

# Threatened Species

## The Most Common Threats:

- Habitat destruction caused by residential & commercial development;
- Tourism & recreation;
- Agriculture & aquaculture;
- Hunting & trapping;
- Natural system modification, including fire;
- Geological events, including volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis;
- Logging & wood harvesting;
- Climate change & severe weather conditions, including droughts, storms and flooding;
- Mining & quarrying;
- Invasive and other problematic species;
- Diseases.

Thousands of plant and animal species become **extinct** each year, mostly because of human activities. If deforestation (especially of tropical forests), desertification, and destruction of wetlands and coral reefs continue at present rates, perhaps 1 million species will become extinct over the next 20 years.

**An endangered species** is one having so few individual survivors that the species could soon become extinct over all or most of its natural range.

**A threatened species** is still abundant in its natural range but is declining in numbers and is likely to become endangered.

# EFFECTS OF POLLUTION



## 5. Disruption of natural life support systems at local, regional and global levels

e.g. climate change, decreased natural recycling of chemicals, etc.

## 1. Nuisance and aesthetic insult

*e.g. unpleasant smells, reduced atmospheric visibility, etc.*

## 2. Property damage

*e.g. corrosion of metals, soiling of buildings and clothes, etc.*

## 3. Damage to plants and animals

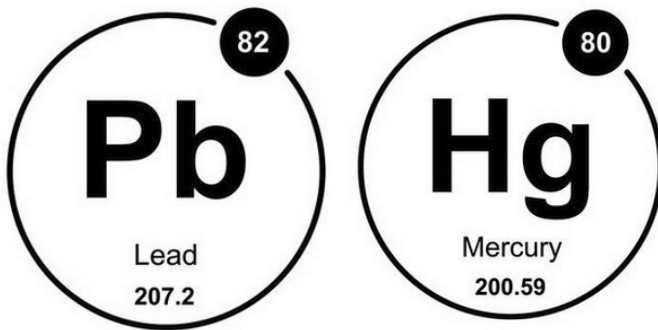
*e.g. decreased tree production, harmful health effects on animals, extinction, etc.*

## 4. Damage to human health

e.g. spread of infectious diseases, respiratory system irritation and diseases, cancers, etc.

# NON-DEGRADABLE POLLUTANTS

NON-DEGRADABLE POLLUTANTS ARE NOT  
BROKEN DOWN BY NATURAL PROCESSES.

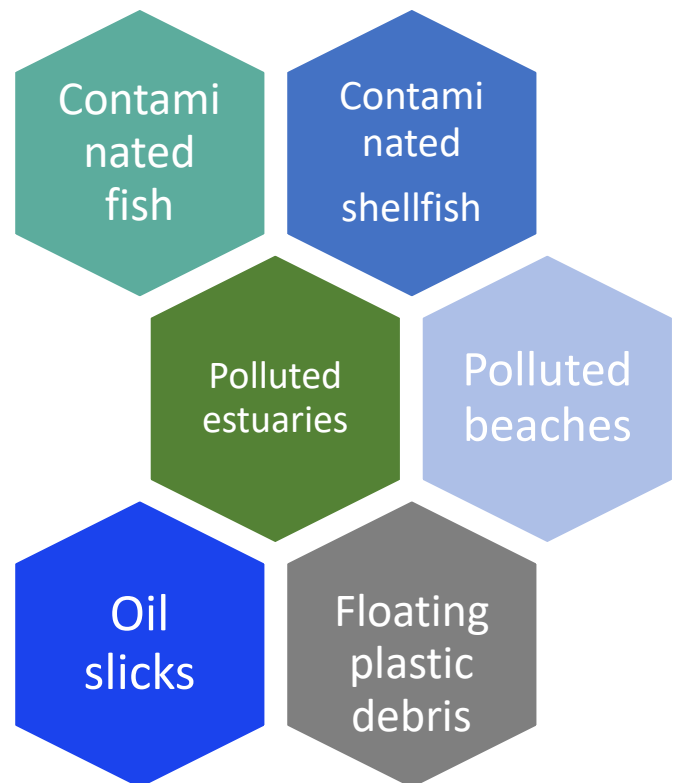


For example, the only way to deal with the toxic elements **lead** and **mercury** is to **recycle** them, i.e. to remove them from contaminated air, water or soil. This process is expensive.

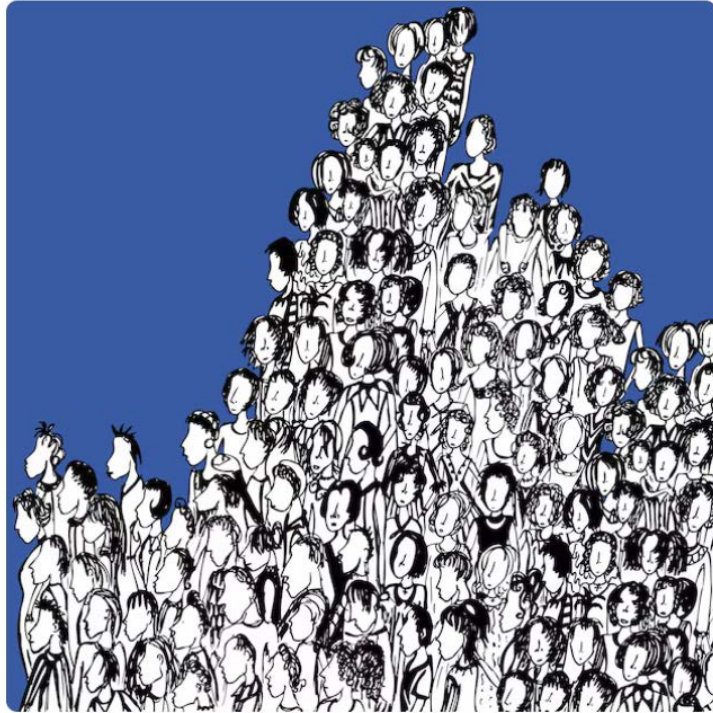
It is better **not to release them into the environment at all.**

# MARINE POLLUTION

Most of the wastes that are dumped into the air, water, and land **end up in the oceans.**



# OVERPOPULATION TYPES



## People Overpopulation:

There are more people than the available supplies of food, water, and other important resources. It is caused mostly by growing number of people.

## Consumption Overpopulation:

When a small number of people use resources at such a high rate that significant pollution, environmental degradation, and resources depletion occur. It is mostly caused by growing resource consumption.

# POLLUTANTS

**Solid, liquid, or gaseous  
chemicals**

**Unwanted energy emissions  
such as excessive heat, noise,  
or radiation**

