



# Snoqualmie Tribe Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan Executive Summary

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## **Plan Effective October 2011-October 11, 2016**

The Snoqualmie Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) has been prepared to guide current and future efforts to effectively and efficiently mitigate natural hazards on the Snoqualmie Indian Reservation and other areas of Tribal interest including, but not limited to, its Usual and Accustomed Areas.

Hazard mitigation is any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards. Mitigation activities may be implemented prior to, during, or after an incident. However, hazard mitigation is most effective when based on an inclusive, comprehensive, long-term plan that is developed before a disaster occurs.

The mitigation planning process encourages coordination among Indian tribal authorities and other governmental agencies, tribal members, local residents, businesses, academia, and nonprofit groups and promotes their participation in the plan development and implementation process. This broad-based approach enables the development of mitigation actions that are supported by tribal members and other stakeholders and that reflect the needs of the Indian Tribal government as a whole.

This Snoqualmie Tribal HMP establishes goals, lists objectives necessary to achieve the goals, and identifies policies, tools, and actions that will help meet the objectives. These short- and long-term actions will reduce the potential for losses on the Reservation due to natural hazards.

In short, this plan is intended to help create a disaster-resistant community by reducing the threat of natural hazards to life, property, emergency response capabilities, economic stability, and infrastructure, while encouraging the protection and restoration of natural and cultural resources.

The natural hazards that have affected the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe in the past and will affect the Tribe in the future include earthquakes, riverine flooding from the Snoqualmie and Tolt Rivers, severe winter storms including high winds, as well as landslides and wildfires.

## **TRIBAL ADOPTION OF PLAN**

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The Snoqualmie Tribal Council formally adopted the Snoqualmie Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011 as Resolution # 68-11.



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## GOALS & OBJECTIVES

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The goals and objectives of the Snoqualmie Tribal HMP are to:

- 1. Protect the people, property and the natural environment of the Snoqualmie Tribe**
- 2. Guide future planning and development that includes an assessment of the risks from natural hazards**
- 3. Ensure Tribal sovereignty, culture and self-governance**

Plan objectives include:

- Focus future development outside of hazard prone areas
- Protect culturally and historically significant Tribal sites and resources
- Increase mitigation and emergency management capabilities for the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe
- Support Local and Regional Mitigation efforts that do not conflict with Tribe's Mitigation Goals

This HMP provides detailed recommendations and an action plan designed to meet each objective and, ultimately, the goals of the plan.

## GRANT ELIGIBILITY

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Indian Tribal governments with an approved Tribal Mitigation Plan in accordance with 44 CFR 201.7 may apply for assistance from FEMA as a grantee. If the Indian Tribal government coordinates with the State for review of their Tribal Mitigation Plan, then the Indian Tribal government also has the option to apply as a subgrantee through a State or another tribe.



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## HAZARDS PROFILE

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The following natural and man-made hazards for the Snoqualmie Tribe's HMP:

- Earthquakes
- Floods
- Landslides/Mass Movements
- Severe Weather
- Wildfires
- Dam Failure
- Epidemic/Pandemic
- Hazardous Materials
- Abandoned Mines

## LOSS ESTIMATION

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For this Mitigation Plan, the Tribe *did not* estimate full monetary damages to tribal property from natural hazards. This is due to lack of tribally owned facilities and infrastructure. Many of the Tribe's facilities are leased buildings. For facilities owned by the tribe, most were located outside hazard areas and thus damages would consist of personal property (such as office equipment) and disruption to services/operations. For the Plan update, the tribe will include a better loss estimate to include additional facilities purchased or built since the adoption of this plan.

Where data was available, it was estimated that the following hazards events could potentially cause to following monetary damages to buildings:

### *Earthquake*

Estimated damages to structures: **\$10,172,477**

### *Flood*

Total flood damages: **\$54,009**

### *Tolt Dam Failure*

Total Estimate damages from flood from Tolt Dam Failure: **\$125,500**



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## MITIGATION STRATEGY

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This Strategy is the blueprint for the Snoqualmie Tribe to reduce potential losses from the hazards identified in the Risk Assessment.

During the Environmental & Natural Resources Committee Meeting May 23, 2011, the Committee identified nine Mitigation Actions to prioritize for implementation. The tribe did not rank the Mitigation Actions. The Strategies are:

- Locate future development, including tribal housing and tribal facilities outside of hazard – prone areas;
- Develop Buildings Codes and Development/ Master Plan that focuses new development and construction on hazard free areas and implement Low Impact Development standards and Green Building Codes;
- Identify elders and other vulnerable populations to prioritize for mitigation and disaster assistance;
- Create a community-wide comprehensive education program to educate the Tribe about hazards and hazard mitigation;
- Build protective berms and/or other flood protection systems for historic/cultural sites and buildings that cannot be mitigated by other means;
- Implement vegetation management practices that utilize native plants and removal of invasive species to help reduce erosion, runoff and flooding;
- Moving all tribal facilities, including the tribal administration office and computer server room, out of the 100 yr flood plain;
- Utilize tribal casino revenue to move all tribal members into new houses that are outside of the 100 yr flood plain; and
- Invest in farmland to grow crops for tribal members utilizing traditional foods and organic farming practices.



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The Tribe also supports the following City of Snoqualmie Mitigation Actions:

- S-1 Develop a post-disaster action plan for all hazard of concern that address: debris management, historical data gathering, substantial damage assessment, and grants management. This plan would be an appendix to the City's Emergency management plan.
- S-15 Join Firewise program by adopting Firewise programs and policies in the management of the urban/wildland interface areas within Snoqualmie.
- S-17 Develop a public outreach program teaming with home improvement vendors educating the public on ways to protect their property from the potential impacts of all hazards of concern.
- S-18 Consider building code amendments that would harden new and existing structures from the potential impacts of earthquakes.

The Tribe did not comment on other identified local and regional mitigation actions including those from the King County Flood Control District's Hazard Mitigation Plan.

### IMPLEMENTATION & ADMINISTRATION

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The Office of Emergency Management will oversee the implementation of the mitigation action plan and will identify and work with relevant departments and outside agencies.

The Snoqualmie Tribe's Office of Emergency Management will lead in the administration of the Mitigation Actions and direct/oversee relevant departments in the implementation.

### PLAN MAINTENANCE

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The Snoqualmie Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan is a living document that is intended to provide a guide for hazard mitigation to the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe. A formal plan maintenance process is required to ensure that the Tribal Mitigation Plan remains an active and relevant document.

The Snoqualmie Tribal Council has final authority and responsibility over the Snoqualmie Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan. Responsibility for plan maintenance and coordinating implementation of mitigation measures will be overseen by the Law & Order Committee of the Council in coordination with the Public Safety Department and the Director of Emergency Management and will:



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- review this HMP annually and will update the THMP every five years; and
- frequently review progress on the implementation of mitigation actions.

In order to continue public participation in the Plan Maintenance and Update process, the Snoqualmie Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan will be available to the public for comment.