**General Adaptation Strategies – Definitions**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Adaptation Strategy** | **Definition** |
| Reduce non-climate stresses | Minimize localized human stressors (e.g., pollution) that hinder the ability of species or ecosystems to withstand or adjust to climatic events |
| Protect key ecosystem features | Focus management on structural characteristics (e.g., geophysical stage), organisms, or areas (e.g., spawning sites) that represent important “underpinnings” or “keystones” of the current or future system of interest |
| Ensure connectivity | Protect, restore, and create landscape features (e.g., land corridors, stream connections) that facilitate movement of water, energy, nutrients, and organisms among resource patches |
| Restore structure and function | Rebuild, modify, or transform ecosystems that have been lost or compromised, in order to restore desired structures (e.g., habitat complexity) and functions (e.g., nutrient cycling) |
| Support evolutionary potential | Protect a variety of species, populations, and ecosystems in multiple places to bet-hedge against losses from climate disturbances, and where possible manage these systems to assist positive evolutionary change |
| Protect refugia | Protect areas less affected by climate change, as sources of “seed” for recovery (in the present) or as destinations for climate-sensitive migrants (in the future) |
| Relocate organisms | Engage in human-facilitated transplanting of organisms from one location to another in order to bypass a barrier (e.g., urban area) |