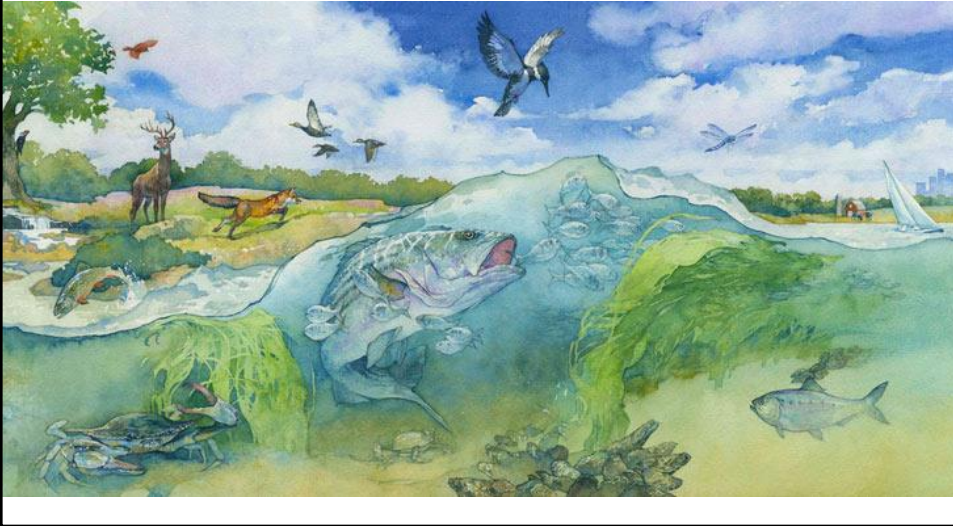


Unit A: Interactions and Ecosystems

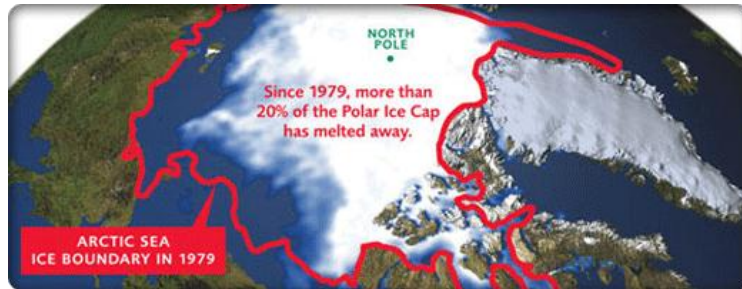


Topic 7: Environmental Monitoring



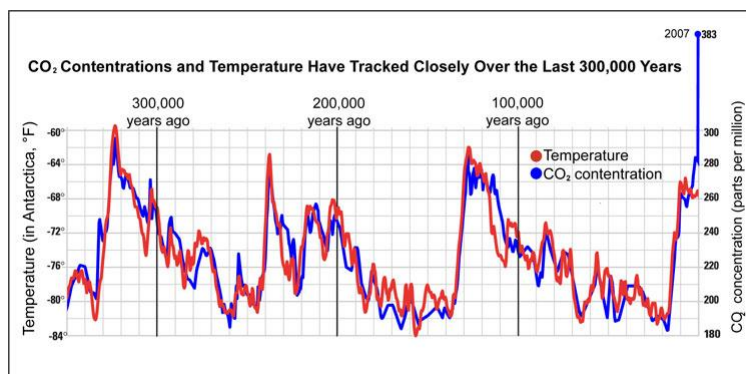
A. Intro

1. Ecosystem Monitoring: a way to check the health of an ecosystem by comparing results of investigations done at different times.



2. Ecosystem Monitoring Types

- a) Physical: satellites tracking landscape over time
- b) Environmental: changes in climate, temperature and weather patterns
- c) Chemical: quality of air, soil & water
- d) Biological: changes in organisms

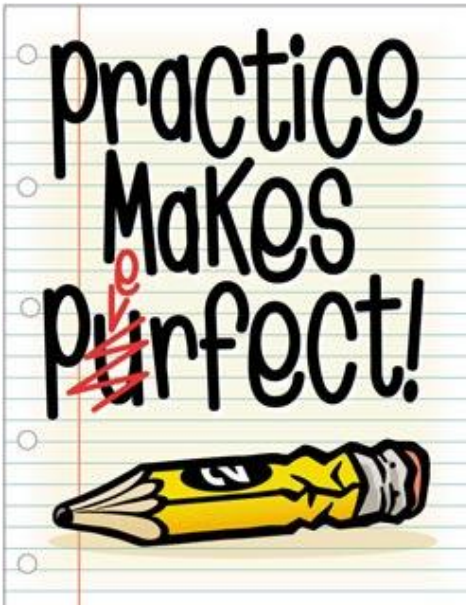


B. Why Do We Monitor?

1. To help us make informed decisions.

C. Long-Term Monitoring Programs

1. Indicator Species: a species that is sensitive to environmental change. Monitoring their population tells us information about the environment.
 - a) In Alberta, we monitor amphibians (frogs, toads)
2. Baseline Data: a starting point to compare changes in the environment, by know what a habitat was like before a disturbance.



PRACTICE:

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