



Beware the Bermuda Triangle!

Hundreds of planes and boats have disappeared in the area known as the Bermuda Triangle. Here is just one story.

It is December 5, 1945. Five U.S. Navy bombers take off from Florida on a routine flight. All five pilots are experienced aviators, and the weather conditions are excellent. All of the planes were checked prior to takeoff. All five planes and 14 men disappear without a trace. Another plane sent out to search for them also disappears with its 13-member crew. No wreckage or bodies are ever found in spite of a huge search over both sea and land.

Unsolved Case File 3

Case description: If you don't want to vanish, don't fly a plane or sail a ship in the Bermuda Triangle!

Need to look at sea? One part of Appers. One snarkle on...

Theories to investigate:

- A deadly laser beam pointing up from the bottom of the ocean destroys passing boats and planes.
- Ships and planes are hit by falling meteors.
- The magnetic field in the area makes compasses go haywire.

THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE'S exact location is disputed, but many believe it covers the area shown below.

Bermuda Triangle Time Line

1880	1945	1948	1954	1963	1967	1984
Vanishing ships. These disappearances and many others have never been explained.	The <i>Atlanta</i> , a British ship, vanishes with 290 people on board.	A British passenger plane disappears with 29 people on board.	Five torpedo bomber planes, a search plane, and their crew disappear.	The ship <i>Marine Sulphur Queen</i> disappears with 39 people on board.	A U.S. Navy plane vanishes with 42 people on board.	The ship <i>Marques</i> disappears with 18 people on board.
			A cargo plane is lost with 4 people on board.			

A Siberian Success Story

In the Siberian woods more tigers lurked than anyone believed. Finding 600 instead of an expected 300 has increased the chance that the magnificent Siberian tiger will survive.

Good News

News that the Siberian tiger population was twice as big as believed thrilled conservationists. Siberian tigers live in the dense forests of Siberia. This cold and wild area is called the taiga (TIE-ga) and it is vast enough to help the tigers hide from us. Poachers kill some, and forestry and mining have an impact on their habitat, but for now, the tiger seems safe. Unfortunately, if global warming continues, pressure will grow to clear the thawed taiga and make it suitable for farming.

Safe Behind Bars

Captive breeding programs are also helping the tigers. In these programs, animals are moved to a zoo where they can breed. Any offspring can then be released into the wild. There are now over 300 Siberian tigers in zoos around the world. What we need to do now is protect enough of their natural habitat so they too can live the wild life.

The Siberian tiger is the largest tiger. A male can be up to 3.5 m (12 ft) long from head to tail.

Rambo was part of the breeding program at the Houston, Texas, Zoo. He fathered three cubs that have gone to other breeding programs around the world. Sadly, he died in 2001.

Why Is It Tough at the Top?

At the top of every food chain is a big predator. But in a food chain, there are always fewer predators than prey. If something other than the natural cycle of births and deaths reduces their numbers, the predators are at risk of extinction. Massive habitat loss and overhunting have reduced the numbers of most top predators to dangerously low levels.