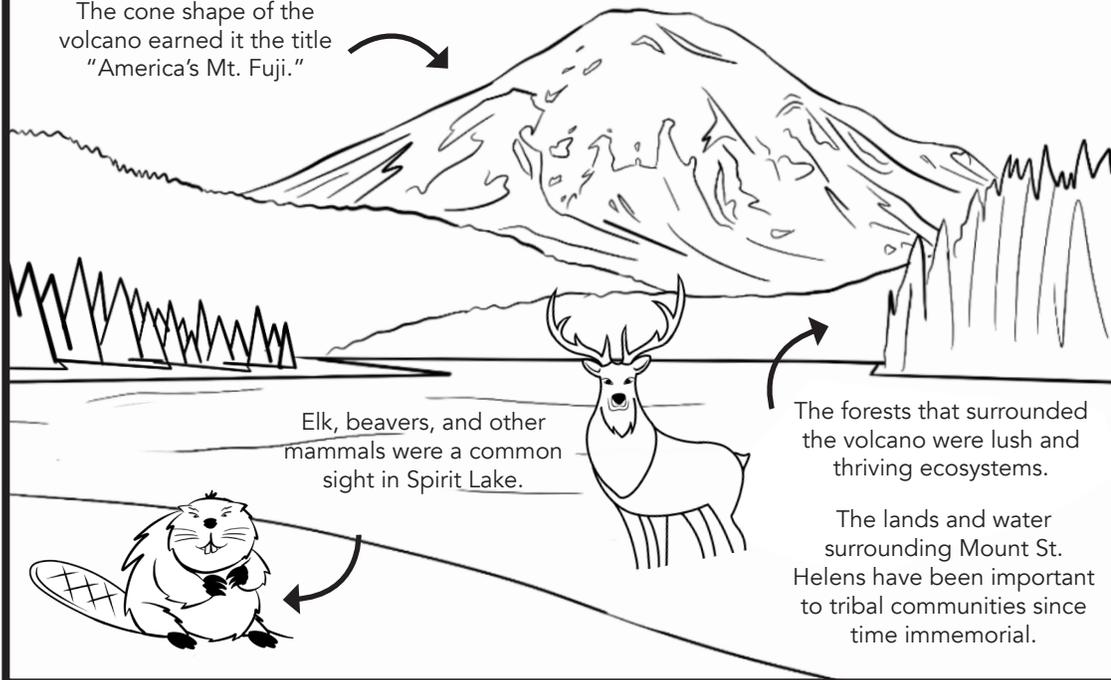


# BEFORE THE ERUPTION

Before the eruption in 1980, Mount St. Helens and the surrounding Spirit Lake were popular tourist spots.

The cone shape of the volcano earned it the title "America's Mt. Fuji."



Elk, beavers, and other mammals were a common sight in Spirit Lake.

The forests that surrounded the volcano were lush and thriving ecosystems.

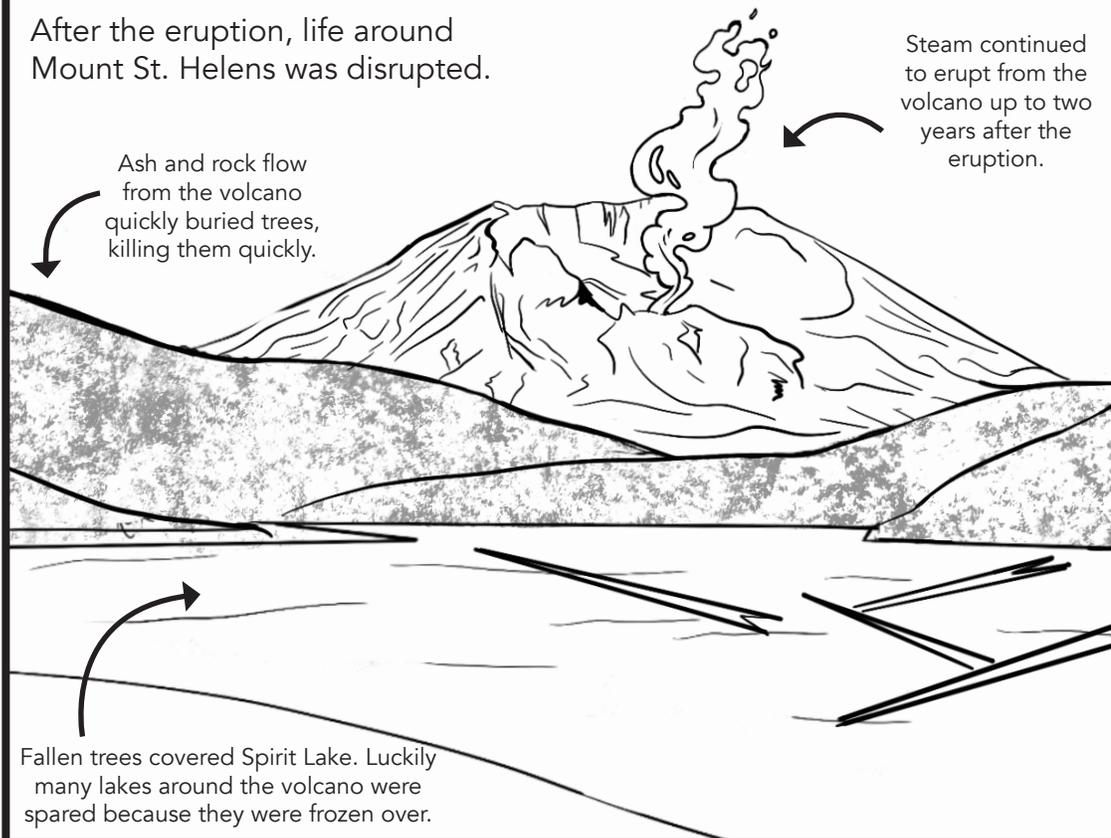
The lands and water surrounding Mount St. Helens have been important to tribal communities since time immemorial.

# TWO YEARS LATER

After the eruption, life around Mount St. Helens was disrupted.

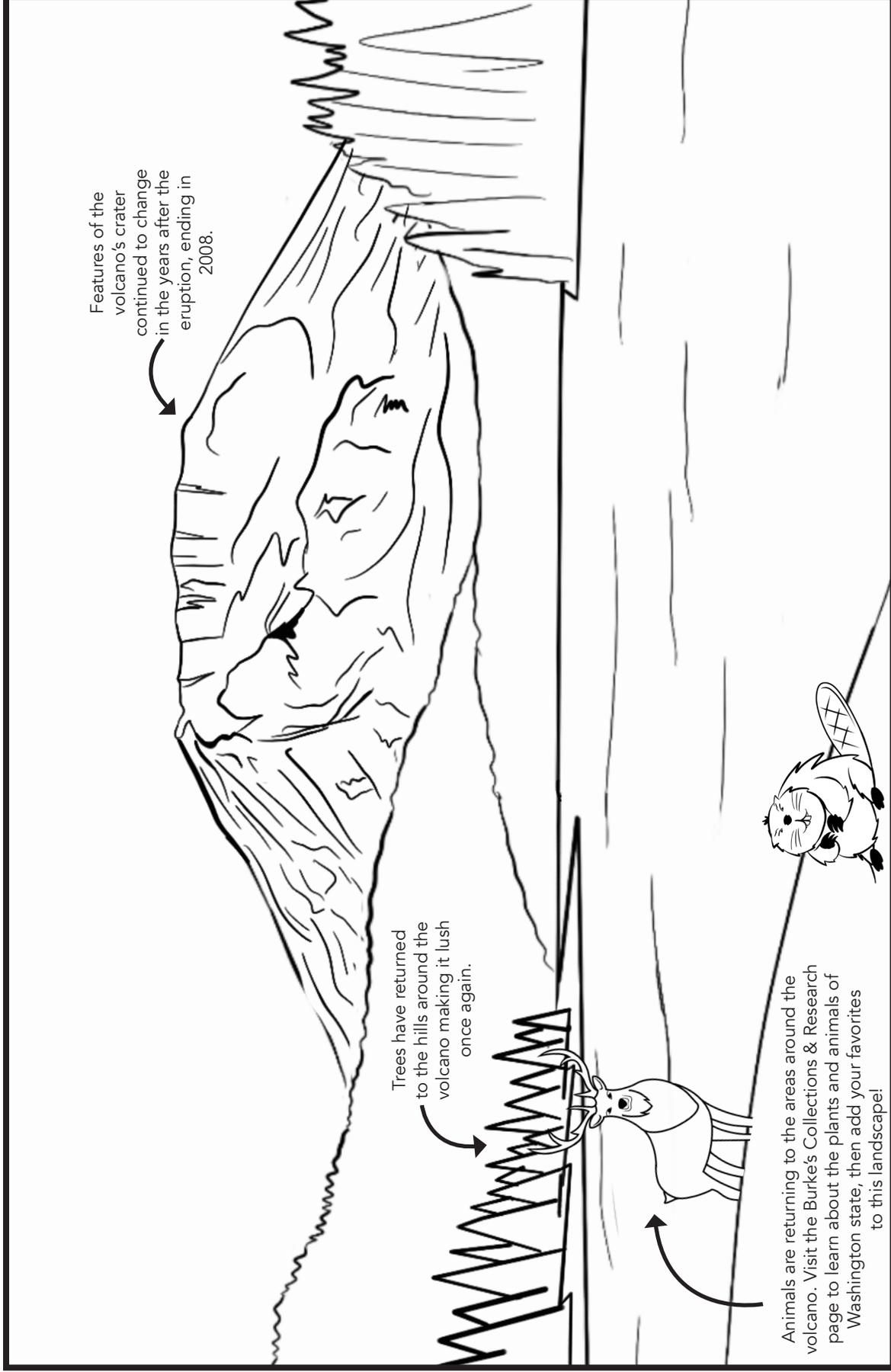
Ash and rock flow from the volcano quickly buried trees, killing them quickly.

Steam continued to erupt from the volcano up to two years after the eruption.



Fallen trees covered Spirit Lake. Luckily many lakes around the volcano were spared because they were frozen over.

# TODAY: FORTY YEARS LATER



In the 40 years since the eruption, the lands around the volcano have returned to being lush and green. Animals previously pushed out of their habitats by the ash and burnt landscapes have returned.