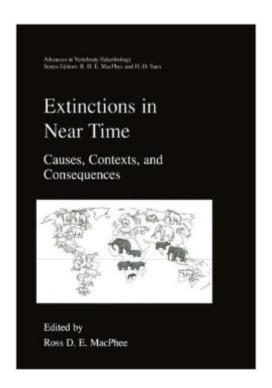
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Extinctions In Near Time: Causes, Contexts, And Consequences (Advances In Vertebrate Paleobiology)





Synopsis

"Near time" -an interval that spans the last 100,000 years or so of earth history-qualifies as a remarkable period for many reasons. From an anthropocentric point of view, the outA- standing feature of near time is the fact that the evolution, cultural diversification, and globÂ- al spread of Homo sapiens have all occurred within it. From a wider biological perspective, however, the hallmark of near time is better conceived of as being one of enduring, repeatÂ- ed loss. The point is important. Despite the sense of uniqueness implicit in phrases like "the biodiversity crisis," meant to convey the notion that the present bout of extinctions is by far the worst endured in recent times, substantial losses have occurred throughout near time. In the majority of cases, these losses occurred when, and only when, people began to exÂ- pand across areas that had never before experienced their presence. Although the explanaÂ- tion for these correlations in time and space may seem obvious, it is one thing to rhetoriA- cally observe that there is a connection between humans and recent extinctions, and guite another to demonstrate it scientifically. How should this be done? Traditionally, the study of past extinctions has fallen largely to researchers steeped in such disciplines as paleontology, systematics, and paleoecology. The evaluation of future losses, by contrast, has lain almost exclusively within the domain of conservation bioloÂ- gists. Now, more than ever, there is opportunity for overlap and sharing of information.

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The very much like the book. I thought it was very informative and coming from me (one who does

not like to read factual books) that is saying something. I do not think everyone will react the same way to the book as i did. i like it because i am an animal enthusiast and any more information about conservation and extinction habits is music to my eyes (lol) anyway i would recommend this book to all who are interested in animals or want to have an informational book for projects. but many might not like it because it is written as die hard facts, it does not have a plot and would not be interesting to those who do not appreciate animals or science. ManPhee compiles a bunch of informtion based on the editors he gathered it from. it reads sort of like how u would find a history book, with graphs and charts to back up his info all in all it was very informative and i got lot out of it.

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