



Josh Lawler

School of Environmental and Forest Sciences
University of Washington

Landscape Ecologist
Conservation Biologist

Goal:

My goal as a scientist is to do research that helps conserve the diversity of life on earth. My work generally explores the impacts of climate change and land-use change on plants and animals

Research problem:

- Many animals will need to move to track changes in climate. Some will not be able to move fast enough and others will be blocked by development (roads, houses, farms, etc.).

Solutions:

- Removing barriers to movement (using habitat restoration, wildlife bridges...)
- Picking species up and moving them (“assisted colonization”)
- Creating more parks and preserves
- Slowing down climate change (reducing emissions, sequestering carbon)

Take-home messages from a game about my work:

- Many species will have to struggle to keep up with climate change
- Humans have fragmented the landscape making it hard for animals to move

Where to learn more:

<https://insideclimatenews.org/species/archive>

<https://blog.nature.org/science/2016/06/29/species-on-the-move-mapping-barriers-for-wildlife-in-a-warming-world/>

<https://blog.nature.org/science/2016/08/19/migration-in-motion-visualizing-species-movements-due-to-climate-change/>

<http://theconversation.com/climate-driven-species-on-the-move-are-changing-almost-everything-74752>