

The Story of Sally the Salamander



RAVEN



Sally is a blue-spotted salamander that lives in the north of Ontario in Treaty 9 territory where for many years scientists didn't believe she could exist. She only comes out at night, shining her blue spots for the forest to see.



As a baby, she uses gills to breathe, but as she matured, another respiratory system takes over, and she begins to breathe through her sensitive skin.

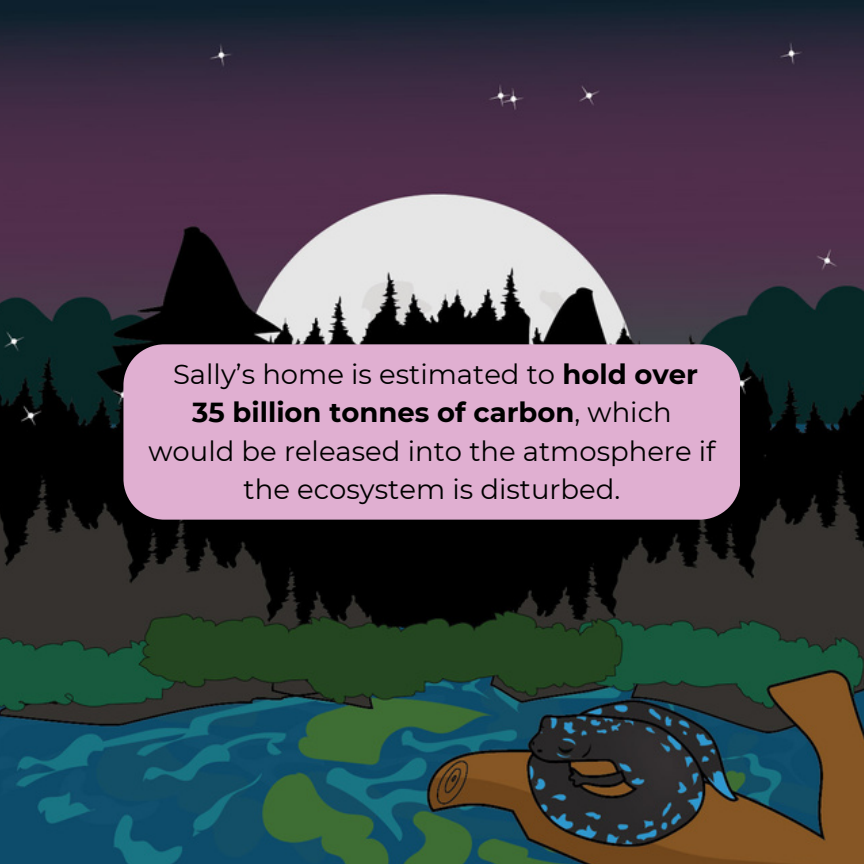


Sally's body acts as lungs to absorb oxygen and toxins alike, much like how the 'Yehewin Aski' (Breathing Lands), the wetlands she calls home, act as lungs for the Earth storing carbon for generations. The health of the Breathing Lands is crucial for her and all life's existence.



Blue spotted salamanders thrive in the Yehewin Aski — a carbon sink as globally significant as the Amazon rainforest — so, Sally isn't the only one who depends on these wetlands for survival.





Sally's home is estimated to **hold over 35 billion tonnes of carbon**, which would be released into the atmosphere if the ecosystem is disturbed.

An illustration of an Indigenous person, seen from the back, looking out over a forest at night. The person is wearing a black head covering, a blue long-sleeved shirt, and a red skirt with a yellow and blue horizontal band. They are holding a small object in their hands. The background features a large full moon, silhouettes of evergreen trees, and several birds flying in the sky. In the foreground, there is a body of water with some animals, including a moose and a bear, and a small island with a tree.

Indigenous Peoples have stewarded these lands since time immemorial, yet Ontario and Canada continue to authorize resource extraction without their consent.

If these lands are not cared for, who knows **how many other beings could be at risk.**

For years, it was believed that animals like Sally couldn't survive in the Breathing Lands due to its high acidity. Which begs the question: how many other undiscovered species could be threatened by unchecked resource extraction in the Breathing Lands?



The Treaty 9 agreement is meant to allow Nations to continue stewarding the Breathing Lands through co-jurisdiction over the territory, but Canada and Ontario disagree and believe it allows them to act without consent of the Nations.



Donate now to the Breathing Lands

legal case so the coalition of over 10 Indigenous Nations can reaffirm their rights under Treaty 9 to protect Sally — and us all — well into the future.

raventrust.com/breathing-lands

Who is RAVEN?

RAVEN has a mission to provide access to justice for Indigenous Nations.

Supporting the assertion of the inherent and constitutionally-protected rights of Indigenous Peoples is a powerful pathway towards reconciliation and environmental justice. Working together we've raised millions of dollars to back some of the most groundbreaking legal challenges of our time.

RAVEN has supported Indigenous Nation partners who have halted mines, stopped pipelines, and created better laws.

Together, we are a part of the movement for Indigenous justice.

raventrust.com



RAVEN