

CLIMATE CHANGE & TRAIL SPORTS

The effects of climate change increase the health risks of recreating outside, from poor air quality to risks from extreme heat and cold. At the same time, climate change is impacting enjoyment of nature, from wildlife to landscapes.

NATURE CRISIS

Climate change doubled tree death from 1955 to 2007 in Western parks.¹



1955 tree deaths 2007 tree deaths

Wildlife are being **forced to shift their natural habitats**, threatening their survival.²



ACCESS

Increasing **fire closures** have **limited trail sports** during some parts of the year,³ while open areas may have less visibility.⁴



HEALTH RISKS

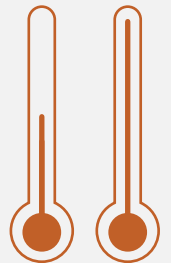
Increasing wildfires have helped drive an **11.5%** increase in air pollution since 2016, after many years of decreasing.⁵



Climate change has **increased** the range and prevalence of ticks, which carry⁶

disease.

National parks are **warming twice** as fast as the rest of the country;¹ in 2017 alone, there were **82 heat-related** search and rescue missions⁷ in Grand Canyon National Park.



There's still time to save **YOUR** public lands recreation

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Center for **Western Priorities**

1: Gonzalez, Patrick. (February 13, 2019). University of California, Berkeley: "Human-Caused Climate Change in United States National Parks."
 2: Eds. Halofsky, J.E. et al. (2018). U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station: "Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation in the Intermountain Region."
 3: Poston, Ben. (July 1, 2016). Los Angeles Times: "Fire closures spark headaches and detours for Pacific Crest Trail hikers."
 4: National Park Service. (November 19, 2019). "Yellowstone National Park: Park Air Profiles."

5: Popovich, Nadja. (October 24, 2019). New York Times: "America's Air Quality Worsens, Ending Years of Gains, Study Says."
 6: Dumic, Igor and Edson Severnini. (October 24, 2018). Canadian Journal of Infectious Diseases and Medical Microbiology: "Ticking Bomb: The Impact of Climate Change on the Incidence of Lyme Disease."
 7: National Park Service. (June 25, 2018). Grand Canyon National Park: "Rangers Strongly Urge Visitors to Hike Smart at Grand Canyon National Park."