

**EEB 3001, Ecology and Society: The Extinction Debate Homework—Due in class October 28th
(worth 5 points)**

Name: _____

Paper(s) you were given to read: _____

Everyone will read the Science Daily article on extinction risk in Oceania as background and context for the magnitude of the potential extinction crisis in one region of the globe. The big question is what can be done, given that resources for conservation are limited. In addition to the science daily article, you will read an additional paper(s) that advocates different positions for how to allocate resources, and discuss these options in small groups in class.

Your Assignment: Read the paper that was assigned to you before class on Wednesday, Oct. 28th and answer the following questions. Then bring this sheet with you to class, and answer the questions on the reverse side of the sheet after your small group discussion.

1) Briefly summarize the argument that the authors made in the Trends in Ecology paper (3-4 sentences).

2) What are important issues that were left out of the article(s)?

3) What are the major causes of extinction?

4) Whose responsibility is it to save species and prevent extinction?

ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS IN CLASS, AFTER YOUR SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION, AND THEN TURN IN YOUR HOMEWORK.

- 1) What is conservation triage?

- 2) Based on your reading or discussion with classmates, what are possible objections to conservation triage?

- 3) In your opinion, what are rationales or justifications for preventing extinctions?

- 4) In your opinion, is it ever defensible to let a species go extinct?

- 5) What are some angles in this debate that you had not considered before talking with your classmates?

- 6) What do you think is the best way that society can allocate scarce resources to conservation?