



## EXHIBIT A: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*State of Washington*

*NDRC Phase 2*

File – <http://www.commerce.wa.gov/Documents/WA-P2ExhibitAExecutiveSummary.pdf>

## **Exhibit A – Executive Summary**

Washington State has high exposure to natural hazards. The state has received 21 federal disaster declarations since 1996, resulting in \$855 million in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds expended on Public and Individual Assistance. State and federal funds that could have been used for long-term mitigation and resilience planning, infrastructure upgrades, and community services were diverted to response and recovery activities. Mandates to more aggressively replace fish barrier culverts and more fully fund education have reduced state resources that may have otherwise been utilized. The extreme fire season experienced the past two years has further diminished funding capacity and diverted staff resources.

Summit to Sea (S2S) was iteratively developed to build resilience into large-scale regional efforts surrounding the restoration, recovery, and resilience of the Puyallup River Watershed. S2S is a holistic model and strategic portfolio of projects that is scalable and replicable. It transforms and energizes existing programs and strategies, develops integrative tools to build resilience at the community level, empowers our vulnerable populations, and creates essential ties across diverse investments.

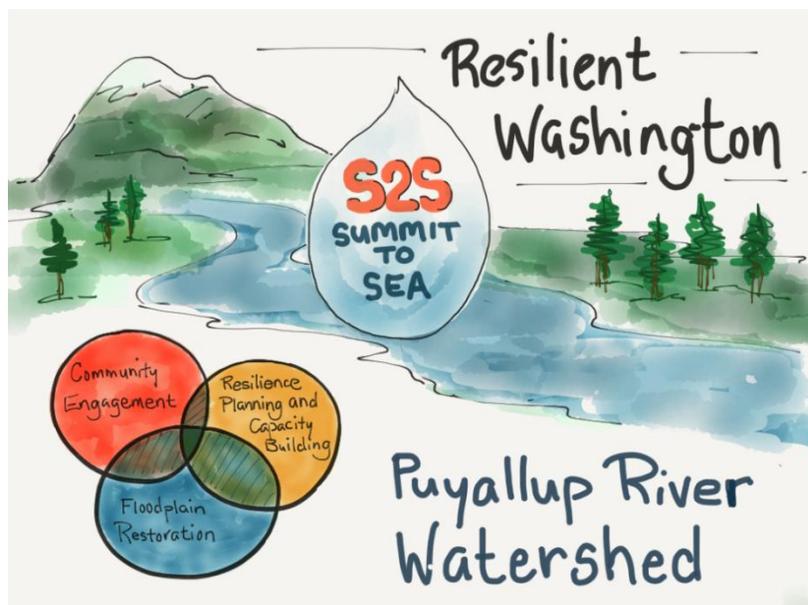
Washington State has a successful history of incorporating resilience into construction and community projects. Our team, comprised of an interagency, multi-disciplinary group working in partnership with communities, has identified how existing plans, resources, and strategies can be leveraged to build stronger communities. S2S will bolster local resilience through integrated planning, restore the Puyallup River floodplain with an emphasis on all-hazards resiliency, and empower the community to outline its unique path to a more resilient future.

The S2S project portfolio creates a scalable and replicable model to use in restoration and recovery projects. It uses scientific data to drive planning methodologies, integrates planning

efforts, restores the natural and beneficial use of the floodplain while protecting infrastructure, and engages populations. This effort will drive changes in our current Resilient Washington framework. Resilient Washington is a statewide initiative launched in 2010 to improve earthquake resilience by implementing seismic risk reduction policies and activities. S2S expands that framework to all-hazards, using a whole-systems approach focusing on ecosystem health, economic resilience, and community cohesion.

**Project scope** – Our resilience project has a three pronged approach: Resilience Planning and Capacity Building, Floodplain Restoration, and Community Engagement.

Resilience planning and capacity building integrates independent planning



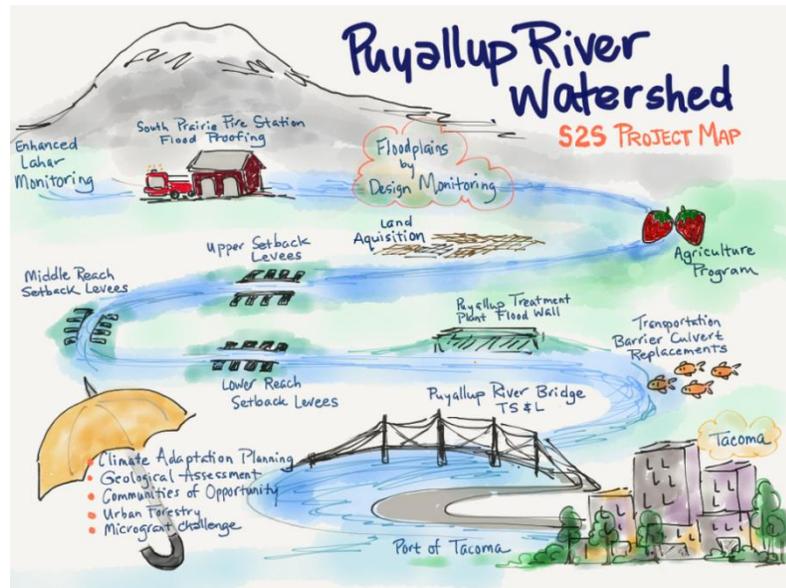
disciplines to establish an inclusive and holistic planning environment while reducing duplicative efforts. This creates lasting planning solutions that consider geology, economic vitality, and climate change in concert with environmental health and social cohesion.

Floodplain restoration increases capacity while decreasing downstream economic and environmental impacts by incorporating the best available science to restore natural and beneficial functions to the Puyallup River Watershed. Long-term management solutions such as removing natural stream flow barriers, removing structures from repetitive flood areas, building setback levees, and reconnecting floodplains results in fewer communities being affected by

increasingly common flooding events. These actions have potential to lower National Flood Insurance Program premiums.

Our final focus is community engagement. This effort builds ties and facilitates a grass-roots resilience approach, and includes a community-driven resilience micro-grant challenge.

These locally focused micro-grants support innovative community-identified projects that reduce vulnerability. Qualified micro-grants will be allocated to cultivate a place-based innovative perspective on resilience.



With the collective approach of S2S, we will identify best practices, expand upon our successes, and fully leverage our subject-matter experts' skills to increase the effectiveness of our projects. Leveraging new and existing public and private funds and technical resources will inform and strengthen our long-term goals outlined in Resilient Washington.

Washington State's overall funding request is \$78,897,422, which includes \$3,757,020 in program administration, \$5,395,168 for planning, \$1,500,000 for public service costs, and \$68,245,234 for construction and acquisition costs. Detailed descriptions of the specific projects within the S2S portfolio are in [Exhibit E – Factor 3 Soundness of Approach](#). Our NDRC application, factors, and attachments are located [here](http://www.commerce.wa.gov/Programs/Infrastructure/CDBG-Program-Overview/Pages/NDRC%20Documentation.aspx) (www.commerce.wa.gov/Programs/Infrastructure/CDBG-Program-Overview/Pages/NDRC%20Documentation.aspx).