



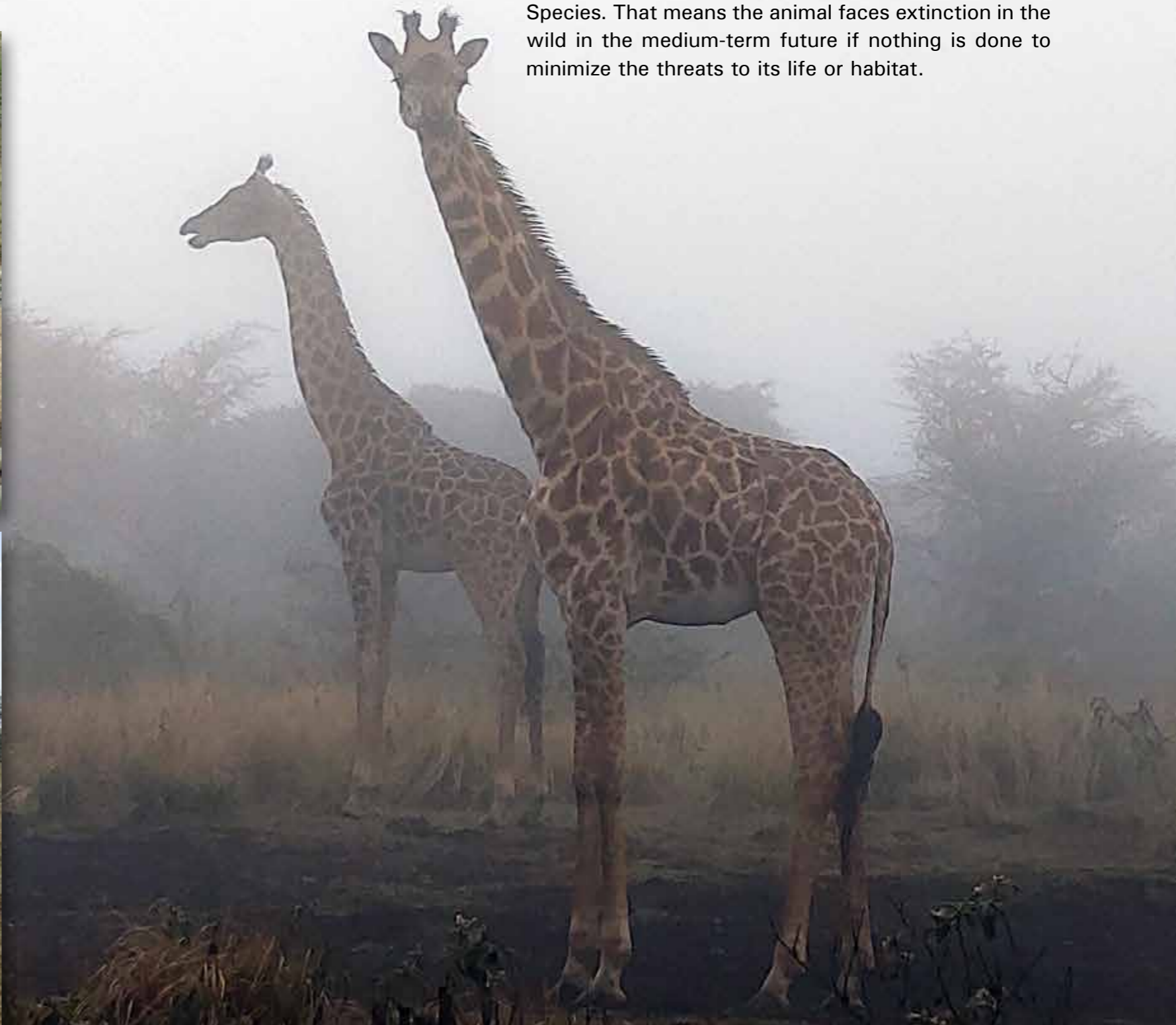
Giraffes Silently Slip Onto the Endangered Species List

Years of habitat destruction and poaching have reduced giraffe numbers in the last three decades by 40 percent, placing them in the vulnerable category for the first time.

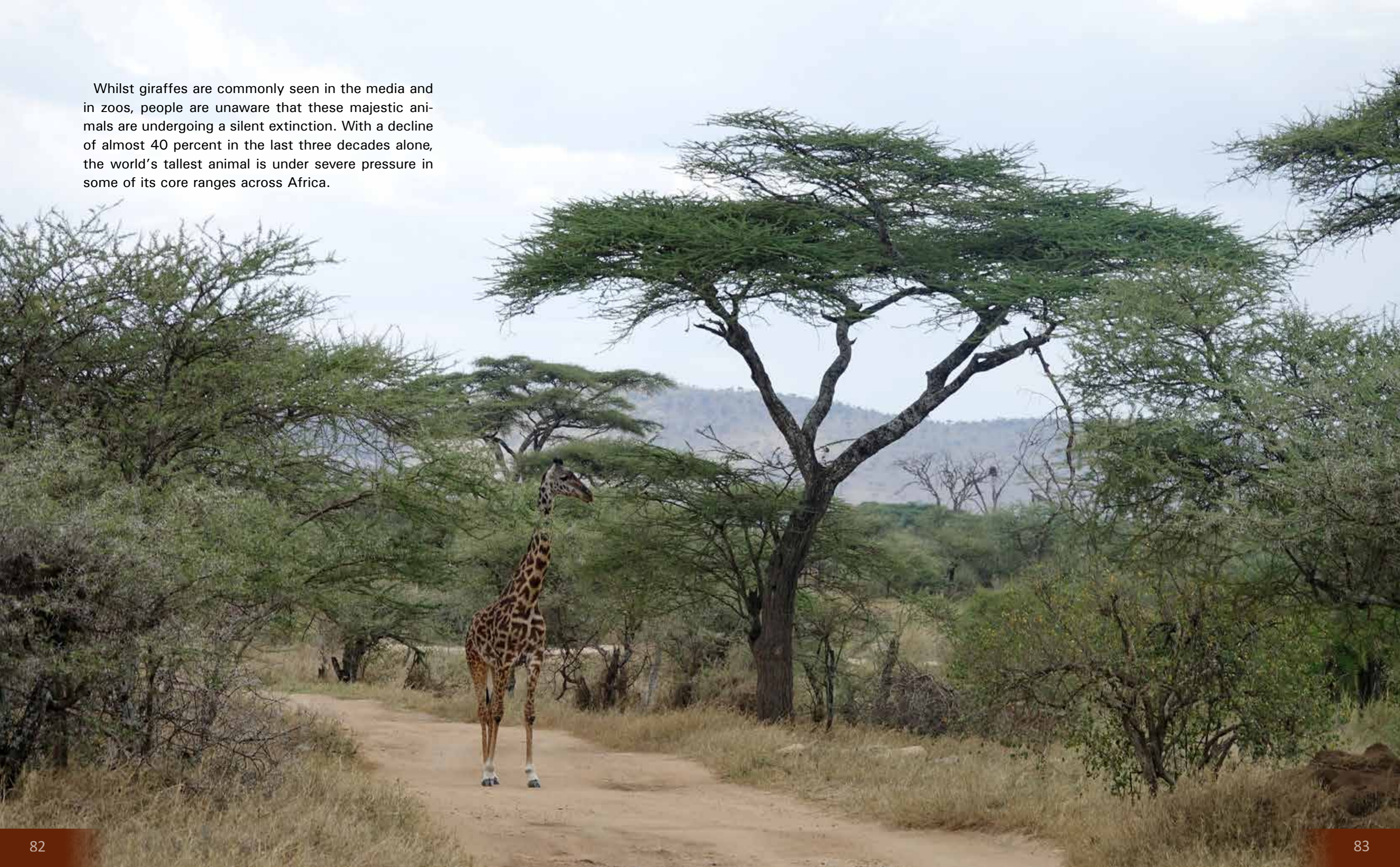




Since 2016 giraffe is on the Red List of Threatened Species. That means the animal faces extinction in the wild in the medium-term future if nothing is done to minimize the threats to its life or habitat.



Whilst giraffes are commonly seen in the media and in zoos, people are unaware that these majestic animals are undergoing a silent extinction. With a decline of almost 40 percent in the last three decades alone, the world's tallest animal is under severe pressure in some of its core ranges across Africa.



The giraffes face two main threats, encroachment from cities and towns into their habitat and poaching. Poaching has become increasingly problematic. Some food insecure villagers kill the animals for their meat, and many giraffes are slaughtered just for their tails, which are considered a status symbol and have been used as a dowry when asking a bride's father for his daughters hand in marriage in some cultures.

As one of the world's most iconic animals, it is timely that we stick our neck out for the giraffe before it is too late!

