

Geography 4 Ecosystems at Risk - Part 3 Study online at quizlet.com/_lwfezr

1. overload	a term describing stress to an ecosystem as a result of excessive human inputs to the system
2. ozone depletion	a decrease in the amount of ozone in the stratosphere at about 20-30 km above earth
3. primary production	the initial collection and preliminary processing of resources to fulfil a need or want by humans e.g. agriculture, mining, forestry etc.
4. primary vegetation	the vegetation found in a climax community that has been allowed to develop unimpeded over time e.g. remote alpine areas
5. resilience	the degree to which ecosystems recover from natural or human impact or change
6. secondary vegetation	the vegetation which replaces primary vegetation in the short term after fire, disaster, or human interference in an ecosystem
7. sedentary cultivation	the production of agricultural crops or livestock in one area
8. semi- nomadic	a lifestyle in which humans and their possessions move infrequently across a landscape often due to seasonal climatic patterns
 seral progression 	the change from one stage or sere of vegetation in a selected area to another stage or level towards a primary climax vegetation
10. shifting cultivation	an agricultural practice where primary and secondary vegetation is cleared for crop production on a small scale for low yields of a few basic crops, necessitating the moving of the garden every 4 to 7 years
11. steady state	the balance which is maintained when all inputs and outputs have created a self-sustaining climax community in a particular ecosystem
12. sub- dominant	the second most dominant species in an ecosystem in terms of numbers
13. subsistence agriculture	a system of agriculture in which the producer grows only what he needs for his own family
14. succession	when one land use succeeds in taking over from the original type of land use in an area
15. sustainability	the ability to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs

16. trophic levels	levels for the production and consumption of food and energy within the flora and fauna of an ecosystem from the simple level of a producer to the highest level of tertiary consumer
17. utility value	a value placed on an object or area because there is a possible financial return from it, as distinct from an intrinsic value for itself alone
18. wildlife corridor	an area of natural land unimpeded by deliberate human change which allows freedom of movement of animals between two ecological islands
19. wildlife refuge	an area of land set aside for the undisturbed development of the natural ecosystems; wild life is protected, but some controlled hunting may be permitted at times
20. world park	a concept whereby certain areas are permanently conserved beyond the reach of all nations e.g. Antarctica