



## Vanishing Mammals

**A**T LEAST 106 mammals have become extinct in the last 2,000 years, and of these seventy-three have disappeared since 1800, the National Geographic Society has reported.

In a recent survey the society discovered that hundreds of other animals which were on the verge of extinction are the key deer of Florida and the black-footed ferret.

The American bison were once on the list, but strict conservation measures have saved them. Perhaps the most carefully watched and attended of the nearly extinct are whooping cranes.

The International Union for Conservation in Brussels maintains a sharp watch on mammals that currently face destruction. Their warning list includes the Addo bush elephant of South Africa, the Arabian oryx, a desert antelope, and the wisent, a European relative of the American bison.

Other animals existing in greatly reduced numbers are 250 Asiatic lions, about 200 great Indian rhinoceroses and forty Javan rhinoceroses.

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