

A sign of the times. [The monarch butterfly has officially been declared endangered](#) by the leading international scientific organization which makes such determinations. Habitat loss and pesticides have combined to reduce monarch populations by 99% from their historic numbers. The population drop off has been especially steep in the last 10 years.

Never underestimate man's ability to obliterate a seemingly infinite animal species. The passenger pigeon was once the most numerous bird species in North America.

LINK: https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/article/monarch-butterflies-are-now-an-endangered-species?rid=22C72B5CF0663C6784557ED8747380DB&cmpid=org=ngp::mc=crm-email::src=ngp::cmp=editorial::add=Animals_20220721

50 miles east of Daytona Beach, an old growth forest can be found. It's [a forest of coral](#) growing in one of the most remarkable and diverse coral reefs on earth.

That hasn't stopped the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) from considering a request from the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council—which proposes fisheries regulations in the region—to open the area for the rock shrimp fishery to bottom trawl. Such a move would devastate the existence of these ancient corals.

LINK: https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/about/news-room/opinion/2022/06/27/plan-to-reopen-florida-coral-forest-to-fishing-defies-science-and-economics?utm_campaign=2022-07-21+SFN&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Pew&subscriberkey=00Q7V00001hmH4vUAE

How one Crystal River resident took it upon herself to [restore the sea grass beds](#) there which had been choked out by pollution-fueled blue green algae in order to save the manatees.

LINK: https://news.yahoo.com/project-aims-restore-seagrass-improve-125302564.html?utm_campaign=2022-07-21+SFN&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Pew&subscriberkey=00Q7V00001hmH4vUAE

A key component of [Everglades restoration is the EAA Reservoir](#) – Everglades Agricultural (BIG SUGAR) Area Reservoir. What is it? Why is it so critical to the future of the Everglades?

Watch.

LINK: <https://twitter.com/evergfoundation/status/1550091653892947969>

The Biden administration repealed a Trump-era rule significantly weakening critical habitat protections under [the Endangered Species Act](#). The rule radically changed the process of weighing the benefit of protecting habitat for imperiled species against the economic impacts for private landowners — in a way that heavily favored private landowners. Nixing this rule could help scores of species including [the Florida bonneted bat](#).

Lions, tigers and other big cats belong in the wild, but when they are held in captivity as “pets” or used for pay-to-play cub handling displays at private “zoos” and roadside attractions, they often are mistreated, speed-bred, denied veterinary care, and otherwise subjected to inhumane conditions.

The Big Cat Public Safety Act (H.R. 263/S. 1210) was recently advanced through a U.S. House committee. If enacted, the bipartisan Big Cat Public Safety Act would protect both big cats and the public by restricting private ownership of captive exotic cats nationwide. The bill would help to bring an end to the U.S. trade in “pet” tigers, lions and other deadly big cats, and bring an end to cruel and dangerous cub handling displays.

Untold numbers of big cats are kept as pets or allowed to come into dangerous contact with the public. They suffer when forced to spend their lives in small cages, and many receive alarmingly substandard care from owners who can’t manage a full-grown, dangerous wild feline.

[Ask your representative to support this legislation.](#)

LINK:

https://action.ifaw.org/page/39891/action/1?utm_source=SFMC&utm_medium=email&ms=UONDG220702002&cid=7013k000001D0yE

[Catty Shack Ranch](#) in north Jacksonville is one of the many facilities around the U.S. which takes in big cats which have been illegally or inhumanely owned as pets or were owned by private “zoos” which failed to adequately care for them. They’re a great local charity and open to the public.

LINK: <https://cattyslack.org/>