# *Healthy Connections*

## Education Standards

Next Generation Science Standards

Performance Expectations:

- **MS-LS2-4. Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics.** Construct an argument supported by empirical evidence that changes to physical or biological components of an ecosystem affect populations.
- **HS-LS2-2. Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems.** Use mathematical representations to support and revise explanations based on evidence about factors affecting biodiversity and populations in ecosystems of different scales.

Disciplinary Core Ideas:

- **LS2.A: Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems.** Organisms, and populations of organisms, are dependent on their environmental interactions both with other living things and with nonliving factors.
- **LS2.C: Ecosystem Dynamics, Functioning, and Resilience.** Ecosystems are dynamic in nature; their characteristics can vary over time. Disruptions to any physical or biological component of an ecosystem can lead to shifts in all its populations.

Science and Engineering Practices:

- **Developing and Using Models.** Middle School: Develop, use and revise models to describe, test, and predict abstract phenomena and design systems.
- **Developing and Using Models.** High School: Use, synthesize, and develop models to predict and show relationships between systems and their components in the natural and designed world(s).

C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards

Taking Informed Action

- **D4.7.6-8.** Assess their individual and collective capacities to take action to address local, regional, and global problems, taking into account a range of possible levers of power, strategies, and potential outcomes.

- **D4.7.9-12.** Assess options for individual and collective action to address local, regional, and global problems by engaging in self-reflection, strategy identification, and complex causal reasoning.

Conservation Education Core Concepts

- 4. The health and well-being of fish, wildlife and humans depend on the quality of their environment.
- 8. Everyone impacts fish and wildlife and their habitats and as human populations grow, impacts on natural resources increase.

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