

BILD 87 Freshman Seminar
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Spring 2013

Section ID: 776921

Dr. **David S. Woodruff** (Email: dwoodruff@ucsd.edu)

Meets Thursdays 3:30 - 4:50 p.m. in Muir Biology: ROOM 1103

An introduction to the biodiversity crisis, the processes causing species extinctions, and the roles of zoos, national parks and people in saving nature. Academic preparation for careers in conservation, sustainability and bioengineering will be discussed. Includes an optional afternoon trip to the San Diego Zoo.

Tentative Schedule

- April 4 **Introduction - wildlife and people**
 How do you feel about wildlife? It is critical to recognize that there are a diversity of opinions about wildlife and its valuation. How do present global trends affect the future of life and the quality of human life?
- April 11 **The biodiversity crisis**
 What is the biodiversity crisis? What are the causes of species extinctions? Why did Rachel Carson, Paul Ehrlich and Al Gore write best-sellers to alert the public? We will examine selected cases of species endangerment and extinction.
- April 18 **Can zoos save wildlife?**
 What role do zoos and captive breeding programs have in saving endangered species?
- April 25 **Can national parks save wildlife?**
 Parks were not designed to save wildlife. Why can't they meet the public's expectations?
- May 2 **Prospering at UCSD – programs, careers & graduate schools.**
 Both biologists & non-biologists can make a difference if they plan ahead.
- May 9 **Zoo trip** [12.30 - 4.30 p.m.; no admission charge; will need to car-pool]
 This is an optional self-guided tour; we do not go behind the scenes.
- May 16 [Place-holder: rain-date for zoo trip or optional additional meeting]

Suggested readings

Cincotta, R. & Engelman, R. 2000. *Natures Place. Human Population and the Future of Biological Diversity.*

Population Action International, Washington, DC. For a free download go to this web site:

http://www.populationaction.org/Publications/Report/Natures_Place/Summary.php

Books in the library you might want to know about

Myers, N. & Kent, J. 2005. *The New Atlas of Planet Management.* UC Press. \$40 paper

Primack, R. 2011. *Primer of Conservation Biology.* Sinauer. 5th ed. [standard textbook]

Goodall, J. 2011. *Hope for Animals and their World.* Grand Central Publ, NY. Paper \$15

Mann, M. & Kump, L. 2009 *Dire Consequences. Understanding global warming.* DK. New York. paper

Wilson, E.O. 2002. *The Future of Life.* Knopf. paper \$15

Wildlife Conservation Society. 2010-11. *State of the Wild.* Island Press, paper \$30

Croke, V. 1998. *The Modern Ark: The Story of Zoos: Past, Present and Future.* Avon, New York. paper \$12

World Wildlife Fund 2010. *Living Planet Report.*

http://www.panda.org/about_our_earth/all_publications/living_planet_report/