



Wilderness Conservation and Climate Change: What's the Connection?

Due to climate change, one quarter of all species are at risk of extinction and their ranges are shifting northward. Networks of connected parks and other protected areas can act as sanctuaries large enough to slow the impact of climate change on Canada's wildlife and landscapes. Similarly, a network of marine protected areas in Canada's oceans will provide the best chance for marine species.

Our solutions

Conserving Canada's remaining intact wilderness ecosystems will help moderate climate change by reserving the vast stores of carbon and other greenhouse gases found in and under our forests.

Reducing the rate and extent of human disturbance to natural ecosystems will also decrease the overall stresses that they face due to the increasing frequency and intensity of disturbances caused by climate change, such as hurricanes, droughts, fires and insect infestations. Creating a network of marine protected areas will help reduce the impact of climate change on Canada's overly disturbed and threatened marine systems.

Act Now!

You can let the Canadian government know that both mitigation and adaptation measures are necessary to address the problems arising from climate change.

1. Support CPAWS at www.cpaws.org
2. Receive action alerts and news in your inbox. Sign up now at www.cpaws.org.

CPAWS is encouraging the Canadian government to:

Reduce the effects of climate change

- Cap direct emissions of greenhouse gases
- Protect the significant carbon stores reserved in intact wilderness ecosystems;

Adapt to climate change

- Make wilderness protection a priority on land and sea
- Maintain and restore connections between protected areas
- Reduce industrial disturbances to give species and habitats the best chance to survive into the future.

