

5th millennium BCE

* Circa 4,000 BCE - Tilos dwarf elephant was the last surviving paleoloxodontine in insular Europe. They lived on the island of Tilos in the Mediterranean.

3rd millennium BCE

* The Balearic Islands Cave Goat (*Myotragus balearicus*) is a species of the subfamily Caprinae which lived in the islands of Majorca and Minorca until its extinction around 5,000 years ago due to human hunting, the failure of domestication, the introduction of domestic animals like goats, cows, pigs and sheep and dogs were the probable causes for the extinction of this animal.

2nd millennium BCE

The Dwarf elephant was the latest paleoloxodontine to survive in Europe. They became extinct just less than 2000 years BCE.

1st millennium BCE

* 5000 BC — [Use of a sail begins](#). The first known picture is on an Egyptian urn found in Luxor.

3rd millennium BC

* 2900 BC — Floods at Shuruppak from horizon to horizon, with sediments in Southern Iraq, stretching as far north as Kish, and as far south as Uruk, associated with the return of heavy rains in Nineveh and a potential damming of the Karun River to run into the Tigris. This ends the Jemdet Nasr period and ushers in the Early Dynastic Period of Sumer cultures of the area.

[THE FLOOD: Possible association of this event with the Biblical deluge.](#)

* 2650 BC — Sumerian epic of Gilgamesh describes vast tracts of cedar forests in what is now southern Iraq. Gilgamesh defies the gods and cuts down the forest, and in return the gods say they will curse Sumer with fire (or possibly drought). By 2100 BC, soil erosion and salt buildup have devastated agriculture. One Sumerian wrote that the "earth turned white." Civilization moved north to Babylonia and Assyria. Again, deforestation becomes a factor in the rise and subsequent fall of these civilizations.
2nd millennium BC

* 1900 BC — The **Atra-Hasis Epic** describes Babylonian flood, with warnings of the consequences of human overpopulation.

1st millennium BC

* Circa 100 BCE — [Syrian Elephant becomes extinct due to overhunting for ivory.](#)

1st millennium CE

* Circa 1000 — Extinction of four species of the moa-nalo on the Hawaiian Island. The moa-nalo were large ducks and the island's major herbivores.

2nd millennium CE

* Circa 1500 — New Zealand's Moa, a large flightless bird, goes extinct.

— Madagascar's Megaladapis includes three species of giant lemurs. Human arrival to Madagascar caused vast destruction of its forests causing the giant lemurs' extinction.

- New Zealand's Haast's eagle, a giant bird of prey, becomes extinct, along with its food source the Moa.

17th century

* 1662 — The last known Mauritius dodo dies. The extinction was due to hunting, but also by the pigs, rats, dogs and cats brought to the island by settlers. Later the species has become an icon on animal extinction[1].

The Elephant bird, a giant flightless bird, becomes extinct sometime in the 17 century.

18th century

* 1768 — The [Steller's Sea Cow becomes extinct](#) due to hunting for food, oil, and skins.

19th century

* 1844 — The last known Great Auk killed. The bird was hunted to extinction.

* 1860 - The String Tree from the island of St Helena becomes extinct because of habitat

* Circa 200 BC — [Sri Lanka first country in the world to have a nature reserve](#), King Devanampiyatissa established a wildlife sanctuary

1st millennium AD

* Circa 850 — [Severe drought exacerbated by soil erosion causes collapse of Central American city states and the end of the Classic Maya civilization.](#)

13th century

* Circa 1250 — Start of the Little Ice Age

14th century

* Great Famine of 1315–1317

* 1347 to 1350s — **BLACK PLAGUE**, Bubonic plague decimates Europe, creating the first attempts to enforce public health and quarantine laws. The Black Death is estimated to have killed 30% to 60% of Europe's population, reducing the world's population from an estimated 450 million to between 350 and 375 million in 1400.

17th century

* 1600 - Huaynaputina erupts in South America. The explosion had effects on climate around the Northern Hemisphere (Southern hemispheric records are less complete), where [1601 was the coldest year in six centuries](#), leading to a famine in Russia; see Russian famine of 1601–1603.[2]

19th century

* 1815 — Eruption of Mt. Tambora in what is now Indonesia,

* 1816 — ["The year without a summer."](#)

destruction.

* Circa 1870s — The last known Atlas Bear, Africa's only native bear, is killed by hunters in Morocco. [The bear was heavily hunted and used for sport in the Roman Empire.](#)

* 1875 - The Broad-faced Potoroo became extinct.

* 1876 — [The Falkland Island fox becomes extinct due to intended extermination by human settlers.](#)

* 1883 — The Quagga, a sub-species of the plains zebra, goes extinct.

* 1886 - The red alga known as Bennett's Seaweed from Australia disappears because of the massive human activities.

* 1896 - The Eastern Elk, a subspecies of Elk in the US and Canada, dies out in Minnesota. They were over-hunted for food, clothing, sport and decoration for the Jolly Corkers who used their teeth as symbols.

20th century

* 1905 - The last known Honshū Wolf of Japan dies in the Nara Prefecture

* 1910 - The Usambara Annone from Tanzania no longer grows in the tropical forests.

* 1914 — [The last known Passenger Pigeon dies. Due to massive hunting to feed the poor and slaves the Passenger Pigeon went from being one of the world's most populous birds to extinction.](#)

* 1918 — The Carolina Parakeet goes extinct, the only parrot species in the Eastern U.S.

* 1883 - Eruption of Krakatoa in Indonesia. The sound of the explosion is heard as far as Australia and China, the altered air waves causes strange colors on the sky and the volcanic gases reduce

20th century

* 1900 - The [Galveston Hurricane of 1900 hits Galveston, Texas](#) and reverses the city's previously rapid growth.

* 1906 - [San Francisco earthquake](#) causes collapse of insurance markets and the Panic of 1907.[4]

* 1918 - **Spanish Flu kills between 50 to 100 million people**

* 1930 — Last known Giant Aye-aye killed in Madagascar.[citation needed] The species was 2.5-5 times the size of the endangered Aye-aye.

* Darwin's Rice Rat becomes extinct on the Galapagos, probably due to the introduction of brown and black European rats.

* 1933 - The Cry Pansy from Europe becomes extinct due habitat loss and over-collection in the only place where it grows - France.

* 1934 - The Indefatigable Galapagos Mouse becomes extinct four years after Darwin's Rice Rat on the same island.

* 1935 - The Desert Rat-kangaroo becomes extinct.

* 1936 — The Thylacine, at the time the world's largest carnivorous marsupial, is declared extinct.

* 1938 - *Radula visiniaca*, a liverwort native to Europe becomes extinct.

* 1942 - The Vegas Valley Leopard Frog last seen in Nevada.

* 1943 - The Toolache Wallaby declared extinct.

* Circa 1950 — The Palestinian painted frog goes extinct because its marsh habitat is drained.

* 1952 — Last reliable report of the Caribbean Monk Seal.

* 1956 - Crescent Nail-tail Wallaby declared extinct.

* 1962 — A survey found no surviving Titicaca Orestias, a fish native to Lake Titicaca in Peru.

* 1963 - The last Cape Lion was killed in South Africa.

* 1932 to 1937 — Exceptional precipitation absence in northern hemisphere exacerbated by human activities causes the Dust Bowl drought of the US plains and the Soviet famine of 1932-1933 (harsh economic damage in US and widespread death in USSR)

* 1960 — World human population reached 3 billion mark.

* 1965 - Last sighting of the turgid-blossom pearly mussel, an American mussel.[2]

* 1966 - The last Arabian Ostrich died.

— Last sighting of the yellow-blossom pearly mussel, an American mussel.[2]

* Circa 1970 — [The Caspian Tiger becomes extinct](#). Nearly exterminated by the Russian government in the early 20th century the last of its population succumbed to deforestation and hunting.

* 1984 - The [black spotted damselfish \(Azurina eupalama\) likely becomes extinct due to climate change and overfishing](#).[3]

* The 24-rayed sunstar (heliaster solaris) likely becomes extinct due to climate change.

* 1989 — The [Golden Toad of Costa Rica becomes extinct](#), perhaps because of climate change.

21st century

* 2000 — The last Pyrenean Ibex dies under a fallen tree. The reasons for its extinction are still being debated.

* 2003 - The last individual from the St. Helena Olive which was grown in cultivation dies off since the last plant in the wild disappears in 1994.

* 2004 - The Hawaiian bird, the Po'ouli, goes extinct.[5]

* 2006 — [China's freshwater river dolphin, the baiji, declared "functionally extinct"](#)[6] after a survey failed to find a single animal.

- Western Black Rhinoceros (a subspecies of the Black Rhino). The World Conservation Union has declared the subspecies to be tentatively extinct;[7] the last population was in Cameroon.

* 1980 — Mount St. Helens erupts explosively in Washington state.

* 1987 — World human population reached 5 billion mark[5].

* 1999 - World human population reached the 6 billion mark.

21st century

* 2004 — Earthquake causes large tsunamis in the Indian Ocean, killing nearly a quarter of a million people.

* 2005 — Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma cause widespread destruction and environmental harm to coastal communities in the US Gulf Coast region

• 2010 - Earthquake in Haiti destroys vital infrastructure.

• **January 12, 2010** - Casualties resulting from the Haiti quake are still unknown, but the Red Cross estimates that up to 3 million people may have been affected.

