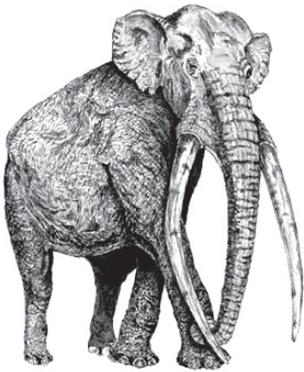




EXPLORE...

# GOING, GOING, GONE!



SELF-GUIDED TOUR



estimated time =  
less than 1 hour

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has made the “Red List” of animal species based on how concerned we need to be about their survival. Animals on the “Red List” can be listed as:

- Lower risk
- Threatened (Going, Going)
  - Vulnerable-high risk in medium-term future
  - Endangered-high risk in near future
- Extinct (Gone!)
  - Extinct in the wild
  - Extinct everywhere

The MSU Museum has examples of many of these animals. The animal specimens you will see were acquired by the Museum in accordance with law and museum requirements.

Unfold this paper and  
**TRY THE ACTIVITY**  
in the middle. See if you  
can find all the animals in  
the Museum!

## NOT ALL SPECIES EXIST FOREVER.

Throughout Earth’s history, species have come and gone. Species evolve, and species become extinct. In fact, the fossil record shows us that nearly 100% of all species that have ever lived on the planet are now extinct.

The extinction rate we are seeing today is much higher than the normal rate of one to five species per year, and species are becoming extinct each day! Unlike earlier periods of mass extinction in Earth’s history, this one is not caused by natural events. This time it’s almost all due to human activities.

As species become extinct, we lose diversity, which is important for environmental stability.

**Learn more at:**

[biologicaldiversity.org/programs/biodiversity/elements\\_of\\_biodiversity/extinction\\_crisis](http://biologicaldiversity.org/programs/biodiversity/elements_of_biodiversity/extinction_crisis)

## GOING, GOING, BACK!

Good news! The Endangered Species Act is an important federal law that protects wildlife and plants. This Act, along with other human efforts, has helped bring some species back from near extinction.



NAME	LOWEST POPULATION	TAKEN OFF RED LIST
American Bald Eagle	1963: 417 nesting pairs	2007: 9,789 nesting pairs
Gray Wolf	1960: 300 individuals	2013: 5,443 in lower 48 states

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
**MUSEUM**

MSU Museum Education Team  
409 W. Circle Drive  
East Lansing, MI 48824  
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# Hall of Evolution

**1** EXTINCT

What big eyes I have!  
They helped me see  
under water. Feel my  
ridges. I am a...

**2** EXTINCT

What big pointed  
teeth I have! I am an  
extinct cat, and I have  
modern day relatives  
in Asia that are  
vulnerable. I am a...

**3** EXTINCT

What a big animal I am!  
I look like an elephant,  
but I'm not one. I ate  
plants with my molars.  
You can find my skull at  
the top of the 2nd Floor  
stairs. I am a...

**Directions:** Find each of the animals in the galleries. Write the name of each animal as you find it. The answers are on the back of this sheet.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

**FACTOID:**  
Passenger pigeons became extinct due to excess hunting and deforestation in the 19th century. The last one, Martha, died at the Cincinnati Zoo in 1914

**FACTOID:**  
Farming (for food, building materials, and many other things) threatens habitats. Know the source of what you're buying.

GO UP THE STAIRS

# Landing Gallery and Habitat Hall

**4** VULNERABLE

What big tusks I have! My relatives next to me have even larger tusks! I am an...

**6** VULNERABLE

What hard "scales" I have!  
I'm not a lizard, but I look a lot like one. I am a...

**7** VULNERABLE

What a long bill I have!  
My name is also the name of a fruit. I can't fly and I lay the largest egg for a bird my size. I am a...

**FACTOID:**  
Since 1986, the Asian elephant population has declined by at least 50%.

# Hall of Animal Diversity

**5** EXTINCT

What big spikes I have!  
Other animals would have to watch out for my tail. I am a...

**8** VULNERABLE

What a long tongue I have!  
I eat little insects and have long hair. I am a...

**FACTOID:**  
The whooping crane population was 16 in 1941, but now is 200 thanks to reintroduction.