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Bushfires in Australia

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The ecological condition of the Earth is aggravating every day, every minute, as humankind develops at an incredible speed. There are many environmental problems nowadays, such as air pollution, ozone depletion, depletion of minerals, pollution of water bodies, the greenhouse effect and so on. All of these problems have created what we consider to be a huge and most serious problem: global warming. And if people, for example, can prevent illegal logging, clean up water bodies, and find alternative ways to move around the city, then floods, earthquakes, glaciers melting, and fires are unlikely to be prevented. Therefore, the topic of fires is most relevant at the moment.

Huffpost US, the Canadian news agency, called 2019 «particularly challenging for wildfirea all over the planet». The cause of the fires, in their view, is climate change, which makes them frequent and intense [1]. Let us consider in more detail the damage caused by the fire in Australia. It was the Australian fires, which started in July and August 2019, that destroyed about 15 million hectares of land, a fire height of up to 70 meters, fire struck 7 of the country's 8 states, and the ecosystem was devastated. According to scientists and the Ministry, more than a billion animals died in fires in different parts of the country. It is noted that koala was the most affected. The first extinct species is believed to be smoky bats, which lived only in Australia. Among other things, more than 2,000 houses have been destroyed, more than 30 people have

died and dozens more are missing. Air pollution levels have exceeded the critical threshold by a factor of 26. Scientists and environmentalists estimate that it will take more than 100 years to restore the fauna. Preliminary estimates of losses could exceed \$4.4 billion.

To deal with the continuing fires, the authorities called for 3,000 reserve troops. A large part of the fire fighting was done by volunteers. Assistance was reported to be provided from all sides: firefighters from the United States, Canada, New Zealand came to Australia, money to fight fires and restore affected areas was gathered, celebrities and bloggers from all over the world in many different ways. A number of organizations and companies such as Wires, Animal Rescue Craft Guild, Cummins&partners, Wavemaker, and Ogilvy worked on animal rescue [2].

Thus, in Australia, we have seen the horrendous consequences of fires. Among other things, fires could render vast areas uninhabitable, carbon dioxide and methane emissions to the atmosphere would increase, the temperature of the entire planet would rise. As a result, there will be massive extinction of animal species, sea levels will rise as glaciers melt, ecological imbalances will be disturbed, there will be a shortage of drinking water, famine may be on the rise.

Now we will look at how people can cope and fight fires. Scientists already know where they're going to be. Needless to say, we cannot prevent fires beforehand. The easiest thing to do in this case is to know the basic precautions in the event of a fire on a territory. We believe that one of the ways to solve this problem is to increase the training of firefighters, to encourage them to study, to create more universities focusing on the life-saving profession. Besides that, there are always volunteers who are ready to help both ordinary people and extinguish fires. Also, there should be plenty of safe places for animals to live or be brought there in case of fire. Fires burn plants, and of

course they don't always save them, so in order to avoid the extinction of rare plant species, we think we should collect their seeds and grow them in the laboratory or elsewhere.

Human beings will not be able to prevent these problems fully, but by adapting to them and devising alternative solutions, we will be able to find a solution and help our planet. The fate of our next generation, the fate of our planet, depends on us alone, and we must do everything possible here and now to ensure a brighter future for our descendants.

References:

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