

## Threats to Ecosystems

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Ecosystems constantly change under natural conditions. Glaciation and forest fires are two examples which occur over very long and very short time scales, respectively. With human activities, however, the nature and rate of change often take place at a much faster pace than many natural changes - sometimes with undesirable consequences. Some of the byproducts of activities, such as roads, industrial discharge sites and sewage treatment can threaten the integrity of natural ecosystems.

