Extinction Project

Pick an extinct organism for which you will become its "agent". The organism you pick must be extinct and not extant, i.e. there are no living representatives of its species. Your "client" must be real—no "imaginary friends" allowed! The "client" may be of any type of organism and must have a name, heritage, etc. Some examples of typical extinct species include types of eukaryotic single-celled, heterotrophic, autotrophic, saprophytic, fungal, plant, animal, sponge, cnidarian, molluscan, arthropodal, lophophorate, echinodermal, fish, amphibian, reptile, bird, mammal, or any other organism belonging to any of the groups listed on the webpage, Classification of the Biosphere (http://geology.csusb.edu/360/biotax31.htm). The client may belong to a wholly extinct group of creatures, or could have living relatives. By definition it will not have descendents. It could have lived at any time of the history of our planet. It is your choice which "client" you decide to represent.

As an effective advocate and "agent", you are required to fill out the attached personnel form for your "client" AND produce an 8.5x11 inch hand-drawn (or traced) colored portrait on the attached portrait form blank. These materials will be entered into a searchable digital database which you can use to compare/analyze the pool of selected organisms that are "no more". The form and portrait are to be submitted in both hard copy format AS WELL AS in separate *.pdf digital formats. That also means that your "client’s" portrait needs to be scanned into a *.pdf file. Name your *.pdf files with the genus species you chose as your client. The *.pdf files should be emailed as attachments to csusb_paleo@csusb.edu for credit.
Personnel Form

1. Linnean binomen

2. Common name

Taxonomy:

3. Phylum/Division

4. Class

5. Order

6. Family

7. Genus

8. species

Personal info

9. Brief description (please use entire space)

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10. Length

11. Width

12. Height

13. Mass

14. Sketch client in box using average adult human for scale

© WB Leatham (2009)
15. Markings, possible coloration

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**Diet and Nutrition**

16. Where it eats

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17. What it eats

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18. How it eats

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19. Where it gets its food

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### Where it lived

20. Abundance

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21. Paleobiogeographic distribution

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22. Inferred Habitat

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23. Temperature tolerance and preferences

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24. Depth/Elevation tolerances and preferences

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25. Unique Environmental needs

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Behavioral Characteristics

26. Locomotion

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27. food-gathering/producing techniques

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28. Reproduction (how, when, where, if known)

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29. Typically associated with... (i.e. name several of its "buddies")

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30. Possible enemies (name several and define why with a few descriptors)

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Origins

31. When (both relative time interval (e.g. epoch, period, etc.) and absolute (in annums BP)?

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32. Ancestral heritage (name a few of its ancestors if known)

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33. Other relatives of its "day" (who were a few of its cousins and where did they live?)

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Termination

34. When (both relative time interval (e.g. epoch, period, etc.) and absolute (in annums BP)?

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35. How did it happen? (best scenario)

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36. Was it avoidable? (describe)

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37. Part of Mass Extinction? If so, which one?

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38. Had it survived instead of becoming extinct, it could have....

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39. Unique and special attributes and important lessons gleaned from this study

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40. Tragedy of its loss?

ENTER ONE Choice from list below into box at left (fill box with symbol)

(5) great
(4) significant
(3) moderate
(2) minimal
(1) Glad it happened

41. Ecosystem replacability?

ENTER ONE Choice from list below into box at left (fill box with symbol)

(1) was replaced in the ecosystem over time
(2) its place in the ecosystem has been filled intermittently
(3) was not replaced in the ecosystem after it disappeared, no known replacements

42. Names of experts who have helped document the nature of this organism (if any) and their affiliations

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

References (minimum of three)

43. ______________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

44. ______________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

45. ______________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

FORM PREPARED BY:

Signature: _________________________________________________

PRINT NAME
Genus: ______________________________________ species __________________________________

Common Name: _________________________________________________________________

Terminated: __________________________________________________________________

Agent: _______________________________________________________________________