

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Pledge: \_\_\_\_\_

## Env Studies 201 Test #1

**Point Total:** 100 pts possible

- 5 pts 1. According to Lynn White, what has been the dominant historical Christian attitude towards wilderness? Use 1-2 sentences.
- 5 pts 2. Sum up the Land Ethic in a single sentence. You may use a direct quote, if you like.
- 5 pts 3. The ecological economist Robert Constanza, with many coworkers, published a landmark study that puts a price (33 trillion dollars) on the services that nature provides humankind. Janet Abramovitz thinks the work of Constanza *et al.* is a good thing. Why?
- 6 pts 4. It is generally accepted that the current rate of species extinction is the fastest since the dinosaurs became extinct (the so-called K-T wave of extinctions) and that human activities are largely to blame. How are we causing these extinctions? List as many reasons as you can, and circle the single most important reason.

5 pts 5. (a) What is the distinction between the *intrinsic* and *instrumental* value of a organism, species or ecosystem?

8 pts (b) To which of these values does John Muir appeal in his article when he argues against damming Hetch Hetchy? Explain your reasoning.

5 pts 6. (a) Explain in a general sense how the Endangered Species Act protects biodiversity.

2 pts (b) YES or NO (circle one): can a subspecies be 'listed' as threatened or endangered under the endangered species act?

5 pts (c) What is the main method by which two subspecies become distinct species? Be brief (1-2 sentences).

5 pts 7. Both Paul Taylor and Aldo Leopold espouse ethics that are usually classified as *biocentric*. What is the most important distinction between Taylor's and Leopold's philosophies?

8. Mark Sagoff has some harsh words for the use of cost-benefit analysis (CBA) as the primary means to set environmental policy.

8 pts (a) How can CBA be used to make decisions about environmental issues? An example (e.g., development of Mineral King Valley by Disney) may help.

10 pts (b) Describe Sagoff's main criticism(s) of the use of CBA in environmental decisions.

9. Biologist E.O. Wilson states

There is no question in my mind that the most harmful part of ongoing environmental despoliation is the loss of biodiversity.

5 pts (a) Exactly what *is* biodiversity?

8 pts (b) Why does Wilson feel that biodiversity loss is worse than other environmental problems, such as global warming or acid rain? Be complete.

8 pts 10. According to Vandermeer and Perfecto, the 'disarticulated' nature of Third World economies is an important cause of tropical rainforest destruction. Explain.

10 pts 11. Describe the Hetch Hetchy debate and explain its significance in the context of U.S. environmentalism.