Abstract

The climate affects our wetlands in many ways. Climate can have control over how much the wetlands are decreased and what plant and animals species can remain. For example, if the climate changes, it will be harder for certain plants to survive in certain climate conditions. It is even harder for animals to adapt to climate changes which could result in them dying off or trying to find a new habitat. This would not benefit the few animal species that do remain in the wetlands because once they have all been hunted, there will be no more left. When climate changes, weather may change, too. If the weather changes too drastically as a result of climate change, the wetlands can be destroyed by too much flooding. If the moisture levels drop due to climate change, it could result in a drought which would leave the wetlands dried up. This could lead to the decrease in the amount of plants that are left in the wetlands; for example, marshes. I realize all of this because of procedures that we have done in class. For example, our sea level rise experiment with ice.

Wetlands Report

The Louisiana Wetlands need more care and attention to keep them from being destroyed. Human activity is not the only threat to our wetlands but climate change, as well. If we can make sure to take better care of our wetlands when climates change, weather causes flooding and/or moisture levels drop, we may be able to save the wetlands.

The following topics are important to consider when trying to save the wetlands: procedures, observation, and analysis.

Procedures: The sea level experiment. We had two test tubes filled with the same amount of water. In one test tube, we put a certain amount of ice in and on the other, we put two popsicle sticks across the top with a piece of ice resting on them. The point was to let the ice melt and drip into the test tube. Observations: The results showed that when ice melted into the test tube, the sea level rose. However, when the ice was already in the test tube, the water changed temperature more quickly.

Analysis: Ice glaciers can change the temperature and sea levels depending on whether they are by the ocean or already in the ocean.

In conclusion, the wetlands are at risk if the sea levels drop or increase too much. The procedure of the ice glaciers helps make us realize how quickly the temperature and sea levels can change and how easily. If the temperature changes too much, it could have a huge affect of the plant and animal species that live there which could result in a loss of habitat. If we can take better care of our wetlands and perhaps build things in or around it to prevent flooding, we can see more plants growing and more animals surviving.

Project video: http://youtu.be/MWELr4fr35U

Cayli Estrada, Tricia Cash (12th grade), Cabrini High School, 1400 Moss St. New Orleans, LA 70119 (Ann Smart, teacher: asmart@cabrinihigh.com)