## **Human Activities Contributing to Species Decline**

- · Habitat destruction
  - Deforestation, urban development, over-extraction of water from rivers and lakes, wetland drainage, agricultural expansion
- Pollution
  - Industrial discharge, oil and chemical spills, agricultural runoff, soil contamination
- Litter and trash
  - Plastic ingestion and entanglement of wildlife
- Activities that lead to climate change, impacting ecosystems through rising temperatures, altered
  precipitation patterns, and increased frequency of extreme weather events like fires
  - Fossil fuel consumption from driving gasoline cars, deforestation as a result of clear cutting, ocean acidification as a result of industrial-level fertilizer use
- Introduction of invasive (non-native) species, leading to competition for resources and predation on native species
  - Worldwide travel, long-distance movement of goods we use by land, sea, and air
- Overharvesting
  - Overfishing, illegal hunting and poaching
- Habitat fragmentation
  - · Building roads and highways, which also results in more vehicle collisions with wildlife
- Dams and water management
  - Alteration of natural water flow disrupting aquatic ecosystems and migration patterns
- · Pesticide and herbicide use
  - Can harm non-target species, disrupting food chains and ecosystems
- Light pollution
  - Disrupts nocturnal ecosystems
- Noise pollution
  - · Affects wildlife communication and behavior, disturbance to breeding and feeding patterns
- Recreational activities
  - Off-road vehicle use damaging habitats













## Reciprocity The Great Moose (Mooz) story

## Select Species Found in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Watershed

Bald eagle Andy Morffew, CC BY 2.0



Eastern massasauga rattlesnake I, Oeropium, CC BY-SA 3.0



Raccoon



American black bear



**Mallard Duck** 



**North American beaver** 



**Red fox** Joanne Redwood, CCO domain



**Eastern chipmunk** 



Wild Turkey Riki7, Public domain



**Canada Goose** 



White-tailed deer USDA photo by Scott Bauer, Public domain



North American river otter



**Eastern cottontail rabbit** 



**Common Loon** John Picken from Chicago, USA, CC BY 2.0



**Eastern Box Turtle** Aaron Lucas, CC BY-SA 4.0















