

Why Manage Endangered Species?

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- *Endangered species:*

A species of animal or plant that is at risk of extinction

- *Extinction:*

No longer in existence



What is an Endangered Species?

- *Extirpation:*

No longer exists in a certain area

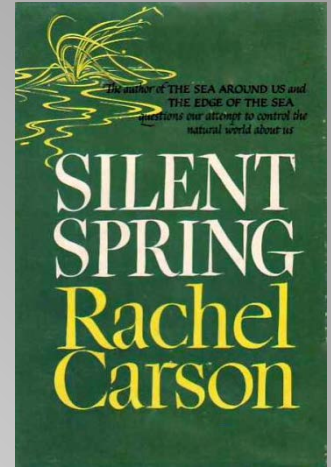
- *Threatened species:*

Likely to become endangered
in the foreseeable future



What is an Endangered Species?

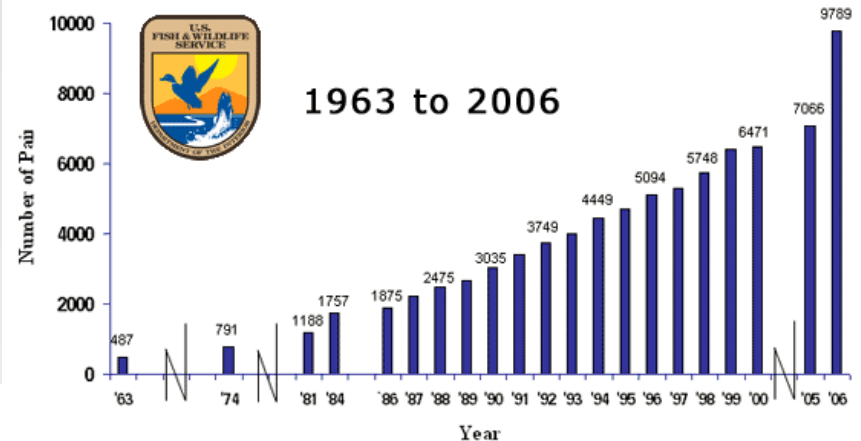
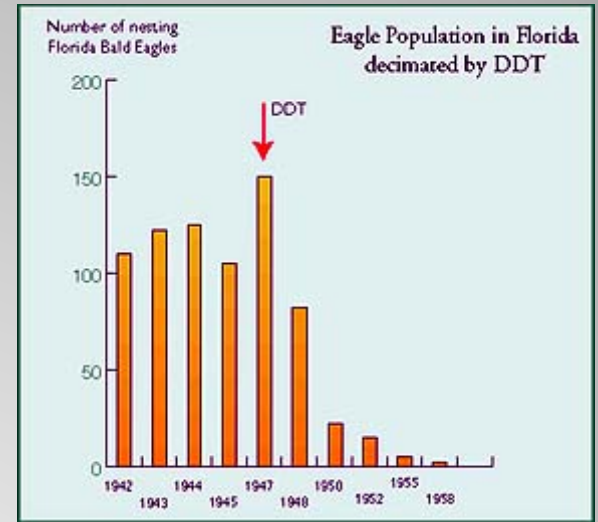
- *Silent Spring* published 1962
- Brought public attention to environmental problems of pesticide use
- Linked DDT use and bird population declines
- Raptor populations recovered following 1972 ban on DDT



The Blue Marble
from Apollo 17, 1972

Beginnings

- Sometimes things we do have **unintended consequences** for plants, animals, and the environment
- Someone needs to keep an eye on the big picture
- 1970's: U.S. decided as a society this damage is not OK
 - National Environmental Policy Act
 - Endangered Species Act
 - Clean Water Act
 - Clean Air Act



Lesson Learned

- Damage or destruction of habitat
 - Habitat = a plant or animal's "home"
- Overutilization (People kill too many)
 - Hunting
 - Collecting for medicine or science
- Disease or predation
- Other factors that are harder to predict
- Often a combination of factors



Reasons Species Face Extinction

- 1991: First NESL Approved
(*Navajo Endangered Species List*)
- “Take” of these species is illegal under Navajo Nation Code (23 N.N.C.)

**Endangered Species on the
Navajo Nation**