Organization
WA. State Department of Ecology

Project Title
Evaluating Ecology's Response to Climate Change

Organizational Background
Ecology is the state's principle environmental regulatory agency covering air quality, water quality, water resources, solid and hazardous waste management, chemical and oil spill response, toxic site cleanup and related activities.

Project Description
As the state's lead environmental agency, the Department of Ecology is interested in a research/survey project to assess how well the agency's multiple environmental programs consider and incorporate the effects of climate change into their planning and decision making. The project would assess the state of understanding within Ecology's programs of the nexus of climate change to their work; how they incorporate climate science and known or projected climate change impacts into their work; and provide recommendations for improving or initiating practices to institutionalize climate considerations as an integrated part of the agency's approach to its mission. Creating a baseline understanding of where we are and what may be missing will help us design and develop policies and protocols to make better, more holistic decisions to serve the public and protect the environment for future generations.

Travel Required?
Maybe

Deliverables
A policy report summarizing findings and recommendations; presentation(s) to senior agency management providing an overview of findings and recommendations.
Key Tasks for Consultants

Survey program managers and key agency experts - in person and perhaps through a survey instrument. Literature review and assessment of how other similar organizations have successfully integrated climate change impacts across their work.