

Homework 2: Due Feb 7th

Read Article 17: *Mass Extinction* by David Hosansky in the Annual Editions Environment 01/02 Textbook and answer the following questions. Open ended questions must be answered by a few *complete* sentences. Sentence fragments do not count.

1. According to the article, the pace of species extinction is so great that what percent of species will be gone by the end of the 21st century ?
2. What do you think of the comments of William L. Kovacs, cited throughout the article ?
3. What are the three major reasons Raven cites for preserving vanishing species ?
4. Other than the Endangered Species Act, how many other U.S. laws are targeted to preserving biodiversity or rare organisms ?

5. What has happened since the ESA passed (cite some numbers). Do you think this makes the law a success or a failure ?

6. What is problem with protecting only “majestic animals” ?

7. Do you think the introduction of genetically modified species would make up for the loss of wild species ?

8. How many past mass extinctions does the article discuss ? _____

9. What is a common theme found in each of those extinctions ?

10. Did you think this article was bias or well balanced ? Why ?