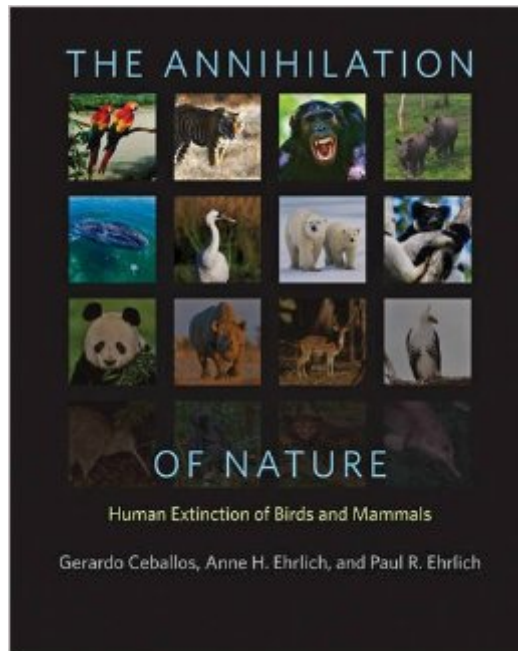


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# The Annihilation Of Nature: Human Extinction Of Birds And Mammals



## Synopsis

Gerardo Ceballos, Anne H. Ehrlich, and Paul R. Ehrlich serve as witnesses in this trial of human neglect, where the charge is the massive and escalating assault on living things. Nature is being annihilated, not only because of the human population explosion, but also as a result of massive commercial endeavors and public apathy. Despite the well-intentioned work of conservation organizations and governments, the authors warn us that not enough is being done and time is short for the most vulnerable of the world's wild birds and mammals. Thousands of populations have already disappeared, other populations are dwindling daily, and soon our descendants may live in a world containing but a minuscule fraction of the birds and mammals we know today. The Annihilation of Nature is a clarion call for engagement and action. These outspoken scientists urge everyone who cares about nature to become personally connected to the victims of our inadequate conservation efforts and demand that restoration replace destruction. Only then will we have any hope of preventing the worst-case scenario of the sixth mass extinction.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

There should have been a subtitle to this book, such as "Stopping the Loss" because it not only illustrates to breadth and speed with which we are permanently losing important biodiversity, but also addresses how we could be stopping it. Recent studies chronicle the dramatic decline of animals on earth, even if humanity has not chronicled the extinction (or recognition) of every vanished species. This graphic book is special in that it:- Is the first to show how loss of biodiversity

is tied to human expansion;- points out the importance of not just species but population extinctions- illustrates the global scale of conservation issues, from Zimbabwe and China to the US and Australia.-Graphically illustrates what humanity is losing.- Shows how ecotourism, new agricultural practices, even hunting sometimes, help save biodiversity.- Emphasizes solutions, from preserving species & ecosystems to tackling overpopulation & consumption.Preserving biodiversity is integral to preserving a decent human future. Showing how we are losing it and how we can stop it are the important contributions this book makes to the global conversation of this vital topic.

An amazing book, a wonderful pledge for our planet, full of evidence and scientific support regarding our impact to our amazing natural world yet with a hope message of the big challenges and changes we as humans can make to save our most important treasures. A must-read for the entire humanity, and a need for those interested on responsibly facing the challenge and changing the tide.

A surprisingly beautiful book considering the ominous title. John Holdren, President Obama's science advisor, criticized the Pope's Encyclical for being too dismissive of the role of the size of the human population in crowding out the rest of creation. • THE ANNIHILATION OF NATURE is a magnificent book that makes no such mistake. It summarizes the consequences of humanity's launching of the sixth mass extinction, the first since an extra-terrestrial body wiped out the dinosaurs 65 million years ago. With a series of glorious photographs and graphic stories it shows what we're losing from the two best-known groups of animals: mammals and birds. It also frankly discusses the only basic cure to the extinction crisis: the shrinkage of Earth's human population and reduction of per capita consumption by the already rich. • Perhaps most important it emphasizes a problem few are aware of, a massive wave of population extinction. It is destroying the critical natural services we all depend upon. Professor Ceballos and his colleagues have done us all a great favor – supplying a beautiful book that carries a critical message. Do yourself a favor by giving it as a gift – all the royalties go to support training of young conservation biologists,

When everything seems to be connected by the internet, human-beings could not be more distant from nature than nowadays. Unfortunately this disengagement comes from long time ago due to the perception of superiority over other living creatures. Years of overexploitation have depleted species populations all over the world, from the prairies, to the mountains, to the ocean.This book, beautifully written and well documented, shows just a small part of our true legacy: the extinction of

magnificent species of mammals and birds. The book is divided into 10 sections that take the reader into a journey from the astonishing diversity on Earth, through the natural process of extinction, and the new trends in a human-dominated world. Through its pages there are stories of vanishing and extinct species, but also there are words of hope. The book ends with a compilation of some of the most important conservation efforts to save wildlife and the ecosystems, and also it gives a clear message to modify our overconsumption behavior. For those unaware of what happens outside the cities, this book is a good start to connect with nature; for those who are already connected, it is a piece to stay on the path.

Whether you think a little or a lot about birds and mammals being wiped off the Earth, *The Annihilation of Nature* is a great read. Complemented with stunning photos, it delivers a series of vivid stories about animals that have been or are nearly lost. Classic accounts of Dodos, Passenger Pigeons, and Tasmanian Tigers draw lessons from the (not so) distant past. Even more alarming is to read the numerous and ongoing losses including the West African Black Rhino, declared extinct just two years ago, and less well-known animals, including the Eskimo Curlew and the Caribbean Monk Seal. The most wrenching stories (sadly, not surprising) are of birds and mammals that are just a whisker away from extinction – the Mountain Gorilla, wild Tiger, California Condors, Kakapo flightless parrots and more. In weaving these stories together, *The Annihilation of Nature* tells at the same time how people might slow, stop, or reverse the decline, by protecting land, restoring places where people work and live, and finding ways that people and nature can share the planet. The book is an important accounting of our natural world, now and in the future.

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