

Unit 4

Biodiversity and Conservation Lecture 7

Threats to biodiversity

Habitat loss, alteration and fragmentation directly affect the species that rely on the habitat that is being changed

Invasive species are harmful non-native species whose introduction or spread threatens the environment, the economy and society, including human health

Pollution is emitted in many different forms, including atmospheric pollution, soil and water pollution, pesticides

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Human population growth adds to the impact of all the other causes because more people require more space and more resources

Over-consumption is the harvest of species at a rate higher than can be sustained by the natural reproduction of the population

Climate Change and other Cumulative impacts: People have added carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, methane and other greenhouse gases to the atmosphere by extracting and burning fossil fuels such as coal, oil and natural gas. The effect of these gases has been to trap heat and accelerate the rate of global warming and climate change