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“The need to map and conserve the remainder of the world’s biodiversity is one of the most urgent issues of this century. This great resource is disappearing fast. It cannot be recovered, and its loss will affect humanity for all time. On the other hand, if saved and wisely used, biodiversity offers us environmental stability and a cornucopia of material and spiritual benefits. On these key points scientists are agreed, as expressed in the Global Biodiversity Outlook, and I hope our political leaders will at long last pay attention.”

E.O. Wilson  
*Harvard University*