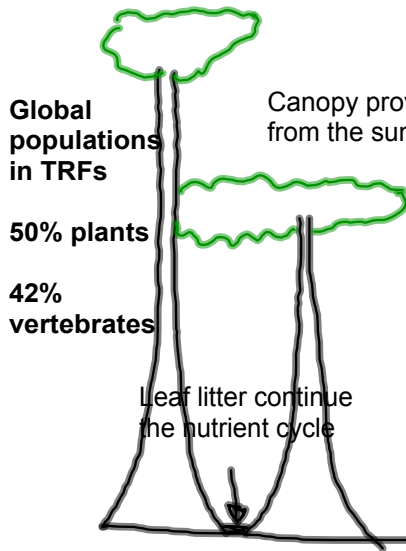


Threats to the Rainforest.



Emergents



Global populations in TRFs

Canopy provides protection from the sun

Ecosystem unable to return to the full equilibrium in human timescales. (4000 years)

50% plants

Removal of cover through logging, agriculture, industry, mining and settlement.

42% vertebrates

Leaf litter continue the nutrient cycle

Soil is exposed to rain and high temperatures so either washed away or dried out.

Loss of nutrients leads to increased soil infertility. More inhospitable conditions for species. Subsequently the loss in the ecosystems carrying capacity.

Tree stumps

Tree roots bind the soil to keep stability

Roots no long bind the soil together therefore liable to be washed away.