

Freshwater Species Population Decline: 1970-2020

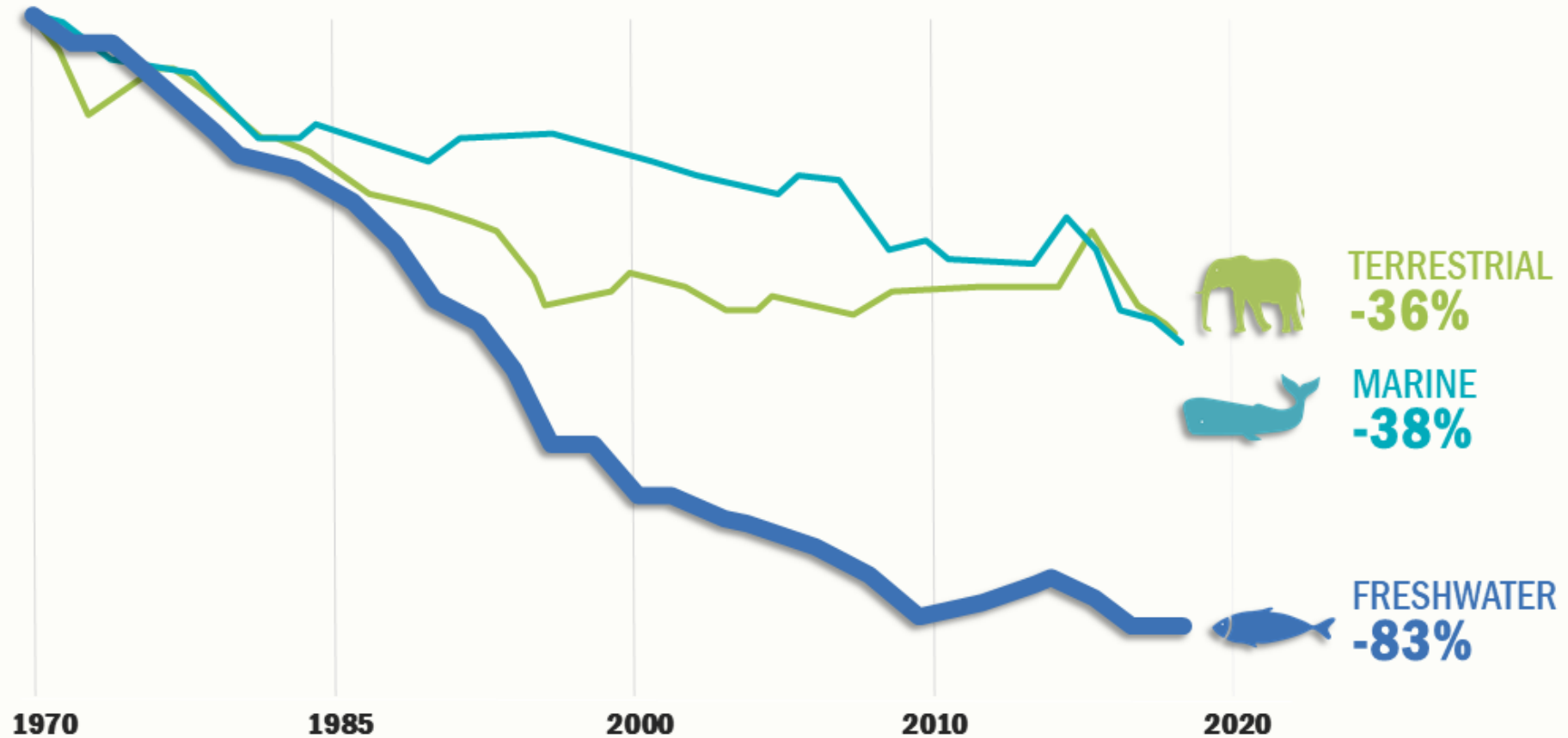


Figure 1. The WWF Living Planet Index reports a loss of 69% of vertebrate species populations since 1970. Hidden in the averaging is the disproportionate loss of populations of freshwater species. **It was with this understanding that freshwater ecosystems were explicitly included in the negotiated Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework** (WWF Living Planet Report, 2022 and 2016).