Rapid Vulnerability Assessment Table

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| **Assessment Focus1**  Resource or sector being discussed. | **Current Climate Impacts**  How do today’s climate extremes affect the resources/sector? | **Relevant Climate Impacts2**  How do the projected changes in climate affect the resource or sector? | **Consequences**  Why does it matter? What problems or opportunities result? | **High, Medium or Low Consequences3**  How would you rate the consequences? | **Data Available?**  Does relevant data exist to study this resource or sector | **Data / Expertise Provider**  Where is this data located and who maintains it? |
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1  Assessment focus refers to the specific issue you are discussing. This may include specific pieces of infrastructure or asset classes (e.g., roads, a wastewater treatment plant), natural systems (e.g., a forest , wetlands, rangelands, aquatic habitat), species (e.g., salmon, elk) and community services (e.g., water supply, storm water management), public health, etc. You can be as specific or as general as you like, although being more specific often helps with discussion about impacts and consequences.

2 Relevant climate impacts asks you to identify how increasing temperatures (summer/winter), changes in precipitation (more in winter/less in summer), more extreme events, declining snowpack, increasing forest fire risks and other climate impacts affect the issue being evaluated. Specific impacts are available in Washington State of Knowledge Report – Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation in Washington State: Technical Summaries for Decision Makers (2013).

<https://cig.uw.edu/resources/special-reports/wa-sok/>

3 “Low” consequences: Not very disruptive, occurring as a small scale, and/or relatively easy to deal with. Easy to adapt to the consequences.

“Medium consequences: We lack some resources of knowledge about how to cope; occurring at a meaningful scale but maybe not everywhere.

“High” consequences: Very disruptive of traditional ways of life or economic activity; occurring at a large scale or devastating for a particular place.

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