

## Index

- acid rain, 75  
Africa, 130, 149, 184, 210, 230, 241  
agriculture  
  current environmental impacts, 271  
  environmental impacts in prehistory, 140  
  intensification of, 274  
  origins of, 139  
Alaska, USA, 135, 194  
alerce (*Fitzroya cupressoides*), 397  
Algeria, 150  
Allee effect, 183, 192  
Amazonia, 135, 235, 241, 243. *See also* Brazil  
America  
  Central, 134  
  North, 52, 76, 82, 109, 128, 131–132, 134, 151, 236–237, 243, 248, 271  
  South, 52, 128, 134, 231, 236, 250  
amphibians, 119, 209  
Antarctica, 108, 110  
Anthropocene, 119, 138, 142  
ants, 82  
Appalachian Mountains, 97  
Arabian Gulf, 171  
Aral Sea, 200, 329  
Arctic, 138, 264  
Argentina, 232, 306  
Asia, 76, 137  
assembly rules, 89  
Atlantic Ocean, 171, 185  
Atlas cedar (*Cedrus atlantica*), 236  
Australia, 53, 108, 110, 120, 194, 197, 237, 253, 297, 329, 340, 348, 364  
balance of nature, 12, 24  
ball and cup diagrams, 66, 392  
Balmford, Andrew, 29  
Baltic Sea, 187, 189, 337  
baselines  
  shifting, 195  
basin of attraction, 57, 66  
bats, 274  
bears, 135, 209, 322  
beaver (*Castor spp.*), 208  
beer  
  civilising role of, 140  
Belgium  
  area the size of, 224  
Belize, 165  
Beringia, 133, 323  
*Betula nana*, 318  
bioturbation, 113  
birch (*Betula spp.*), 135  
birds, 89, 96, 143–144, 274, 388  
'black box' approach, 12  
Black Sea, 186, 190, 193  
*Blob, The*, 192  
bog, 50  
Bolivia, 201  
Bonn Challenge, 258, 373  
boreal forest, 242  
boring  
  how not to be, 30  
Borneo, 231, 241, 247  
bottleneck, 263  
boundaries, 11, 13–14  
  functional, 13  
  structural, 13  
Braat, Leon, 368  
bracken fern, 144  
Brazil, 225, 231, 241–242, 247, 266  
Britain. *See* United Kingdom  
browsing, 51  
bryophytes, 119  
bushmeat, 242  
California, USA, 194  
Canada, 179, 185, 197, 213, 237, 243, 252  
cannibalism, 144  
carbon cycle, 105

- carbon sequestration, 227  
Caribbean Sea, 164–165, 169, 174  
Carriifran Wildwood Project, 397  
CAS. *See* complex adaptive systems  
catastrophe theory  
    as shipwreck, 56  
cats, 81  
cave paintings, 127  
cereal  
    breakfast  
        universe in, 40  
chaos theory, 56  
Chauvet Cave, 137  
Chazdon, Robin, 254  
Chicxulub impact, 95, 99–100, 118  
Chile, 225, 250, 397  
China, 137, 178, 226, 236, 351  
civilisation  
    collapse of, 362  
climate change, 71, 95, 189, 236, 299,  
    345  
    ecosystem effects of, 347  
coccolithophores, 114–115  
collapse  
    early-warning indicators of, 334  
Colorado, 118  
community ecology, 303  
complex adaptive systems (CAS), 58–59  
conifers, 108  
connectivity, 219  
conservation management, 325, 347  
Conservation Measures Partnership (CMP),  
    341  
conservation policy, 323, 328  
Convention on Biological Diversity, 1, 349,  
    373, 457  
Cook Islands, 141  
coral bleaching, 162  
    ecological impacts of, 163  
coral reefs, 99, 105, 112, 161, 292  
Costa Rica, 134, 260  
critical load  
    definition, 75  
    estimation, 76  
criticality, 57, 62  
    ‘robust’, 62  
self-organised (SOC), 62
- Dada, 395  
Darwin, Charles, 38–39, 81  
dead zones, 193
- debate  
    heated, 73  
Deccan Traps, 100  
defaunation, 240–241  
deforestation, 292  
degradation  
    anthropogenic, 229  
    definition of, 5  
    how disturbance differs from, 261  
desert, 45  
determinism  
    nominative, 220  
Diamond, Jared, 18, 146, 362  
dinosaurs, 99, 111  
disaster taxa, 104  
disturbance  
    characteristics of, 293  
    definition of, 5  
    key features of, 41  
    press, 41, 63, 100, 169, 294  
    pulse, 41, 63, 100, 170, 248, 294, 295  
DNA barcoding, 24  
Dorset, UK, 274  
dose-response relationships, 78  
driver  
    definition of, 5  
drought  
    ecological impacts of, 215  
Dumbo, 327
- Earth system succession, 114  
Easter Island. *See* Rapa Nui  
ecological theory  
    components of, 37  
ecosystem  
    definition of, 5, 10, 18  
ecosystem collapse  
    definition of, 6, 18, 21, 229, 324, 380  
    early-warning indicators of, 338–339  
    evidence of, 333  
    mechanisms of, 383  
ecosystem function, 311  
    biodiversity and, 313  
ecosystem recovery  
    definition of, 7, 21  
forest, 256  
indicators of, 340  
    mechanisms of, 89, 386  
models describing, 87  
ecosystem services, 25, 366  
Egypt, 153

## 474 · Index

- Ehrlich, Ann and Paul, 362
- elephant bird (*Aepyornis maximus*), 147
- elephants, 134
- Emperor
  - Danish, naked, 17
- England. *See* United Kingdom (UK)
- Ennerdale, UK, 52
- environmentalist paradox, 370
- equity, 373
- Erwin, Douglas, 120
- Etches, Steve, 95
- Eurasia, 131
- Europe, 52, 75, 109, 136–137, 142, 217, 237, 271, 361
- eutrophication, 202, 216
- extinction
  - functional, 83
  - secondary, 246–247, 304
- extinction apocalypse
  - horsemen of, 311
- extinction cascade, 83, 103, 246, 306
- extinction dynamics, 102
- Fahrig, Lenora, 233
- fallacy
  - conjunction, 337
  - logical, 268
  - prosecutor's, 337
- FAO. *See* UN Food and Agriculture Organization
- farming. *See* agriculture
- feedback, 70, 74, 149, 152, 167, 173, 190, 229, 237, 250, 253, 266, 300, 318
  - detection of, 302
  - stabilising, 202, 384
- ferns, 118
- Fertile Crescent, 139
- Fiji, 141, 176
- firestick farming, 126
- fish, 11, 95, 100, 144, 164, 202
  - 202
  - 177
- Florida Keys, USA, 166
- Florida, USA, 170
- food web
  - coastal, 196
  - Jurassic, 95
  - recovery of, 221
- food webs, 303, 305
- foraminifera, 114, 118
- forest, 45, 50, 52, 74, 77, 82, 84, 89–90, 118–119, 125, 325
  - definition of, 224
- forest elephant (*Loxodonta cyclotis*), 230
- forest fragmentation, 231
- forests, 108, 222
- fossil fuels, 389
- fossil record
  - biases in, 107
- fossils, 95, 100, 118
- FRA. *See* Global Forest Resources Assessment
- France, 127
- freshwater ecosystems, 45, 199, 293
- fruit dispersal by megaherbivores, 134
- fungi, 79, 105, 107, 109, 118, 125, 132
- Galápagos Islands, 163–164
- Germany, 207, 218, 271, 329
- GFW. *See* Global Forest Watch
- Ghana, 250
- ghosts
  - biological effects of, 146
- glass
  - half full or half empty, 334
- Global Biodiversity Outlook, 1, 457
- Global Environmental Outlook, 1
- Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA), 224, 394
- Global Forest Watch (GFW), 224, 227
- Gondwana, 108
- Good, Ronald, 275
- grassland, 45, 51, 53, 77, 131, 136, 151, 297, 325
  - grazing, 52–53
- Great Barrier Reef, 163, 166, 170–171, 173, 176, 327, 371
- Greece, 141
- Green New Deal, 397
- Greenland, 74, 108–109
- greenwash, 358
- habitat fragmentation, 233
- Hawaii, USA, 303, *See* Hawaiian Islands
- Hawaiian Islands, 141, 143, 166, 175
- heathland, 50
- herbivores, 50, 52
  - herbivory, 51
- Herzog, Werner, 127
- hierarchical-response framework (HRF), 43

- Hilborn, R., 181
- Holocene, 52
- Holocene epoch, 138
- Homer's *Odyssey*, 222
- Homo sapiens*
  - probability of extinction of, 366
  - howler monkeys, 82
- HRF. *See* hierarchical-response framework
- hummingbirds, 307
- Humpty Dumpty model of recovery, 220
- Hutchinson, G. Evelyn, 202
- hysteresis, 60, 64, 173, 186, 190, 197, 203
- ichthyosaurs, 95–96
- ideas
  - zombie, 233
- ideology
  - neoliberal, 368
- Indian Ocean, 171
- insectageddon, 272
- insects, 270, 388
- Intergovernmental Panel for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), 368
- invasional meltdown, 24
- invasive species, 210
- IPBES. *See* Intergovernmental Panel for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
- Ireland, 131, 136
- IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), 2
- IUCN Red List of Ecosystems (RLE), 2, 16, 25, 27, 52, 323, 326–328, 381
  - criticisms of, 331
- IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (RLTS), 2, 17, 328–329, 382
- jaguars, 245
- Jamaica, 165, 170
- jellyfish, 192
- Jurassic period, 95
- Kazakhstan, 200
- kelp forests, 82, 191, 194
- keystone species, 24, 80, 131
- Knepp Estate, 52
- Lake Baikal, 200
- Lake Chad, 151
- Lake Poopó, 201
- Lake Victoria, 211
- lakes, 200, 337
- landscape of fear, 238
- largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), 82, 203
- Leather, Simon, 273
- lemurs, 147
- Levant, the, 141
- lichens, 77, 118
- 'Lilliput effect', 112
- Lindeman, Raymond, 202
- Lindenmayer, David, 252
- livestock
  - impacts of, on semi-arid ecosystems, 151
- Lord of the Rings, The*
  - ecological perspective on, 143
- lycopsids, 108, 119
- Madagascar, 147
  - process of ecosystem collapse in, 148
- Maldives, 171
- mammals, 310, 346
  - mammoth steppe, 131, 135, 138, 300
  - marine ecosystems, 45, 95, 104, 110, 177, 340
  - marsupials, 120
- mass extinctions
  - 'Big Five', 96–97, 106, 113, 326, 345
    - definition, 97
    - mechanisms of, 101
    - scale of, 107
    - sixth?, 119
    - winners and losers, 111
  - May, Robert, 59
  - MEA. *See* Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
  - Mediterranean Sea, 298
  - megafauna
    - Australian, 120
    - extinction of, 122
    - Late Quaternary, 147, 364
  - Megaloceros giganteus*, 131
  - Mesoamerica, 329
  - Mesopotamia, 141
  - metaphor, 23, 392–393
  - Mexico, 141, 310
  - Michigan, USA, 203, 206
  - Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA), 9, 222, 367
  - moa, 144, 146

## 476 · Index

- model
  - difference from theory, 37
  - simulation, 304
  - state-and-transition, 53, 333
- Monbiot, George, 361
- Mongolia, 372
- monsters
  - beautiful, 395
  - topological, 56
- moose, 248
- Morocco, 150
- Mountain Ash (*Eucalyptus regnans*), 253
- multiple stable states, 20, 61, 409, 449
- mussels, 62
- mutualisms, 250
- Namibia, 190
- Neolithic package, 139
- Netherlands, The, 52, 203, 273, 354
- New Caledonia, 141
- New Guinea, 89
- New Mexico, USA, 142
- New York State, USA, 132
- New Zealand, 50, 143, 202, 210, 239, 246, 250, 364
  - 'spot the native species' game, 143
- niche filtering, 90
- Nile River, 150
- non-analogue communities, 346
- North Atlantic, 337
- Norway, 193
- nose
  - Cleopatra's, length of, 59
- novel ecosystems, 23, 112, 324, 355, 358
- nutrients
  - translocation by animals, 135
- Odum, Howard, 58
- Oostvaardersplassen, 52
- orcs. *See* wasps
- Oregon, USA, 151
- Pacific Ocean, 82, 171, 173, 192
- palaeoecology, 50, 52
- Palaeolithic, 127
- Pampas, 133
- Panama, 164, 209
- Pangaea, 119
- passenger pigeon, 120
- pastoralism
  - date of introduction of, 150
- Patagonia, 133
- Pauly, Daniel, 178, 187
- Payment for Ecosystem Service. *See* PES
- penguins, 144, 184
- perch (*Perca fluviatilis*), 222
- Permian period, 105
- PES (Payment for Ecosystem Service) schemes, 373
- Peters
  - R. H., 34–35
- Peters, R. H., 34
- physics envy, 34, 38
- plankton, 82
- plantation, 224–225
- plants
  - resilience of, 108
- polar bears, 349
- policy commitments
  - environmental, 373
- Polynesia, 142
- Popper, Karl, 33
- positivity, 29
- prairie, 151
- pressure. *See* driver
- propositions, 288
- pteridosperms, 108
- Puerto Rico, 271
- rain forest, 223
- rangeland, 53
- Rapa Nui, 141–142, 363
- Rasputin, Gregori, 126
- recovery debt, 261
- recovery trajectories, 22
- recovery trajectory, 88
- Red List of Ecosystems. *See* IUCN Red List of Ecosystems
- Red List of Threatened Species. *See* IUCN Red List of Threatened Species
- regime shift, 60, 83, 169, 191, 203, 266, 392
  - cascading, 319
- reptiles, 121
- resilience
  - difference from resistance, 84
  - ecological, 85
  - engineering, 85

- restoration
  - ecological, 21, 23, 87, 349, 356, 359, 371, 380
  - forest, 258, 397
  - river, 218
  - stream, 220
- rewilding, 52, 361, 380, 397
- rivers, 11, 200
- RLE. *See* IUCN Red List of Ecosystems
- RLTS. *See* IUCN Red List of Threatened Species
  - rotifers, 222
- Sagan, Carl, 206
- Sahara
  - 'Green', 149–150, 152
- Sahel-Sahara region, 149
- salmon, 11, 135, 209
- sandeels (*Ammodytes marinus*), 184
- savannah, 45, 264, 310, 325
- science
  - difference from astrology, 92
  - junk, 120
  - philosophy of, 33
  - rocket, 34
- Scotland, 397
- sea otters, 194
- Seychelles, the, 166, 174
- sharks, 96, 175, 185
- shrubland, 50, 53
- shrubs, 51
- Siberia, 131, 135, 137, 200, 243
- Singapore, 247
- SOC. *See* criticality, self-organised
- Sofia Protocol, 76
- South Africa, 110, 329
- Spain, 137
- stability, 315
- stable states
  - alternative, 52, 60, 66, 74, 138, 150, 165, 190, 192, 204, 248, 252, 298
  - multiple, 62–63, 65, 69, 71, 103, 105, 110
- starfish, 173
- Steller's sea cow
  - extinction of, 194
- stromatolites, 104
- succession
  - circular, 50
  - mechanisms of, 260
  - progressive, 49
  - retrogressive, 50
  - succession theory, 48
  - successional transitions, 299
- Sweden, 202
- systems science, 17
- systems theory
  - dynamical, 56, 69, 92, 166, 173, 202, 248, 264, 391
- Tarkin, Governor, 355
- Tasmania, 250
- Texas, USA, 136, 151, 240
- Thailand, 240
- theory
  - ecological
    - definitions of, 36
  - threat, 44, 103, 344
    - definition of, 7
    - taxonomy of, 45
  - threshold, 64, 151, 215, 245, 305
- Thunberg, Greta, 392, 396
- tipping point, 73, 81, 243–244
- trees, 50–51
- Triassic period, 105
- trophic cascade, 75, 81, 185, 188, 189, 206, 238, 310
- trophic triangles, 204
- tundra, 136, 138, 318, 322
- Twain, Mark, 180
- UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), 224
- United Kingdom (UK), 52, 136–137, 232, 324, 340, 358
  - Kimmeridge, Dorset, 95
- urbanisation, 213
- USA, 231
- Venezuela, 82, 239
- Vera, Franz, 50, 152
- volcanoes, 96
- Wallace, Alfred Russel, 38
- Wardle, David, 317
- wasps
  - invasive, scarier than orcs, 144
- wolf, 82

## 478 · Index

- wolves, 238, 240
- woodland, 53, 136
- woolly monkeys, 135
- woolly rhinoceros, 137
- World Resources Institute, 224
- Worm, B., 181
- Yellowstone, USA, 238
- Younger Dryas, 133, 364
- zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*), 213
- Zen, moment of, 39