete joke this year- that should be priority 1 for many reasons, mainly health and safety	11/6/2025 8:22 AM
64	Safeway, Post office, Banks, Schools.	11/6/2025 8:22 AM
65	Downtown, Teanaway,	11/6/2025 8:16 AM
66	Water availability	11/6/2025 8:11 AM
67	Where we live. How can we support our needs when water resources are low and we are building more homes? This town does not have the infrastructure to support more people!	11/6/2025 8:11 AM
68	I feel these "hazards" are bogus and complete fear mongering.	11/6/2025 8:10 AM
69	Traffic and lack of resources	11/6/2025 8:03 AM
70	Just getting around town as there's already too much traffic.	11/6/2025 7:57 AM
71	Safety and availability of clean water and air. Cost of living due to insurance rates, taxes.	11/6/2025 7:39 AM
72	(1) Neighborhoods and infrastructure (water towers) next to the coal mines trail, Cle Elum ridge, and adjacent forested properties (much owned by city of roslyn, the Weis family, and City Heights/Sean Northrop) and (2) Bullfrog flats which is still mostly wildly overgrown dry tinder upwind of the whole city. Large land owners must be forced to reduce fuels!	11/6/2025 7:25 AM
73	Outlying areas because they are the last to receive support after the downtown core.	11/6/2025 7:22 AM
74	Cle elum ridge, Teanaway, Yakima River watershed	11/5/2025 9:11 PM
75	Bankruptcy, water (leaking 400,000 gallons of water per day due to poor quality construction, faulty pipes and kicking the can down the road on necessary infrastructure to support the WILD and uncoordinated growth in upper county, over-development in SEVER fire risk area with no secondary emergency evacuation routes, OVERDEVELOPMENT for our water supply, and lack of coordination with upper county municipalities.	11/5/2025 8:38 PM
76	Utilities being provided	11/5/2025 7:51 PM
77	I think water rights, taxes and infrastructure are the most challenging obstacles to overcome.	11/5/2025 7:14 PM
78	The downtown area in general	11/5/2025 6:13 PM
79	Wildfire for sure	11/5/2025 5:37 PM
80	Downtown Cle Elum, Swauk Prarie	11/5/2025 5:16 PM
81	My home then the services provided in town like Safeway and gas stations.	11/5/2025 4:56 PM
82	Main roads and cross streets	11/5/2025 4:28 PM
83	homes	11/5/2025 3:51 PM
84	Stop building houses in this town... stop building. We don't have the infrastructure to support the Seattle people. It's turning into issaquah.	11/5/2025 3:34 PM
85	Im not, its called weather, It happens.	11/5/2025 6:34 AM

86	Overpopulation.	11/4/2025 8:18 PM
87	North of town, close to the pine forest interface.	11/4/2025 7:44 PM

Q11 What kinds of actions or policies should the city of Cle Elum consider implementing to become more resilient to climate hazards?

Answered: 182 Skipped: 1



City of Cle Elum Climate Element

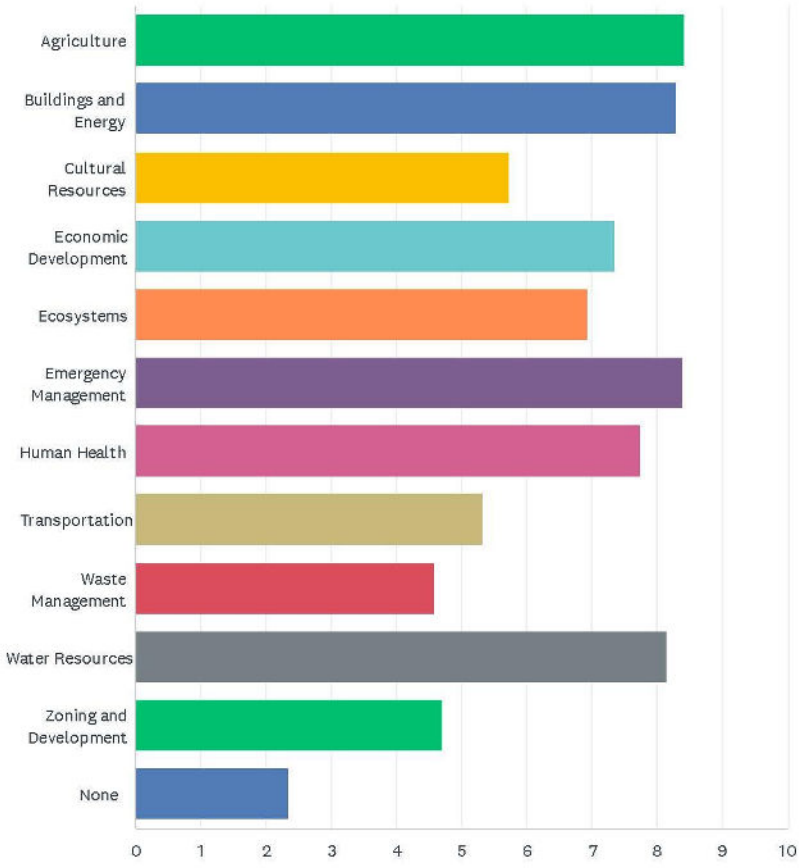
	TAKE ACTION NOW	IMPLEMENT IN THE FUTURE	NOT NECESSARY	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Improved emergency response during hazard events	47.73% 84	34.09% 60	19.89% 35	176
Prioritizing the conservation and/or restoration of nature areas, parks, and open spaces	37.50% 66	42.61% 75	22.16% 39	176
Adopting land use standards to provide climate resilience such as fire-resistant building/construction standards or increasing landscaping requirements in parking lots	41.90% 75	31.84% 57	27.93% 50	179
Prioritized investment in transportation and infrastructure upgrades such as more street trees, stormwater infrastructure, or identified evacuation routes	34.46% 61	48.02% 85	18.64% 33	177
Prioritized investment in expanding the potable water system such as new/upgraded wells and distribution facilities.	58.43% 104	31.46% 56	10.67% 19	178

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	designate open space to take refuge during a wild fire	11/30/2025 10:22 PM
2	Restrict overallocation and enforce waste. What happened to the county well moratorium? Ground water is not infinite.	11/17/2025 12:30 PM
3	Invest in emergency services, city maintenance crews, and infrastructure(water systems, road maintenance, etc) with increased needs and demand for services in the future due to development projects/population growth.	11/13/2025 6:42 PM
4	Critical services over appearances	11/11/2025 11:23 AM
5	We should curtail growth in the area. You can't add more water when we're experiencing a drought and we already have groundwater levels dropping because of all the development in the area. They should put a cap or moratorium on future developments for another five or 10 years.	11/7/2025 2:07 PM
6	If each home/ business owner of existing properties were held accountable for cleaning up their own properties half the downtown crisis would be eradicated	11/7/2025 7:54 AM
7	Restrict building and mitigate rapid growth	11/7/2025 7:16 AM
8	Stop building and making our bills go up ! Stop making cle elum not affordable for the families who have been here for generations for the families of the minors. Stop selling our land. Building bigger tearing down pushing away what made us unknown, this is never going to end if you dont stop and take back	11/6/2025 9:24 PM
9	Flammable vegetation code on residential lots and unused city streets and alleys;	11/6/2025 8:26 PM
10	I feel like solving the water issue is instrumental as well as continuing to do controlled burns and maintain our local greenspaces to reduce fuels.	11/6/2025 6:57 PM
11	City of Cle Elum desperately needs to improve the sewer and water infrastructure	11/6/2025 12:11 PM
12	Be realistic about actual constraints being faced - i.e. is there actually enough water available to support the approved developments?	11/6/2025 11:42 AM
13	First responders training and equipping.	11/6/2025 10:25 AM
14	Leave personal property owners the choice of development unto themselves	11/6/2025 9:22 AM
15	Less government less taxes!	11/6/2025 9:00 AM
16	Stop the building without necessary infrastructure improvements	11/6/2025 8:03 AM
17	Fix the water leaks. Developers pay for expansion	11/6/2025 7:57 AM
18	This is not optional!	11/5/2025 8:38 PM

19	Log hills. There is so much dead fall it needs to be cleaned up. It's all fuel.	11/5/2025 3:34 PM
20	Prioritize investment in transportation upgrades but not trees.	11/5/2025 6:34 AM

Q12 Climate issues have the potential to interact with several areas of the city. Rank the following climate and resiliency sectors in order of importance:

Answered: 171 Skipped: 12

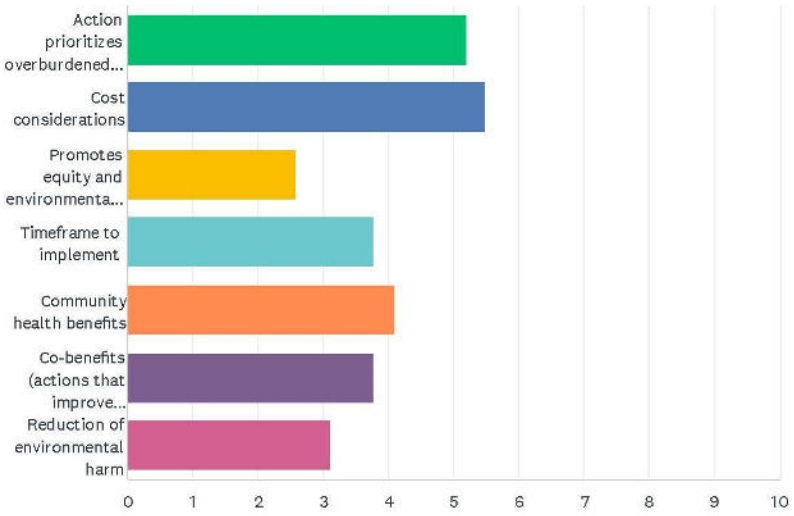


City of Cle Elum Climate Element

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Agriculture	16.37% 28	18.71% 32	9.36% 16	8.77% 15	12.87% 22	7.60% 13	5.85% 10	7.02% 12	4.68% 8	4.09% 7	4.68% 8
Buildings and Energy	2.92% 5	14.62% 25	21.05% 36	15.20% 26	12.28% 21	11.11% 19	8.77% 15	7.02% 12	3.51% 6	2.34% 4	1.17% 2
Cultural Resources	0.58% 1	2.92% 5	8.77% 15	12.87% 22	9.36% 16	7.60% 13	8.77% 15	7.60% 13	11.70% 20	9.94% 17	16.37% 28
Economic Development	7.60% 13	5.85% 10	8.77% 15	15.20% 26	14.04% 24	12.28% 21	9.94% 17	7.60% 13	8.19% 14	7.02% 12	2.92% 5
Ecosystems	4.68% 8	5.26% 9	7.02% 12	7.02% 12	14.04% 24	21.05% 36	12.87% 22	12.28% 21	4.68% 8	7.02% 12	2.34% 4
Emergency Management	15.79% 27	12.87% 22	9.36% 16	10.53% 18	6.43% 11	16.96% 29	14.04% 24	10.53% 18	2.92% 5	0.58% 1	0.00% 0
Human Health	15.20% 26	11.11% 19	8.19% 14	8.77% 15	7.60% 13	3.51% 6	17.54% 30	14.62% 25	7.02% 12	2.34% 4	4.09% 7
Transportation	1.17% 2	1.75% 3	4.09% 7	4.68% 8	10.53% 18	3.51% 6	8.77% 15	18.71% 32	26.90% 46	15.20% 26	4.68% 8
Waste Management	0.00% 0	1.75% 3	2.92% 5	1.75% 3	7.02% 12	7.60% 13	8.77% 15	8.77% 15	19.88% 34	26.32% 45	14.04% 24
Water Resources	21.05% 36	19.30% 33	9.36% 16	9.94% 17	3.51% 6	5.85% 10	1.17% 2	4.09% 7	2.92% 5	12.87% 22	9.94% 17
Zoning and Development	5.26% 9	5.26% 9	10.53% 18	4.68% 8	1.75% 3	2.92% 5	2.92% 5	1.75% 3	7.02% 12	11.11% 19	34.50% 59
None	9.36% 16	0.58% 1	0.58% 1	0.58% 1	0.58% 1	0.00% 0	0.58% 1	0.00% 0	0.58% 1	1.17% 2	5.26% 9

Q13 What factors should be weighed when choosing policies to implement? Rank from most to least important.

Answered: 164 Skipped: 19



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	TOTAL	SCORE
Action prioritizes overburdened communities	32.32% 53	22.56% 37	15.85% 26	8.54% 14	6.71% 11	10.98% 18	3.05% 5	164	5.20
Cost considerations	29.27% 48	30.49% 50	18.29% 30	10.98% 18	4.27% 7	4.27% 7	2.44% 4	164	5.47
Promotes equity and environmental justice	1.22% 2	3.66% 6	16.46% 27	11.59% 19	8.54% 14	14.63% 24	43.90% 72	164	2.58
Timeframe to implement	1.83% 3	12.80% 21	17.68% 29	24.39% 40	23.78% 39	10.37% 17	9.15% 15	164	3.77
Community health benefits	9.15% 15	11.59% 19	17.07% 28	19.51% 32	28.66% 47	11.59% 19	2.44% 4	164	4.09
Co-benefits (actions that improve multiple features in the community)	14.63% 24	12.80% 21	8.54% 14	11.59% 19	16.46% 27	24.39% 40	11.59% 19	164	3.78
Reduction of environmental harm	11.59% 19	6.10% 10	6.10% 10	13.41% 22	11.59% 19	23.78% 39	27.44% 45	164	3.12

Q14 What else should be considered when prioritizing city policies?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 135

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Limit building	11/21/2025 2:32 PM
2	Not getting sued by developers for not following signed agreements.	11/21/2025 5:34 AM
3	Common sense	11/18/2025 10:44 AM
4	Prioritizing human and environmentalwellbeing over economics.	11/17/2025 12:30 PM
5	1. Promote landscaping with drought resistant native vegetation. 2. Promote rooftop solar panels. 3. Promote fire-wising neighborhoods. Thanks!	11/14/2025 8:36 PM
6	Take care of the people who already live here FIRST! We are the "overburdened community." We should be the priority. On that list above, several of those can and should be done at the same time, so ranking them is counterproductive to the ultimate benefit of the community.	11/14/2025 10:14 AM
7	Impacts on infrastructure and city services/emergency services	11/13/2025 6:42 PM
8	Consider water, sewer, police, fire limits before allowing more development. Taxes from residential growth have been proven not to pay for increased services. Only commercial/ industrial pays its way.	11/11/2025 11:23 AM
9	Not sure what the arrows mean...	11/10/2025 5:41 PM
10	The environment should be preserved unquestionably. Is the distress to the environment that makes us more vulnerable to all the hazards of climate change. That would include over development, deforestation, tapping into our groundwater resources, and air pollution. We should be enhancing our renewable energy sources to curtail carbon pollution.	11/7/2025 2:07 PM
11	I do not believe climate change is existential threat requiring more money spent on anything by city, county, state, or federal governments. Better use of existing resources is what is needed.	11/7/2025 8:56 AM
12	Stop building more developments and buildings until there is infrastructure to support the amount of new people moving in	11/7/2025 8:12 AM
13	Incorporate Suncadia/Tumble into our city for tax basis	11/7/2025 7:54 AM
14	The capital investment in the infrastructure should have a maintenance and replacement plan to be able to budget for in the future	11/6/2025 10:39 PM
15	This destroying land you started it won't stop our community gone this will be the next Medina, Redmond, issaquah. It will never be a peaceful evening or early morning just imagine the freeway louder, horns honking, police lights, traffic lights, unpaid bills, new nehibors, new everything	11/6/2025 9:24 PM
16	Street beautification; reroute trucks off main street; complete curbs and sidewalks on 2nd and 3rd Beautification/landscape RR street to tracks and think about this area for additional downtown shopping parking with Pedestrian walkways to main street businesses. Consider a back door access to BF Flats from Douglas Munro Blvd to relief traffic on BF road and 90. This would be from Blue fern, the rec center and the new Apt building Zoning should provide for grocery store on the vacant land west of Dru Bru and/or Bastericas horse pasture	11/6/2025 8:26 PM
17	Do the most conservative and common sense thing and work to resist liberal mindsets in Washington from interfering.	11/6/2025 7:58 PM
18	Prevent tax or utility increases on homeowners. Don't pass on the bankruptcy cost to the town.	11/6/2025 7:52 PM
19	I think that considering the growing community and lack of certain resources needs to be a priority. Also the rising cost of house and problems getting/the cost of home owners insurance.	11/6/2025 7:34 PM
20	Common sense Keep it simple Does this (fill in the blank) make our city better or worse?	11/6/2025 6:38 PM

21	This entire survey assumes that we are adequately managing our natural resources. No logging is occurring in our county. Multiple studies have shown that selective logging improves forest health. The only policy work that needs to be done is stop making policy. Let Kittitas county mange its forests and water. We know what to do.	11/6/2025 6:36 PM
22	Surveys that laments people can actually understand and respond to. You wrote this in a manner which essentially requires a PHD to answer accurately. I write surveys consistently in my job as an HR Partner and this was horribly done.	11/6/2025 6:21 PM
23	Create a mechanism for all new builds to pay higher taxes and permits. Start making money off the builders.	11/6/2025 3:43 PM
24	HOW ABOUT, NO!!!	11/6/2025 12:49 PM
25	Impacts of alternatives (i.e. doing nothing)	11/6/2025 11:42 AM
26	None	11/6/2025 11:13 AM
27	Absence of personal agenda and serving the needs of its people.	11/6/2025 10:25 AM
28	The cost. Work within the budget.	11/6/2025 9:22 AM
29	Road and traffic infrastructure should be at the top of the list.	11/6/2025 9:06 AM
30	The city should be planning to provide the highest level of service to their community in every category, at the most reasonable cost for the product delivered. Fire protection, police services, garbage, ect. With that, the city should ensure they are crossing their t's and dotting their i's when it comes to liability issues that are associated with these services and ensuring all city provided services meet industry standards for equipment, certifications of personnel, ect. The last thing the city needs is another lawsuit.	11/6/2025 9:01 AM
31	How many citizens does it actually impact and how much is it going to cost taxpayers? Also is it completely necessary to bettering the community? Is there an end date or is this a perpetually proposed policy that will be a burden on taxpayers for years to come? There needs to be clear communication with the community and an end date because ultimately it does come down to taxes and no tax should be permanent or perpetual. It should come with an end date. If you'll always need more money and it will never decrease then that is not a sustainable strategy.	11/6/2025 9:00 AM
32	Affordable housing. Redevelop areas with low value.	11/6/2025 8:37 AM
33	A note: smart leadership and a success running ship starts at the top. I don't have enough weigh in to understand what's been going on behind the scenes but in a small town, you need to take care of your people that live here first. Growth is inevitable people have feelings about it, it'll that won't change. Consider what's best for your core community, that's what will hold cle elum together. Money talks and consideration the amount of debt we're in its more attractive. Consider the hole you create and adverse affects of this town for our next generation.	11/6/2025 8:22 AM
34	Need bike patches and fix 2nd st	11/6/2025 8:19 AM
35	Rejecting climate change policies.	11/6/2025 8:10 AM
36	Infrastructure improvements or moratorium on water	11/6/2025 8:03 AM
37	The budget	11/6/2025 7:57 AM
38	Feedback from community, science	11/6/2025 7:39 AM
39	The City should prioritize fuels reduction on city and private lands immediately. This is the biggest threat to human health, safety, the environment, city functions, economics, and all the other issues mentioned in this survey.	11/6/2025 7:25 AM
40	The budget	11/5/2025 9:33 PM
41	Risk, resources, infrastructure, safety, strong qualified leadership, structured planned growth,	11/5/2025 8:38 PM
42	NA	11/5/2025 7:14 PM
43	Return to effective land management practices that worked for a long time. Controlled burns, and raking forests to reduce fuel load especially, as well as bringing back fire breaks. Focus on what works not "climate change" related ideas.	11/5/2025 6:41 PM

44	Climate happens and is ever changing.	11/5/2025 5:08 PM
45	No more/ new taxes	11/5/2025 4:28 PM
46	Be more clean on city council meetings. Not during the day when people are at work so they cannot attend. And stop rescheduling them. A city council member should be a born and raised resident in the community.	11/5/2025 3:34 PM
47	Stop building in UKC. We clearly cannot handle such as is evident with YoY droughts and decades of water issues.	11/4/2025 8:18 PM
48	Water quality, supply and public access.	11/4/2025 7:44 PM

Q15 Please provide your email address if you would like to be kept up to date on climate planning efforts in Cle Elum.

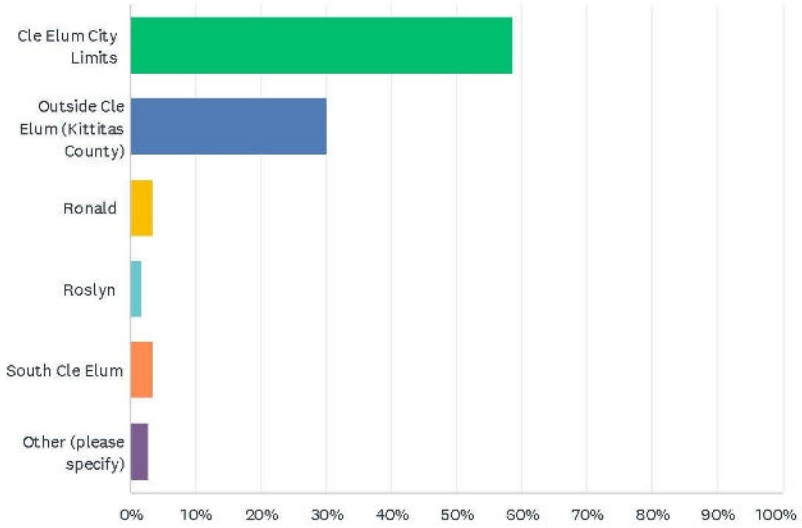
Answered: 36 Skipped: 147

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	tylerpawjesse@hotmail.com	11/18/2025 1:40 PM
2	Confluentus@yahoo.com	11/17/2025 12:30 PM
3	Treeski03@gmail.com	11/16/2025 2:37 PM
4	katierose4356@msn.com	11/14/2025 10:14 AM
5	kngott@aol.com	11/13/2025 1:09 PM
6	Retiredrus@hotmail.com	11/11/2025 11:23 AM
7	jennsmyth@hotmail.com	11/8/2025 2:33 PM
8	reach_jess@yahoo.com	11/7/2025 10:07 PM
9	wyborskikathy2@yahoo.com	11/7/2025 2:07 PM
10	Arepink@yahoo.com	11/7/2025 12:54 PM
11	christina.wollman@gmail.com	11/7/2025 10:19 AM
12	danielk4ren@gmail.com	11/7/2025 8:56 AM
13	tokulfishlady@hotmail.com	11/7/2025 8:12 AM
14	mmpursley@yahoo.com	11/6/2025 6:41 PM
15	Kellymowalker@gmail.com	11/6/2025 6:38 PM
16	sarahmhub@gmail.com	11/6/2025 5:34 PM
17	Kaysijean@gmail.com	11/6/2025 1:20 PM
18	Blowchowski@yahoo.com	11/6/2025 12:49 PM
19	No	11/6/2025 11:42 AM
20	swmontgo@yahoo.com	11/6/2025 10:28 AM
21	7maa77@gmail.com	11/6/2025 10:25 AM
22	shelbyhilad@gmail.com	11/6/2025 10:13 AM
23	RMDenton@aol.com	11/6/2025 10:00 AM
24	Bowman112@msn.com	11/6/2025 9:49 AM
25	Motivator2110@gmail.com	11/6/2025 9:00 AM
26	Kittyismyagent@gmail.com	11/6/2025 8:36 AM
27	Stkrebs1@gmail.com	11/6/2025 8:11 AM
28	yamaharacer317@gmail.com	11/6/2025 8:11 AM
29	lorinevin8@hotmail.com	11/6/2025 7:22 AM
30	pmahoney26@gmail.com	11/5/2025 9:11 PM
31	Cleelum5@gmail.com	11/5/2025 7:51 PM

32	butorac1@gmail.com	11/5/2025 7:14 PM
33	socleelum6@yahoo.com	11/5/2025 7:09 PM
34	Mike@mikezimmerman.me	11/5/2025 5:16 PM
35	Ritak33@gmail.com	11/5/2025 4:28 PM
36	rondunn@outlook.com	11/4/2025 8:18 PM

Q16 Where do you live?

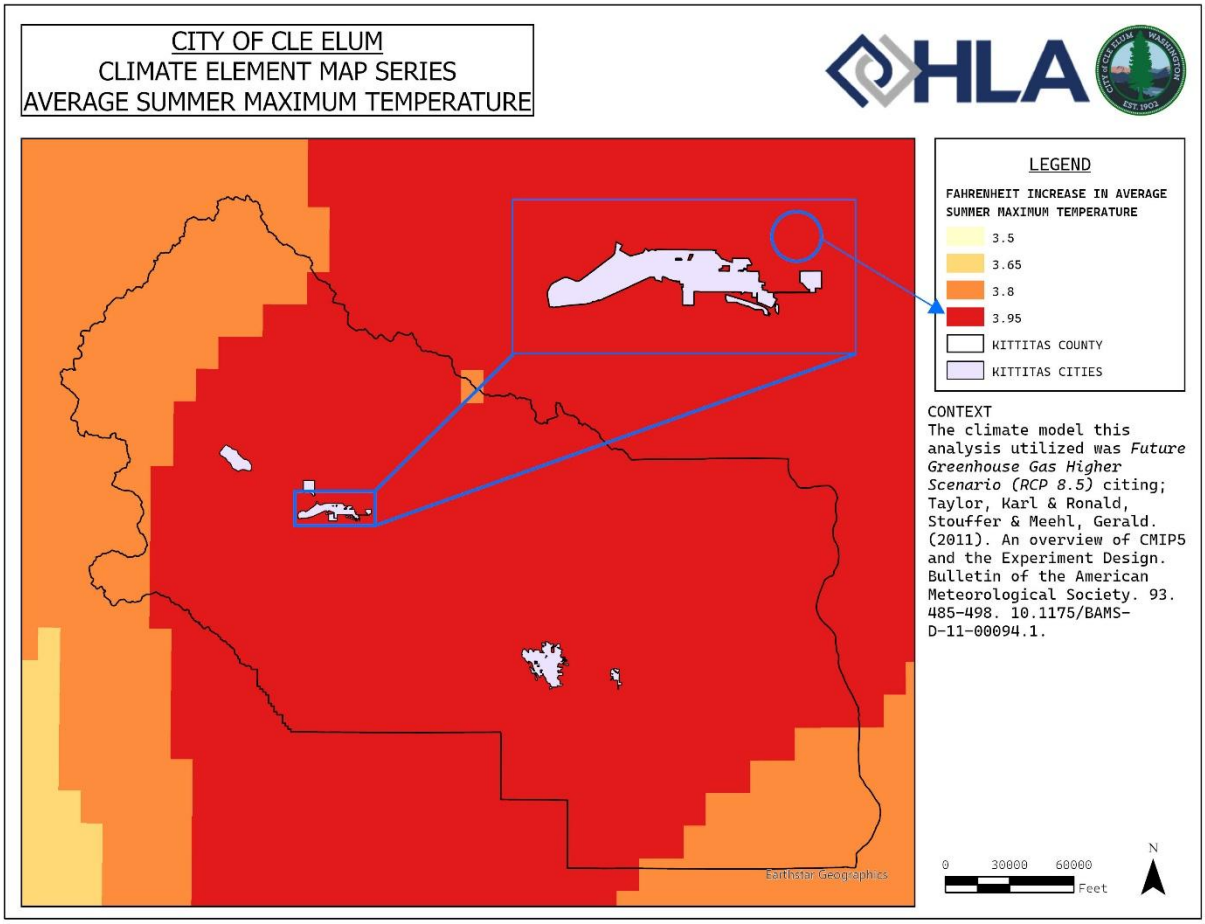
Answered: 179 Skipped: 4

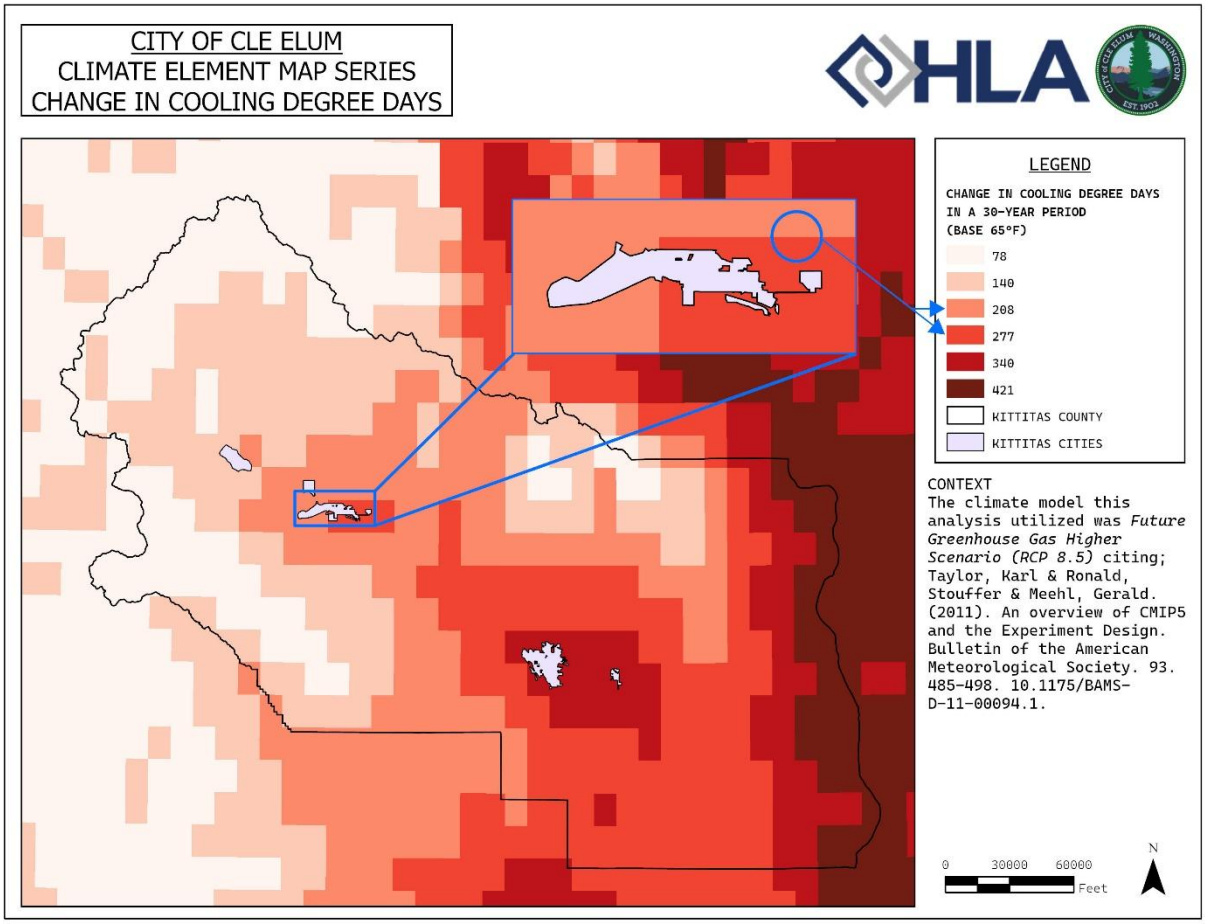


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Cle Elum City Limits	58.66%	105
Outside Cle Elum (Kittitas County)	30.17%	54
Ronald	3.35%	6
Roslyn	1.68%	3
South Cle Elum	3.35%	6
Other (please specify)	2.79%	5
TOTAL		179

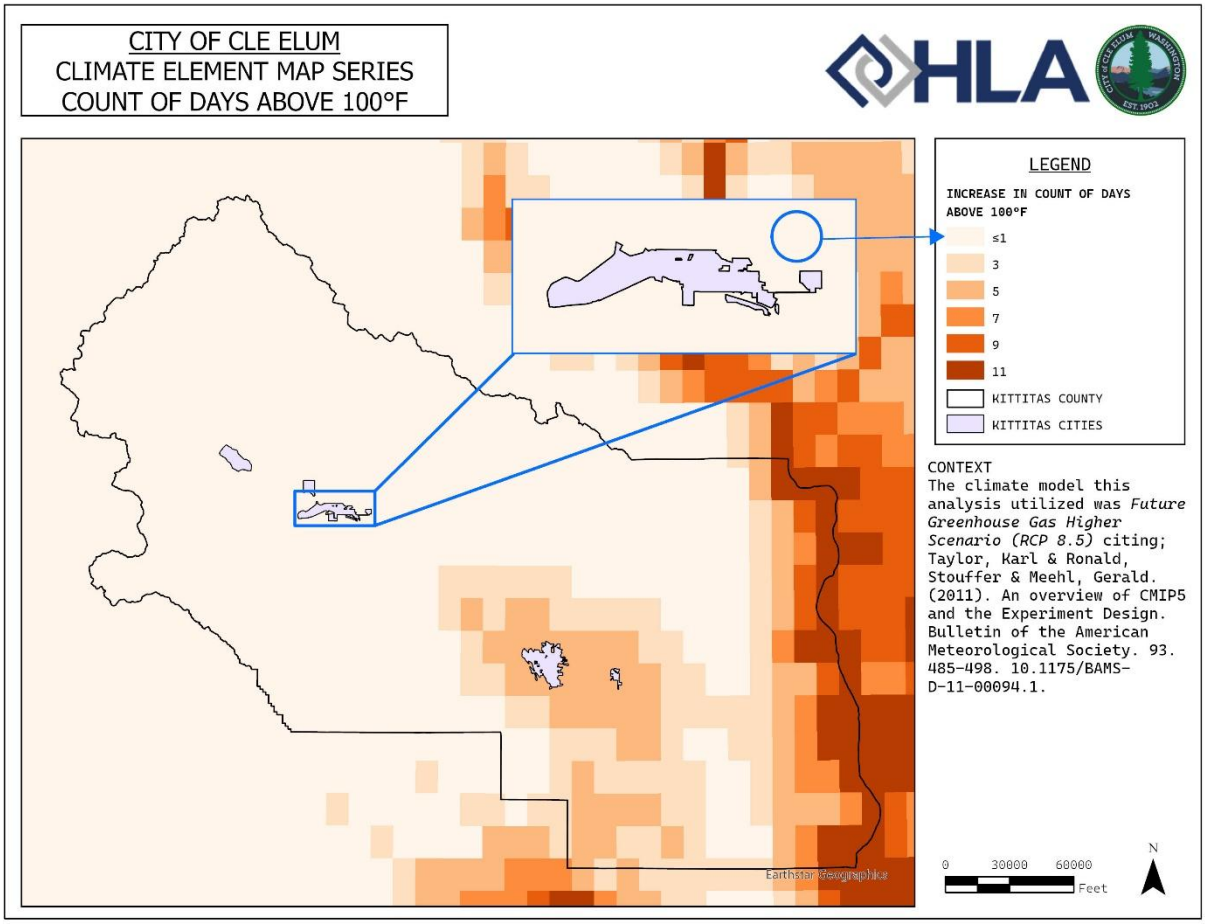
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	East side of Cle Elum off Airport road	11/6/2025 7:34 PM
2	Sky meadows and South Cle Elum property owners	11/6/2025 6:38 PM
3	Lower Peoh	11/6/2025 9:51 AM
4	Teanaway	11/6/2025 9:44 AM
5	Own family property in Cle Elum	11/4/2025 7:44 PM

C. UW Climate Impact Data

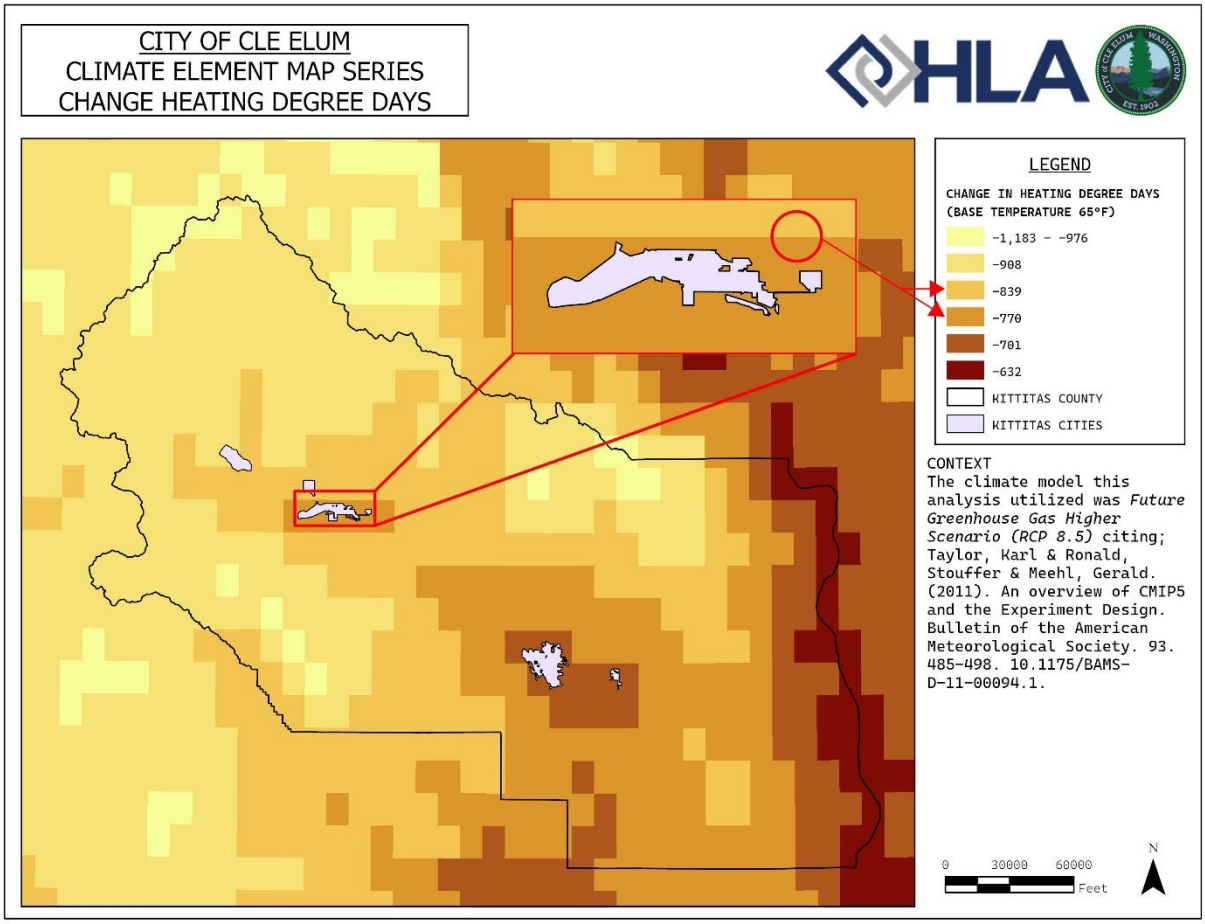



CITY OF CLE ELUM
CLIMATE ELEMENT MAP SERIES
CHANGE IN COOLING DEGREE DAYS
HLA
LEGEND
CHANGE IN COOLING DEGREE DAYS
IN A 30-YEAR PERIOD
(BASE 65°F)
78
140
208
277
340
421
KITTITAS COUNTY
KITTITAS CITIES
CONTEXT
The climate model this analysis utilized was Future Greenhouse Gas Higher Scenario (RCP 8.5) citing; Taylor, Karl & Ronald, Stouffer & Meehl, Gerald. (2011). An overview of CMIP5 and the Experiment Design. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 93. 485-498. 10.1175/BAMS-D-11-00094.1.
0
30000
60000
Feet
N

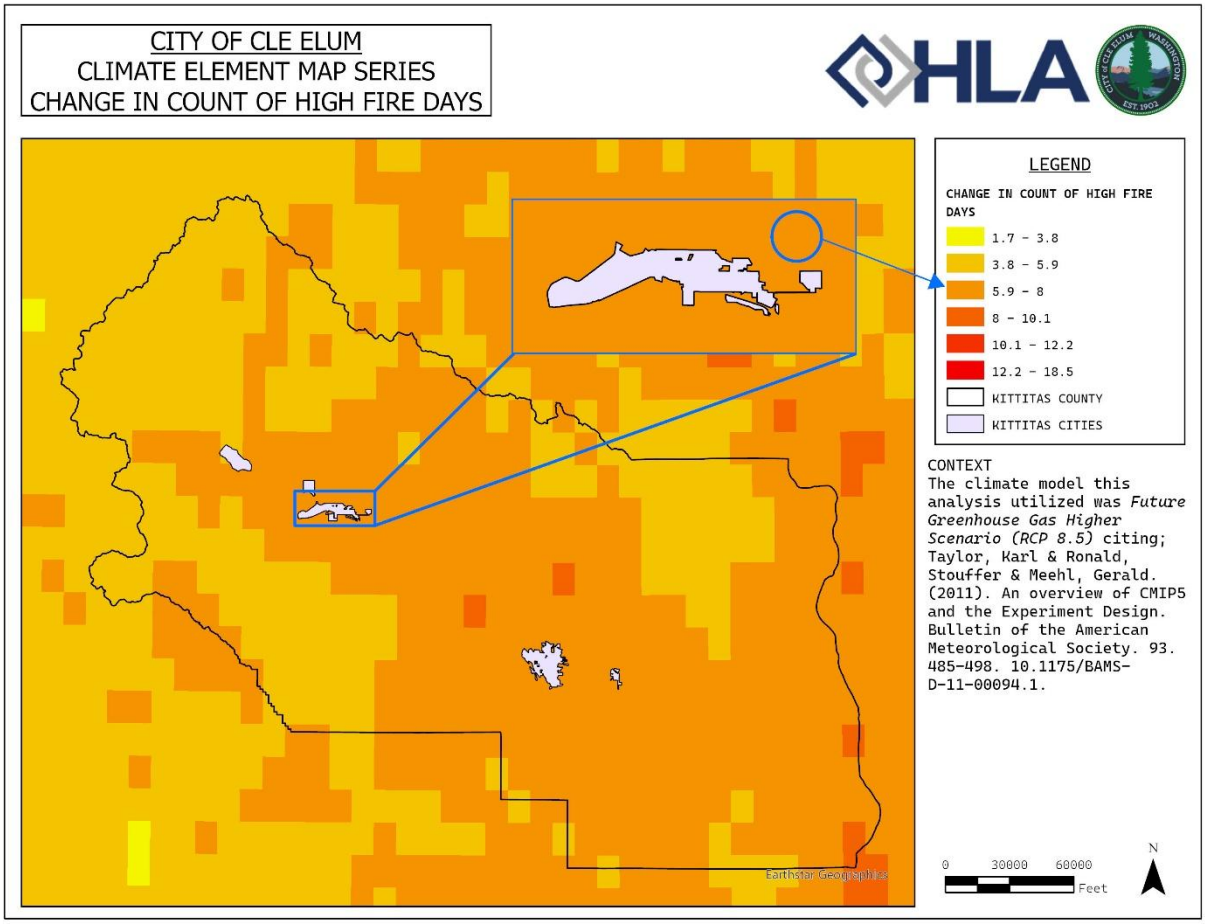
DRAFT


CITY OF CLE ELUM
CLIMATE ELEMENT MAP SERIES
COUNT OF DAYS ABOVE 100°F
HLA
LEGEND
INCREASE IN COUNT OF DAYS ABOVE 100°F
≤1
3
5
7
9
11
KITTITAS COUNTY
KITTITAS CITIES
CONTEXT
The climate model this analysis utilized was Future Greenhouse Gas Higher Scenario (RCP 8.5) citing; Taylor, Karl & Ronald, Stouffer & Meehl, Gerald. (2011). An overview of CMIP5 and the Experiment Design. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 93. 485-498. 10.1175/BAMS-D-11-00094.1.
0
30000
60000
Feet
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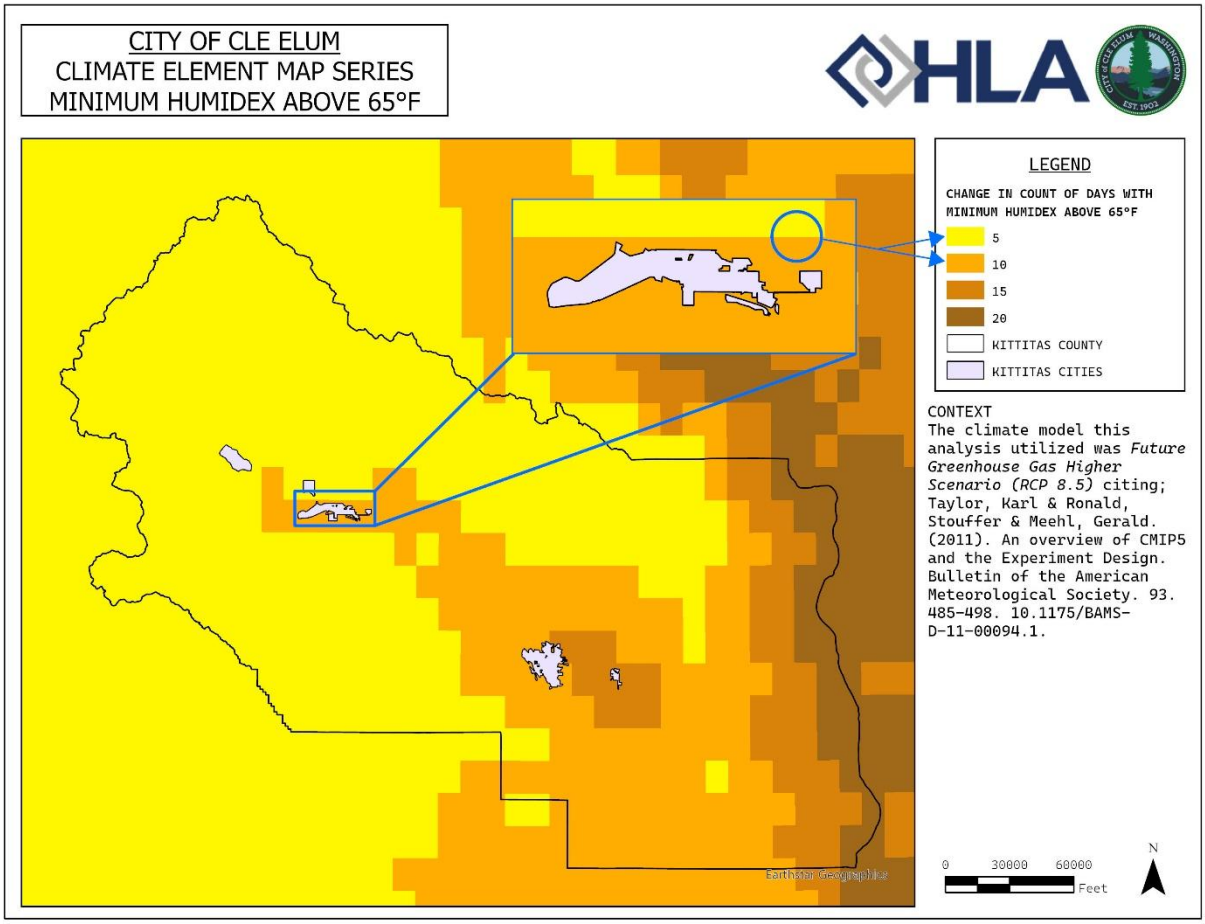
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CITY OF CLE ELUM
CLIMATE ELEMENT MAP SERIES
CHANGE HEATING DEGREE DAYS
HLA
LEGEND
CHANGE IN HEATING DEGREE DAYS
(BASE TEMPERATURE 65°F)
-1,183 - -976
-908
-839
-770
-701
-632
KITTITAS COUNTY
KITTITAS CITIES
CONTEXT
The climate model this analysis utilized was Future Greenhouse Gas Higher Scenario (RCP 8.5) citing; Taylor, Karl & Ronald, Stouffer & Meehl, Gerald. (2011). An overview of CMIP5 and the Experiment Design. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 93. 485-498. 10.1175/BAMS-D-11-00094.1.
0
30000
60000
Feet
N

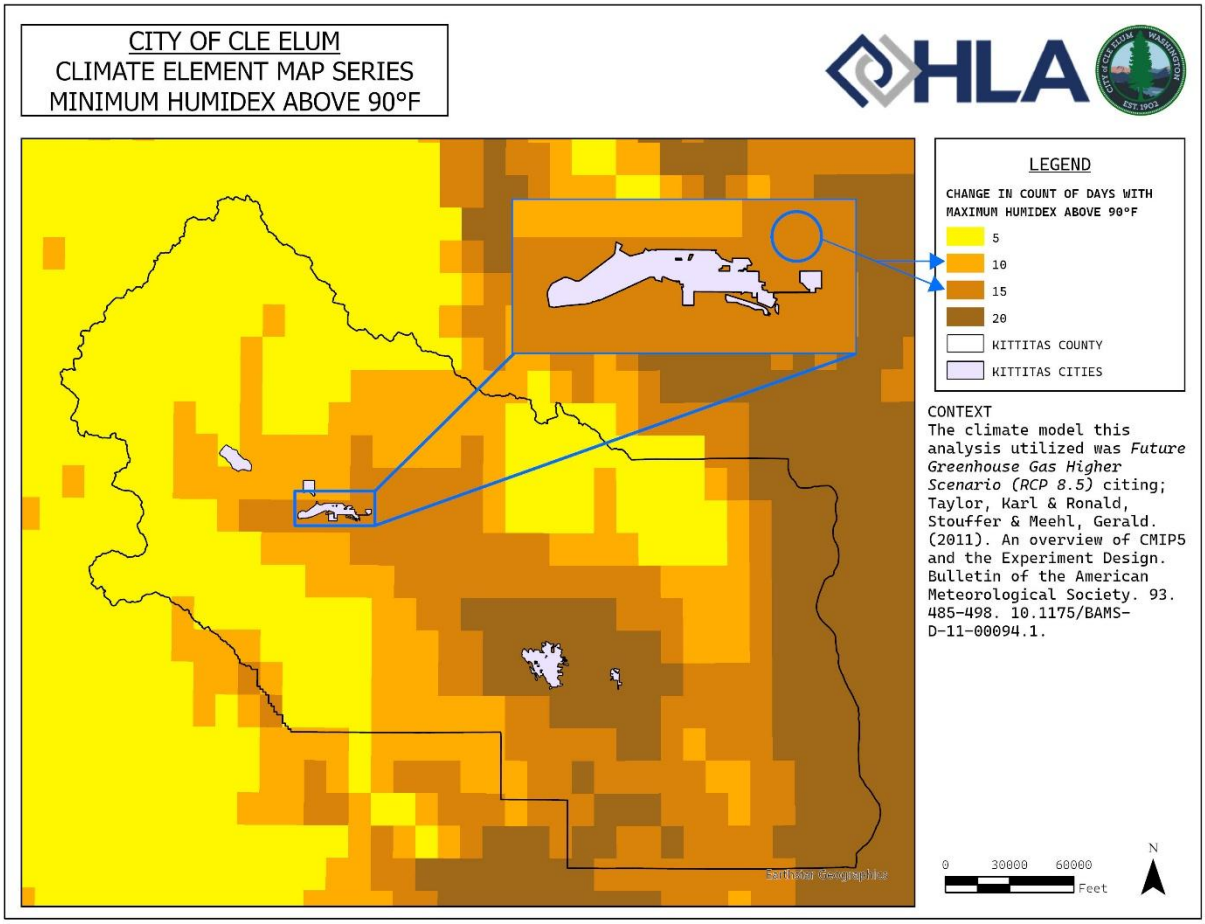
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CITY OF CLE ELUM
CLIMATE ELEMENT MAP SERIES
CHANGE IN COUNT OF HIGH FIRE DAYS
HLA
LEGEND
CHANGE IN COUNT OF HIGH FIRE DAYS
1.7 - 3.8
3.8 - 5.9
5.9 - 8
8 - 10.1
10.1 - 12.2
12.2 - 18.5
KITTITAS COUNTY
KITTITAS CITIES
CONTEXT
The climate model this analysis utilized was Future Greenhouse Gas Higher Scenario (RCP 8.5) citing; Taylor, Karl & Ronald, Stouffer & Meehl, Gerald. (2011). An overview of CMIP5 and the Experiment Design. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 93. 485-498. 10.1175/BAMS-D-11-00094.1.
0
30000
60000
Feet
N
Earthstar Geographics

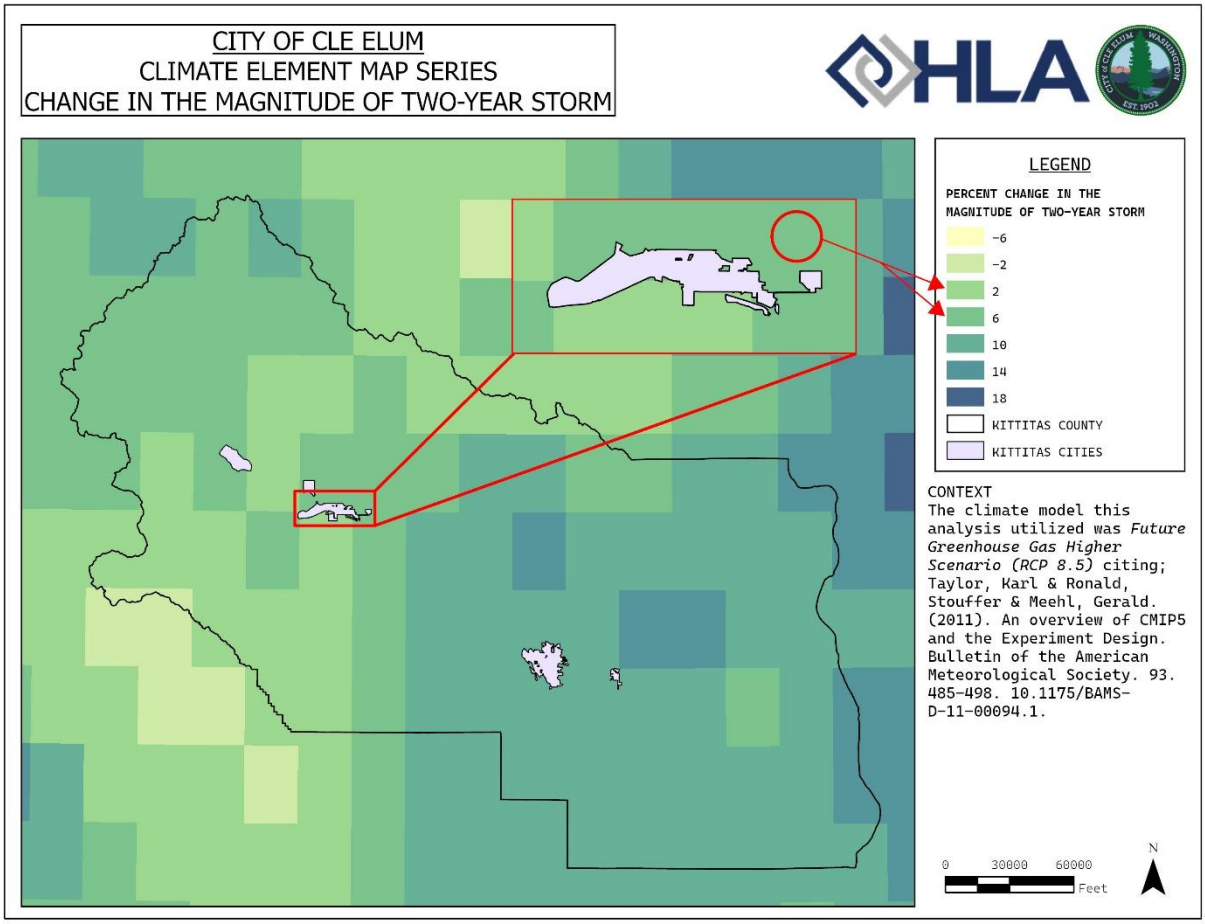
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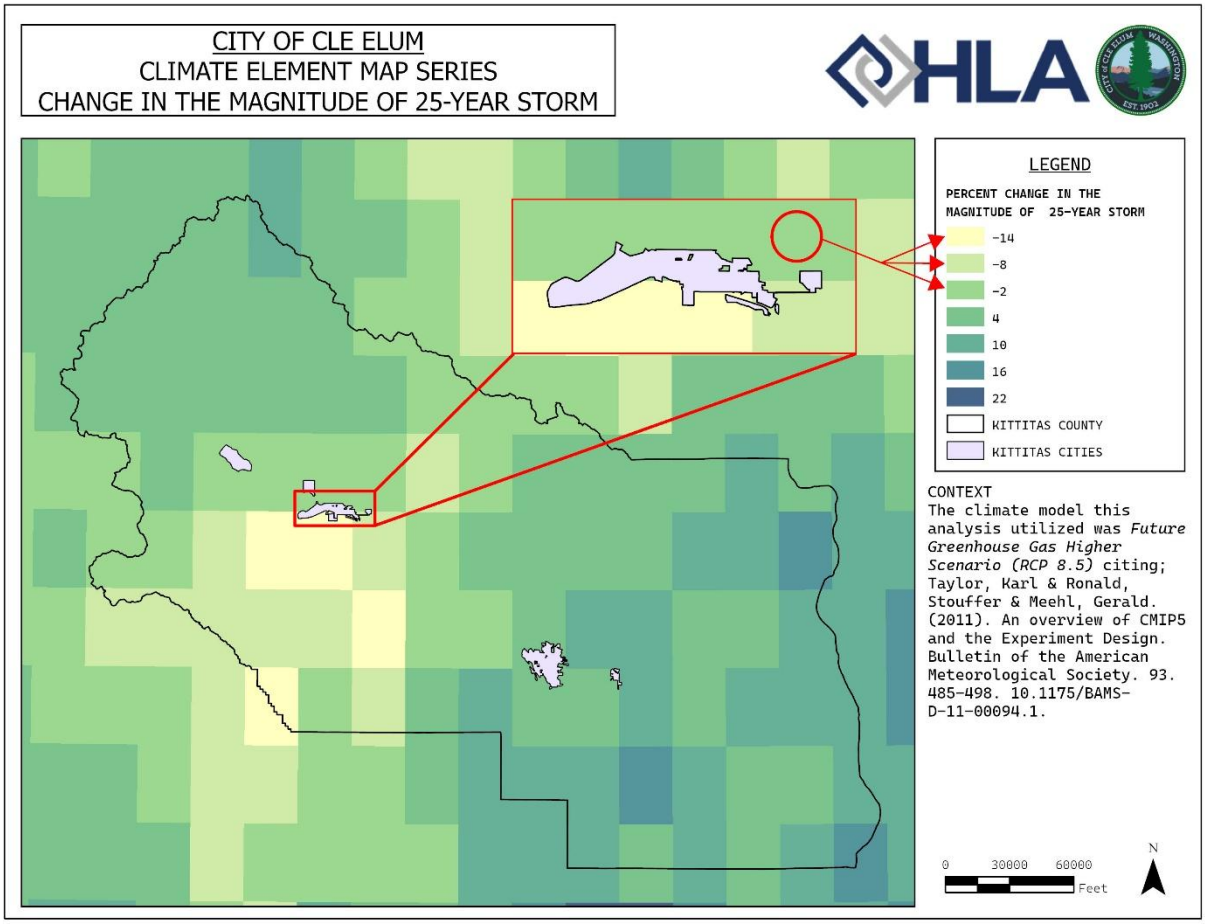

CITY OF CLE ELUM
CLIMATE ELEMENT MAP SERIES
MINIMUM HUMIDEX ABOVE 65°F
HLA
LEGEND
CHANGE IN COUNT OF DAYS WITH MINIMUM HUMIDEX ABOVE 65°F
5
10
15
20
KITTITAS COUNTY
KITTITAS CITIES
CONTEXT
The climate model this analysis utilized was Future Greenhouse Gas Higher Scenario (RCP 8.5) citing; Taylor, Karl & Ronald, Stouffer & Meehl, Gerald. (2011). An overview of CMIP5 and the Experiment Design. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 93. 485-498. 10.1175/BAMS-D-11-00094.1.
0
30000
60000
Feet
N
Earthstar Geographics

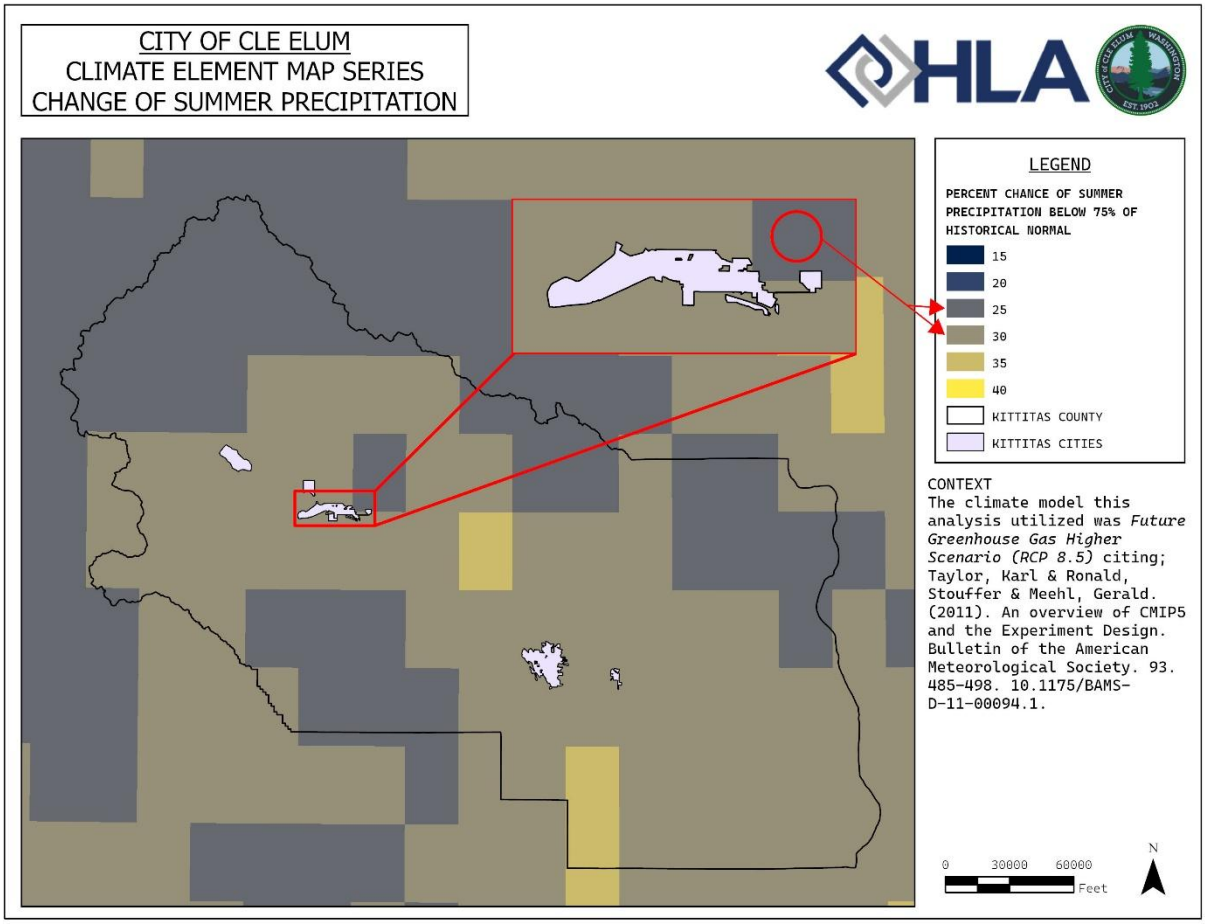
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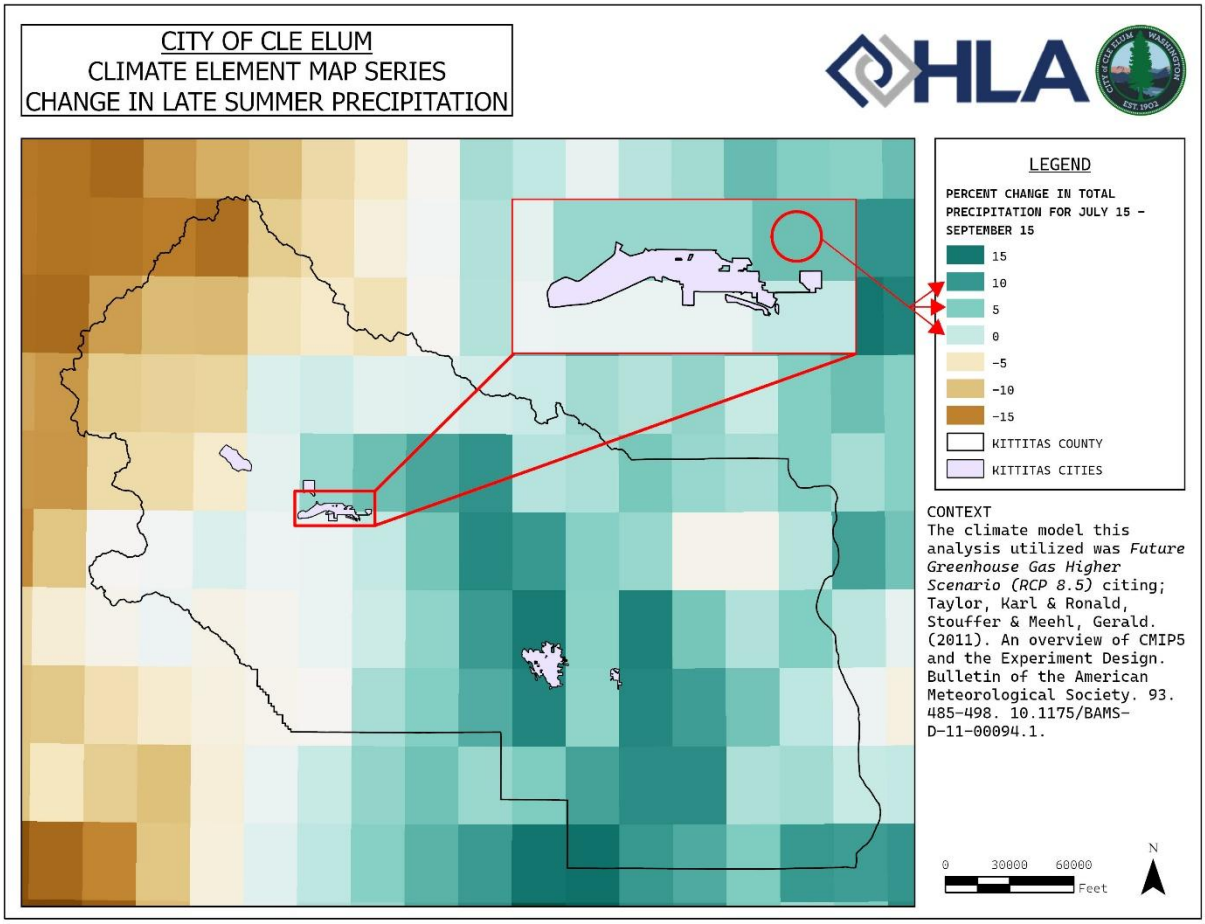

CITY OF CLE ELUM
CLIMATE ELEMENT MAP SERIES
MINIMUM HUMIDEX ABOVE 90°F
HLA
LEGEND
CHANGE IN COUNT OF DAYS WITH MAXIMUM HUMIDEX ABOVE 90°F
5
10
15
20
KITTITAS COUNTY
KITTITAS CITIES
CONTEXT
The climate model this analysis utilized was Future Greenhouse Gas Higher Scenario (RCP 8.5) citing; Taylor, Karl & Ronald, Stouffer & Meehl, Gerald. (2011). An overview of CMIP5 and the Experiment Design. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 93. 485-498. 10.1175/BAMS-D-11-00094.1.
0
30000
60000
Feet
N

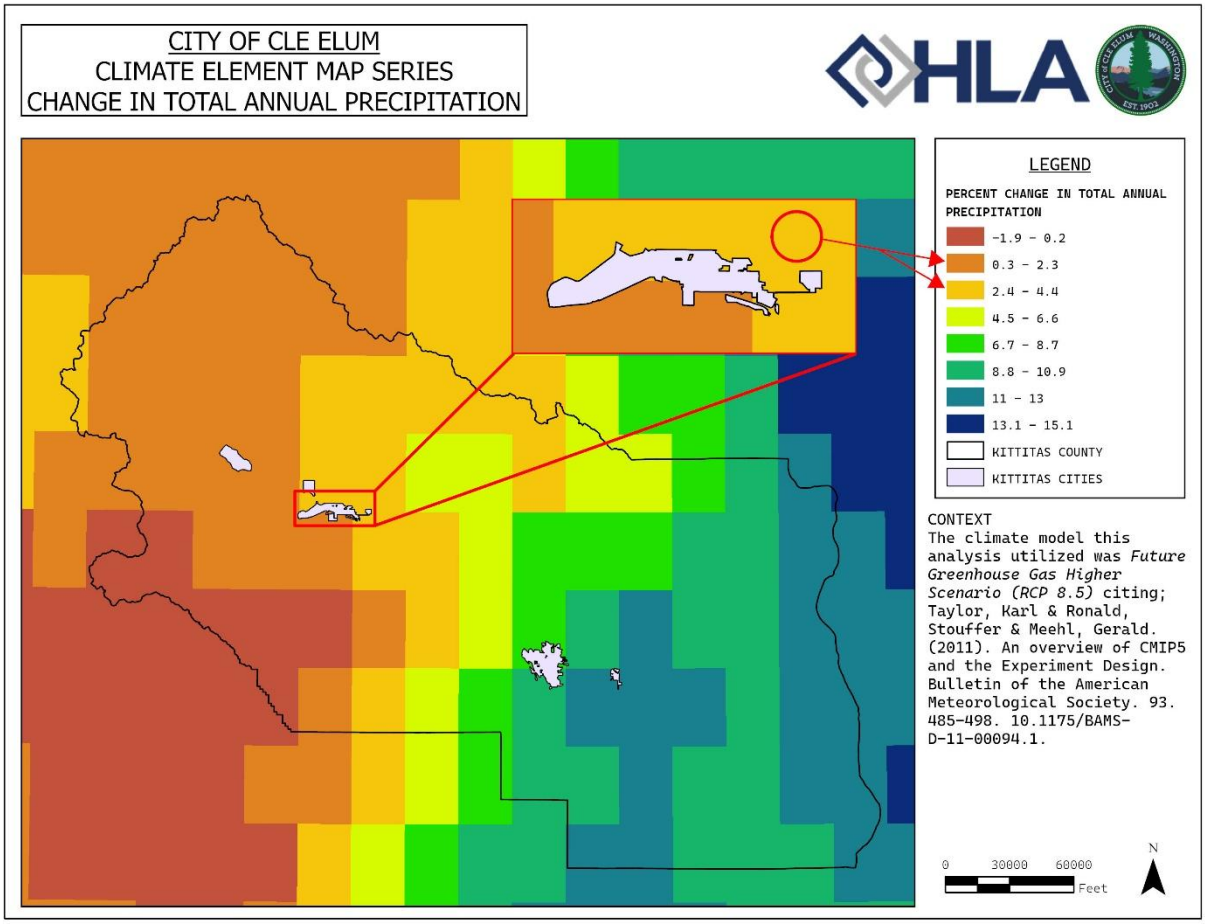
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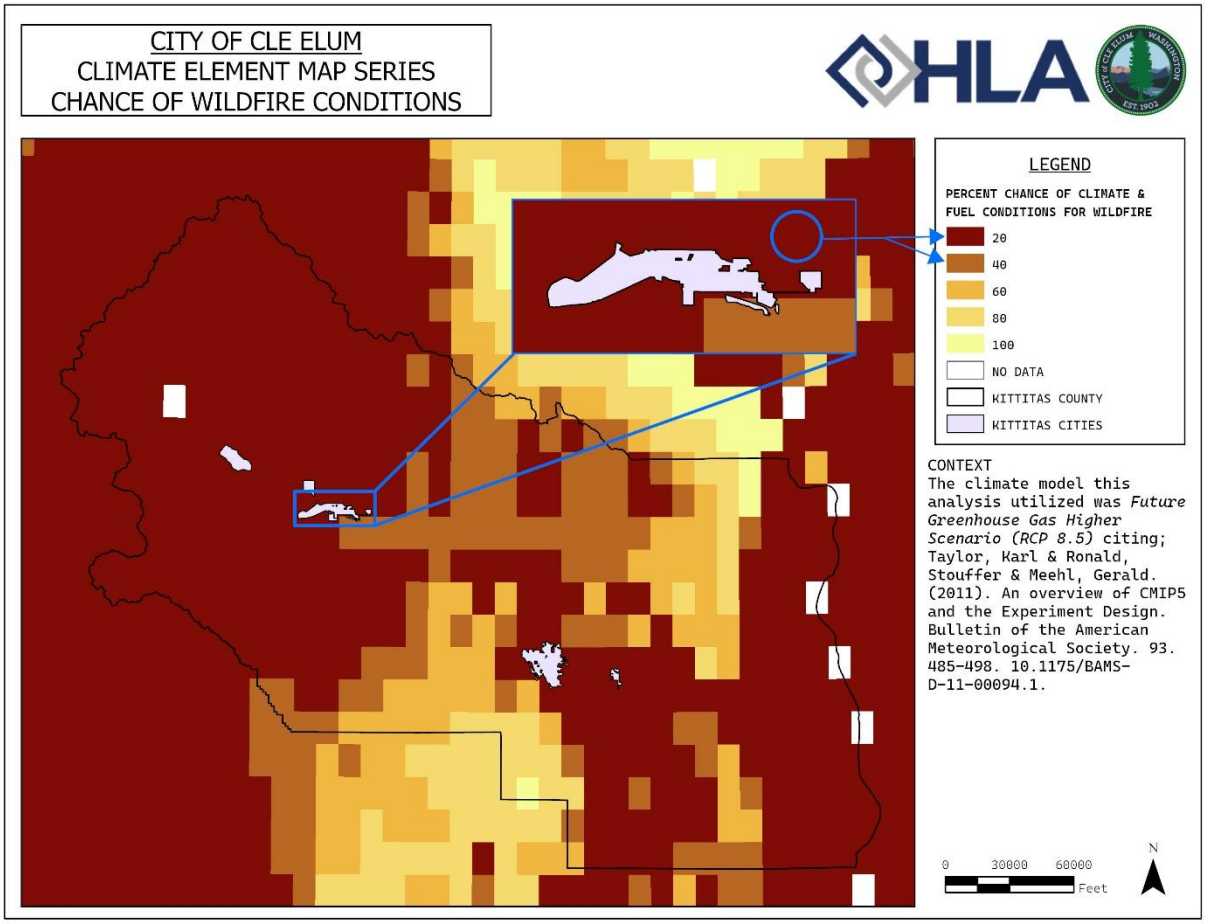

CITY OF CLE ELUM
CLIMATE ELEMENT MAP SERIES
CHANGE IN THE MAGNITUDE OF TWO-YEAR STORM
HLA
LEGEND
PERCENT CHANGE IN THE MAGNITUDE OF TWO-YEAR STORM
-6
-2
2
6
10
14
18
KITTITAS COUNTY
KITTITAS CITIES
CONTEXT
The climate model this analysis utilized was Future Greenhouse Gas Higher Scenario (RCP 8.5) citing; Taylor, Karl & Ronald, Stouffer & Meehl, Gerald. (2011). An overview of CMIP5 and the Experiment Design. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 93. 485-498. 10.1175/BAMS-D-11-00094.1.
0
30000
60000
Feet
N


CITY OF CLE ELUM
CLIMATE ELEMENT MAP SERIES
CHANGE IN THE MAGNITUDE OF 25-YEAR STORM
HLA
LEGEND
PERCENT CHANGE IN THE MAGNITUDE OF 25-YEAR STORM
-14
-8
-2
4
10
16
22
KITTITAS COUNTY
KITTITAS CITIES
CONTEXT
The climate model this analysis utilized was Future Greenhouse Gas Higher Scenario (RCP 8.5) citing; Taylor, Karl & Ronald, Stouffer & Meehl, Gerald. (2011). An overview of CMIP5 and the Experiment Design. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 93. 485-498. 10.1175/BAMS-D-11-00094.1.
0
30000
60000
Feet
N

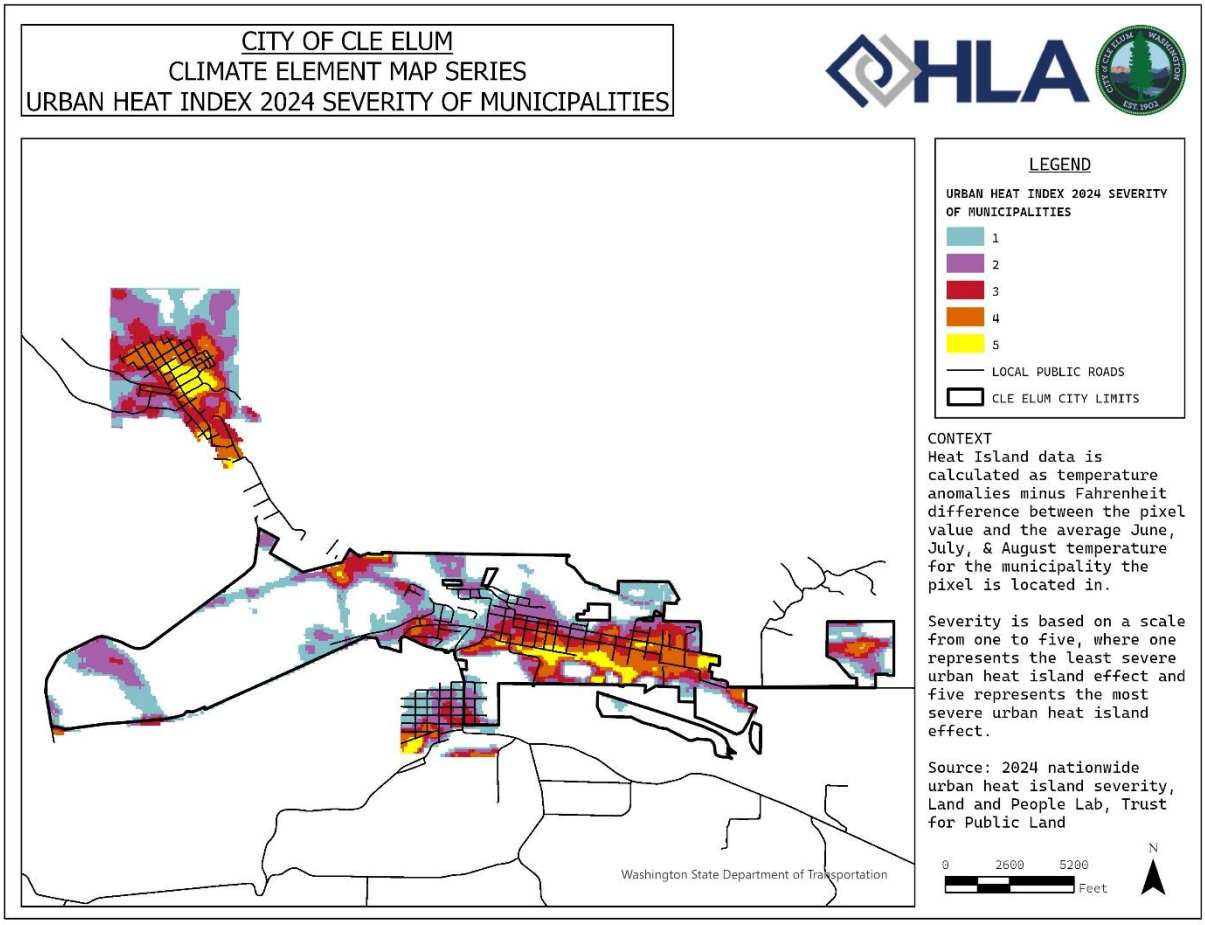

CITY OF CLE ELUM
CLIMATE ELEMENT MAP SERIES
CHANGE OF SUMMER PRECIPITATION
HLA
LEGEND
PERCENT CHANCE OF SUMMER PRECIPITATION BELOW 75% OF HISTORICAL NORMAL
15
20
25
30
35
40
KITTITAS COUNTY
KITTITAS CITIES
CONTEXT
The climate model this analysis utilized was Future Greenhouse Gas Higher Scenario (RCP 8.5) citing; Taylor, Karl & Ronald, Stouffer & Meehl, Gerald. (2011). An overview of CMIP5 and the Experiment Design. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 93. 485-498. 10.1175/BAMS-D-11-00094.1.
0
30000
60000
Feet
N


CITY OF CLE ELUM
CLIMATE ELEMENT MAP SERIES
CHANGE IN LATE SUMMER PRECIPITATION
HLA
LEGEND
PERCENT CHANGE IN TOTAL PRECIPITATION FOR JULY 15 - SEPTEMBER 15
15
10
5
0
-5
-10
-15
KITTITAS COUNTY
KITTITAS CITIES
CONTEXT
The climate model this analysis utilized was Future Greenhouse Gas Higher Scenario (RCP 8.5) citing; Taylor, Karl & Ronald, Stouffer & Meehl, Gerald. (2011). An overview of CMIP5 and the Experiment Design. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 93. 485-498. 10.1175/BAMS-D-11-00094.1.
0
30000
60000
Feet
N


CITY OF CLE ELUM
CLIMATE ELEMENT MAP SERIES
CHANGE IN TOTAL ANNUAL PRECIPITATION
HLA
LEGEND
PERCENT CHANGE IN TOTAL ANNUAL PRECIPITATION
-1.9 - 0.2
0.3 - 2.3
2.4 - 4.4
4.5 - 6.6
6.7 - 8.7
8.8 - 10.9
11 - 13
13.1 - 15.1
KITTITAS COUNTY
KITTITAS CITIES
CONTEXT
The climate model this analysis utilized was Future Greenhouse Gas Higher Scenario (RCP 8.5) citing; Taylor, Karl & Ronald, Stouffer & Meehl, Gerald. (2011). An overview of CMIP5 and the Experiment Design. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 93. 485-498. 10.1175/BAMS-D-11-00094.1.
0
30000
60000
Feet
N


CITY OF CLE ELUM
CLIMATE ELEMENT MAP SERIES
CHANCE OF WILDFIRE CONDITIONS
HLA
LEGEND
PERCENT CHANCE OF CLIMATE & FUEL CONDITIONS FOR WILDFIRE
20
40
60
80
100
NO DATA
KITTITAS COUNTY
KITTITAS CITIES
CONTEXT
The climate model this analysis utilized was Future Greenhouse Gas Higher Scenario (RCP 8.5) citing; Taylor, Karl & Ronald, Stouffer & Meehl, Gerald. (2011). An overview of CMIP5 and the Experiment Design. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 93. 485-498. 10.1175/BAMS-D-11-00094.1.
0
30000
60000
Feet
N

DRAFT


CITY OF CLE ELUM
CLIMATE ELEMENT MAP SERIES
URBAN HEAT INDEX 2024 SEVERITY OF MUNICIPALITIES
HLA
LEGEND
URBAN HEAT INDEX 2024 SEVERITY OF MUNICIPALITIES
1
2
3
4
5
LOCAL PUBLIC ROADS
CLE ELUM CITY LIMITS
CONTEXT
Heat Island data is calculated as temperature anomalies minus Fahrenheit difference between the pixel value and the average June, July, & August temperature for the municipality the pixel is located in.
Severity is based on a scale from one to five, where one represents the least severe urban heat island effect and five represents the most severe urban heat island effect.
Source: 2024 nationwide urban heat island severity, Land and People Lab, Trust for Public Land
0
2600
5200
Feet
N
Washington State Department of Transportation