

Biodiversity and Conservation

Section 2 Threats to Biodiversity

Main Idea

Details

Scan the titles, boldfaced words, figures, and captions in Section 2. List three threats you discovered to biodiversity.

Review Vocabulary

Use your book or dictionary to define food web.

food web

New Vocabulary

Use your book or dictionary to define the following terms.

background extinction

mass extinction

natural resource

overexploitation

habitat fragmentation

edge effect

biological magnification

eutrophication

introduced species

Section 2 Threats to Biodiversity (continued)

Main Idea _____

Details _____

Extinction Rates

I found this information on page _____.

Factors That Threaten Biodiversity

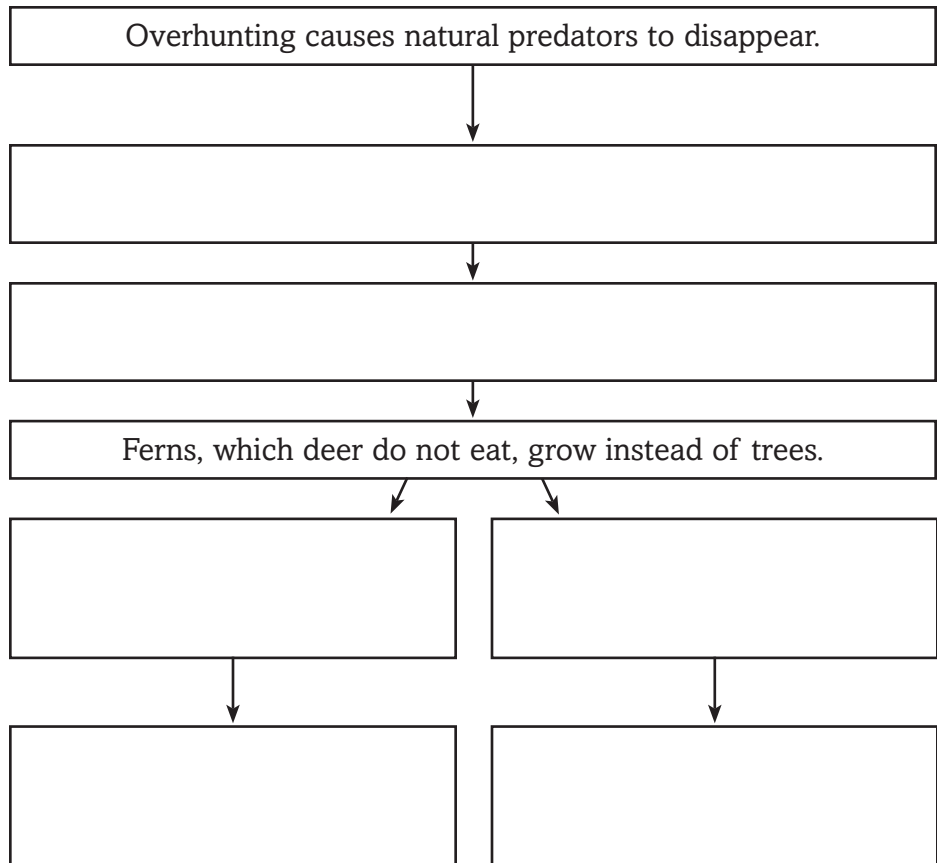
I found this information on page _____.

Summarize *extinction rates by completing the sentences below.*

_____ is slow and gradual. It is caused as _____ change by natural processes. A _____ is an event in which extinctions increase dramatically. Some scientists believe we are in a period of _____ today.

Sequence *the series of events describing how a habitat can be disrupted. The first one has been done for you.*

- Owls that prey on small mammals decline.
- Deer eat most of the young trees in a forest.
- Squirrels and rabbits that live in and around trees decline.
- Deer that are prey for predators increase in number.
- Birds that eat the insects decline.
- Overhunting causes natural predators to disappear.
- Insects that live in the bark of trees decline.



Section 2 Threats to Biodiversity (continued)

Main Idea _____ **Details** _____

Explain *why carnivores are subject to biological magnification of substances like DDT and PCBs.*

Describe *the effects of each change in habitat on species of animals.*

Edge effects	
Introduced species	
Pollution	
Habitat fragmentation	
Habitat loss	

CONNECT

Imagine a habitat near you. Hypothesize what would happen to the ecosystem if one species died out. Support your reasoning with information from this section.
