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Joseph Wachira, a keeper at the Ol Pejeta Conservancy in Kenya, says goodbye to Sudan, the last male northern white rhinoceros. Sudan died in 2018. Two females of the subspecies remain.

AMI VITALE

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### Fragile Life in Freshwater

Many species that live in freshwater are endangered. A photographer is racing to document them before it's too late.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVID HERASIMTSCHUK

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### THE BIG IDEA

#### Cat vs. Bird: The Battle Lines

To save birds, should we kill off cats? A cat- and bird-lover seeks a better solution.

BY NOAH STRYCKER

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#### First Photo in the Wild of Largest Bee

See a Wallace's giant bee roughly life-size.

PHOTOGRAPH BY CLAY BOLT

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#### Weakening Life's Green Foundation

Hundreds of the plant species that anchor Earth's ecosystems have disappeared.

BY MICHAEL GRESHKO

### DECODER

#### Untangling Whales

Lines to lobster and crab traps harm right whales, but there are safer alternatives.

BY JASON TREAT

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The Last of His Kind Rescuing Hawaii's Plants



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**Vanishing**

The last mass extinction was caused by an asteroid. The blame for the next one lies much closer to home—with us. Soon all that's left of some of the planet's most vulnerable species may be the photographs of animals collected in Joel Sartore's Photo Ark.  
BY ELIZABETH KOLBERT  
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