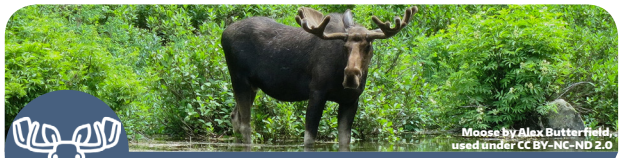
WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP?

Now that you know about the changes we expect, can you imagine ways to help plants and animals?

Fill in the boxes for below with ideas on how we could help each species adapt to climate change!



...FOR MOOSE?

..FOR CHINOOK SALMON?

...FOR HUCKLEBERRY?

OTHER THINGS YOU CAN DO

There are many things *you* can do to help plants and animals respond to climate change. For example:

Become a citizen scientist! Help understand how species are changing in response to climate change by volunteering with efforts that monitor plants and animals where you live.

Volunteer with habitat restoration efforts! Look for opportunities to improve habitats, which will help species respond to climate change.

Talk to your parents! Share this activity with them and teach them what you learned.

Create art! Make videos, drawings, or find other creative ways to share how climate change is affecting plants, animals, and your community - and what people can do to help!

FIND OUT MORE

BIA Youth Tribal Resilience Resources:
https://biamaps.doi.gov/tribalresilience/resourceguide/youth/index.html

Become a citizen scientist through the Audubon Christmas Bird Count:
https://www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

CAN YOU HELP US FIGURE OUT HOW OUR LANDS, PLANTS AND ANIMALS MAY CHANGE OVER THE NEXT 100 YEARS?

The lands and waters of the Colville Tribes are changing.

Climate change will bring hotter, drier summers and wetter winters. What does this mean for the plants and animals you care about?

Understanding these changes can help us help plants and animals and their habitats adapt to future changes. Let's get started!

BIG CHANGES

Our lands and waters are expected to experience the changes below by the end of this century.

Draw a line connecting each species in the middle of the sheet with the changes that are most likely to affect them.

TEMPERATURE

Rising temperatures will bring hotter summers, and warmer winters with less snow and ice.

PRECIPITATION

In the future, summers may get less rain, and winters may get more rain than snow. This can lead to winter floods.

SNOWPACK

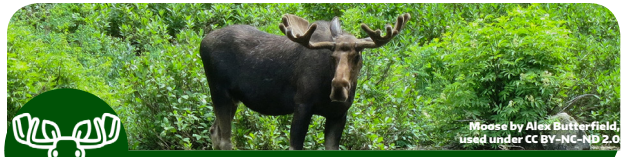
Warmer winters may cause less snow to fall in the mountains. This means less melting snow in spring and summer, reducing water in streams and rivers.

STREAMS AND RIVERS

Hotter, drier summers and more winter rain mean streams may get warmer and have less water in them in summer, but flood more in winter.

FIRES

Drier and warmer summers may make forests and shrublands burn more easily, leading to more wildfires.



Moose by Alex Butterfield, used under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

MOOSE

The moose is the largest member of the deer family. Moose are adapted to cold temperatures and become stressed on warm days. Warm temperatures also benefit the ticks that prey on moose, especially their young calves. Moose can travel long distances but roads, cities, and fences act as barriers to their movement.

CHINOOK SALMON

Chinook salmon are born in cool streams and then travel out to the ocean, where they live for several years before returning to the stream where they were born to lay eggs. They need cold water to travel and breed - warmer temperatures can cause disease and death. Floods can also disturb their eggs and young.

Thinleaf huckleberry by Katja Schulz, used under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

THINLEAF HUCKLEBERRY

Thinleaf huckleberry is found in cold forests at medium to high elevations. It is affected by a disease - a rust fungus - that may more negatively affect plants stressed by heat or drought. Its seeds are dispersed long distances by the many animals that eat them.

WHAT MAKES A SPECIES SENSITIVE?

Each plant and animal is different. The things that make them sensitive to (i.e., affected by) climate change are different for each species.

Draw a line connecting each species in the middle of the sheet with the things most likely to make it sensitive to climate change.

MOVEMENT BARRIERS

Roads, dams, cities, and other barriers may make it hard for species to reach newly suitable habitats as it warms.

SNOW

Species that depend on snow (e.g., for denning or hunting) may lose habitat as less snow falls in warmer winters.

DISEASE/PESTS

Certain diseases or pests may become more widespread. Also, certain species may become less able to resist infection.

COLD TEMPERATURES

Species that are adapted to cold temperatures may face habitat loss as the climate warms.

DISTURBANCE

Some species are sensitive to changes in natural disturbances like wildfire, floods, or landslides.