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The only extant species of sloths are small and arboreal, such as Bradypus tridactylus, but extinct species ranged widely in size and shape, including the giant Megatherium americanum and the ground-dwelling Hapalops elongatus.

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ON THE COVER



A small cunner (Tautogolabrus adspersus) peers through strands of sugar kelp (Saccharina latissima) in a lush kelp forest ecosystem on Cashes Ledge in the Gulf of Maine. Kelp forests on the coast of Maine are in decline owing to rapid ocean warming and are being replaced by turf algae, which alter the eco-system's chemistry, hindering the recovery of kelp forests. See pages 816 and 876. Photo: Brian Skerry



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