

LESSON 2 Check

MS-LS2-1, MS-LS2-2, MS-LS2-4

1. **SEP Construct Explanations** What are pioneer species? How do they affect the variety of organisms in an ecosystem?

Pioneer species are mosses and lichens that are carried by wind or water. Pioneer species affect the ecosystem by growing on rocks without soil and breaking down the rocks.

2. **SEP Engage in Argument** Support the argument that a forest fire impacts a population of birds that nest in the trees.

The forest fire impacts a population of birds that nest in trees because the fire would burn down the trees in the nests so the birds would have to find another place with trees and make a new nest.

3. **CCC Cause and Effect** Explain how the physical and biological components of the ecosystem in the image are being disrupted.



In the image the ecosystem is being disturbed by water covering trees and land.

Quest CHECK-IN

In this lesson you learned that changes to physical or biological components of an ecosystem can affect the populations of organisms that live there.

Apply Concepts How might mature communities of organisms be affected by the construction of a new highway? How does an animal crossing solve some of these problems?



INTERACTIVITY

Community Opinions

Go online to learn about reactions to a proposed crossing from members of the community. Based on the feedback, consider the constraints the animal crossing should meet.