

THE NEED TO SAVE THE TIGER

Tigers are an important part of the planet's rich (0) diversity of life. As top predators in their food chain, they feed on a variety of prey species and help maintain the structure and functioning of the ecosystems they inhabit. Tigers,

(0) DIVERSE

(1) _____, are considered a keystone species. If tigers (2) _____, there will be far-reaching and negative consequences for other parts of the ecosystem.

(1) THERE

(2) APPEAR

Protecting tigers, therefore, helps many other species as well. For example, (3) _____ tiger habitats in India and Bangladesh has helped to protect human habitats by reducing land (4) _____, stabilising ecosystems and encouraging wise land use. It has also led to an increase in global (5) _____ of climate change and the problem of rising sea levels.

(3) PROTECT

(4) ERODE

(5) AWARE

Conservation: Is it worthwhile?

A majority of professional (6) _____ believe it is time to consider shifting efforts away from some of the world's most famous species, such as the polar bear, to concentrate on others which have a greater chance of (7) _____. The scientists believe a serious loss of biological diversity is 'likely, very likely or virtually certain'. Some experts have rejected the idea on the grounds that it is (8) _____ to make judgments about one species at the expense of another, given the (9) _____ of the ecological interactions in the natural world. However, others are starting to question the value of spending millions of pounds on one celebrated species, such as the panda, or a big predator such as the tiger, where (10) _____ of habitat is almost inevitable.

(6) CONSERVE

(7) SURVIVE

(8) POSSIBLE

(9) COMPLEX

(10) LOSE