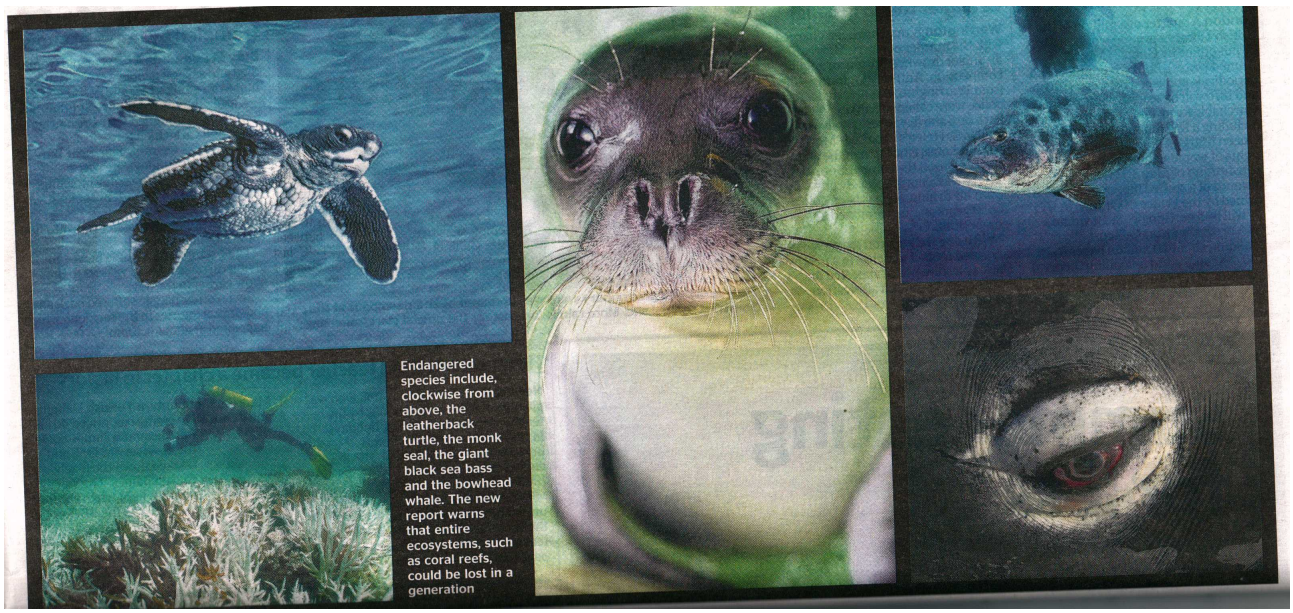
THE TIMES



Endangered species include, clockwise from above, the leatherback turtle, the monk seal, the giant black sea bass and the bowhead whale. The new report warns that entire ecosystems, such as coral reefs, could be lost in a generation

Marine life 'is facing mass extinction'

Effects of overfishing, pollution and climate change are far worse than we thought, Hannah Devlin writes

The health of the oceans is deteriorating far more rapidly than expected, scientists warned yesterday. In a report, they predict that marine life could be on the brink of mass extinction.

The assessment, by the International Programme on the State of the Ocean (IPSO), suggests that a "deadly trio" of factors — climate change, pollution and overfishing — are acting together in ways that exacerbate the individual impacts.

"The findings are shocking," said Alex Rogers, IPSO's scientific director and professor of conservation biology at the University of Oxford. "As we considered the cumulative effect of what humankind does to the oceans, the implications became far worse than we had individually realised."

Some pollutants, for instance, stick to the surfaces of tiny plastic particles that are now found in the ocean bed. This concentrates the toxic chemicals, which are then consumed by bottom-feeding fish. Plastic particles also increase the transport of algae from place to place, spreading toxic algal blooms, which are also exacerbated by fertilisers running off agricultural land.

The report warned that damage to marine life would harm its ability to support humans, and that entire ecosystems, such as coral reefs, could be lost in a generation. Three quarters of the world's reefs were listed as being at risk of severe decline.

The report's conclusions will be presented at the UN headquarters in New York this week, when government delegates begin discussions on reforming governance of the oceans.

"We've sat in one forum and spoken to each other about what we're seeing, and we've ended up with a picture showing that almost right across the board we're seeing changes that are happening faster than we'd thought, or in ways that we didn't expect to see for hundreds of years," said Dr Rogers.

The report suggested that the warming and acidification of the oceans today carry the environmental hallmarks of previous "mass extinction events" in the Earth's history, caused by extreme environmental conditions such as asteroid impacts or the most powerful volcanic eruptions.

The marine scientists called for a range of urgent measures to cut carbon emissions, reduce overfishing, shut unsustainable fisheries, create protected areas in the seas and reduce the input of pollutants including plastics, agricultural fertilisers and human waste.

A recent study showed that 63 per cent of the assessed fish stocks worldwide were over-exploited or depleted and more than half required further reduction of fishing in order to recover.

The report cites the near extinction of a fish called Chinese bahaba, *Bahaba taipingensis*, as one of the many examples that demonstrate how overfishing threatens marine biodiversity. The giant fish has become critically endangered only 70 years after it was first described by scientists in the 1930s.

"The challenges for the future of the ocean are vast; but we know what now needs to happen," said Dan Laffoley, marine chairman of the World Commission on Protected Areas and an adviser to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. "The time to protect our planet is now."

Species under threat

Critically endangered marine species include:

- Staghorn coral
- Knifetooth sawfish
- Bowhead whale
- Pondicherry shark
- Harrison's deepsea dogfish
- Leatherback sea turtle
- Flapper skate
- Strawberry grouper
- Mediterranean monk seal
- Caribbean electric ray
- Queensland sawfish
- Black sea bass

Source: IUCN Red List of Endangered Species

INC Communications

the guardian

vate sector companies to manage and run state-funded schools at all levels".
It also says it can deliver better teaching

there are places at local schools, they're not necessarily the type of school places

encouraging parents and teachers to cre-

Shocking state of seas threatens mass extinction, say marine experts

Fiona Harvey
Environment correspondent

Fish, sharks, whales and other marine species are in imminent danger of an "unprecedented" and catastrophic extinction event at the hands of humankind, and are disappearing at a far faster rate than anyone had predicted, a study of the world's oceans has found.

Mass extinction of species will be "inevitable" if current trends continue, researchers said.

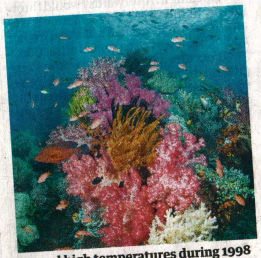
Overfishing, pollution, run-off of fertilisers from farming and the acidification of the seas caused by increasing carbon dioxide emissions are combining to put marine creatures in extreme danger, according to the report from the International Programme on the State of the Ocean (Ipso), prepared at the first international workshop to consider all of the cumulative stresses affecting the oceans at Oxford University.

The international panel of marine experts said there was a "high risk of entering a phase of extinction of marine species unprecedented in human history". They said the challenges facing the oceans created "the conditions associated with every previous major extinction of species in Earth's history".

"The findings are shocking," said Alex Rogers, scientific director of Ipso. "As we considered the cumulative effect of what humankind does to the ocean, the implications became far worse than we had individually realised. This is a very serious situation demanding unequivocal action at every level. We are looking at consequences for humankind that will impact in our lifetime, and worse, our children's and generations beyond that."

The flow of soil nutrients into the oceans is creating huge "dead zones", where anoxia - the absence of oxygen - and hypoxia - low oxygen levels - mean fish and other marine life are unable to survive there.

Hypoxia and anoxia, warming and acidification are factors present in every mass extinction event in the oceans over the Earth's history, according to scientific



Record high temperatures during 1998 wiped out 16% of all tropical coral reefs

research. About 55m years ago, as m
as half of some species of deep-sea c
tures were wiped out when atmosph
changes created similar conditions.

In recent years, human effects on
oceans have increased significantly. O
fishing has cut some fish population
more than 90%. Pollutants, inclu
flame-retardant chemicals and de
gents are absorbed into particles of pl
waste in the sea, which are then ing
by marine creatures. Millions of fish,
and other forms of life are choked o
fer internal ruptures from ingesting
tic waste.

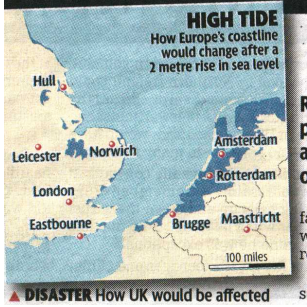
During 1998, record high temperu
wiped out about 16% of the world's
cal coral reefs.

DAILY Mirror

OCEANS IN DEEP TROUBLE

Pollution wipes out life ▶ Sea level rise fastest ever

THREAT Bottom feeders such as angler fish are at risk



▲ DISASTER How UK would be affected

BY MIKE SWAIN
SCIENCE EDITOR
m.swain@mirror.co.uk

RISING seas could plunge parts of Britain under water and pollution will wipe out ocean life, scientists warn.

Levels in the Atlantic are rising faster than ever thanks to global warming melting polar ice, a report claims.

And a separate study warns sealife faces an extinction "unprecedented in human history" because of the amount of waste being dumped in the oceans and over-fishing.

Scientists predict seas could be 1.5 metres higher by the end of the century, sparking massive flood around Britain's coastline, especially in flat eastern areas.

A rise of two metres would leave Cambridge on the edge of a large inland lake and large parts of the Wash swamped.

North Kent and areas along the south coast could also vanish under water. Even London wouldn't be safe, with a deluge in the Thames estuary engulfing eastern reaches of the capital.

Scientists in Pennsylvania carried out the study, published in Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences. One, Benjamin Horton, said: "Sea level rise is a disastrous outcome of climate change, as rising temperatures melt land-based ice and warm ocean waters."

A separate report by the International Panel on the State of the Ocean and the International Union for Conservation of Nature found extinction of sea life species was inevitable unless we strive to protect our oceans.

Carbon is being absorbed by the ocean at an alarming rate and poisons from detergents dumped into seas had reached the poles.

Oxford University's Dr Alex Rogers said: "The findings are shocking. This is a very serious situation demanding unequivocal action at every level."

But report co-author Dan Laffoley added: "Unlike previous generations we know what now needs to happen."

BBC NEWS

20 June 2011 Last updated at 13:24

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World's oceans in 'shocking' decline

COMMENTS (237)

By Richard Black
Environment correspondent, BBC News

The oceans are in a worse state than previously suspected, according to an expert panel of scientists.

In a new report, they warn that ocean life is "at high risk of entering a phase of extinction of marine species unprecedented in human history".

They conclude that issues such as over-fishing, pollution and climate change are acting together in ways that have not previously been recognised.

The impacts, they say, are already affecting humanity.

The panel was convened by the **International Programme on the State of the Ocean (IPSO)**, and brought together experts from different disciplines, including coral reef ecologists, toxicologists, and fisheries scientists.

Read the full article

INC Communications

LE FIGARO

Une grande partie de la vie marine pourrait disparaître

Mots clés : DANGER, BIODIVERSITE, RECHAUFFEMENT, OCEANS, VIE, DISPARITION, ACIDIFICATION

Par Tristan Vey

Publié le 20/06/2011 à 19:13 Réactions (189)

Des sardines mortes flottent au large de la Californie. Photo prise le 9 mars dans le reflet d'un bateau des garde-côtes américains. Crédits photo : DAVID MCNEW/AFP

Réchauffement global des eaux, acidification, appauvrissement des milieux marins en oxygène, ces trois symptômes caractéristiques des grandes phases d'extinction massive sur Terre sont à nouveau réunis.

Les océans vont mal. Très mal. Réunis mi-mai en congrès à l'université d'Oxford, 27 des plus grands spécialistes de la biodiversité marine de six pays ont même été choqués par l'accumulation de signaux alarmants. En mettant bout à bout leurs observations et leurs analyses,

Read the full article

INC Communications

DER SPIEGEL

Weltmeeren droht ein Massensterben

Von Nina Weber

REUTERS

Überfischung, Klimawandel, Dreck - die Weltmeere sind dem Kollaps nahe. Es gibt immer mehr Anzeichen, dass schon bald das größte Artensterben seit rund 55 Millionen Jahren einsetzt. In einem neuen Bericht verlangen Wissenschaftler Sofortmaßnahmen, um die Ozeane zu retten.

Empfehlen 3 Tsd. Tweet 136

Hamburg - Den Ozeanen könnte ein Massensterben bevorstehen - so schlimm, wie es sich zuletzt vor rund 55 Millionen Jahren ereignete, als ein bedeutender Teil der im Meer lebenden Arten verschwand. Zu diesem Schluss kommen 27 Forscher aus sechs Ländern in einem jetzt veröffentlichten Bericht. Überfischung, Überdüngung, Klimawandel und vieles mehr - die Experten haben untersucht, welche vom Menschen ausgelösten Probleme das Leben in den Meeren bedroht. Zudem schätzen sie in ihrem Bericht ab, wie sich diese negativen Faktoren gegenseitig beeinflussen und verstärken und

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ALJAZEERA

Ocean life 'facing mass extinction'

Depleted fish stocks, dying reefs and "dead zones" among consequences of global warming and pollution, scientists warn.

Last Modified: 21 Jun 2011 07:06

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Overfishing and man-made problems are affecting oceans to a greater extent than previously thought [GALLO/GETTY]

Pollution, global warming and other man-made problems are pushing the world's oceans to the brink of a mass extinction of marine life unprecedented in tens of millions of years, a consortium of scientists has warned.

Dying coral reefs, biodiversity ravaged by invasive species, expanding open-water "dead zones," toxic algae blooms, and the massive depletion of big fish stocks are all accelerating, according to the report, which is due to be presented at the United Nations on Tuesday.

"We now face losing marine species and entire marine ecosystems, such as coral reefs, within a single generation," the report said.

[Read the full article]

INC Communications

Los océanos amenazados de muerte

Valoración: ★★★★★ Tu valoración: ★★★★★ (0) Comentarios | Haz tu comentario

Madrid, 20 jun (EFEverde).- Los océanos del mundo corren el riesgo de entrar en una fase de extinción de especies marinas sin precedentes en la historia de la humanidad, solo comparable a la hecatombe que hace 55 millones de años provocó la desaparición del 50 por ciento de los peces de aguas profundas.

Imagen cedida por Marine Photo Bank para acompañar informe sobre los océanos IPSO.

[Read the full article]

ANSA

Dati choc su oceani,animali a rischio estinzione

Gruppo scienziati dimostra evidenza fattori stress

20 giugno, 22:18

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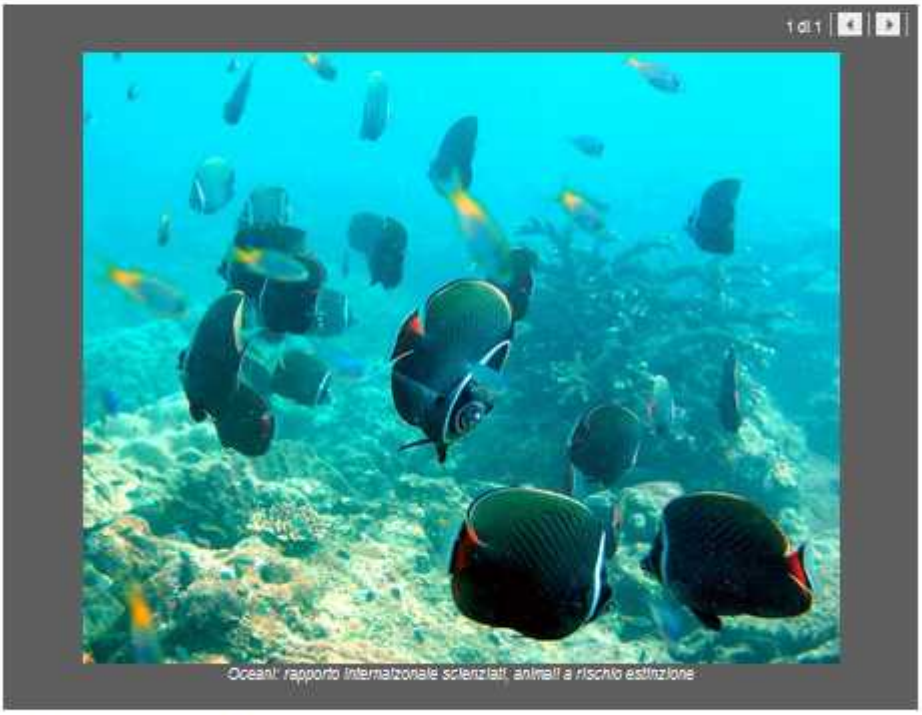

Oceani: rapporto internazionale scienziati, animali a rischio estinzione

(ANSA) - ROMA, 20 GIU - Sintomi da estinzione di massa senza precedenti per le specie che abitano gli **Oceani**. Riscaldamento, acidificazione ma anche pesca eccessiva, inquinamento e acque senza ossigeno rappresentano i fattori di allarme rosso per i mari del mondo.

Read the full article

INC Communications

CHINADAILY 国际频道

报告称海洋污染和气候暖化可能灭绝大量海洋生物

2011-06-22 09:50:00 来源：中国新闻网

打印文章 发送给好友 分享 0

[提要] 据新加坡《联合早报》报道，海洋污染和气候暖化极有可能灭绝全球大量海洋生物，形成千万年来最大的一次破坏。由于大量的碳进入地球的气候系统，连锁反应导致海洋的酸化加速。

中新网6月22日电 据新加坡《联合早报》报道，海洋污染和气候暖化极有可能灭绝全球大量海洋生物，形成千万年来最大的一次破坏。

海洋生态恶化的程度，比几年前的预测还要严重，引起专家的深切关注与担忧。

一群世界顶尖海洋专家在一份综合报告中发出警告，他们指出，珊瑚礁濒临死亡、物种侵略危及生物多样化、有毒海藻滋生及大鱼种大量减少等情况正在加速。

27名顶尖专家今年4月在牛津开会，综合各方对全球海洋生态问题的评估，集结成报告。报告指出，导致海洋环境恶化的三个因素，都是人类活动直接产生的后果，分别是全球暖化、酸化和缺氧现象。

过去，科学家只是对影响气候与环境的因素做单独研究，他们是直到最近才开始把这些因素联系起来，研究其连锁反应。

Read the full article

INC Communications

hindustantimes.com

Ocean life on brink of mass extinction

Reuters
Oslo, June 21, 2011

+1 0

First Published: 15:37 IST(21/6/2011)
Last Updated: 12:18 IST(23/6/2011)

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Life in the oceans is at imminent risk of the worst spate of extinctions in millions of years due to threats such as climate change and over-fishing, a study showed on Tuesday. Time was running short to counter hazards such as a collapse of coral reefs or a spread of low-oxygen "dead zones", according to the study led by the International Programme on the State of the Ocean (IPSO).

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"We now face losing marine species and entire marine ecosystems, such as coral reefs, within a single generation," according to the study by 27 experts to be presented to the United Nations.

"Unless action is taken now, the consequences of our activities are at a high risk of causing, through the combined effects of climate change, over-exploitation, pollution and habitat loss, the next globally significant extinction event in the ocean," it said.

Scientists list five mass extinctions over 600 million years -- most recently when the dinosaurs vanished 65 million years ago, apparently after an asteroid struck. Among others, the Permian period abruptly ended 250 million years ago.

"The findings are shocking," Alex Rogers, scientific director of IPSO, wrote of the conclusions from a 2011 workshop of ocean experts staged by IPSO and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) at Oxford University.

Fish are the main source of protein for a fifth of the world's population and the seas cycle oxygen and help absorb carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas from human activities.

Read the full article

INC Communications

Oceanos à beira da devastação

O Globo (ciencia@oglobo.com.br)

DÊ SEU VOTO MÉDIA: 4,8 +1 0 Share 94 Tweet 29

Recomendar 94 pessoas recomendaram isso. Seja o primeiro entre seus amigos.

RIO - Os oceanos do mundo enfrentam uma perda de espécies sem precedentes, comparável a períodos históricos de extinção em massa, segundo relatório do Programme on the State of the Ocean (IPSO) e do International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Os mares estão se degenerando rapidamente devido a fatores como aquecimento do clima, acidificação da água do mar, poluição e pesca predatória.

Os cientistas comparam a atual extinção das espécies - peixes grandes, pequenos e corais - aos períodos Ordoviciano-Siluriano de 450 milhões de anos atrás, ao Cretáceo, que extinguiu os dinossauros da Terra e ao pior deles, o Permiano, de 251 milhões de anos, que eliminou 70% das espécies terrestres e 96% das marinhas.

Os cientistas concluíram ainda que a velocidade de destruição é mais rápida que o previsto.

- Se considerarmos o efeito cumulativo nos oceanos, as implicações do que a humanidade fez é muito pior do que achávamos que seria - acredita Alex Rogers, professor da Universidade de Oxford e diretor científico do IPSO.

Read the full article

The New York Times

Green

A Blog About Energy and the Environment

June 21, 2011, 12:34 PM

Oceans at Dire Risk, Team of Scientists Warns

By DAVID JOLLY

Science

The state of the oceans is declining far more rapidly than most pessimists had expected, an international team of experts has concluded, increasing the risk that many marine species — including those that make coral reefs — could be extinct within a generation.

The scientists, who gathered in April at the University of Oxford, cited the cumulative impact of the stresses on the oceans, which include ocean acidification related to growing carbon dioxide emissions, a global warming trend that is reducing the polar ice caps, pollution and overfishing.

"This examination of synergistic threats leads to the conclusion that we have underestimated the overall risks and that the whole of marine degradation is greater than

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INC Communications

TIME
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CNN

GOING GREEN

A Scary Report Card on the World's Oceans

By BRYAN WALSH Tuesday, June 21, 2011

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Work in environmental journalism for very long, and you can eventually become inured to catastrophe. Every ecosystem is on the brink of collapse; every endangered species is just a few steps from extinction; every government decision to authorize an oil well or a coal mine is the one that will push carbon emissions over the edge. The language of environmentalism is the language of scarcity and loss, a constantly repeated message that we cannot

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INC Communications

Impending Disaster: Marine Species Face Mass Extinction, Experts Say

Unhealthy Oceans: Marine Life in Peril AUTO START: ON OFF

By CHRISTINA CARON (@cdcaron)
June 22, 2011

Marine experts are now prophesying a perfect storm: a world where marine species could undergo unprecedented levels of extinction.

"The speed of change, particularly related to climate change is so great there simply isn't time for marine life to adapt to these new conditions," said Alex Rogers, a professor of conservation biology at the University of

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