



# Memorandum

**TO: SATPAL SIDHU, COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

**FROM: SUE SULLIVAN, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH MANAGER**

**DATE: JUNE 7, 2024**

**RE: CLIMATE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT FINAL REPORT**

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Health and Community Services (HCS) completed their work on a climate vulnerability assessment focused on the public health impacts of wildfire smoke and extreme heat on the residents of Whatcom County. An overview of the project was presented at the Climate Action and Natural Resources Committee on November 8, 2023.

In recent years, threats from extreme heat and wildfire smoke have increased in Whatcom County, particularly for vulnerable populations who face disproportionate health impacts from these threats. This assessment provides a baseline understanding of specific sub-populations and neighborhoods at risk from wildfire smoke and heat events in Whatcom County. Futures phases will aim to develop and implement on-the-ground action plans to reduce public health risks to these impacts.

Recommendations provided in this final report are categorized as priority actions that can be taken by HCS and implemented with support from other County departments, federal and state agencies, tribes, cities and nongovernmental entities.

Please call Sue Sullivan at 360-778-6026, if there are any questions. Thank you.