




Biological Resources & Us

Biological resources provide our daily needs and support societal development. However, our current over-consumption pattern leads to harvesting of resources beyond sustainable levels. It causes adverse environmental impacts including species depletion and extinction and habitats loss. Human activities in fact put stress on our ecosystems and the abundance of biological resources.

Quick Facts (1): The catches of Golden Threadfin Bream have declined by 30%!

Due to overfishing in the South China Sea and the lack of effective fishery management, the catches of Golden Threadfin Bream (紅衫魚) have declined by 30% over the past 10 years. If overfishing continues on a global scale, scientists predict the world's fisheries and seafood populations will collapse by 2048.  



What can you do?

- Avoid consuming food which is captured or harvested in ecologically unfriendly or unsustainable ways. **WHY?** Human overfishing acts endanger Bluefin Tuna and many shark species. Shark finning is also too inhumane. On the other hand, overharvesting of Black Moss (or 'fat choy') leads to desertification in the northern parts of China. We need to stay alarmed! 

- Purchase eco-friendly items and food products. **HOW?** Get furniture and paper from sustainable forests and seafood from sustainable fisheries.  

- Buy what you need and respect the environment. **WHY?** Our overconsumption of resources has outpaced the sustainable capacity of the ecosystem!

Quick Facts (2): The number of Yellow-breasted Buntings fell by nearly 90%!

The eating habit and industrial-scale hunting mainly in China has caused the number of Yellow-breasted Buntings (禾花雀) to plunge by nearly 90% from 1980 to 2013. Yellow-breasted Bunting is an insectivorous species which plays an essential role in the natural control of pest insects in the ecosystem. A dramatic decline of them will disrupt the ecosystem and potentially affect the human society in the future.  **1980**  **2013**

Look up and read these sources of information

- Consume Wisely to Conserve Our Biological Resources at www.susdev.org.hk/
- Impacts of Biodiversity Loss on Ocean Ecosystem Services at <https://goo.gl/Kc6oYY>
- Global population collapse in a superabundant migratory bird and illegal trapping in China at <https://goo.gl/mCVEoD>
- Unsustainable fishing (WWF) at <https://goo.gl/hwJd>

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