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INDIA : CLIMATE, VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE



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India: Climate, Vegetation and Wildlife

Weather

Season

Climate

Natural Vegetation

Importance of Forest

Loss of Natural
Vegetation

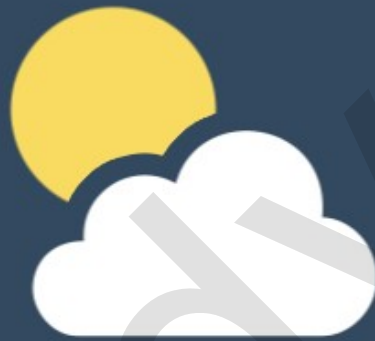
Wildlife

- Cold Weather Season or Winter
- Hot Weather Season or Summer
- Southwest Monsoon Season or Rainy Season
- Season of Retreating Monsoons or Autumn

- Tropical evergreen forest
- Tropical deciduous forest
- Thorny bushes
- Mountain vegetation
- Mangrove forests.

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Partly Sunny

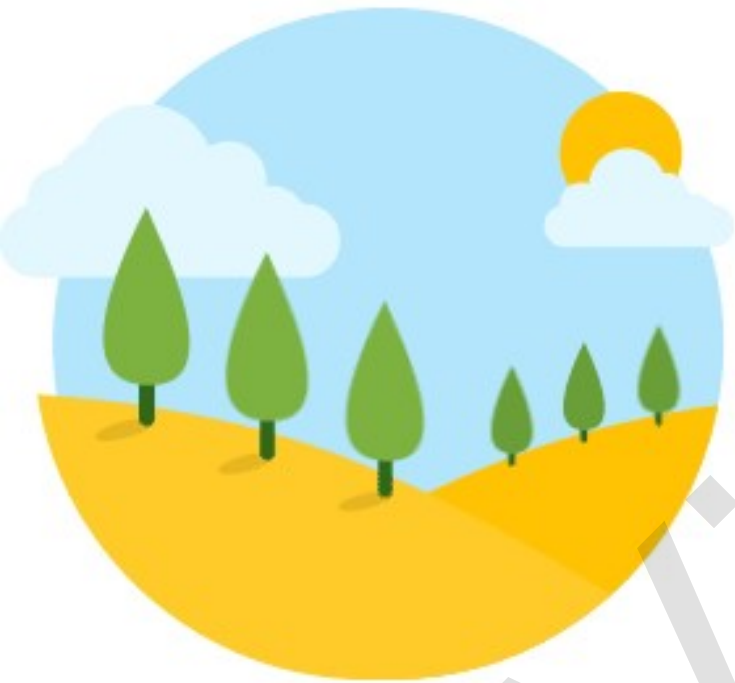
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Weather

- The day-to-day changes in atmosphere is called weather.
- Weather includes changes in temperature, sunshine and rainfall.

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☐ Seasons in India

1. Cold Weather Season or Winter Season
2. Hot Weather Season or Summer
3. South-West Monsoon season
4. Season of Retreating monsoon

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❖ Cold Weather Season or Winter

Cold Weather Season or Winter Season: The winter season continues from December to February in India. During this season, the sun rays do not fall directly on India.

- During the winter season, cool, dry winds blow from North to the South.
- The sunrays do not fall directly in the region.

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❖ Hot Weather Season or Summer

Hot Weather Season or Summer Season: The summer season continues from March to May in India. During this season, the sun rays fall more or less directly on India. Due to this, the temperature remains high during this period.

- The sunrays more or less directly fall in this region.
- Hot and dry winds are called **loo**.

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❖ Southwest Monsoon Season or Rainy Season

Southwest Monsoon Season or Rainy Season:

The rainy season falls from June to September. The onset and advancement of monsoon takes place in this season.

The winds blow from Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal toward the land.

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❖ Season of Retreating Monsoons or Autumn

Season of Retreating Monsoon or Autumn:

This season falls in October and November.

During this season, the monsoon winds move from the mainland to Bay of Bengal and hence it is called the retreating monsoon.

- winds move back from the mainland to the Bay of Bengal.
- Most of the rain is brought by monsoon winds.

- Mawsynram in Meghalaya receives the world's highest rainfall.

✓ Climate

Climate is the average weather condition which has been measured over many years.

- Overall pattern of weather at a place is called climate.
- For this, weather pattern of at least 20 years is taken into consideration.

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- The climate of India is called monsoon climate.
- This is hot and humid in most parts of the country.
- The climate of a place is affected by its location, altitude, distance from the sea and relief.

NATURAL VEGETATION



❖ Natural Vegetation

- The grasses, shrubs and trees, which grow on their own without interference or help from human beings are called natural vegetation.
- The vegetation of India can be divided into five types -

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- Tropical evergreen forest
- Tropical deciduous forest
- Thorny bushes
- Mountain vegetation
- Mangrove forests.

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✓ Tropical Rain Forest

- They are found in the areas which receive heavy rainfall.
- Many species of trees are found in this forest, they shed their leaves at different times of the year. They are called evergreen forests.
- Important trees are mahogany, ebony and rosewood.
- The tropical rainforest is so dense that sunlight does not reach the ground.



rosewood

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mahogany



ebony

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✓ Tropical Deciduous Forest

- They are also called monsoon forests.
- Trees of these forests shed their leaves at a particular time of the year.
- Important trees are Sal, teak, peepal, neem and shisham.
- These forests are found in a large part of the country
- These forests are found in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and in part of [Maharashtra](#).



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Sal

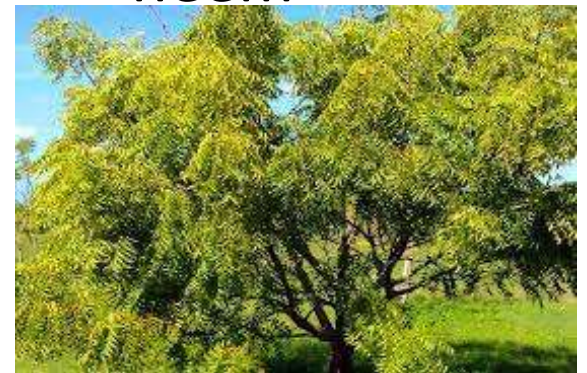
teak



shisham



neem



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✓ Thorny Bushes

- This type of vegetation is found in dry areas
- The leaves are in the form of spines to reduce the loss of water.
- Important trees are cactus, Kaner, babool, keekar, etc.

cactus

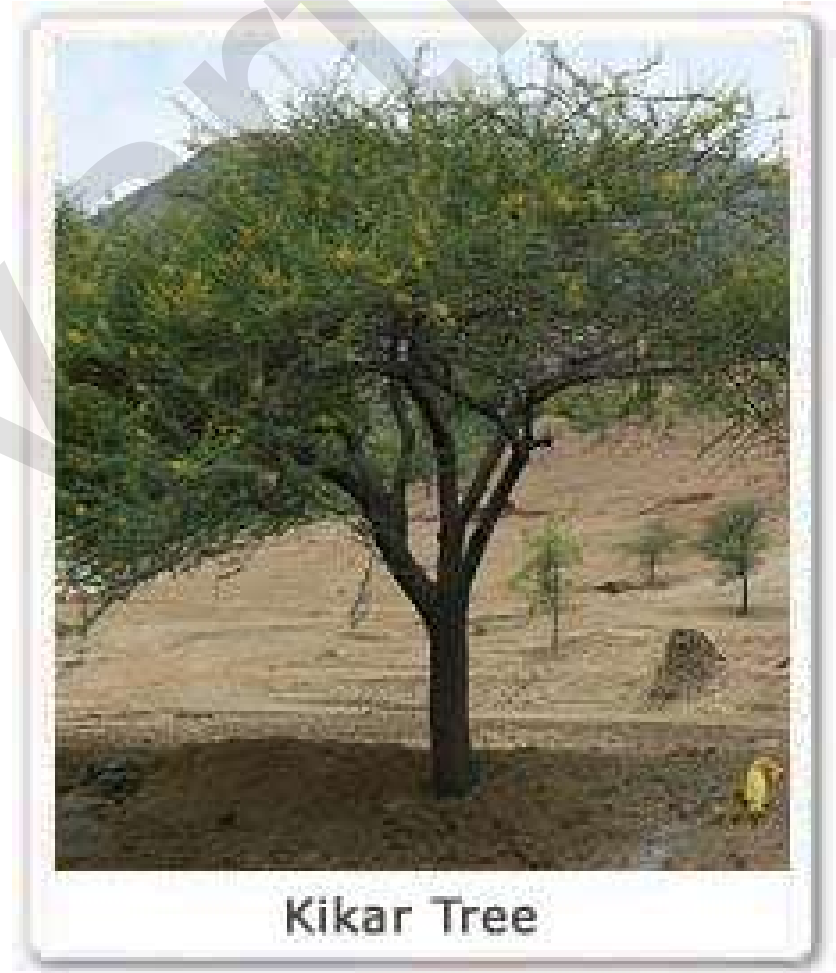


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babool



Kikar Tree

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✓ Mountain Vegetation

- At a height between 1500 meters and 2500 meters, most of the trees are conical in shape.
- These trees are called coniferous trees.
- Important trees are chir, pine and deodar.



chir

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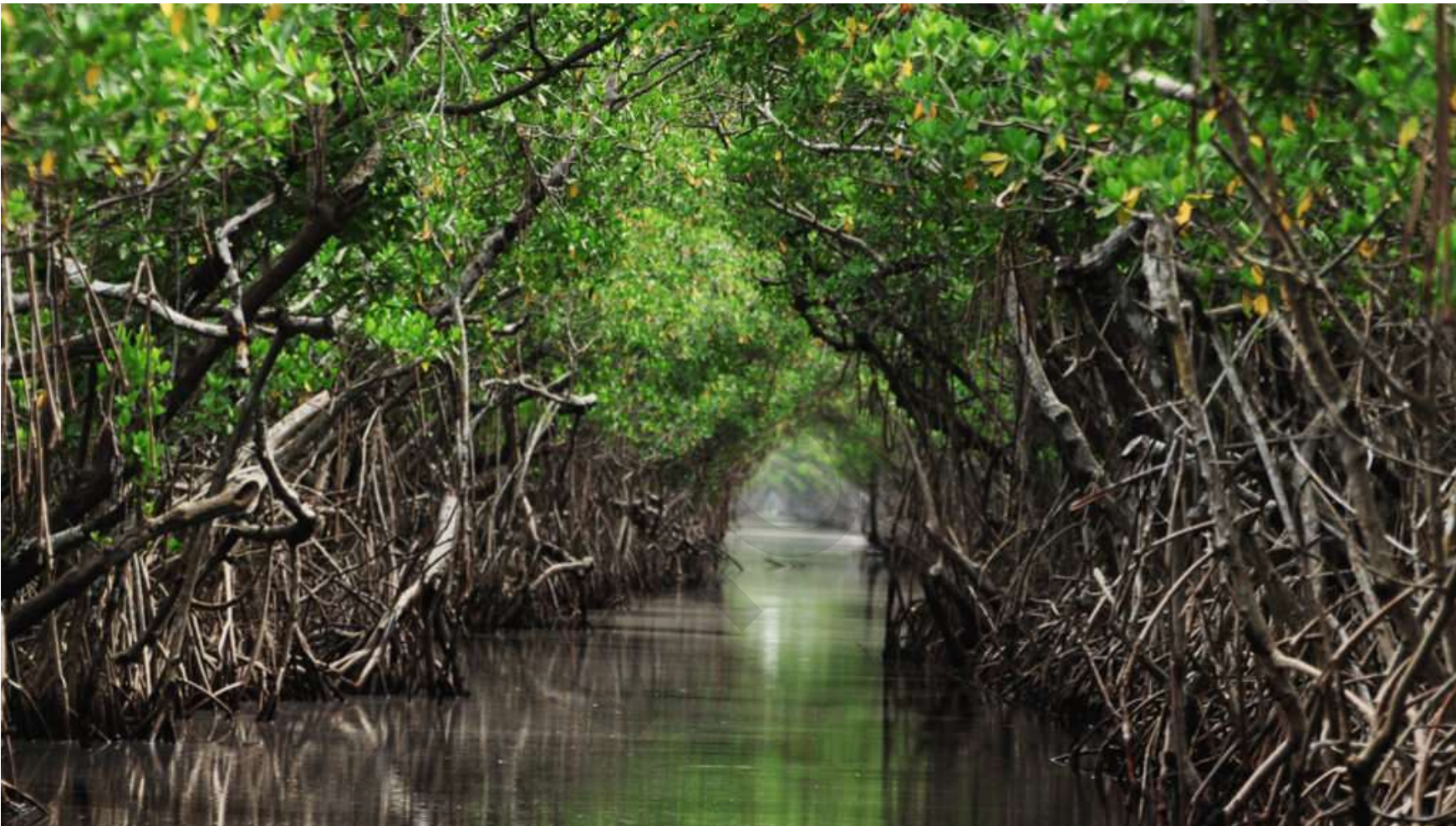
pine



deodar

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✓ Mangrove Forests

- These forests can survive in saline water and have clayey soil.
- To facilitate breathing in clayey soil, nature has equipped mangrove plants with breathing roots.
- The mangrove forests in India are found in the river deltas and along the coast.
- Sundari is a well-known species of trees.
- The Sundarbans is the largest mangrove forest in India and the world.

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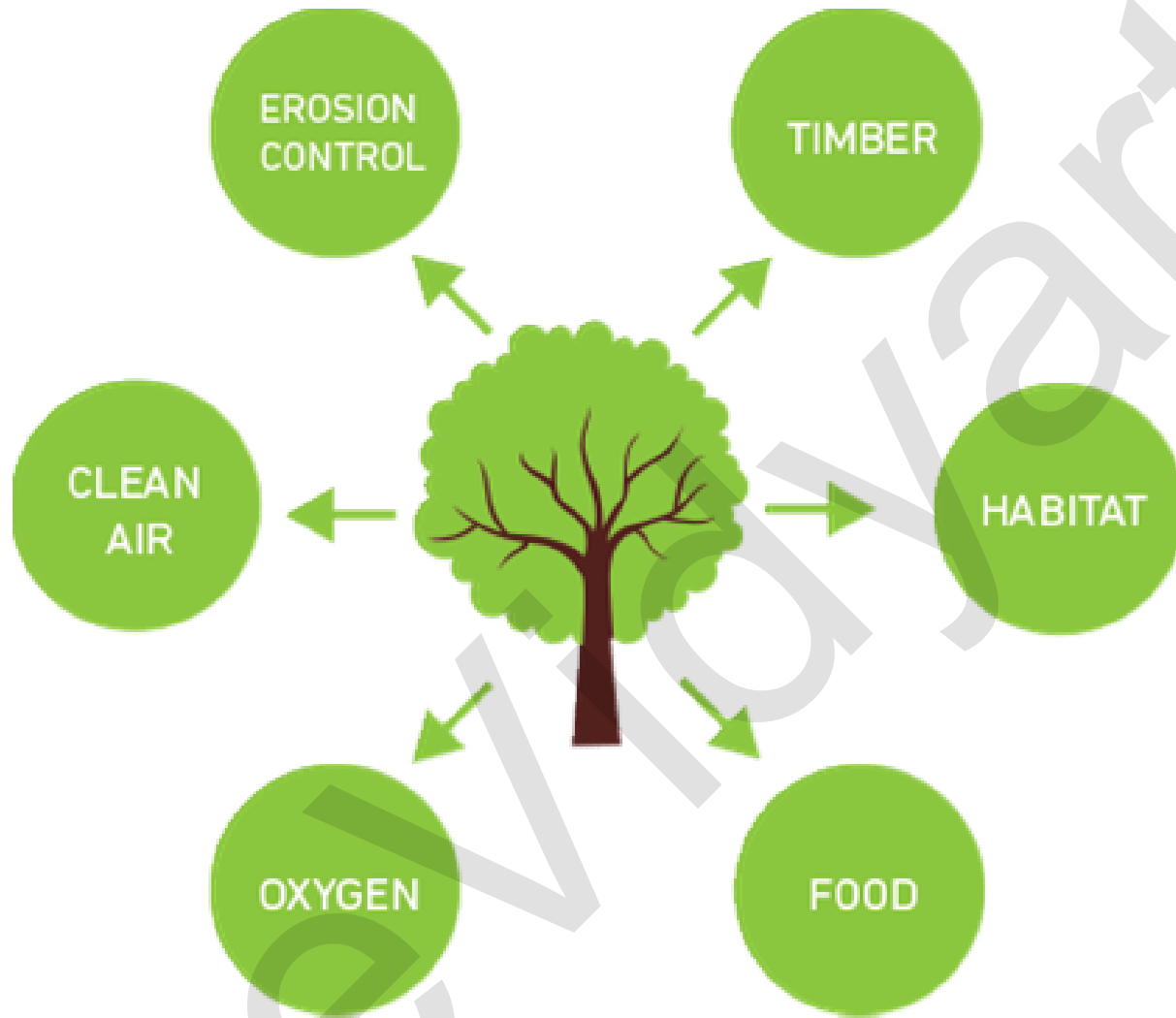


Sundari

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❑ Importance of Forest

- Plants absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen. Oxygen is utilized by us for breathing.
- Roots of plants bind the soil. Thus, plants prevent soil erosion.
- Forests provide us timber for furniture and firewood. They also provide fodder, medicinal plants and herbs. We also get lac, honey and gum from forests.

❑ Loss of Natural Vegetation

- Trees play an important role in our ecology. Reckless cutting of trees can destroy the natural ecological balance as well as the flora and fauna. This has led to a depletion of our natural resources, which can, in turn, affect our living conditions
- Adoption of the policy of the 3Rs is extremely important i.e. Reduce, recycle and reuse. We should reduce unnecessary cutting of trees, and recycle and reuse forest resources.
- Van Mahotsav is being organized to educate people about the importance of forests.

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❑ Wildlife

- Animals which live in natural vegetation are called wild animals. Thousands of animal species live in forests.
- Tiger is the national animal of India. It is found in various parts of our country.
- The Asiatic lions live in the Gir forest in Gujarat.



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- Elephants are found in Kerala, Karnataka and Assam. Assam is also the home for one-horned rhino.
- Wild goats, snow leopards, bears, etc. are found in the Himalayan region.
- Peacock is our national bird.
- Parrots, pigeons, mynah, geese, bulbul and ducks are the other common birds.

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one-horned rhino.

Peacock



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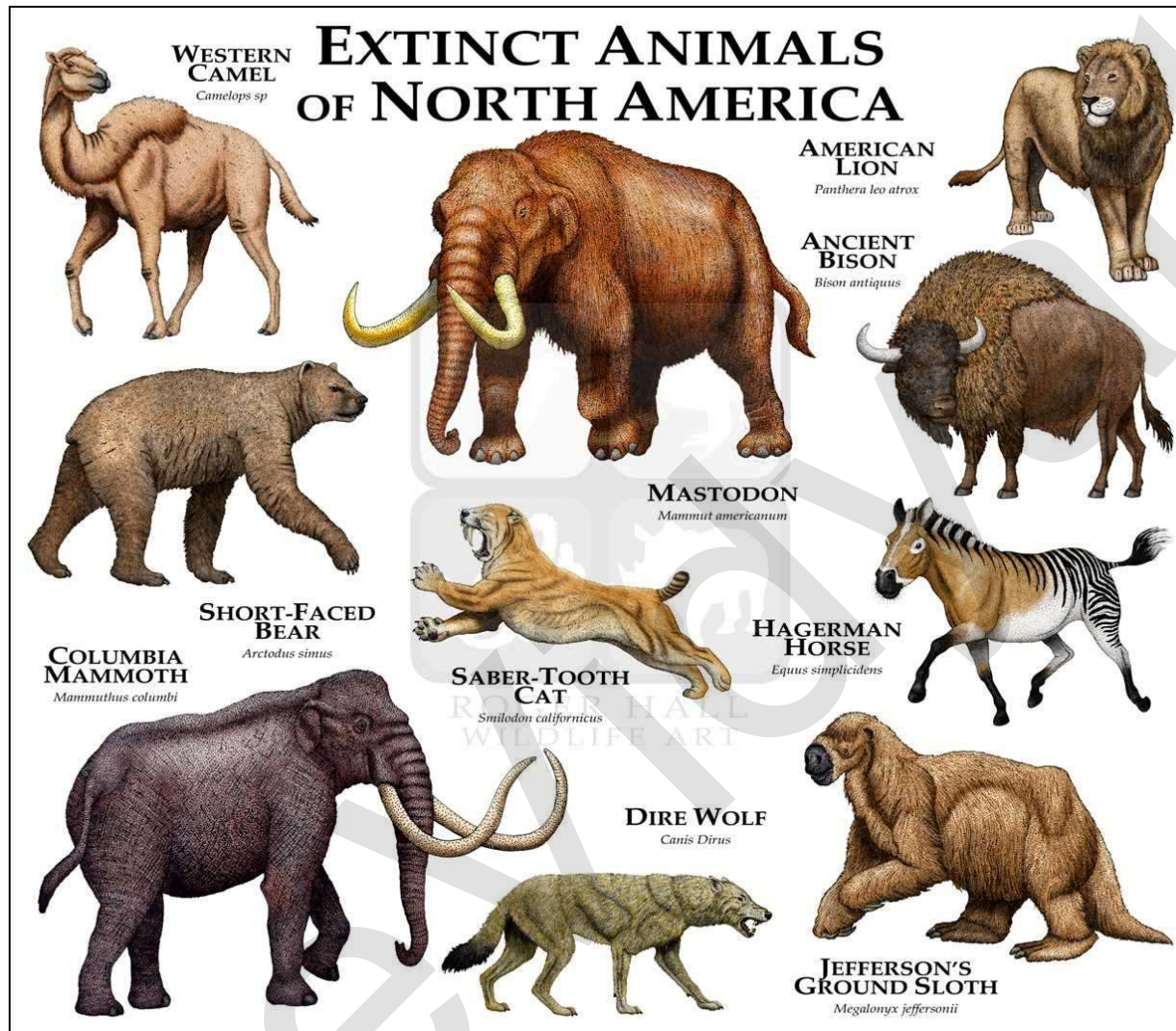
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- Due to large scale cutting of forests, natural habitat of many wild animals has become less. Many animals are in danger of becoming extinct. Many animals have already become extinct.
- **Extinct Species:** A species which no longer exists is called an extinct species.
- **Endangered Species:** A species which is in danger of becoming extinct is called an endangered species.