

Environmental Resources: Renewable & Non-Renewable Resources & Energy

Habitat Destruction

accumulation of detrimental factors impacting habitats

Biodiversity

variety of living organisms within a certain region

Breeding Grounds

areas where species of birds, fish or other animals ritually breed

Palatable Feeds

edible feeds available to various organisms in an ecosystem

Population Levels

levels of a particular species in an ecosystem

Water Quality

measure of the physical, chemical and biological characteristics impacting the suitability of water for various purposes

Human Encroachment

infringement of human development onto any non-developed habitat

Urbanization

increase of urban population; primarily drawing new inhabitants from rural and suburban areas

Resource Removal

removal of various resources for human use

Deforestation

removal of native forests

Hunting

removal of animals for human consumption, sport or protection

Fishing

variety of methods used to capture fish for human consumption, sport or protection

Freshwater Harvesting

removal of freshwater from a variety of sources for human use

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Mining

removal of valuable ores and minerals from the earth; most often found in mountainous and rugged terrain

Soil Degradation

removal, damage and reduction of quality in soil

Weather

combination of climatic elements regulating various biological processes on the earth

Severe Weather

events with the exceptional and rapid potential to devastate habitats

Blizzards

naturally occurring events characterized by heavy winds and snowfall

Fires

naturally occurring events in several regions of the world such as the southwestern United States

Floods

excessive water levels invading predominantly dry locations

Hurricanes

large storm systems with high-sustained winds known to cause catastrophic damages to the lands they impact over a period of days

Tornadoes

high-wind events with devastating impacts to the habitats they impact

Pollution

introduction of contaminants into an environment which most often cause negative impacts upon various organisms and habitat stability

Point Source Pollution

any pollution discharged from one particular source

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Nonpoint Source Pollution

pollution not categorized as point source which is most often transmitted by runoff from rain or snow

Waste

any material or resources which is no longer useful or which may be dangerous and harmful to the environment

Hazardous Material

any material which is dangerous and can affect the safety of people