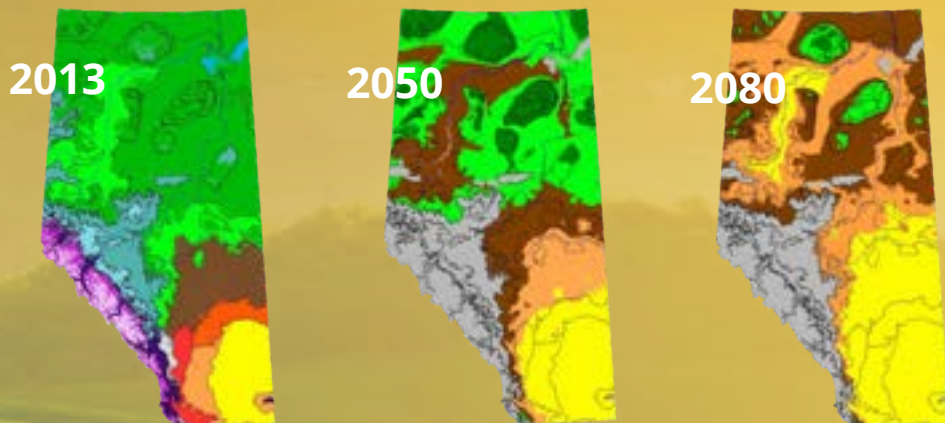



Climate Change and Biodiversity Risks

In Alberta




Alberta's Shifting Ecozones


- Alberta's boreal forest will recede northward as temperatures rise
- Aspen parkland and grassland ecozone ranges will expand
- Parkland forests will advance into higher elevations, as alpine stands shrink



Threatened prairie species may benefit as grasslands expand.



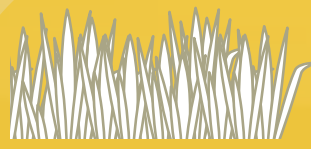
The first spring wildflower blooms are occurring two weeks earlier than usual with earlier spring warming.



Other species may be forced to either adapt, or to shift their ranges northward or to higher elevations. The American Pike, Balsam Fir, Englemann Spruce, and Tamarack are all vulnerable to climate change.




Forests will be less likely to recover from disturbances like fire or pest outbreaks



Expansion of grasslands as forests are lost



Loss of and changes in wildlife and plant species, with a greater susceptibility to damage from invasive species and pests



Loss of wetlands due to reductions in wetland depth, area and permanence