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| **Natural Event** | **Effects on *Mature* Community** |
| **Drought** | * Destroys habitats
* Results in the death of plants and  animals
* Leads to crop failures and  livestock deaths
 |
| **Fire** | • Causes secondary succession • Results in regrowth of the forest• Since all nutrients (minus CO2) remains within the top soil it essentially “resets” the forest |
| **Flooding** | • Causes soil erosion• Many smaller plants and animals are destroyed or moved  • Results in soil and water pollution, leading to widespread disease |
| **Tsunami** | * Water carries away or destroys plants and animals on shoreline
* Disrupts habitats and foods webs
* Salt from salt water changes  composition of soil
 |
| **Insect Infestation** | • Results in losses to forest canopy • Disrupts habitats and food webs by destroying producer |

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| **Human Activity** | **Effects on Ecosystem** |
| **Deforestation** | * Reduction in number of plants and animals living in an ecosystem
* Erosion due to lack of plant roots holding soil in place
* Removal of nutrients from topsoil
 |
| **Agricultural practices, such as leaving fields bare during non- planting seasons** | * Wind erosion due to loose soil
* Soil compaction (loss of nutrients)
* Hindering growth of plants
* Addition of excess nitrogen and pollutants due to increased run-off
 |
| **Exploitation of Mining Resources** | * Contamination of ground water and surface water through introduction of chemicals, toxins, wastes, or micro-organisms
* Contaminants affect local plant and animals
* Can release dangerous chemicals into water supplies (acid mine drainage)
 |
| **Overexploitation of Natural Resources such as Fish** | * Reduction in population of particular fish
* Reduction in population of bi-catch
* destruction of habitat due to specific fishing practices
* Loss of genetic diversity in food web
* Species less resistant to disease and changes in environment
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