



Highlights from September 2023

Greetings to the MAHB Community

Check out what's happening:

A new Stanford study reveals how the meat and dairy industry [resists competition](#) from alternative animal products with lower environmental impacts. Watch Project Drawdown's [webinar](#) recording on understanding and correcting Earth's troubling climate trajectory; September 26 was the 10th International Day for the total elimination of nuclear weapons--you can still sign the petition [here](#). Also, a new [study](#) by Gerardo Ceballos and Paul Ehrlich finds that due to human activity, species groups are going extinct 35 times faster than in the previous million years ([full paper](#) available).

Read this month's [blogs](#) on how a stranded marine biologist discovers the wonders in her own [backyard](#); a commitment to the [Earth Systems Treaty](#) (sign it [here](#)); a [MAHB Dialogue](#) on how human exceptionalism is pushing planetary boundaries, and an art blog on un-making the harm through [creative praxis](#).

Our [resources](#) include an [interview](#) with Michael Tobias and Jane Gray Morrison by Marc Bekoff on their latest book, *Random Homeostasis*; a [paper](#) on the silence and denial of population growth in academia and government (and suggested ways forward); an article asking whether [Fridays for the Future](#) had its day; a [Nature Editorial](#) on how a few powerful nations are undermining the protection of our oceans; a paper on why global population growth is constantly being [underestimated](#) (and thus jeopardizing sustainable futures); a call for action to curb [wildfires](#), and a sober [analysis](#) on whether "green growth" in high-income nations is happening.

Watch or listen to Nate Hagens' [podcasts](#) on the multiple threats to our oceans; a TGS episode with neuroscientist Robert Sapolsky on the structure of the human brain and its implications for behavioral change, and with "entrepreneurial activist" Sian Southerland on how to deal with our addiction to plastics.

Check out the **Arts Section** and catch up with this [video recording](#) of the exhibition "Community Resilience and Social Justice, Equity, Ownership."

Don't forget to check out the latest MAHB announcements [here](#).

Not a member of the MAHB yet? [Join the MAHB](#) and help transform progressive civil society into an increasingly powerful force for positive change.

What's Happening



How the meat and dairy sector resists competition from alternative animal products

The analysis compares innovations and policies related to plant-based and lab-grown alternatives to animal meat and dairy in the U.S. and European Union. Its findings could help ensure legislation levels the food industry playing field.



Project Drawdown's webinar series:

DRAWDOWN IGNITE

The end of normal: Understanding—and correcting—Earth's troubling climate trajectory

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023, 11 AM CT

REGISTER NOW

PROJECT DRAWDOWN

drawdown.org | @ProjectDrawdown

KATE MARVEL, PH.D.
Senior Scientist, Climate

Recording of The End of Normal: understanding and correcting Earth's troubling climate trajectory

In case you missed this webinar, the recording is now available [here](#). Project Drawdown senior climate scientist Kate Marvel explores the science behind current climate changes and future projections.



Nuclear Weapons Elimination Day

September 26, 2023, was the tenth International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

Join the United Nations and people in raising awareness about nuclear weapons, promoting the universal obligation to achieve a nuclear weapons-free world, and calling on policymakers to take concrete action to implement this obligation. You can still sign the appeal [here](#).



[“Mutilating the tree of life”: Wildlife loss accelerating, scientists warn](#)

Groups of animal species are vanishing at a rate 35 times higher than average due to human activity, according to researchers, who say it is further evidence that a sixth mass extinction in Earth’s history is underway and accelerating.

Blogs for this Month



The Upside of Downtime

A stranded marine biologist discovers the wonders in her urban backyard

A Commitment to the Earth Systems Treaty

We need a whole-Earth wake-up call: sign the EST [here](#).



How Human Exceptionalism is Pushing Planetary Boundaries—A MAHB Dialogue

with Lead Author
Brian Swartz

Why speciesism is akin to racism

The UN/making Network

An interdisciplinary artist-run platform that celebrates and promotes the UN/making of harm through creative praxis



[Read More](#)

Please add your thoughts to the conversations. Previous posts to the MAHB Blog can be found [here](#).

Resources



Stunning New Insights About Biophilia and Animal Protection

“*Random Homeostasis*,” by Michael Charles Tobias and Jane Gray Morrison, examines a “discourse on the nature of nature.” The psychology of boundaries and sovereignty, including personal space, is undergoing a critical revolution.



Discussing the Silence and Denial around Population Growth and Its Environmental Impact. How Do We Find Ways Forward?

This paper examines examples of denial about population in academia and government and explores ways forward to gain dialogue, also considering success stories. The authors conclude that population growth, like overconsumption, must be foregrounded to create ecologically sustainable economies and a sustainable future.



Five years of 'Fridays for Future': what future now?

In recent months, environmentalist protest groups more radical than FFF have attracted the lion's share of media attention. So has FFF outlived its relevance? Or can it coexist with its upstart siblings?



Hypocrisy is threatening the future of the world's oceans

A few powerful nations are undermining progress towards global ocean sustainability. Scientists can help hold them to account: none of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is on track to be achieved by 2030; progress on conserving and sustainably using the oceans has even been going backward since the 2015 UN summit at which the SDGs were agreed.



Demographic Delusions: World Population Growth Is Exceeding Most Projections

The size of the world's population has profound implications for the demand for food, energy, and resources, land use change, and greenhouse gas emissions. This study examines why most population projections have underestimated world population growth and the implications for actions required to achieve sustainable societies.



Wildfires: a call to action

The impacts of wildfires extend beyond the immediate toll on human life and property. Severe wildfires can increase rates of water runoff of a landscape, increasing the risk of erosion, and affecting local water quality. Wildfires can reduce air quality and damage respiratory health hundreds of miles from their source.



Is green growth happening? An empirical analysis of achieved versus Paris-compliant CO₂–GDP decoupling

Scientists have raised concerns about whether high-income countries, with their high per-capita CO₂ emissions, can decarbonize fast enough to meet their obligations under the Paris Agreement if they continue to pursue aggregate economic growth.

Podcasts & Videos



[Titanic Oceans | Reality Roundtable](#)

At this Reality Roundtable, marine biologist **Daniel Pauly**, ocean physicist **Antonio Turiel**, and paleobiologist **Peter Ward** join Nate Hagens to discuss the numerous oft-overlooked threats to the Earth's great oceans. From overfishing, plastic pollution, and climate change to acidification, humanity is assaulting one of the most important regulators of our climate and the largest habitat for life.



[The Great Simplification–Robert Sapolsky: “The Brain, Determinism, and Cultural Implications”](#)

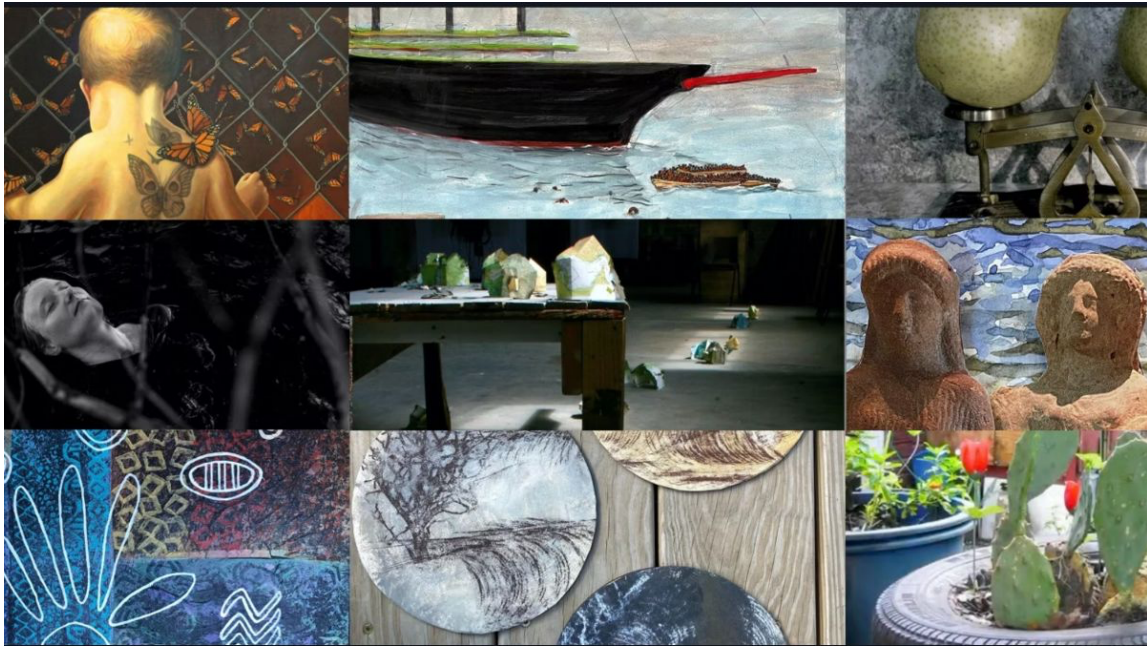
In this episode, neuroscientist and author Robert Sapolsky joins Nate to discuss the structure of the human brain and its implication on behavior and our ability to change. How can our species manage the mismatch of our evolutionary biology with our modern-day challenges and what implications does this have in a future with lower energy and resource availability?



[The Great Simplification–Sian Sutherland: “Innovating the Business of Plastics”](#)

In this episode, Nate is joined by Sian Sutherland, a leader in the movement towards reducing the overconsumption of plastic and its waste. We depend on fossil fuels for many reasons—one of the most ubiquitous ones being plastics--in packaging, our clothes, and even entering into drinking water. How do we begin to break off this addiction to the convenience and utility of plastics?

The Arts



[Video: Artists Presentation:](#) [“Community Resilience and Social](#) [Justice, Equity, Ownership”](#)

Artists shape perceptions, initiate meaningful dialogue, and ignite positive change. Rewatch the contributions from artists in the What’s Next for Earth exhibition, [Community Resilience and Social Justice, Equity, Ownership](#) from August 8. It draws inspiration from Richard Heinberg’s Think Resilience online course.

Copyright © 2023 Millennium Alliance for Humanity and Biosphere, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you signed up on our website or with a member of our co-ordinating committee.

Contact us at:

info@mahbonline.org

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).