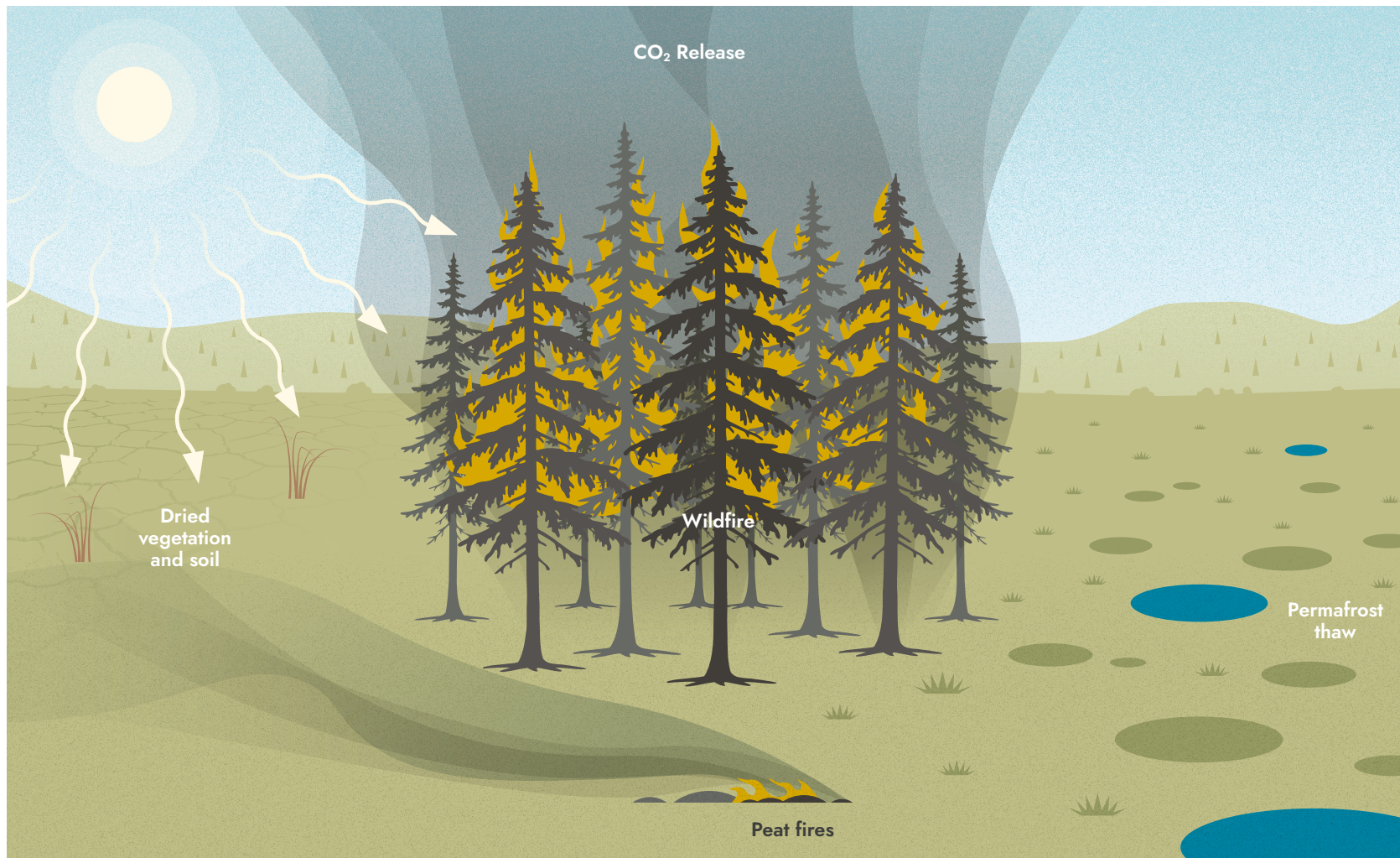




WILDFIRES

Rising temperatures causes longer fire seasons, more ignition from lightning and drier vegetation and soil. Combined with more fire fuels from woody plants and dried peat, the frequency, intensity, and extent of Arctic wildfires are accelerating. Crucially, as permafrost thaws, large areas of carbon-rich soils and peatlands dry out, making them susceptible to prolonged burning. This process releases significant amounts of CO₂ and aerosols into the atmosphere and accelerates permafrost thawing, creating a feedback loop that intensifies the environmental changes. A new fire regime with increased frequency and intensity of wildfires have large implications for biodiversity and ecosystem resilience