

ANIMALS

Animals are disappearing at hundreds of times the normal rate, **primarily because of shrinking habitats**.

Habitat loss - **driven primarily by** human expansion as we develop land for housing, agriculture, and commerce - is the biggest threat facing most animal species, **followed by** hunting and fishing.

Even when habitat is not lost entirely, it may be changed so much that animals cannot **adapt**. Fences fragment a grassland or **logging** cuts through a forest, **breaking up** migration corridors; pollution renders a river toxic; **pesticides** kill widely and indiscriminately.

To those local threats one must increasingly add global ones: Trade, which **spreads disease** and **invasive species** from place to place, and climate change, which eventually will affect every species on Earth - starting with the animals that live on cool mountaintops or **depend on** polar ice.

All of these threats lead, directly or indirectly, back to humans and our expanding footprint. Most species **face multiple threats**. Some can adapt to us; others will **vanish**.

- **followed by** = you use followed by to say what comes after something else in a list or ordered set of things: theo sau là ...
- **to adapt** /əˈdæpt/ (v) = to change your behaviour in order to deal more successfully with a new situation: thích nghi
- **logging** /ˈlɒːɡɪŋ/ (n) = the work or business of cutting down trees for their wood: việc khai thác gỗ
- **to break up** = to separate into smaller pieces: phá vỡ
- **pesticide** /ˈpestɪsaɪd/ (n): a chemical used for killing pests, especially insects: thuốc trừ sâu
- **to spread disease**: làm lây lan dịch bệnh
- **an invasive species** = an organism that is not indigenous, or native, to a particular area: loài du nhập, loài xâm lấn (loài mà không phải bản xứ của vùng đó)
- **to depend on something** = to rely on something: phụ thuộc vào ...
- **to face multiple threats**: đối mặt với nhiều mối đe dọa
- **to vanish** /ˈvænɪʃ/ (v) = to stop existing: biến mất

Source: <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/article/vanishing-what-we-lose-when-an-animal-goes-extinct-feature>

SYNONYMS

- shrinking habitats ≈ habitat loss
- ... primarily because of ... ≈ ... is driven primarily by ...