

## CHAPTER 9 VOCABULARY - Sustaining Biodiversity

MILLER LITE, 17<sup>th</sup> EDITION

<b>background extinction rate</b>	Normal extinction of various species as a result of changes in local environmental conditions. Compare <i>mass extinction</i> .
<b>biological extinction</b>	Complete disappearance of a species from the earth. It happens when a species cannot adapt and successfully reproduce under new environmental conditions or when a species evolves into one or more new species. Compare <i>speciation</i> . See also <i>endangered species</i> , <i>mass extinction</i> , <i>threatened species</i> .
<b>climate</b>	Physical properties of the troposphere of an area based on analysis of its weather records over a long period (at least 30 years). The two main factors determining an area's climate are its average <i>temperature</i> , with its seasonal variations, and the average amount and distribution of <i>precipitation</i> . Compare <i>weather</i> .
<b>commercial extinction</b>	Depletion of the population of a wild species used as a resource to a level at which it is no longer profitable to harvest the species.
<b>endangered species</b>	Wild species with so few individual survivors that the species could soon become extinct in all or most of its natural range. Compare <i>threatened species</i> .
<b>exotic species</b>	See <i>nonnative species</i> .
<b>extinction rate</b>	Percentage or number of species that go extinct within a certain period of time such as a year.
<b>habitat fragmentation</b>	Breakup of a habitat into smaller pieces, usually as a result of human activities.
<b>HIPPCO</b>	Acronym used by conservation biologists for the six most important secondary causes of premature extinction: <b>H</b> abitat destruction, degradation, and fragmentation; <b>I</b> nvasive (nonnative) species; <b>P</b> opulation growth (too many people consuming too many resources); <b>P</b> ollution; <b>C</b> limate change; and <b>O</b> verexploitation.
<b>immigrant species</b>	See <i>nonnative species</i> .
<b>invasive species</b>	See <i>nonnative species</i> .
<b>mass extinction</b>	Catastrophic, widespread, often global event in which major groups of species are wiped out over a short time compared with normal (background) extinctions. Compare <i>background extinction</i> .
<b>nonnative species</b>	Species that migrate into an ecosystem or are deliberately or accidentally introduced into an ecosystem by humans. Compare <i>native species</i> .
<b>pollutant</b>	Particular chemical or form of energy that can adversely affect the health, survival, or activities of humans or other living organisms. See <i>pollution</i> .
<b>pollution</b>	Undesirable change in the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of air, water, soil, or food that can adversely affect the health, survival, or activities of humans or other living organisms.
<b>population</b>	Group of individual organisms of the same species living in a particular area.
<b>survivorship curve</b>	Graph showing the number of survivors in different age groups for a particular species.

<b>threatened species</b>	Wild species that is still abundant in its natural range but is likely to become endangered because of a decline in numbers. Compare <i>endangered species</i> .
<b>wild species</b>	Species found in the natural environment. Compare <i>domesticated species</i> .
<b>wildlife</b>	All free, undomesticated species. Sometimes the term is used to describe animals only.
<b>wildlife resources</b>	Wildlife species that have actual or potential economic value to people.