The Conservation of Natural Resources ~ Your Cargo Cult College ~ © 2025 Dr. Walt Aikman

Going Beyond Boundaries: Wildlife Management Partnerships Across Landscapes

<u>Introduction</u>. We've discussed many ways we humans do not have a sustainable relationship with the natural environment, but there are examples showing when "we" have learned from our mistakes. We have brought the Bald eagle back from the brink of extinction. We have watershed management efforts underway in our region, and we have rules to limit air and water pollution. But do we have a sustainable relationship with wildlife? Wildlife moves, with no regard for state and national boundaries. And even when creatures as amazing as the Upland plover challenge our imagination we conservationists must also recognize *when* and *where* our notions and programs of natural resource management do not keep up!

Required Reading

There are three articles you have to read for this assignment; all new:

- 1. Aldo Leopold's essay for May, "Back from the Argentine";
- 2). Read "Parks and Protected Areas: Conserving Lands across Administrative Boundaries" by Jonathan Adams, page 61 in Knight & White.
- 3). Read Jeffrey Kochel's "Kinzua Deer Cooperative: Conservation through Cooperation" in Knight & White.

Assignment:

Read the essays with the following questions/objectives in mind:

- 1. Type and print a summary (one page, maximum) of the essay, and,
- 2. Relying on your understanding of relationships, vulnerability, and change, write about the Upland plover's journey. What challenges do you think migration imposes on conservation?
- 3. In "Parks and Protected Areas" what does Adams mean by "community based" resource conservation, and how do you think locally derived conservation goals are best integrated into regional and national plans? (Cite some examples Adams provides).
- 4. Adams says effective park and protected area management requires thinking big and small at the same time. What are the kind of tensions in terms of science, land ownership, and the limits of the law that come about from this view?
- 5. What kinds of conflicts motivated the creation of the Kinzua Deer Cooperative and what is the deer management approach the partners are attempting?
- 6. What are the kinds of on-going concerns that keep co-op managers busy?

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Wildlife Conservation Across Landscapes

<u>Introduction.</u> We've discussed many ways we humans do *not* have a sustainable relationship with the natural environment, but we also have many examples where we *do* learn from our mistakes. Consider the following: conservationists have brought the Bald eagle back from the brink of extinction; watershed management efforts underway in our region help protect aquatic ecosystems and public drinking water supplies; and our State Department of Environmental Conservation, the US Fish & land trusts have created an effective partnership to expand the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. But how well do we manage our relationship with the wildlife around us — especially deer?

1). Read Leopold's essays "Thinking Like a Mountain" from Part II *The Quality of the Landscape*, and "The Deer Swath" from Part III, *A Taste for Country*.

Type and print out/e-mail a summary (one page, maximum) of each essay *and* address the following: <u>first</u>, relying on your understanding of relationships, vulnerability, and change, discuss what happened to Leopold on the bank of that river, and on how this was a powerful turning point in his life; and <u>second</u>, if we take it that Leopold is correct, why is it important to understand how different people relate to the land?

2). Read "Parks and Protected Areas: Conserving Lands across Administrative Boundaries" by Jonathan Adams, page 61 in Knight & White.

What does Adams mean by "community-based" resource conservation, and how do you think locally derived conservation goals are best integrated into regional and national plans? (Cite some examples Adams provides). Also, Adams says effective park and protected area management requires thinking big and small at the same time. What are the kind of tensions - in terms of science, land ownership, and the limits of the law - that come about from this view?

3). Read Jeffrey Kochel's "Kinzua Deer Cooperative: Conservation through Cooperation" in Knight & White.

What kinds of conflicts motivated the creation of the KQDC and what is the deer management approach the partners are attempting? What are the kinds of on-going concerns that keep co-op managers busy?

4). Finally, review information about the planning process for Green Lakes State Park:

The NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation is accepting public comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for their proposed plan for Green Lakes State Park through 8 October 2010.

Draft and present your public comment on the draft Park plan and be sure it is informed by our class field trip to the Park, the articles you have read for this assignment, the on-line sources listed above, our work in the GIS lab, and in-class discussions.

Due in two weeks. Typed responses only.

A pdf version of this assignment is available upon e-mail request.