

Biodiversity and the effect of human interaction on ecosystems

What is biodiversity?

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Why does great biodiversity make an ecosystem more stable?

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Give three causes of pollution in water.

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Give two causes of pollution in air.

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Give two causes of pollution on land.

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Why is more waste being produced?

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How do humans reduce the land available for other organisms?

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Why is destroying peat bogs a problem?

It reduces the dependence of one species on another for food, shelter and maintenance of the physical environment.

The variety of all the different species of organisms on Earth, or within an ecosystem.

Smoke and acidic gases.

Sewage, fertiliser and toxic chemicals.

Rapid population growth and a higher standard of living mean more resources are used and more waste is produced.

Landfill and toxic chemicals.

It reduces biodiversity of the habitat and the decay or burning of peat releases carbon dioxide.

By building, quarrying, farming and dumping waste.

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Why has large-scale tropical deforestation occurred?

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Give an environmental implication of deforestation.

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Which gases in the atmosphere contribute to global warming?

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Give a biological consequence of global warming.

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What is the scientific consensus on global warming based on?

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Give five programmes to reduce negative effects on biodiversity.

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Why are field margins and hedgerows reintroduced?

Less biodiversity, less photosynthesis, and more carbon dioxide from burning and decay.

To provide land for cattle and rice fields and to grow crops for biofuels.

Loss of habitat, changes in the distribution of species, or changes in migration patterns.

Carbon dioxide and methane, whose levels are increasing.

Breeding programmes, protecting rare habitats, hedgerows and field margins, reducing deforestation and emissions, recycling instead of landfill.

Systematic reviews of thousands of peer reviewed publications.

They provide habitats and food for wildlife where farmers grow only one type of crop.