## **OP16** Biodiversity

What is meant by a keystone species?

A keystone species is an animal or organism that holds an ecosystem together. The loss of the organism results in the dramatic change or destruction of the ecosystem. A keystone species can be anything from fungi and other plants to herbivores, carnivores, and mutualists.

The Forest Heals song by Djeuna Tikuna

## COP16 - 23 Targets it's not just hot air



Whether it is the Climate COP29 coming soon (November) to a country near you - Azerbaijan - or the Desertification COP16 in -Saudi Arabia- in Decemeber or the Biodiversity COP16 in -Colombia - right now, there are many targets and goals being talked about. It gets quite confusing paying attention to them but please know - these targets are super important! They all talk about 2030 being the year that we - the world - must attain them!

Are you a list maker? It is challenging to get things ticked off that list. These meetings are just one of many places where the work will be done. All hands need to be on deck so to speak to do it. We need leaders with conviction at all levels of community, government and organization and masses of people demanding it as a priority, teaching it and in the creeks and fields, doing the

work.

HOW DO WE PROMOTE STORIES **OF HEALING AND LOVING -OURSELVES, EARTH AND ALL HER BEINGS?** 



There are many great stories about successful rewilding and restoring species and ecosystems. There are more and more each year. Is there a creek near you that needs your support? Is there a project you can support?

Traditional knowledge, Innovations and Practices by We are all <u>Held by the Land</u> Indigenous peoples are at the table in most all panels and conversations...at last!

**Biodiversity is a lot like** the game of Jenga.



What's so special about 2030?

The worlds top scientists (IPCC 2024) have reported for years that if we reduce emissions we could keep global temperatures to within a 1.5 degree limit, if, we did it by 2030. Spoiler alert\*\* global temps might surpass that 1.5 degree point sooner than they they had predicted.

The Paris agreement (2016) agreed to reducing emissions by 30% by 2025 and by 43% by 2030. COP15 (2022) on Biodiversity in Montreal agreed to a framework that would conserve 30% of land and water and restore another 30% of all degraded ecosystems by 2030.

You can imagine there are a lot of things on this list!

To put this into perspective .... how old will you and your loved ones be in 2030?



Do you have any time to spare?

Deck hands and heavy lifters needed.