

Biodiversity crises

The crisis of biodiversity is the **accelerated loss** of genetic variability, of species and of ecosystems.



Red Book

16,928
species
at risk

Since the 17th century, at least **717** species of animals and **87** species of plants have gone extinct. If the extinctions caused by humans before the 1600s are included, the number of extinct species rises to **2,000**. Today, more than **17,000** plant and animal species risk the same fate (IUCN Red List).

Among the species that went extinct during the last 400 years are the dodo (*Raphus cuculatus*) from the island of Mauritius, the Steller's sea cow (*Hydrodamalis gigas*) from the Bering Sea (1768), the quagga (*Equus quagga quagga*) from South Africa, the Tasmanian wolf (*Thylacinus cynocephalus*) from Australia, and the great auk (*Pinguinus impennis*) from the Atlantic coast.

In Mexico, various species of fresh water fish have disappeared, such as the Potosi pupfish (*Cyprinodon alvarezii*) and the Cachorrito Trinidad, also known as the Charco Azul pupfish (*Cyprinodon inmemoriam*) from Nuevo Leon; some birds restricted to islands such as the Socorro Island's dove (*Zenaida graysoni*), and the Guala-lupe storm-petrel (*Oceanodroma macrodactyla*); and some large mammals such as the Caribbean monk seal (*Monachus tropicalis*), the grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos horribilis*) and the Mexican wolf (*Canis lupus baileyi*) from northern and central Mexico (species at risk CONABIO).

Norma 059

2,583
species
at risk

