

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Pledge (sign): \_\_\_\_\_

## Env Studies 201 Test #1

**Point Total:** 100 pts possible

5 pts 1. What is an ecosystem?

8 pts 2. What is the *environmentalist's dilemma*, as posed by Bryan Norton, and why is it a problem?

8 pts 3. List the main criticisms—as many as you can (no more than one sentence or phrase for each item)—of the Endangered Species Act.

8 pts 4. Contrast the spiritual/religious aspects of the attitudes of the Puritans and of John Muir towards wilderness.

5. William Baxter advocates an anthropocentric viewpoint as the fundamental basis of a rational environmental policy.

8 pts (a) Explain why he believes this viewpoint can be consistent with clear air and water, and healthy functioning ecosystems.

8 pts (b) Explain why he believes that any viewpoint that considers the welfare of other organisms (independent of human welfare) is ultimately impractical.

10 pts 6. What is 'Pleistocene rewilding?' Briefly describe the main arguments for and against it.

12 pts 7. Explain the criticisms that Mark Sagoff has for Pareto efficiency as a dominant method to address controversial environmental issues. In your answer, define a Pareto optimum.

8. Rice, Gullison and Reid do not feel that 'sustainable management' of mahogany is a viable way to preserve biodiversity in tropical rainforests.

5 pts (a) What exactly do they mean here by 'sustainable management?'

8 pts (b) What are the *ecological* reasons that uncontrolled logging of mahogany may better preserve biodiversity than sustainable management?

8 pts (c) What are the *economic* reasons that uncontrolled logging is better than sustainable management?

12 pts 9. G. Evelyn Hutchinson stated that ecosystem communities tend to become more complex—more biodiverse—and more stable with time. What was his reasoning? Answer in a some detail (use the back of this sheet if necessary).