

**REFERENCE SHEET: Strategic Methods for Identifying Adaptation Strategies**  
*For use when conducting Activities 1, 2 and 3-2*

Approaches to reduce vulnerability may include:

- **Decreasing exposure (nature and degree of exposure to climate change).**
  - Restoring or enhancing wetlands to limit increases in drought and flooding
  - Replanting riparian vegetation to limit in-stream water temperature increases
- **Decreasing sensitivity (degree to which a resource is affected by exposure).**
  - Reducing or limiting levels of pollutants that increase temperature sensitivity
  - Restoring/replanting with a mix of species that can cope with a range of climatic conditions
- **Increasing adaptive capacity (ability to respond to climate change).**
  - Increasing land- or seascape connectivity to support species range shifts
  - Diversify water supply sources and/or increase water storage capacity

These adaptation approaches may fall into the following categories:

- **Resistance**: Prevent the effects of climate change from reaching or affecting you. Examples include:
  - Manage forest vegetation, and reduce fire severity and patch size
  - Increase proactive management to prevent invasive weeds
  - Reduce erosion potential to protect municipal water supplies
  - Identify and protect aquifer recharge zones
- **Resilience**: Weathering the impacts of climate change by avoiding the effects of or recovering from changes. Examples include:
  - Repair, replace, and reroute trails and trail bridges to increase resilience to higher peak flows
  - Promote native genotypes and adapted genotypes of native species
  - Employ a risk-diversification approach to forest management and silvicultural practices
- **Transition**: Intentionally accommodate change and enable resources to adaptively respond to changing and new conditions. Examples include:
  - Facilitate change to desired species assemblages
  - Promote connected landscapes that can facilitate species migration along climatic gradients
  - Identify and protect refugia
  - Accept loss of recreation sites and/or adjust the timing or route of access
- **Increasing Knowledge** and **Engagement/Coordination** are also important adaptation strategies