

UTAH

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS



Excess heat, drought, and wildfires have already impacted Utah, and pose growing challenges to many aspects of life. Water supply, food security, and energy generation will be increasingly compromised.

ALREADY OBSERVED CHANGES

ANTICIPATED FUTURE CHANGES

RISKS TO SOCIETY



Average temperatures in Utah during spring and fall have warmed by **over 3°F** since 1970.

Salt Lake City is expected to experience **twice as many dangerous heat days** by midcentury, and summers that are 11°F hotter by 2100.

By 2050, some cities in Utah could see up to a **30% reduction in electricity generation** capacity during summer.

Areas suitable for specific **crops** are expected to **shift** by the end of the century due to increasing minimum average temperatures that are required for certain crops.



The Southwest U.S. is already the most arid part of the U.S., and research indicates that it is becoming even more dry.

Summer drought in Utah is projected to **increase** in severity by about **225%** by 2050.

Past drought conditions in Utah have impacted a majority of ranch operations in the state, including major **reductions** in **water supply, forage, and cattle productivity**.

Over the past 30 years, **rainy patterns** in the Southwest are becoming **less frequent**.



Utah now sees about **20 times more acres burned** by large wildfires annually in comparison to the 1970s and **six times more large wildfires** burning each year over the past ten years on US Forest Service land.

By 2050, Utah is projected to observe **23 additional high wildfire potential days** per year.

Over **1.3 million people** living in Utah—45% of the state's population—are living in the wildland-urban interface and are highly vulnerable to wildfires.

For sources of information, please visit: www.edf.org/climateimpactsources

*Anticipated future changes are for scenarios without climate action



EXPECTED DAMAGES

IN UTAH BY 2100
WITHOUT CLIMATE ACTION

6 counties currently home to over 2 million people, including Salt Lake County, are each expected to spend over 10% more on energy relative to 2012 levels