

Documentaries & Factual - Wildlife



THE MASS EXTINCTION

The Mass Extinction

Episodes: 2 x 60 mins

Language: English

Year: 2022

Producer: Mediacorp Studios

Distributor: Mediacorp

The Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change estimates that by 2100, an estimated 50% of all the world's species: up to 1 million animals and plant species are at risk of extinction because of human activities.

We traverse across India and Philippines to understand how climate change and rising temperatures are lowering the survival rates of the Asiatic elephants and the green sea turtle due to changes that lead to less food, less successful reproduction, and interfering with the environment for native wildlife.

Along the way, we also investigate how human exploitation of animal habitats, climate change and pollution is exasperating its impact. Many experts say a "mass extinction event" – only the sixth in the past half-billion years – is already underway.

Cooler habitats have been earmarked as a way for species to "escape" from warming climates. However, most species won't be able to do this quickly enough to avoid extinction, based on their past rates of movement.

In this 2-part series, we go deep inside jungles, oceans and natural habitats around Asia and meet activists and environmentalist's trying to save our animals from extinction.

Narrator: Dilly Barlow

Information correct at time of printing

contentdistribution.mediacorp.sg

For sales enquiries on content distribution:

Grace Chia gracechia@mediacorp.com.sg

Tracy Sim tracysim@mediacorp.com.sg

Wilfred Chen wilfred.chen@mediacorp.com.sg



Episode 1

India is home to approximately around 27,000 Asian Elephants, which is the world's largest population of the species. The country may be the species' main stronghold, helping each elephant consume 450 kg of food every day. But its survival is now under threat.

Their sensitivity to heat leads to metabolic disorders, oxidative stress, immune suppression, and death, impacting their reproduction rates. Some 42% of the present available habitat in the country will be lost due to the combined effects of human pressure and climate change.

The elephants are likely to shift towards higher elevations in the Himalayas. We follow animals' activists along with the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change in India are battling to create a green corridor to help them to travel and shift habitats without issue and give legal protection to the movement of elephants.

Can the Asian elephant survive these modern threats to its existence?

Episode 2

The world's oceans are now heating at the same rate as if five Hiroshima atomic bombs were dropped into the water every second due to climate change. The ocean contains 90 percent of the heat from human-induced global warming, and the year 2020 was the warmest ever measured for the global ocean.

According to a report, plastic pollution is another reason for the mass extinction of marine life. Studies estimate there are now 15–51 trillion pieces of plastic in the world's oceans — from the equator to the poles, from Arctic ice sheets to the sea floor.

Not one square mile of surface ocean anywhere on earth is free of plastic pollution. What is the impact of such human activities on the Philippines green sea turtle? The problem is growing into a crisis. The fossil fuel industry plans to increase plastic production by 40 percent over the next decade. New research suggests that climate change could wipe out 60% of all fish species in the oceans. As the heat kills coral reefs, fishes are unable to reproduce. Can humanity survive without fish?

We traverse the Philippines to witness the battle to save the green sea turtle as we meet with experts and scientists trying to protect the habitat from human activity. Can the green sea turtle and its ecology which has now been ranked as an endangered species due to climate change be saved?

Information correct at time of printing

contentdistribution.mediacorp.sg

For sales enquiries on content distribution:

Grace Chia gracechia@mediacorp.com.sg
Tracy Sim tracysim@mediacorp.com.sg
Wilfred Chen wilfred.chen@mediacorp.com.sg

