

CLIMATE CHANGE

The ocean absorbs 93% of the excess heat from global warming (IPCC, 2018). Ocean warming has many impacts on fish.

IMPACT ON FISHERIES

SPECIES DISTRIBUTION

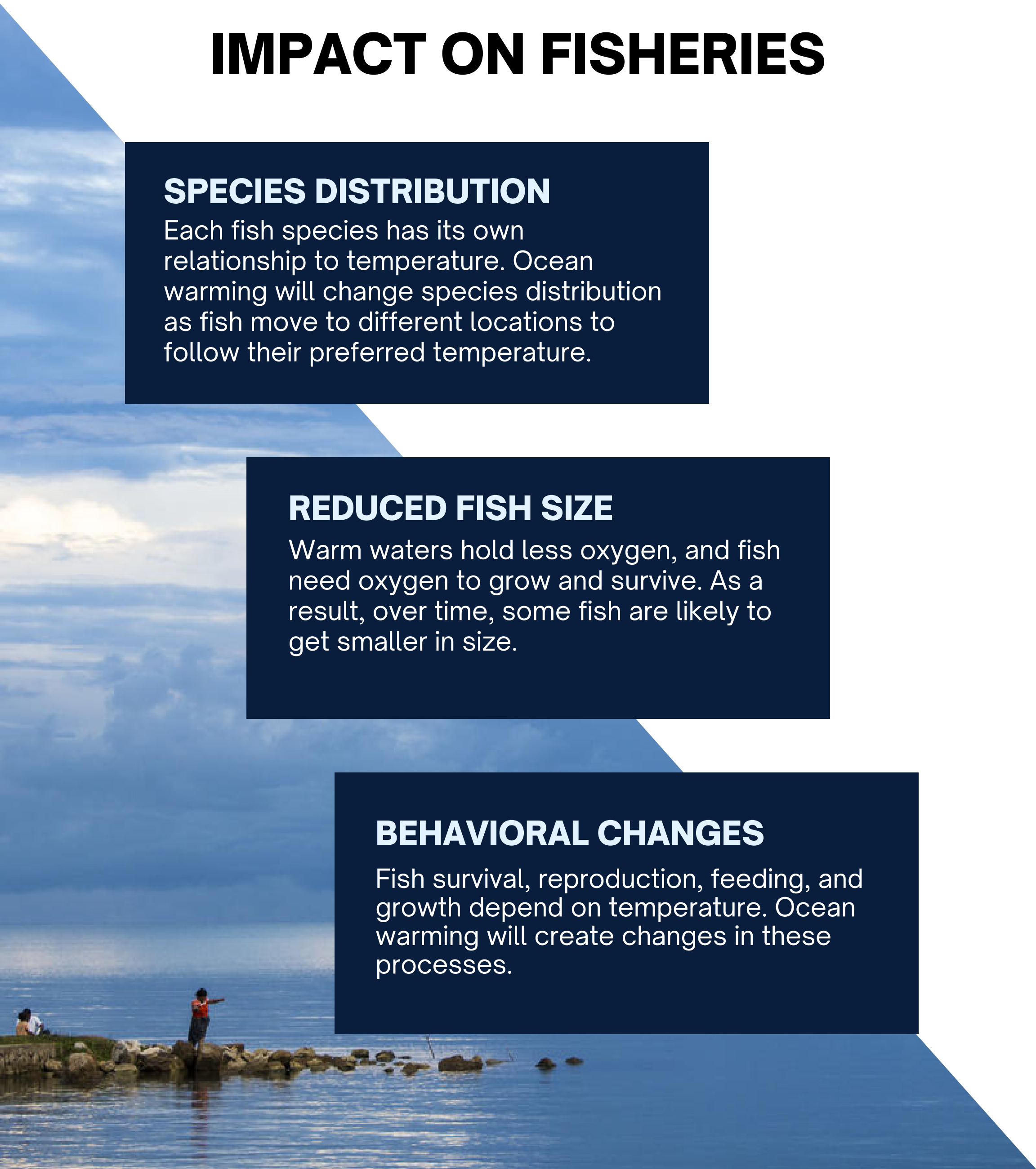
Each fish species has its own relationship to temperature. Ocean warming will change species distribution as fish move to different locations to follow their preferred temperature.

REDUCED FISH SIZE

Warm waters hold less oxygen, and fish need oxygen to grow and survive. As a result, over time, some fish are likely to get smaller in size.

BEHAVIORAL CHANGES

Fish survival, reproduction, feeding, and growth depend on temperature. Ocean warming will create changes in these processes.





CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Climate resilience is the ability to prepare for, recover from, & adapt to impacts of climate change. It requires community-level organizing & fisher participation.

ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

Principles of adaptive management can be used to design and adjust on-the-ground solutions that are based on scientific data and local knowledge.



BELIZE is improving climate resilience in the following ways:

- Implementation of the Fisheries Resources Act
- Implementation of Coastal Zone Management Plan
- Investments in sustainable fisheries management via Managed Access and multispecies, adaptive management
- Expansion of replenishment zones
- Diversification of fisheries to support multiple products and avenues of work
- Restoration of coral and mangrove ecosystems
- Investments in aquaculture and tourism