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**Table 4.6** Comparison of mean observed near-surface temperature and precipitation over the western alpine region with corresponding values derived from model simulations of current  $1 \times CO_2$  and putative  $2 \times CO_2$  climate.

|                            |            | Temperature (°C) |      | Precipitation |      |
|----------------------------|------------|------------------|------|---------------|------|
|                            |            | Jan              | Jul  | Jan           | Jul  |
| Observed                   | OBS        | -0.8             | 17.8 | 2.91          | 3.87 |
| $1 \times CO_2$ bias       | ECHAM-OBS  | +0.7             | +1.2 | +12%          | -61% |
|                            | RegCM2-OBS | +2.7             | +1.8 | +41%          | -34% |
| 2 x CO <sub>2</sub> effect | ECHAM      | +1.8             | +5.5 | +30%          | -40% |
|                            | RegCM2     | +0.9             | +3.9 | +6%           | -38% |

*Note:* The labels OBS, ECHAM and RegCM2 refer to observations, the ECHAM3-T106 high-resolution general circulation model, and the nested RegCM2 regional climate model, respectively. The 2 x  $CO_2$  effect is defined as 2 x  $CO_2$  – 1 x  $CO_2$ . Precipitation is given in millimeters per day for the observations, otherwise in percentage of the observed values. Compiled from data in Marinucci et al. 1995 and Beniston et al. 1995.