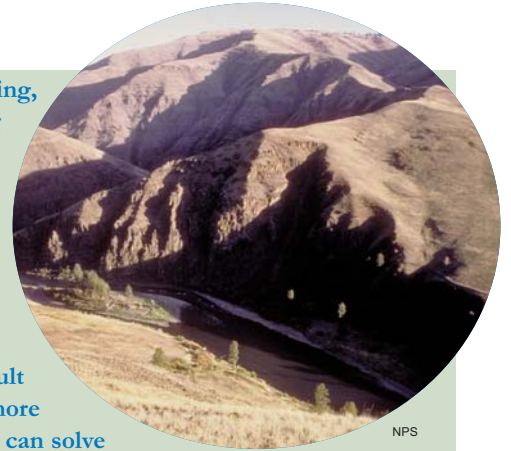




CHANGE THE FORECAST FOR WILDLIFE
SOLUTIONS TO GLOBAL WARMING

Global Warming and IDAHO

Many of Idaho's ecosystems are under pressure from dams, logging, fire suppression and other man-made stresses. Global warming may well push them over the edge. Some of the first Idaho species to feel the heat may be salmon and steelhead. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimates average temperatures in Idaho could rise 6.75 degrees Fahrenheit by 2100 if global warming continues unabated. This will likely bring hotter, drier summers. Scientists project that wildfires may increase, droughts may worsen, and rains—when they do come—will likely come in more severe downpours that cause flash flooding. Warmer temperatures could result in less snowpack in the mountains and earlier snowmelt, leading to more winter runoff and reduced summer flows in many Idaho streams. We can solve global warming and revitalize our economy by rebuilding America with clean energy.



NPS

Global warming effects on Idaho wildlife

Idaho is home to an incredible diversity of native wildlife species, including 284 birds, 105 mammals, 23 reptiles, 42 fish and 12 amphibians. Rising temperatures in the state will likely change the makeup of entire ecosystems, forcing wildlife to shift their ranges or adapt.



Scott Church

- Higher average temperatures and changes in rain and snowfall patterns are likely to significantly reduce average snowpack in the Rocky Mountain region, contributing to warmer stream temperatures and altered streamflows. These changes would be harmful to Idaho's salmon, steelhead and other cold-water fish.
- Idaho's high alpine species are particularly vulnerable to global warming because they are specially adapted to high altitude ecosystems. Warmer temperatures may change the nature of alpine ecosystems, leaving species such as the Arctic gentian, rosy finch and water pipit with nowhere to go.
- Global warming could alter forest habitat by contributing to more severe outbreaks of pests and diseases. Scientists project that the extent of forested areas in Idaho could decline by 15-30 percent, affecting wildlife dependent on a healthy ecosystem.

Global Warming Pollution

Burning coal, gas and oil produces carbon dioxide, which is a greenhouse gas that warms the planet as it builds up in the atmosphere. Some of the carbon dioxide released today remains in the atmosphere after even 100 years, trapping more and more heat.

Since the mid-1800s, emissions of carbon dioxide have skyrocketed, causing global temperatures to rise by about 1° Fahrenheit in the last century. Earth has not experienced such a rapid change in temperature in thousands of years.

A Global Solution

The U.S. must lead the world by passing global warming legislation at home and working with other nations at the Copenhagen climate summit at the end of 2009 to sign a new climate treaty that keeps further warming below 2° Fahrenheit. With a global solution, we can avoid the worst impacts of global warming.



What's at stake for Idahoans?

The changes from global warming threaten not only to degrade the natural forest and aquatic ecosystems of Idaho but also the health and economy of the state.

- Global warming could cause potato yields to fall by 18 percent under severe conditions where temperatures rise beyond the tolerance level of the crop.
- Historically, years with less precipitation correlate to heavy fire seasons in Idaho. If global warming leads to less summer and fall precipitation, fire seasons could become more severe, raising the costs of fighting and suppressing fires.
- Scientists project warmer winter temperatures in Idaho could increase the lifespan of disease-carrying insects such as ticks and mosquitoes, causing increases in Lyme disease and West Nile virus.
- Loss of wildlife and habitat could mean a loss of tourism dollars. In 2001, more than 868,000 people spent nearly \$983 million on wildlife viewing, hunting and fishing in Idaho, which in turn supporting nearly 20,000 jobs in the state. In 2003, fishing alone generated \$450 million.

“Global warming poses an overriding challenge to our responsibility to protect wildlife for our children’s future. We must advance balanced solutions that work for people, wildlife and the economy to overcome this challenge.”—

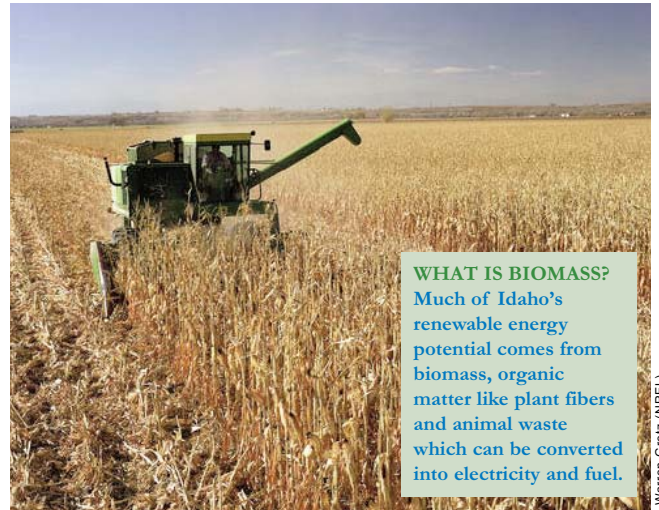
Larry Schweiger
President, CEO
National Wildlife Federation

GLOBAL WARMING NATIONAL POLICY SOLUTION:

A federal legislative solution can drive American ingenuity, create millions of green jobs, and restore America’s global leadership on global warming. Legislation should:

- * Include ambitious targets to reduce America’s global warming pollution as swiftly and deeply as possible. Scientists say that developed countries as a whole need to reduce their global warming pollution by at least 80% from 1990 levels by 2050 to avoid the worst impacts of global warming.
- * Move America toward a 100% clean electricity future by maximizing energy efficiency, modernizing the electric power grid, expanding power generation from renewable energy resources, and investing in clean transportation infrastructure.
- * Invest in natural resources. Forests, coasts, wetlands, clean air and clean water are already being impacted by global warming. Funding is needed to safeguard the natural resources that are critical to wildlife populations and human health.
- * Lead a worldwide effort to finance clean energy technology, forest conservation, and adaptation to unavoidable impacts of global warming.

For more information, visit: www.nwf.org/globalwarming.



WHAT IS BIOMASS?
Much of Idaho’s renewable energy potential comes from biomass, organic matter like plant fibers and animal waste which can be converted into electricity and fuel.

Warren Grez (NREL)

Idaho’s solutions to global warming

Idaho’s climate makes the state ideal to become a leader in renewable energy. Not only does it have great solar and wind potential; its large agriculture industry makes developing electricity from biomass another option, all of which would greatly reduce carbon pollution.

- Idaho has the potential to generate more than 600 percent of its electricity needs from renewable energy, mostly from biomass, geothermal and well-sited wind farms.
- The state offers taxpayers a 40-percent income tax deduction to offset the cost of solar, wind or geothermal devices used for heating or electricity generation.

Following some simple guidelines, you can cut your global warming pollution, become more energy efficient and give something back to nature.

- **Plant shade trees:** The Department of Energy says planting three trees strategically around your home to block the sun in summer and wind in winter can reduce your annual heating and cooling costs by an average of 40 percent.
- **Become a Green Tag subscriber:** Many states now offer options for homeowners to buy electricity from clean, renewable sources such as wind, solar and biomass that produce little or no global warming pollution. Green energy can also be purchased through the National Wildlife Federation by visiting www.nwf.org/energy.
- **Act locally:** Contact your mayor and ask that (s)he sign the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, committing your city or town to meet or beat the global warming pollution reductions outlined in the Kyoto Protocol.

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