

CSKT Climate Change Strategic Planning



A People of Vision

Michael Durglo, CSKT Tribal Historic Preservation Dept. Head

Our first plan, 2013

- Collect elder testimony
- Bring together siloed depts
- Build coalitions of volunteers within and without the reservation
- Hold regular meetings



Figure 20: Ignace Couture, photo by Frank Tyro

Ignace "Ig" Couture (Elmo, MT)

Weather changes are coming and it is going to get hotter. What do we do about it and how does this affect the animals, like the deer and elk that live around this area? I think the deer like it [the warmer weather] because they feed all year round no of snow so they have trees. They don't have But then, the moss is gone now too. You have

Always the weather – with the weather. With there is not going to be hills. The animals use The springs are probably

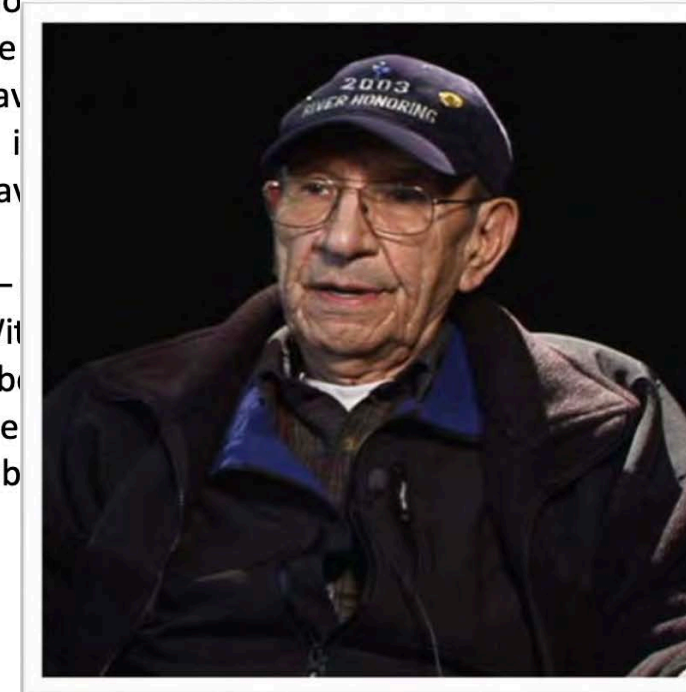


Figure 21: Mike Durglo Sr, photo by Frank Tyro

Mike Durglo Sr. (St. Ignatius, MT)

At the time, you could tell it was winter because it was cold and the snow was deep. Sometimes, when you would go down the county road you only can see an inch of the fence post sticking out.

There was something wrong with it [our pine]. They were dying. But, I guess that was the pollution at that time. So, they [leadership] blamed it on the pollution. Which now I guess was global warming. Even today you can tell the difference. The seasons are not like they use to be. Even the birds started noticing that new kinds of different birds were coming into this area.



Figure 23: Stephen Smallsalmon, photo by Frank Tyro

Stephen Smallsalmon (Post Creek, MT)

I remember Uncle Pete Beaverhead and used to hear him talking. They say it's going to be changing - just like our language, our life, the snow pack. It seemed like they knew. I don't know how they knew. I guess they were wise. Maybe, they learned it from their folks. Handed it down generation-to-generation, then to me. I started to realize it [the weather] is changing. The life is

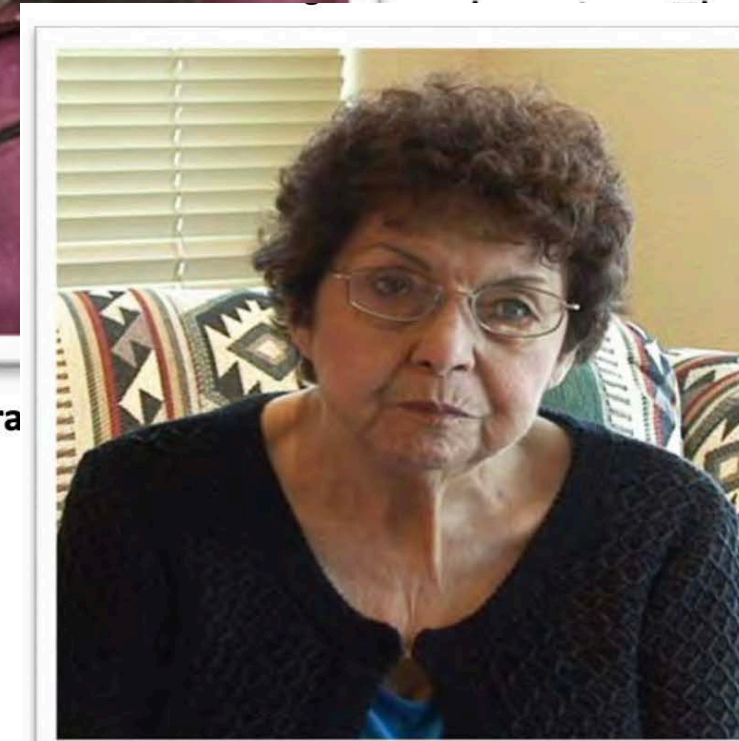


Figure 22: Sadie Saloway, photo by Frank Tyro

Sadie Saloway (Elmo, MT)

The huckleberries are just disappearing so fast. I have been away from there for 53 years, but the area's we use to go to, like Sand Creek (BC), Jaffray (BC) area, and in Elko (BC) ...were good places. They are all gone. I don't know if we need a good fire? I think that is part of it on the berries and the plants. I do not know why the climate changes. Probably contributes to the demise of a lot of the plants that we use to have.

Dad would mention the different things. One of the things he always did was we took a drink out of the creek we always put some back. So, you took a drink then you threw some [water] on the plants or somewhere.

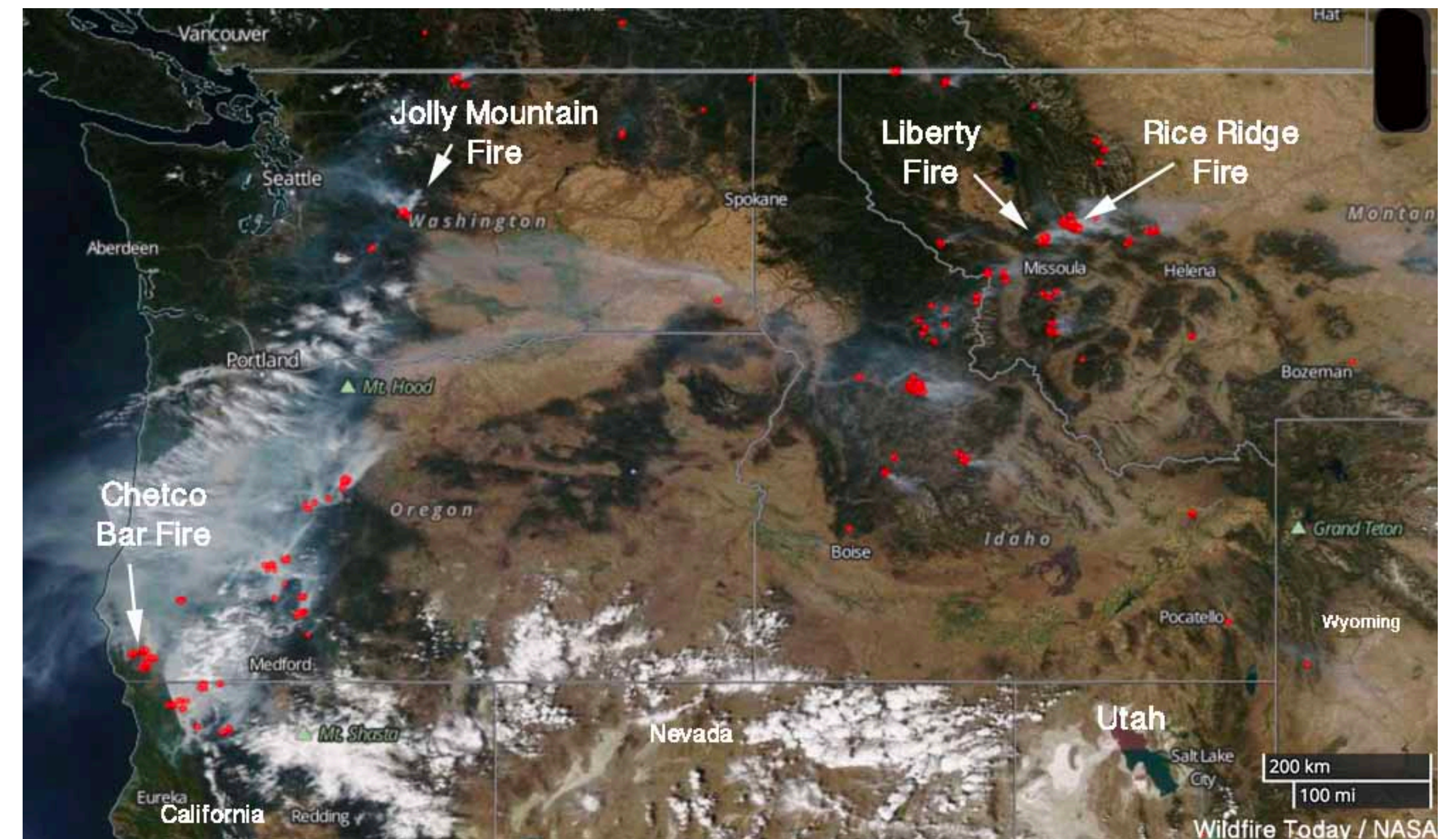
Community Partners



**Mike's
Lifelong
Email
Contacts**

First update 2016-17

- Increasing local effects of climate change beginning to appear
- Increased intensity, frequency and duration of wildfires
- Lower air quality due to smoke
- Increased risk of invasive mussel infestation of Flathead Lake
- Climate plan included as part of Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan for the first time



Second update (2023)

Emphasizing connectedness

- Climate projections of events expected in 2030 were already happening or were fast approaching
- Increasing focus on interconnection between sectors
- Planners concerned that the plan be used as a “living document” rather than as a text book sitting on a shelf



Second update (2023)

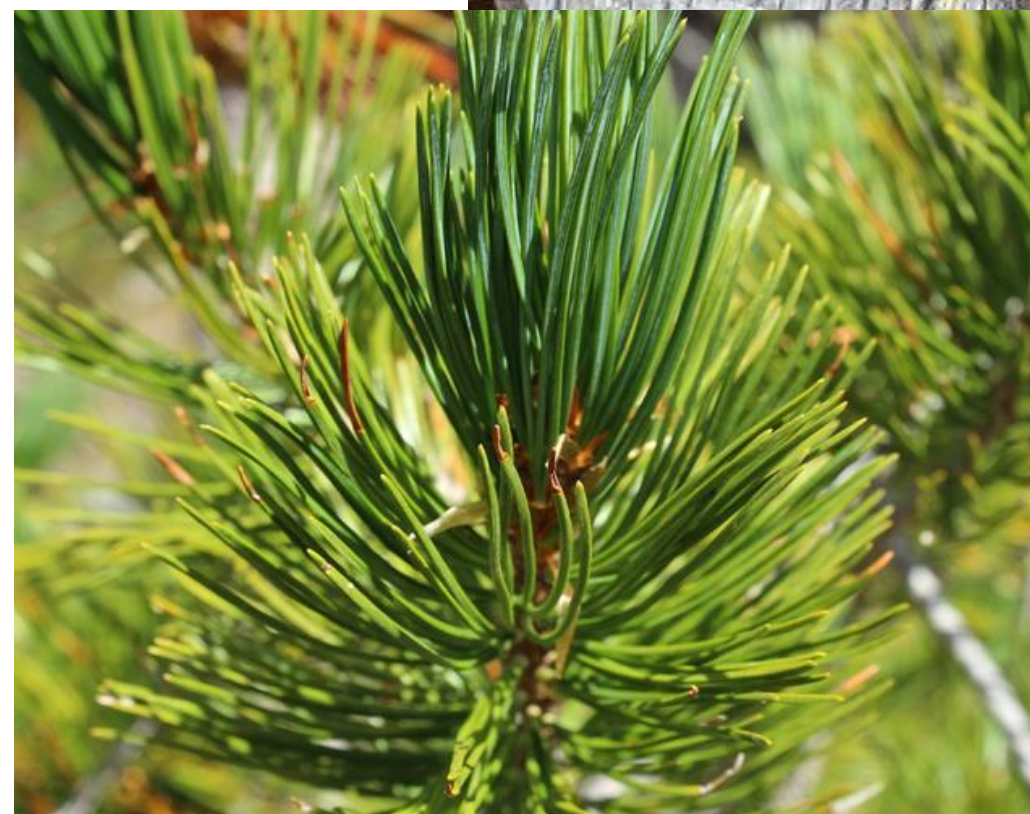
Emphasizing connectedness

- Continue to hold community gatherings to build and strengthen local participation in climate change planning
- Continuously update plans and projects on csktclimate.org
- Gradually increase professional duties to advance climate projects within tribal government departments

Whitebark Pine Restoration Project



- Utilizing post-burn areas for replanting genetically resistant trees



Moving towards implementation/integration

Resolution No. 23-016

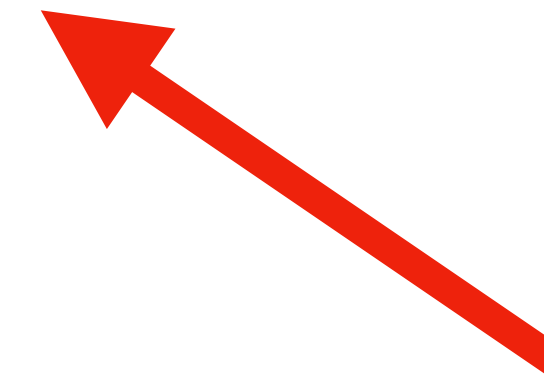
**RESOLUTION
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES
OF THE FLATHEAD NATION**

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING CLIMATE CHANGE AS A RISK TO THE HEALTH, SECURITY, AND GENERAL WELFARE OF THE TRIBES AND DIRECTING NECESSARY RESOURCES FOR CLIMATE CHANGE PLANNING, MITIGATION, AND ADAPTATION, AND TO INTEGRATE RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION MEASURES THROUGHOUT TRIBAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article VI, Section 1(a), the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes is empowered “[t]o regulate the uses and disposition of tribal property, to protect and preserve the tribal property, wildlife and natural resources of the Confederated Tribes, to cultivate Indian arts, crafts, and culture, to administer charity; to protect the health, security, and general welfare of the Confederated Tribes”; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council adopted the Vision that “the traditional values that served our people in the past are imbedded in the many ways we serve and invest in our people and communities, in the way we have regained and restored our homelands and natural resources, in the ways we have built a self-sufficient society and economy, in the ways we govern our Reservation and represent ourselves to the rest of the world and in the ways we continue to preserve our right to determine our own destiny”; and



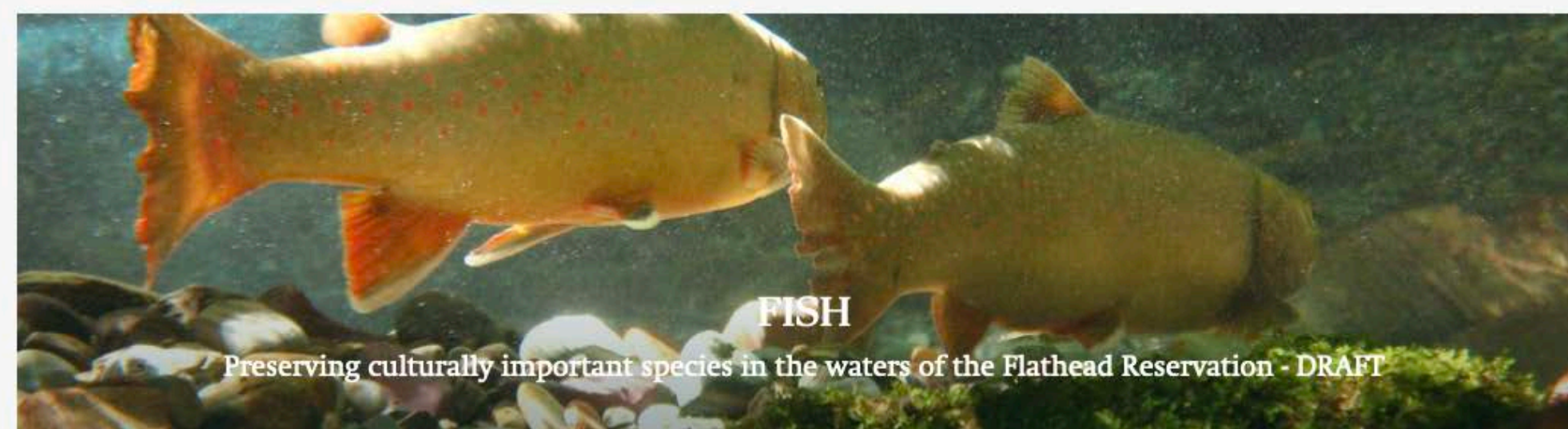
Storymaps

Collection

CSKT CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGIC PLAN

DRAFT

Get started



Online curriculum

Q Search this Site Visit the Bloomberg Carbon Clock ↻

Living Landscapes: Plains Region


Culture, Climate Science & Education

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Begin Here

Tribes and Climate Change



Transcript of Audio Description

This Place is Our Home
A Video Series about Climate Change
and the Flathead Nation



Saving the World that Coyote Made
An Essay about Climate Change and
Native Peoples

Website

The screenshot shows the homepage of the CSKT Climate Resiliency website. The header is a dark red bar with the CSKT logo and name on the left, and a navigation menu on the right with links for HOME, ABOUT, HIGHLIGHTS, RESOURCES, NEWS & EVENTS, and CONTACT. The main content area has a yellow background. It features a video player on the left showing an interview with Mike Durgio, Sr., a Salish Pend d'Oreille Elder. To the right of the video is the section title "Elder Interviews" and a brief description: "Interviews with Tribal Elders from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes on climate change." Below this is a red button that says "VIEW THE VIDEO HERE." The bottom section of the page has a dark background with a forest scene and three columns of content. Each column has an icon (a globe, three cubes, and a leaf) and a title: "Impacts", "Primer", and "Planning". Each column contains a short paragraph of text.

CSKT Climate Resiliency

HOME ABOUT ▾ HIGHLIGHTS ▾ RESOURCES ▾ NEWS & EVENTS ▾ CONTACT

Elder Interviews

Interviews with Tribal Elders from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes on climate change.

[VIEW THE VIDEO HERE.](#)

Impacts

CSKT is experiencing longer and more severe fire seasons annually; and those fires are causing more damage to valuable resources. Over the recent 20-year period from 1998 to 2017, 1,572 wildfires burned 139,956 acres of the 1.2 million acre Flathead Reservation.

Primer

We will integrate and update climate impacts to vulnerable resources as outlined in the 2013 CSKT Climate Change Strategic Plan (updated in 2015) to build climate resilience within CSKT tribal land and in our communities. To read the CSKT CCAC Primer, [click here](#).

Planning

The Climate Change Advisory Committee of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes will take the lead in planning and executing a series of gatherings and other activities focused on creating a new Climate Change Strategic Plan for 2019.