

The only home they know

*815 of 840 critically endangered species in the Pacific live in exactly one country.
If they go there, they are gone everywhere.*

RED LIST INDEX

The Red List Index shows trends in overall extinction risk for species, and is used by governments to track their progress towards targets for reducing biodiversity loss.

Most species that move between categories on The IUCN Red List (see the section Reasons for Changing Category) do so because of improved knowledge or revised taxonomy. It is therefore impossible to determine any meaningful trends in the status of biodiversity simply by looking at overall changes in numbers of threatened species between updates. For this reason, the figures presented on the visualization show the years 1993 and 2024, helping to refine our current understanding of the status of biodiversity, rather than showing genuine status changes over time.

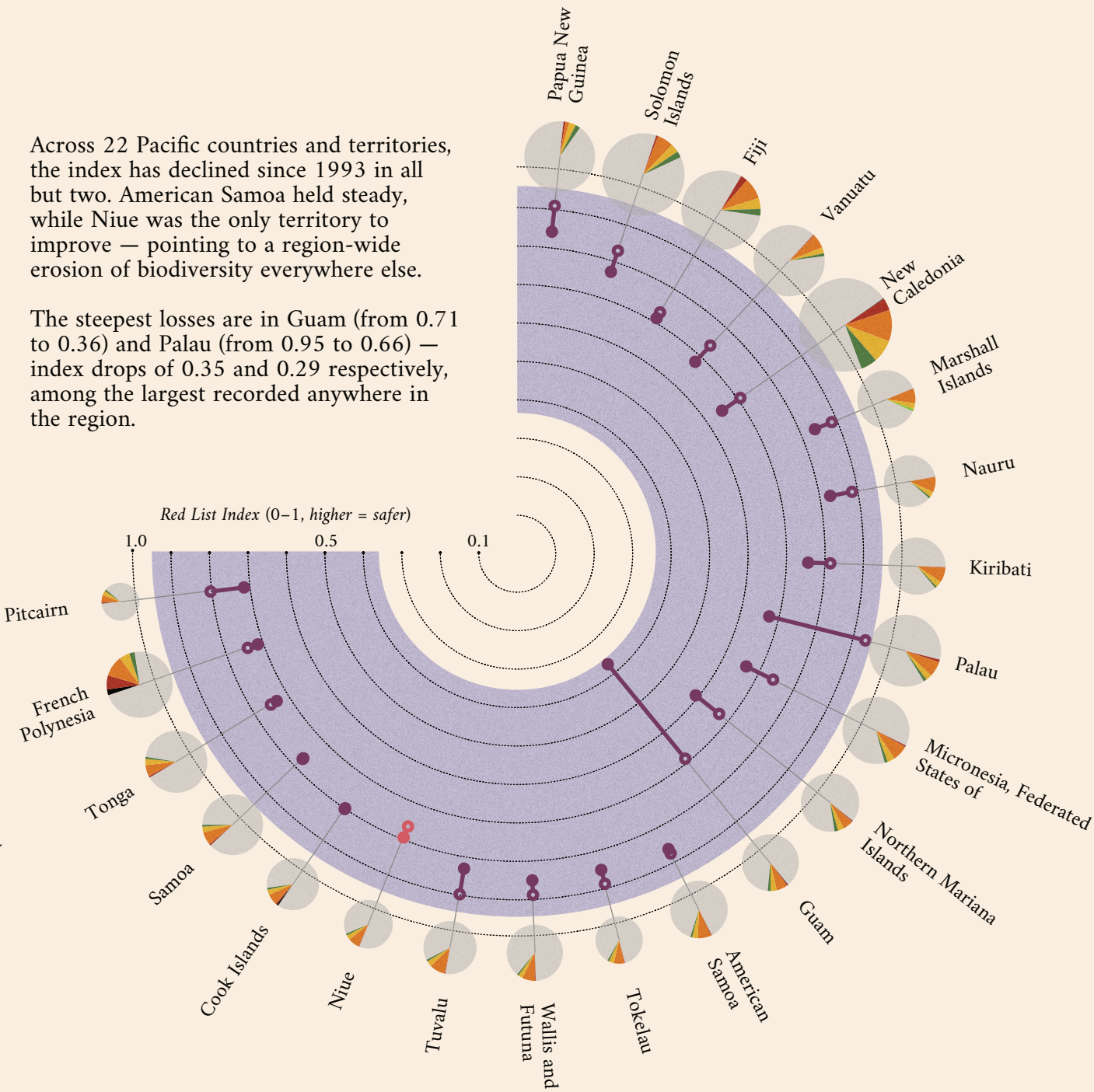
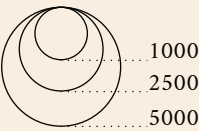
How to read

- RLI in 1993
- RLI in 2024
- declining
- improving

Each **pie chart** shows current share of assessed species by Red List category

- Critically Endangered
- Endangered
- Vulnerable
- Near Threatened
- Least Concern

area = number of species



Across 22 Pacific countries and territories, the index has declined since 1993 in all but two. American Samoa held steady, while Niue was the only territory to improve — pointing to a region-wide erosion of biodiversity everywhere else.

The steepest losses are in Guam (from 0.71 to 0.36) and Palau (from 0.95 to 0.66) — index drops of 0.35 and 0.29 respectively, among the largest recorded anywhere in the region.

WHY ARE SPECIES DISAPPEARING?

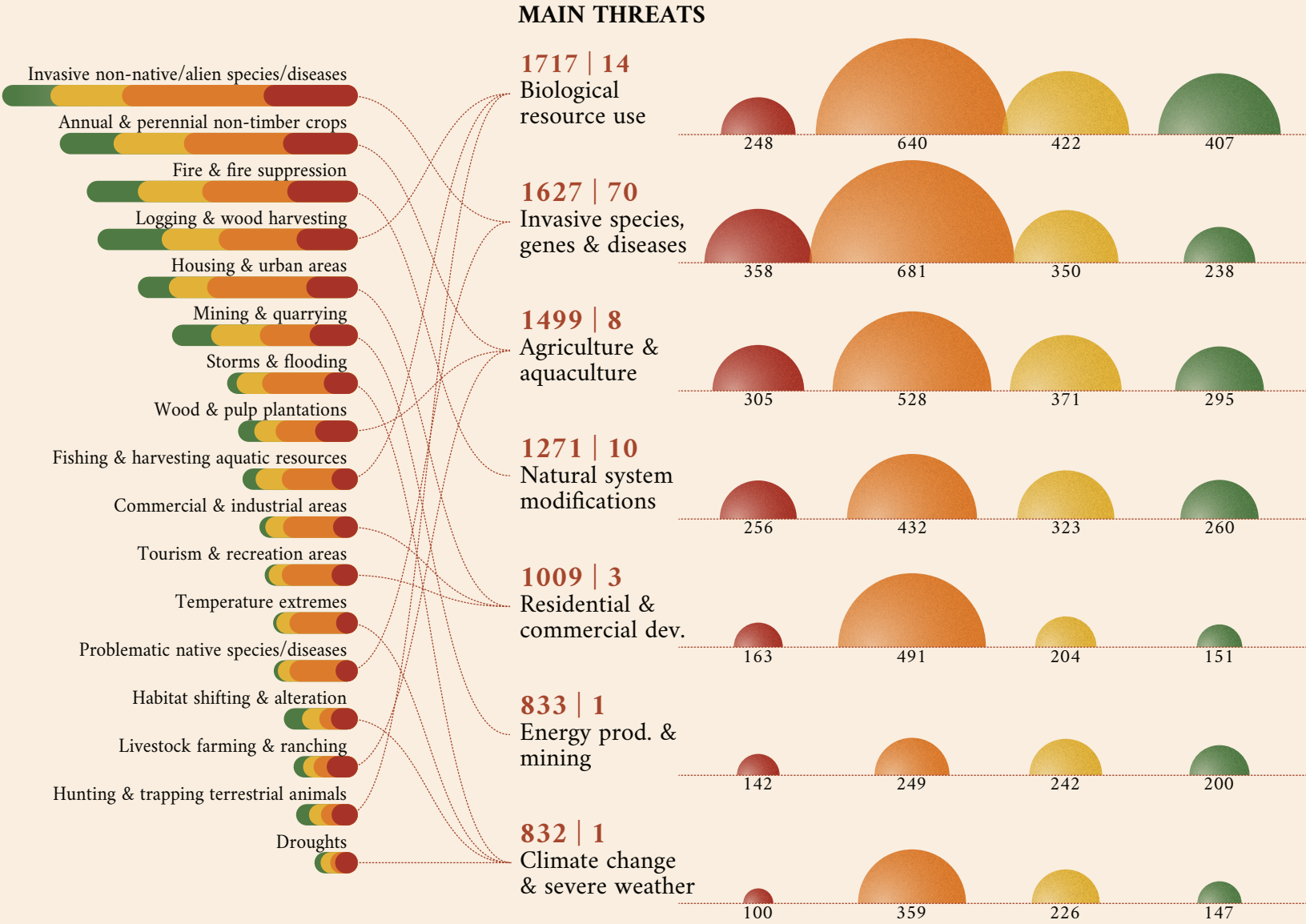
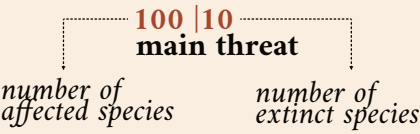
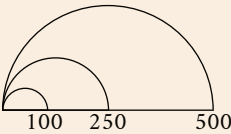
Threatened species rarely face a single cause — most are affected by several at once. This chart ranks seven major drivers of decline across the Pacific, showing how many species in each Red List category (CR, EN, VU, NT) each one touches, alongside the total species affected and how many are already extinct.

Biological resource use and invasive species affect the most species overall — but invasive species have already driven 70 extinctions, far more than any other cause.

How to read

- Critically Endangered
- Endangered
- Vulnerable
- Near Threatened

area = number of species



CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

840

Critically Endangered species live in the Pacific

815

Species are found in a single country.

how are CR species used?

top 5 documented uses, out of 840 species



44

Food - human



39

Pets/display animals



13

Medicine



12

Construction



9

Handicrafts

which groups are most at risk?

circle area - % share of group (highest = molluscs, 14.1%).
bar length - number of CR species (max = dicots, 510)



flowering plants (dicots)

510
9.0%



molluscs

130
14.1%



flowering plants (monocots)

54
5.1%



fish
41
0.9%



birds
31
2.5%



reptiles
28
5.3%



mammals
18
5.1%