

## **Extinction and Endangered Species**

### **Humans and Extinction**

- mass extinctions occurred before man arrived, eg. dinosaurs
- until 1600 AD, the extinction rate was 1 species per 1000 years
- between 1600 and 1900 AD, the rate rose to 1 species every 4 years
- estimated now to be **1 species every 30 minutes**

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### **Other Causes of Extinction**

- climate changes
- competition for resources
- logging, oil exploration, urban sprawl and agriculture

### **Effects of Extinction**

- reduction in biodiversity  
ex- sea otters, urchins, kelp, other fish species

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