

[Back to the syllabus overview](#)

Radical Environmentalism Weekly Schedule & Readings

Rigorous, college-level courses typically require two to three hours outside of class for every hour in class; graduate courses even more. This said, there may be weeks in which the assigned readings will be extensive enough that it will be difficult to read everything slowly and carefully. Develop your ability to peruse and skim as well as read. Some materials require slow, thoughtful reading. Others, one can skim and get the pertinent feel and main points without perseverating on every detail. Books like the historical overview by Susan Zakin can and should be worked through quickly, as should many of the primary reading sources (such as deep ecology and from the Earth First! journal). Scholarly journal articles will generally be more demanding and require more careful and analytical reading. In summary, figure out the different ways to read different sorts of things so you can get the most out of the readings within the time constraints of the semester. Readings during especially heavy weeks, which are the most critical to read, will be preceded by an asterisk. *Focus on perceiving the main assertions, arguments, and evidence the authors are making, understanding what they perceive the stakes to be (why they think what they are saying matters), and what the various schools of thought (and action) are, what the fault lines are among them, and why. Do this well and you will flourish in this class.*

Please bookmark this URL and consult this page *every week* for assignments, due dates, special guests, and extra-credit opportunities, some of which may change or appear suddenly.

Module I (weeks 1-5) ~ Tributaries and the Early Years

Week 1 (23 August) ~ Introducing the Monkeywrench Gang

The Tributaries to and Genesis of Radical Environmentalism

Poetic prologue, including Robinson Jeffers' "[The Answer](#)"

Video: "60 Minutes" on Earth First (1990); Dave Foreman Roadshow (UWO, Spring 1990).

Undergraduate and graduate section readings

Prologue to B Taylor's draft volume [On Sacred Ground: Radical Environmentalism from Earth First! to the Earth Liberation Front \(draft\)](#) [NOTE: ALL OF B. TAYLOR'S CHAPTERS ARE DRAFTS, FOR CLASS PARTICIPANT'S EYES ONLY, AND NOT FOR QUOTATION (BEYOND THIS COURSE) WITHOUT PRIOR PERMISSION]

[Radical Environmentalism](#) (7), [Deep Ecology](#) (3.5), [Arne Naess](#) (3), [Earth First! and the Earth Liberation Front](#) (5), [Social Ecology](#) (2), [Edward Abbey](#) (2), [Black Mesa](#) (3), [Anarchism](#) (6), [Ecofeminism](#) (5), [Bioregionalism and the North American Bioregional Congress](#) (2) (these are all from primers on the subjects, from *the Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature*).

Week 2 (30 August) ~ Encountering the Godfather of Radical Environmentalism

NOTE: There will be an in-class quiz on the previous week's assigned readings.

Edward Abbey and the roots of Radical Environmentalism.

Video: Wrenched. Alternative: Edward Abbey: A Voice in the Wilderness.

Undergraduate and graduate section readings

- Abbey, Edward, *Desert Solitaire* (selections; starred chapters especially recommended and double starred or more required & hyperlinked): *First Morning, *Solitaire, *Serpents of Paradise, *Cliffrose and Bayonets, ** [Polemic on Industrial Tourism](#), Cowboys & Indians, **[Cowboys and Indians](#) (part II), Water, The Heat of Noon, The Moon-Eyed Horse, *****[Down the River](#) [sets up MW gang], ***[Havasupai](#), ** [Dead Man at Grandview Point](#), *Tukuhnikivats, Island in the Desert, *****[Episodes & Visions](#), Terra Incognita, **[Bedrock and Paradox](#)
- Loeffler, with Abbey, on [Glenn Canyon Dam](#), in *Adventures with Ed*, 101-05
- * Abbey's *The Monkey Wrench Gang*: [Prologue](#), [Origins I/Sarvis](#), [Origins II/Hayduke](#), [Origins III/Seldom Seen](#), [Origins IV/MsAbzug](#), [The Wooden Shoe Conspiracy](#)
- * Abbey, on ranching and public lands, in "[Preliminary remarks](#)" (1-6) and "[Free speech: the cowboy and his cow](#)," from *One Life at a Time, Please*, 7-19
- * Abbey, "[Theory of Anarchy](#)" (25-28) and "[Ecodefense](#)" 29-32 [also and originally as "Forward!" in Dave Foreman's *Ecodefense*] from *One Life at a Time, Please*
- * Abbey, "[Preface & Benedicto](#)" to 1998 edition to *Desert Solitaire*

Additional graduate readings

Loeffler, with Abbey, on [Anarchism](#), in *Adventures with Ed*, 202-06

Loeffler, with Abbey, on [mysticism, peyote, and Abbey's epiphany at Havasupai](#), in *Adventures with Ed*, 241-247, 196, 34.

[Hopiland to the Rainforest Action Network](#) (Randy Hayes)

Optional reading

Animals in the Woods (ch 1) in B Taylor's draft volume *On Sacred Ground: Radical Environmentalism from Earth First! to the Earth Liberation Front*

Week 3 (6 September) ~ From Underground Resistance to a Resistance Movement (The Elders of & Tributaries to Radical Environmentalism)

Begin Radical Environmentalism through images and sound (including live field recordings and tunes such as Animal, Habitat, Sea Shepherd, & Manley Men). Background to include primers on the Conservation movement in North America: Gifford Pinchot, John Muir, and their respective progeny; The Fox, Bolt Weevils, The RARE II process and its role in the Genesis of Radical Environmentalism.

Video: Damnation (2014)

Undergraduate and graduate section readings

Tributaries (ch 2) in B Taylor's draft volume *On Sacred Ground: Radical Environmentalism from Earth First! to the Earth Liberation Front*

Complete *The Monkey Wrench Gang* (initial 5 chapters provided by links, above).

[Aldo Leopold](#)

[Pyotr Ouspensky](#)

[Conservation Biology](#)

Foreman, *Rewilding*, 1-60 (part I, first 1/2)

Additional graduate readings

“[Earth First!’s Religious Radicalism](#),” in *Ecological Prospects: Scientific, Religious, and Aesthetic Perspectives*. Ed. C. Chapple. (State University of New York Press, 1994), 185-209.

Susan Zakin, *Coyotes & Town Dogs*, ([1-100](#)) (Read quickly/peruse Zakin’s book.) [Note: this book has just gone back in print with University of Arizona Press and can be easily acquired online and in some bookstores.]

Week 4 (13 September) ~ The First Decade of Earth First!

Lectures: on the tributaries and early years of EF!

Background Presentations on the argument that “Its so bad that...” radical action is necessary. . . and digging into the ecological and anthropological reasons for resistance

Books Focused on Bill Devall, ed., *Clearcut: The Tragedy of Industrial Forestry*, and *Re-wilding*.

Poetry & Prose: Gary Snyder from *Turtle Island* and in *Clearcut*

Possible Video: “Lou Gold” & Lessons from the Forest (Bald Mountain, Oregon, Case Study)

Undergraduate reading

Susan Zakin, *Coyotes & Town Dogs*, ([1-101](#)) With Zakin’s book, the goal is to get a broad feeling for the movement, its campaigns, internal disputes, and political impacts; read quickly.

Undergraduate and graduate readings

Foreman, *Rewilding*, 61-108 (part I, concluded)

Additional graduate readings

Foreman, *Rewilding*, 109-176 (part II)

Susan Zakin, *Coyotes & Town Dogs*, ([102-215](#)) and ([216-315](#))

Additional Recommended Readings

Davis, John, ed. *The Earth First! Reader: Ten Years of Radical Environmentalism*. Salt Lake City, UT: Gibbs Smith, 1991.

Foreman, Dave. *Confessions of an Eco-Warrior*. New York: Harmony Books, 1991.

Week 5 (20 September) ~ Digging Underneath the History – Uncovering the Perceptual, Affective, Spiritual, and Ethical Motivations

Video: Rage over Trees and/or Video: Road Use Restricted (28min)

Undergraduate & graduate readings

* B. Taylor, “[Resacralizing Earth: Environmental Paganism and the Restoration of Turtle Island](#),” in *American Sacred Space*. Eds. D. Chidester and E.T. Linenthal. (Indiana University Press, Religion in America Series, 1995), 97-151.

On Epistemology, Religion, Spirituality, and Ritual

There here are many antecedents to the countercultural spirituality of radical environmentalism, including Emil Rousseau (in 17th c. France) and the so called Romantic movements wrote which followed (including the poet Robinson Jeffers in America, who published in the mid-20th c and influenced many ardent and radical environmentalists), the Transcendentalists and esp. H. D. Thoreau, early conservationists including John Muir, Bob Marshall, Aldo Leopold, Rachael Carson, and indeed, most of the most passionate 20th c.

conservationists, and poets. From the late 1950s, the most important early voices were Edward Abbey, Paul Shepard, and Gary Snyder. Less well known figures including Freeman House, Dolores LaChapelle, and Peter Berg made some of the more remarkable early and influential statements. In addition to the books by them cited above in the main bibliography, the following books and articles in movement tabloids and magazines were especially important. Below are some readings in this section of the courses' documentary reader. Skim through these to get a field for the 'spiritual ferment' in the early movement.

Paganism

Graham Harvey, [Animism](#)

* Daniel Quinn, [Animism: Humanity's Original Worldview](#) (ERN entry), which provides the novelist's views of animistic foraging societies and reflects the central cosmogony and mythic structure of the movement.

Paul Watson and the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society

* Paul Watson's [A Call for Biocentric Religion](#)

Barry Lopez, "[The Language of Animals](#)." In *Wild Earth*, ed. Tom Butler, 296-305. Minneapolis, MN: Milkweed, 2002.

David Abram's [Depth Ecology](#) and [Magic and Animism](#) (ERN entries)

David Abram, "[Returning to our animal senses](#)," 209-15, in Tom Butler, ed., *Wild Earth*

Additional graduate readings

Susan Zakin, *Coyotes & Town Dogs*, (316-443) ([Coyotes/Notes](#))

G-O Road

David Chidester, [Animism](#)

Primary sources: read as many as possible

The importance of spirituality early in *Earth First!* is illustrated in the following:

* Dave Foreman, "[Around the Campfire](#)." *Earth First!* 2, no. 8 (21 September 1982): 2. Argues, "Deep Ecology is the most important philosophical current of our time," promising to make *Earth First!* a forum for such philosophy, as well as for diverse "Earth religion in whatever guise."

Dave Foreman (under pseud. Chim Blea), "[What Are We Fighting For?](#)" *Earth First!* 3, no. 2 (22 December 1982): 17.

* Dave Foreman. "[Dear George](#)." *Earth First!* 7, no. 1 (1 November 1986): 3. In this follow up to his August 1985 "Around the campfire" editorial, and responding to criticism of it by social ecologist George Bradford, Foreman writes in a way that illustrated his fundamental epistemological presuppositions: "My criticism of Murray Bookchin in 'Around the Campfire' ('I think Murray would do well to get out of his stuffy libraries and encounter the wilderness.') . . . is a fundamental critique of Bookchin and anyone else who relies excessively on scholarship instead of direct wilderness experience for wisdom. [No one] can fully understand human society or the relationship to the natural world without regularly encountering the wilderness and finding instruction there."

Dave Foreman (under pseud. Chim Blea), "[Spirituality](#)." *Earth First!* 7, no. 7 (1 August 1987): 23.

Dave Foreman, "[Review of The Spiral Dance](#)." *Earth First!* 9, no. 1 (1 November 1988): 35.

Gary Snyder and the Invention of Bioregional Spirituality

Gary Snyder, "[Song of the Taste](#)." *Earth First!* 5, no. 1 (1 November 1984): 21.

Gary Snyder, "[Reinhabitation](#)." *Earth First!* 7, no. 8 (23 September 1987): 28. Snyder himself promotes bioregionalism and this central aspect of this decentralist, green, social philosophy.

Hundredth Monkey (ERN entry).

By 1983, the peace and anti-nuclear counterculture, left over as the cold war ebbed, was drawn to the movement. The 'hundredth monkey' story illustrates the spirituality of some of this stream, a bricolage of anti-dualistic, "new science," Gandhian, New Age, and other forms of nature-related spirituality

Week 6 (27 September) ~ Ritual, Ecofeminism, Eros, Genderwork ~ and the possibility of a New Age

Take home midterm exam distributed in class 27 September 2017 (due Sunday, 8 October 2017, see below).

Video possibility: "Butterfly", re. Julia Butterfly Hill

Undergraduate reading

Read Susan Zakin, *Coyotes & Town Dogs*, ([102-215](#)) and ([216-315](#)) (skim/read quickly/peruse)

Undergraduate & graduate readings

Many movement figures believe that ritualizing is critical to proper perception regarding the sacredness and interdependence of all life, and some such ritual involves ecofeminist premises. The following articles and entries introduce such a perspective and give examples of the kinds of ritual experimentation that has characterized much of radical environmentalism.

Merchant, Carolyn. 1992. "[Ecofeminism](#)." In *Radical ecology: the search for a livable world*, 193-222. New York & London: Routledge.

Dolores LaChapelle, "[Thoughts on Autumn Equinox about the Importance of Ritual](#)." *Earth First!* 9, no. 8 (22 September 1989): 30.

* Joanna Macy's [Council of All Beings](#) (from 1985) and biography [Joanna Macy](#) (ERN entries)
Will Keepin's [Breathwork](#) (ERN entry)

* John Seed, [Re-Earthing](#) and biography [John Seed](#) (ERN entries)

For more information on the Council of All Beings, do a web search, and see especially the Rainforest Information Centre's site: <http://www.rainforestinfo.org.au/deep-eco/coab.htm>

Additional graduate readings

* B. Taylor. "[Diggers, Wolves, Ents, Elves and Expanding Universes: Bricolage, Religion, and Violence From Earth First! and the Earth Liberation Front to the Antiglobalization Resistance](#)." In *The Cultic Milieu: Oppositional Subcultures in an Age of Globalization*, eds. Jeffrey Kaplan and Heléne Lööv, 26-74. Lanham, Maryland: Altamira/Rowman and Littlefield, 2002.

Week 7 (4 October) ~ Earth First! & Deep Ecology

All students must turn in their take home exams, sending them as word documents by email attachment no later than 5:00 p.m., Sunday 8 October, to Bron Taylor.

There will class between when these exams are distributed and when they are due. As student energy and participation is a key to this course, students who do not attend and who do not have a pre-confirmed medical excuse will have their mid-term exam reduced one full grade.

Lectures: Field notes from the Council of All Beings and the First International Re-Gendering Workshop.

Possible Video: The Hundredth Monkey

Undergraduate readings

Susan Zakin, *Coyotes & Town Dogs*, ([316-443](#)) (skim/read quickly/peruse) ([Coyotes/Notes](#))

Graduate readings

* Bender, *The Culture of Extinction: Toward a Philosophy of Deep Ecology*, 15-230.

Strongly recommended optional readings:

Katz, Light and Rothenberg. *Beneath the Surface: Critical Essays on Deep Ecology*. Read the introduction (1-3), Clark (3-14), *Katz (17-39), *Plumwood (59-81), Light (125-143), Zimmerman (169-191), Gare (195-212); Jacobsen (231-246), and Curtin (253-26).

Further readings

Terry Tempest Williams, *Unseen Hunger*, esp. "Undressing the Bear" (51-59), "Yellowstone: the erotics of place" (81-87), "Testimony" and "The Wild Card" (125-141).

Merchant, Carolyn. *The Death of Nature: Women, Ecology and the Scientific Revolution*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1980.

Week 8 (11 October): Judi Bari, Ecofeminism, and Revolutionary Deep Ecology

Video: Judi Bari on "Revolutionary Ecology" (at UWO) & "[Ecofeminism Now](#)" (1996)
[optional videos: "Who Bombed Judi Bari" (Steve Talbot)] If no link Prof. Taylor will provide.

Undergraduate readings

Devall and Sessions, *Deep Ecology*. (Peruse the entire book, reading as much as possible.) [Section one](#) (pp. 1-77); [Section two](#) (pp. 78-129); [Section three](#) (pp. 130-77); [Section four](#) (pp. 178-267)

Undergraduate & graduate readings

Judi Bari was an influential Earth First! activist who claimed to have turned it in a feminist direction, argued for what she called "revolutionary ecology," who led a campaign to save some of California's remaining redwood forests in the late 1980s and early 1990s. She was critically injured when a bomb exploded under the seat of her car in 1990, which she blamed on her political enemies. Much of her writing was originally published in *Earth First!*, and then reprinted in *Timber Wars*. Some important examples include:

*"[The Feminization of Earth First!](#)" (219-225), and

*"[The Secret History of Tree Spiking](#)" (in two parts, 264-270, 271-82).

"[Breaking up is hard to do](#)" (55-59).

*"[1990: a year in the life of Earth First!](#)" and *"[Why I am not a misanthrope](#)" (82-84),

"[Review: Dave Foreman's Confessions of an Eco-Warrior](#)," 103-108.

This collection includes background on the car bombing, "[Earth First Car Bombing](#)" (286-328) and "Redwood Action Week" (165-173).

For contrast, see

**Wolke, Howie. "[Thoughtful Radicalism](#)." *Earth First!* 10, no. 2 (21 December 1989): 29.

CM. "[An Appraisal of Monkeywrenching](#)." *Earth First!* 10, no. 3 (2 February 1990): 30.

(also in 20th Anniversary issue of *Earth First!*)

(See also week 11 readings, esp. "Cult of Nonviolence" and "Pacifism as Pathology," which directly challenged the "Ecotopians" who rejected tree spiking.)

Bari, Judi. "Revolutionary Ecology." *Alarm: A Voice of Revolutionary Ecology*, no. 12 (1995): 6-7, 29. A summary of Bari's fusion of biocentrism with a Marxism-inspired revolutionary socialism.

Graduate readings

* Bender, *The Culture of Extinction: Toward a Philosophy of Deep Ecology*, 231-450.
Mallory, Chaone. 2006. "[Ecofeminism and forest defense in Cascadia](#): gender, theory, and radical activism." *Capitalism, Nature, Socialism* 17(1):32-49.

* Prof. Taylor has a extensive bibliography on ecofeminism, which is available on request.

Strongly recommended optional readings:

Katz, Light and Rothenberg. *Beneath the Surface: Critical Essays on Deep Ecology*. Read Zimmerman (169-191), Gare (195-212); Jacobsen (231-246), Curtin (253-26)

Eaton, Heather and Lois Ann Lorentzen. *Ecofeminism and Globalization: Exploring Culture, Context, and Religion*. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield, 2003, especially the chapters by Mellor (11-22), Nyamweru (41-56), and Lorentzen (57-77).

Sturgeon, Noel. 1997. *Ecofeminist natures: race, gender, feminist theory and political action*. London: Routledge, 1997, esp. valuable are the early, background, chapters (available on request from Prof. Taylor)

Week 9 (18 October) ~ Anarcho-Primitivism and the Earth Liberation Front

Video possibilities: "When a Tree Falls", "[Pickaxe](#)" & Biotic Backing Brigade, and Video: "60 Minutes" on "The Earth Liberation Front" (2001)

Undergraduate & graduate section readings

Begin by reading about the recent arrests and convictions of Earth Liberation Front/Animal Liberation Front Activists (one or more of these articles):

The most in-depth article was run in the Eugene Weekly:

Kera Abraham, "[Flames of Dissent](#)" (five part series), Eugene Weekly, November & December 2006). (This is a large document, if it will not download for you, try the newspaper's archives at: <http://www.eugeneweekly.com/2006/index.html>, and then search for the series in these, archived issues: 2, 9, 22 November and 7 & 21 December.

Also worth reading:

Vanessa Grigoriadis, "[The Rise and Fall of the Eco-Radical Underground](#)," Rolling Stone, July 2006

Matt Rasmussen, "[Green Rage](#)," *Orion*, January/February 2007

Then peruse and read widely the following materials to get a feel for 'anarcho-primitivism' or 'green-anarchism,' and how it relates to the Earth Liberation Front and the Animal Liberation Front. Be sure to grasp the challenge of Schmookler's views, published in [Parable of the Tribes](#), and discussed in a number of the articles, below. Be ready to comment on whether Ted Kaczynski's views are in synch with anarcho-primitivism and/or radical environmentalism.

Visit the [Primitivism](#) website. Start with "[What is Primitivism](#)" by John Filiss, and then turn to and read the essays by John Zerzan within the [primitivism](#) web domain, and after this, read his article (*) "[Future Primitive](#)" in this domain's section titled [Anthropology](#). Then see also the excerpts from Stanley Diamond's "[In Search of the Primitive](#)", and prowl around the site as you wish. Also relevant is Zerzan's "[The Catastrophe of Postmodernism](#)" at www.primitivism.com

From Stephen Best and Anthony Nocella, eds., *Terrorists or Freedom Fighters: Reflections on the Liberation of Animals* (Lantern 2004):

"[Introduction](#)" (9-49)

Rod Coronado, "[Direct Actions Speak Louder than Words](#)" (178-184)
Tom Regan, "[How to justify violence](#)" (231-36)

From Stephen Best and Anthony Nocella, eds., *Igniting the Revolution* (AK Press 2006)
Best and Nocella, "[Introduction](#)"
Jeff Leurs, "[From Protest to Resistance](#)" (211-223)

Anarchism and Revolutionary Ecology . . .

- . . . debates over the extent to which radical environmentalism is or should be considered revolutionary, and if so: What is the nature of that revolution?
- * Australopithecus. "[Review of *The Parable of the Tribes*](#)." *Earth First!* 5, no. 8 (22 September 1985): 24. In this article then *Earth First!* editor John Davis, writing under his favorite pseudonym, reviewed an important book which contradicts the anarchistic tendencies of both the libertarian "rednecks for wilderness" and the more communitarian green anarchists. This sets off the first (and last) extended debate on social philosophy in the pages of *Earth First!* Formanistas from Davis, Manes, Abbey, and others, defend anarchism, while Schmookler more than holds his own.
 - * Schmookler, Andrew Bard. "[Schmookler Replies to Australopithecus](#)." *Earth First!* 6, no. 2 (21 December 1985): 25.
 - * Schmookler, Andrew Bard. "[Schmookler on Anarchy](#)." *Earth First!* 6, no. 5 (1 May 1986): 22.
 - Manes, Christoph. "[Ascent to Anarchy](#)." *Earth First!*, 6, no. 6, 1 August 1986, 21.
 - Schmookler, Andrew Bard. "[Schmookler Replies to the Anarchists](#)." *Earth First!* 7, no. 2 (21 December 1986): 24-5.
 - Manes, Christoph. "[An Anarchist Replies to Schmookler's Reply to the Anarchists](#)." *Earth First!* 7, no. 8 (23 September 1987): 23.
 - Schmookler, Andrew Bard. "[Schmookler Replies to Anarchist's Replies to Schmookler's Reply to the Anarchists](#)." *Earth First!* 7, no. 8 (23 September 1987): 26-7.
 - * Roselle, Mike. "[Forest Grump](#)." *Earth First!* 15, no. 2 (21 December 1994): 23. Roselle urges "jihad"-like rebellion in criticism of Foreman's claims that radical environmentalism is not revolutionary.

The Unabomber

- * Kaczynski, Theodore. "[Industrial Society and its Future](#)." First published in the *Washington Post*, 19 September 1995, beginning p. A1.

Graduate readings

- [Peter Kropotkin](#)
Peter Kropotkin, "[Anarchism](#)." *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 11th ed., pp. 914-19, 1910-1911. ([Biographical entry](#))
- Sahlins, Marshal. *Stone Age Economics*. Chicago: Aldine, 1968. Read the online chapter: "[The Original Affluent Society](#)"
- Kropotkin, Peter. *Mutual Aid: A Factor of Evolution*. Boston: n.d.; reprint, Montreal: Black Rose, 1914. ([Online](#))
- Bey, Hakim. *T.A.Z. The Temporary Autonomous Zone, Ontological Anarchy, Poetic Terrorism*. Autonomedia, 1991. [Internet link](#)

Recommended readings

- Schmookler, Andrew Bard. *The Parable of the Tribes: The Problem of Power in Social Evolution*. Berkeley, California: University of California Press, 1984.
- Chase, Alston. *Harvard and the Unabomber: The Education of an American Terrorist*. New York: Norton, 2003; especially Ch 13: Harvard's Culture of Despair, 207-213 and Ch 25: Ted Kaczynski and the Rise of Modern Terrorism, 358-372.

Read ahead as much as possible and from the online document bank of movement literature.

Week 10 (25 October): Critical perspectives on radical environmentalism and deep ecology: critique and rejoinders regarding the idea of wilderness

Undergraduate and Graduate Readings (read first/most important)*

- * Michael Nelson, "An amalgamation of [Wilderness Preservation Arguments](#)" (154-198) in Callicott & Nelson, eds, *the Great Wilderness Debate*.
- * J. Baird Callicott, "[A critique of an alternative to the wilderness idea](#)" (172-86) in Tom Butler, ed., *Wild Earth*
- Reed Noss, "[Wilderness—now more than ever](#)" (187-94) in Tom Butler, ed., *Wild Earth*
- Gary Snyder, "[Is Nature Real?](#)" (195-98) in Tom Butler, ed., *Wild Earth*
- Dave Foreman, "[Wilderness: From Scenery to Nature](#)" (15-33) in Tom Butler, ed., *Wild Earth*.
- * Edward Abbey, "[Freedom & Wilderness](#), Wilderness & Freedom" (227-238) in *The Journey Home*, NY: Penguin, 1977
- * Ramachandra Guha, "[Radical Environmentalism and Wilderness Preservation: a third world critique](#)" (231-235), in Callicott & Nelson, eds, *the Great Wilderness Debate*. [Originally as "Radical American Environmentalism and Wilderness Preservation: A Third World Critique." *Environmental Ethics* 11 (1989): 71-83.]
- * David Johns, "[The relevance of Deep Ecology to the Third World](#)" (246-270), in Callicott & Nelson, eds, *the Great Wilderness Debate*. [Originally as "The Relevance of Deep Ecology to the Third World." *Environmental Ethics* 12, no. 3 (1990): 233-52.]
- Ken Wu, "Ecoforestry or protected status? [Some words in defense of parks](#)" (199-08), in Tom Butler, ed., *Wild Earth*
- Ramachandra Guha, "[Radical Environmentalism Revisited](#)" (271-279) in Callicott & Nelson, eds., *The Great Wilderness Debate*.

Graduate Readings

- Cronon, William. "[The Trouble with Wilderness](#); Or, Getting Back to the Wrong Nature." In *Uncommon Ground: Toward Reinventing Nature*, ed. William Cronon, 69-90. New York: Norton, 1995.
- Soulé, Michael. "[The social siege of nature](#)." In *Reinventing Nature? Responses to Postmodern Deconstruction*, eds. M. Soulé and G. Lease, 137-70. San Francisco: Island Press, 1995.
- Donald Worster, "[The wilderness of history](#)" (221-229) in Tom Butler, ed., *Wild Earth*
- Bill Cronon. "[The Trouble with Wilderness: A Response](#)." *Environmental History* 1, no. 1 (1996): 47-57.

Recommended

- Neil Evernden, *The social construction of Nature*
- Wuerthner, George, Eileen Crist, and Tom Butler, eds. 2015. *Protecting the wild: parks and wilderness, the foundation for conservation*. Washington, Covelo, London: Island Press.
- Wuerthner, George, Eileen Crist, and Tom Butler, eds. 2014. *Keeping the wild: against the domestication of earth*. Washington, DC: Island Press.

Week 11 (1 November) ~ On Tactics I: The ethics & politics of ecotage, arson, and violence

Video: Yellowstone to Yukon (possible/tentative)
Edward Abbey, [1988 speech in Utah](#)

Undergraduate Reading:

One article attempting to wrestle with the moral permissibility of extra-legal resistance, based on two direct action campaigns (Cove/Mallard Idaho and Warner Creek, Oregon), is:

B. Taylor, "[Earth First! Fights Back: Contextual Reflections on Resistance and Democracy](#)," *Terra Nova: Nature & Culture* 2(2):29-43, Spring 1997.

The following primary sources explore using arson and violence as a tactic (peruse these primary sources).

- **Foreman, Dave and Bill Haywood (pseud.), eds. *Ecodefense: A Field Guide to Monkeywrenching*. 2 ed. Tucson, Arizona: Ned Ludd, 1987 (first edition 1985).
- **"[Forward!](#)" by Edward Abbey, 7-9
- **"[Strategic Monkeywrenching](#)" by Dave Foreman, 10-17. Additional versions in *Earth First!* 5, no. 6 (21 June 1985): 22-3, and *Confessions of an Ecowarrior*, 161-166
- **"[The Future of Monkeywrenching](#)" by T. H. Hellenbach (pseud.), 18-23
- *Foreman, Dave. "[Violence and Earth First!](#)" *Earth First!* (20 March 1982), 4.
- Aitken, Robert. "[Dear Earth First!](#)" *Earth First!* 2, no. 5 (1 May 1982): 2.
- Foreman, Dave. "[Foreman Replies \(to Robert Aitken\)](#)." *Earth First!* 2, no. 5 (1 May 1982): 2.
- *Snyder, Gary. "[Dear Dave](#)." *Earth First!* 2, no. 7 (1 August 1982): 2-3.
- * Snyder, Gary, "[A letter to Ed Abbey](#)," *Resist Much/Obey Little* (1985: 118-23)
- Dustrud, Pete. "[Dear Readers, You Now Have a New Editor](#)." *Earth First!*, 1 August 1982, 2.
- *Foreman, Dave. "[Earth First! and Non-Violence](#)." *Earth First!* 3, no. 7 (1 August 1983): 11.
- *Wolke, Howie. "[On Violence](#)." *Earth First!* 3, no. 7 (23 September 1983): 12.
- *Wuerthner, George. "[Tree Spiking and Moral Maturity](#)." *Earth First!*, 1 August 1985, 20.

A willingness to risk harming humans, at least in self-defense, was present from the earliest moments of Earth First! But by the late 1980s, even more radical voices pushed for more revolutionary strategies and tactics, arising in part to criticize what they considered to be an anthropocentric fetish about non-violence among some movement activists. Some examples include:

- *Stoddard, Tom. "[How Far Should We Go?](#)" *Earth First!* 9, no. 2 (21 December 1988): 27.

Live Wild or Die began publishing in 1988 to give expression to the wilder, more extreme Earth First! voices, funded in part with Michael Roselle's support through the Earth First! direct action fund. See especially:

- Jakubal, Mikal. "[Why I Did It, Why I'll Never Do It Again](#)." *Live Wild or Die*, no. 1 (1989): 2.
- Nickette. "[Nick It!](#)" *Live Wild or Die*, no. 1 (1989): 8,10.
- *Feral Faun. "[Beyond Earth First!: Toward a Feral Revolution of Desire](#)." *Live Wild or Die*, no. 1 (1989): 15, and "[To Be in Love with Everything That Lives: The Orgy That Is the Earth](#)." *Live Wild or Die*, no. 1 (February 1989): 25.
- *Anonymous. "[Pacifism as Pathology \(Article and Graphic\)](#)." *Live Wild or Die*, no. 5 (1994): 15. Also republished in *Beware/Sabotage*.
- *McFarlane, Gary and Gary Echt. "[Cult of Nonviolence](#)." *Earth First!* 18, no. 1 (November-December 1997): 3, 17.

Graduate Readings:

Bron Taylor, "[Earthen Spirituality or Cultural Genocide?: Radical Environmentalism's Appropriation of Native American Spirituality](#)," *Religion* 27(2):183-215, April 1997.

Recommended further readings on violence and sabotage

Bron Taylor, "[Religion, Violence, and Radical Environmentalism: from Earth First! to the Unabomber to the Earth Liberation Front](#)," *Terrorism and Political Violence* 10(4):1-42, Winter 1998.

Martin, Michael. "Ecotage and Civil Disobedience." *Environmental Ethics* 12, no. 4 (1990): 291-310.

Week 12 (8 November) ~ On Tactics II: Population prescriptions, immigration disputes & ethnic issues, and apocalyptic solutions.

Undergraduate Reading

- * Garrett Hardin, "Gregg's Law," 265-267), "Nobody every dies of overpopulation" (262-264), "Living on a Lifeboat" and "Trouble in the Lifeboat" (295-98), "Carrying Capacity as an Ethical Concept" (299-318), "Population Skeletons in the Environmental Closet" (237-49) "Population Control: Dare we Face the Taboo?" (343-350), from [*Stalking the Wild Taboo*](#).

Undergraduate and Graduate Readings (primary sources ~ read into this as widely as time allows to gain a sense of movement perspectives and internal controversies about these issues)

Edward Abbey's views and responses

- * Abbey, on "[Immigration and Liberal Taboos](#)", from *One Life at a Time, Please*, 41-44
- Loeffler, with Abbey, on [population, technology, lifestyle, and G. Hardin](#), in *Adventures with Ed*, 148-50.
- Loeffler, with Abbey, on [immigration](#), in *Adventures with Ed*, 109-11.
- Loeffler, with Abbey, on [Indians](#), in *Adventures with Ed*, 136-37.
- Luis Alberto Urrea, "[Down the highway with Edward Abbey](#)," from *Resist Much, Obey Little*, 40-47.
- Barbara Kingsolver, [adios](#), final thoughts, from *Resist Much, Obey Little*, 232-33.
- * Terry Tempest Williams, "[A Eulogy for Edward Abbey](#)," from *Resist Much, Obey Little*, 199-203

Misc movement articles on population and immigration

- * Dave Foreman (under pseudo. Chim Blea. "[Reducing Population](#)." *Earth First!* (1 August 1983): 3.
- Noss, Reed. "[Deep Ecology, Elitism and Reproduction](#)." *Earth First!* 4, no. 5 (1 May 1984): 16.
- * Christopher Manes (under pseudo. Miss Ann Thropy). "[Technology and Mortality](#)." *Earth First!* 7, no. 1 (1 November 1986): 18. Criticizes technological innovations that prolong life and suggests that they, and the western religious ideas that accompany such efforts, must go. Foreman comments in support telling bleeding heart Christians, humanists or Marxists, need not bother to send rejoinders.
- * Stoddard, Tom. "[Oh, What a Wonderful Famine!](#)" *Earth First!* 6, no. 5 (1 May 1986): 26.
- * Miss Ann Thropy (pseud. for Christopher Manes). "[Overpopulation and Industrialism](#)." *Earth First!* 7, no. 4 (20 March 1987): 29.
- * Christopher Manes (under pseudo. Miss Ann Thropy). "[Population and AIDS](#)." *Earth First!* 7, no. 5 (1 May 1987): 32. Beginning "If radical environmentalists were to invent a disease to bring human population back to ecological sanity, it would probably be something like AIDS", Manes offered "an ecological perspective on the disease" premised on the axiom "that the only real hope . . . is an enormous decline in human population." This is one of the most controversial articles ever published in *Earth First!*, and while qualifications in it were widely ignored, it arguably suggested genocidal solutions to the population-fueled environmental crisis. Such articles were used against the movement by social ecologists and social justice advocates alike and, combined with Foreman's and others anti-immigration statements, were taken by many to represent the movement's mainstreams.
- Foreman, Dave. "[Is Sanctuary the Answer?](#)" *Earth First!* 8, no. 1 (1 November 1987): 21-2. Concluded controversially: "In the long run the most humane solution is the one advanced by Edward Abbey; send every illegal alien home with a rifle and a thousand rounds." (He later apologized for being insensitive.)
- Flowers, Will. "[This Is Pro Life?](#)" *Earth First!* 9, no. 5 (1 May 1989).
- Barnes, James. "[Dieback: A Vision of Darkness](#)." *Earth First!* 17, no. 8 (1997): 3,13. On overshoot/population dynamics as natural law/remedy; natural selection will continue.
- Tara the Sea Elf. "The Earth Liberation Front." *Earth First!* 16, no. 7 (September-October 1996): 18. Denounces reactionary anti-immigration positions of American Earth First! movement, while discussing the emergence of the Earth Liberation Front.
- Stoddard, Tom. "The Human Horde." *Earth First!* 10, no. 1 (1 November 1989): 23.

- * Sandy Irvine, "[The great denial](#): puncturing pronatalist myths," 45-62, in Tom Butler, ed., *Wild Earth*
- * MacDougall, Kent, "[Humans as Cancer](#)," *Wild Earth*, Fall 1996, 81-88.
- * Terry Tempest Williams, "[Labor](#)," from *Red* (originally in *National Geographic*), October 2000.
- Kelpie Wilson, [The Lysistrata Strategy](#), originally in *Wild Earth* (Winter 1997/98).

Additional graduate readings:

- * Garrett Hardin, *Living within Limits*, if possible, peruse the entire book, reading carefully: [ch1](#), [ch 3](#), [ch 4](#), [ch 6](#), [ch 9](#), [ch 10](#), [ch 11](#)

Further readings

- Miller, Monique A. "Population Growth and the Wildlands Vision." In *Place of the Wild: A Wildlands Anthology*, ed. David Clarke Burks. Washington, D.C.: Island Press, 1994.
- Sessions, George. "The Sierra Club, Immigration, and the Future of California." *Wild Duck Review*, 1998, 24-5.
- Martin Lewis, *Green Delusions*, "Introduction & ch. 1 (1-26), read ch 2 (43-81).
- Joel Cohen, *How many people can the earth support?* (Norton 1995)
- Bouvier, Leon F and Lindsey Grant. *How Many Americans? Population, Immigration, and the Environment*. San Francisco: Sierra Club, 1995.
- Weiner, Myron. *Global Migration Crisis: Challenge to State and Human Rights*. New York: HarperCollins, 1995.
- Beck, Roy. *The Case Against Immigration*. New York: Norton, 1996.

Week 13 (15 November) ~ Radical Environmentalism and social philosophy – including conservation science and considering the possibility (promise?) of reformist environmentalism.

During the 2017 semester, Native American scholar Phil Deloria will present a lecture during our regular class time. In addition to focusing on social philosophy, readings on native American and radical environmental resistance to oil pipelines and telescope projects will be distributed.

Undergraduate & Graduate Readings

- Bron Taylor, "[Deep Ecology and its Social Philosophy: A Critique](#)," in *Beneath the Surface: Critical Essays on Deep Ecology*. Eds. E. Katz, A. Light, D. Rothenberg. (Boston: MIT Press, 2000), 269-299.
- Foreman, *Rewilding*, 109-176 (part II)

Additional Graduate readings

- Lewis, Martin, ch 3, "[A question of scale](#)" (82-116), from *Green Delusions*
- Taylor, Bron, ed. *Ecological Resistance Movements: The Global Emergence of Radical and Popular Environmentalism*, Wapner (300-314-127), Taylor (334-349).q

Week 14 (29 November) ~ Ecotopian and dystopian visions & strategies

Graduate Student research papers due by midnight 26 November 2017, emailed to Professor Taylor. Graduate students will present their research to the class on 29

November or 6 December. Undergraduate and Graduate reflection papers due 29 November by email, before class.

Undergraduate Readings

From Stephen Best and Anthony Nocella, eds., *Igniting the Revolution* (AK Press 2006)

*** Derrick Jensen, "[What goes up must come down](#)" (284-300).

Foreman, *Rewilding*, 177-229 (part III)

[Environmental Review 2001 Interview with Dave Foreman](#) (recommended)

Turner, Jack. "[The Quality of Wildness: Preservation, Control, and Freedom.](#)" In *Place of the Wild: A Wildlands Anthology*, ed. David Clarke Burks, 175-89. Washington, D.C.: Island Press, 1994. Turner here, and in his subsequent book, criticized the scientific/conservation biology turn of some radical environmentalism, fearing the central knowledge that comes from direct perception in wild places is being lost. Cf. *The Abstract Wild*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1996. For contrast, see:

Reed Noss (as pseud. Diamondback, "[Scientific Ecology and Deep Ecology.](#)" *Earth First!* 10, no. 1 (1 November 1989): 21.

Additional Graduate readings

Lewis, Martin, ch 4, "[Technophobia...](#)" (117-149) and ch 5 "[The Capitalist Imperative](#)" (150-190)

Merchant, Carolyn, "[Anti-globalization & sustainability.](#)" *Radical Ecology*

Recommended

Lewis, Martin, ch 6 "[Third World Development](#)" (191-241)

Week 15 (6 December) ~ (last day of class)

I will distribute the take home portion of the final exam by Friday 1 December. There will likely be a short, in-class identification portion of this exam administered on 6 December. The take home portion will be due by Sunday, 11:59 p.m., 10 December.