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Peer reviewed

Recommended Environmental Resources

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Web Sites from Educational Institutions

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Web Sites from Educational Institutions

Understanding Evolution

<http://evolution.berkeley.edu/>

This site is designed for teachers of evolutionary theory. It includes illustrated essays on the nature of science, basics of the theory, evidence, relevance, misconceptions, and the history of evolutionary thought. It also includes links to teaching resources and a glossary. The site is from the University of California's Museum of Paleontology in Berkeley and is searchable. (Copyright 2004 by Librarians' Index to the Internet, LII.)

Web Sites from Organizations and Research Associations

BirdLife International

<http://www.birdlife.net/>

This group "is a global alliance of conservation organizations working together for people, birds, and other wildlife." The site provides news, information, and data about bird species and important bird areas throughout the world, case studies, and reports such as *State of the World's Birds*, which describes "what is known about the status and distribution of

birds, the pressures on sites, species and habitats, and an analysis of current conservation action." The site is searchable. (Copyright 2004 by Librarians' Index to the Internet, LII.)

Canadian Seal Hunt: International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)

<http://www.ifaw.org/ifaw/general/default.aspx?oid=21446>

Starting in 2004, the Canadian government, "plans to expand the seal hunt and permit the deliberate culling of nearly one million seals over three years." This site, from the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), features seal hunt facts and news, information about a campaign to save the seals, and photos and videos of the seals. Note: Viewer discretion is advised for the hunting images. (Copyright 2004 by Librarians' Index to the Internet, LII.)

Clean Vehicles: Union of Concerned Scientists

http://www.ucsusa.org/clean_vehicles/advanced_vehicles/page.cfm?pageID=1082

This site presents an introductory article that examines the potential for clean cars (the article is excerpted from an executive summary of a Union of Concerned Scientists report published in January 2003 and entitled *A New Road: The Technology and Potential of Hybrid Vehicles*). The site offers background information about how fuel cell and hybrid cars work, as well as a consumer's buying guide. (This site was reviewed by the Internet Scout Project (<http://scout.wisc.edu>); see the copyright statement at the end of this section.)

Ecological Archives from the Ecological Society of America

<http://www.esapubs.org/archive/>

Ecological Archives "publishes materials that supplement articles appearing in ESA print journals (*Ecology*, *Ecological Applications*, and *Ecological Monographs*), as well as peer-reviewed Data Papers with abstracts published in the printed journals." *Ecological Archives* publishes three types of papers: Appendices, Supplements, and Data Papers. Appendices are viewable with standard web browser software and usually present photographs, tables, or audio and video materials. Supplements may include datasets, source codes for models, and software for "unusual statistical analyses." Authors must submit metadata in a standard format for supplements. "Data papers are compilations and syntheses of datasets and associated metadata deemed to be of significant interest to the ESA membership and the scholarly community." These are peer reviewed and announced with an abstract in the appropriate print journal. Data papers differ from review or synthesis papers

in that they do not test or refine ecological theory.

Kids' Planet

<http://www.kidsplanet.org/>

This site is maintained by Defenders of Wildlife, a wildlife conservation organization. It is intended for children and features fact sheets on over 50 endangered species, as well as classroom resources (on wolves, sea otters, and Florida black bears), games, and environment protection activities for children. Copyright 2004 by Librarians' Index to the Internet, LII.

Longline Fishing Threatens Sea Birds and Other Marine Life

<http://www.hsus.org/ace/15050>

Created and maintained by the Humane Society of the United States, this web site explains the dangers of longline fishing, "a technique used to catch fish in open waters, including those who live near the sea floor," that includes a main line "with secondary lines branching off it, each set with hundreds or thousands of barbed, baited hooks." It discusses threats to turtles and sea birds (such as the albatross) as well as campaigns to stop illegal longline fishing. The site includes related links. (Copyright 2004 by Librarians' Index to the Internet, LII.)

POV Borders: Environment

http://www.pbs.org/pov/borders/2004/index_flash.html

This companion to a Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) P.O.V. program has three sections: "Air" features information about hybrid and electric cars and alternative fuels, "Water" looks at bottled water, recycling, and the pollution in Newtown Creek, in New York City, and the "Earth" page has interactive games and information about gardening and heirloom seeds. The site also includes video clips, discussion boards, lesson plans, and links to related information. (Copyright 2004 by Librarians' Index to the Internet, LII.)

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

<http://www.stri.org>

Most visitors to the Smithsonian Institution's museums in Washington, D.C., may not be aware of the activities of the Smithsonian's Tropical Research Institute, which may have something to do with the fact that is located in Panama. The Tropical Research Institute's history stretches back to the early years of the 20th century, when one of its prime directives was to survey the flora and fauna of the area for the purpose of controlling diseases such as yellow fever and malaria. In 1946, the Institute came into the fold of the

Smithsonian Institution, and since then it has conducted research in the areas of archaeology, behavioral ecology, environmental monitoring, and other topics. On the site, visitors can learn about the Institute's diverse research projects, international activities (such as the Center for Tropical Forest Science), and fellowship opportunities. Finally, visitors can also look at the two web cams operated by the Institute, including one that looks over the island (Barro Colorado), off the coast of Panama, where the Institute is located. (This site and review are from the Internet Scout Project (<http://scout.wisc.edu>); see the copyright statement at the end of this section.)

Spirit of Trees

<http://www.spiritoftrees.org/>

"Originally conceived of as an educational resource for the DC Memorial Tree Groves Project, a Washington, DC-based national memorial to the victims of 9/11," this site has developed into an independent resource. It consists of a collection of folktales, poetry, and essays which have tree-related themes. It is searchable by country, type of tree, or category (such as humorous stories, parables, myths, scary stories) and includes links to essays, curriculum materials, and organizations related to trees. (Copyright 2004 by Librarians' Index to the Internet, LII.)

Three Mile Island 1979 Emergency

<http://www.threemileisland.org/>

This searchable site features "a variety of documents related to the nuclear emergency that occurred at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in March of 1979." It includes a timeline of events related to the Three Mile Island plant, interview transcripts and other documents about the incident, and basic information about nuclear power plants, the industry, and government regulation. This site was created at Dickinson College. (Copyright 2004 by Librarians' Index to the Internet, LII.)

Vegan Organic Network: Information Sheets

<http://www.veganorganic.net/infoindex.html>

This series of information sheets covers topics related to vegan organic gardening, a method of gardening that avoids both chemical and animal-based fertilizers. Sections of the web site discuss vegetable composts and fertilizers, green manures, crop rotation, mulches, beetles, and related topics. Many of the related resources are in the United Kingdom, but the basic information is useful to U.S. gardeners. The Vegan Organic Network is an organic agriculture research organization, and its staff members maintain

this web site. (Copyright 2004 by Librarians' Index to the Internet, LII.)

Wildlands: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
<http://www.sierraclub.org/wildlands/arctic/>

This site, maintained by the Sierra Club, provides an overview of issues facing Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, which has been targeted for oil drilling. It presents a number of arguments against drilling for oil with recommendations for action. It includes a slideshow of photographs from the Refuge. See also, below in this column, the listing for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge web site from the U.S. government. (Copyright 2004 by Librarians' Index to the Internet, LII.)

Web Sites from International Agencies and Organizations

Darwin Centre Live -- Watch Videos Online [requires: Windows Media Player 9 or QuickTime 5]
<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/darwincentre/live/archive.html>

The Natural History Museum of London has been collecting specimens and making scientific discoveries for nearly 250 years. Now even those of us who cannot travel to London frequently can see over 100 presentations originally given at the Museum, based on its collections, archived on video at the Museum's website. The videos are organized into broad topics, including: In the Spotlight, Collectors and Collections, Extreme Environments-From the deepest oceans to deep space, and Fakes and Forgeries (including famous hoaxes, such as the Piltdown Fly, debunked in 1993 as a modern housefly inserted into a piece of Baltic amber). Some videos have a distinctly UK style, such as *Chocolate: Food of the Gods*, in which curator Vilma Bharatan discusses where chocolate comes from with a group of children and parents in a TV talk show type setting, or Silke Ackerman from the British Museum explaining how to use an Astrolabe. (This site and review are from the Internet Scout Project (<http://scout.wisc.edu>); see the copyright statement at the end of this section.)

European Register of Marine Species
<http://erms.biol.soton.ac.uk/>

This website presents the European Register of Marine Species, an EU-funded marine biodiversity research consortium involving research groups in nine European nations. An ultimate goal of the project was to "produce a register of marine species in Europe, linked with a bibliography of identification guides, register of taxonomic experts, locations of collections of reference specimens, and an Information Pack on European marine

biodiversity (based on this project's results)." The site links to brief and full checklists for numerous taxa including information on genus, higher taxon, authority, specific epithet, distribution, and more. From the species pages, site users can link to information about the checklists, identification guides, and taxonomic hierarchy. The homepage provides links to information about project participants, project background, and a simple map illustrating the geographic scope of the project. (This site and review are from the Internet Scout Project (<http://scout.wisc.edu>); see the copyright statement at the end of this section.)

Web Sites from U.S. State and Federal Government Agencies

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

<http://arctic.fws.gov/>

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provides information about the Alaskan wildlife refuge, including wildlife, habitat, and travel. The site contains documents related to oil and gas exploration, such as site maps and assessments, as well as conservation plans. (Copyright 2004 by Librarians' Index to the Internet, LII.)

California Digital Conservation Atlas

http://legacy.ca.gov/new_atlas.epl

This atlas, from the California Resources Agency, "is California's comprehensive public website for conservation information. It is designed to provide easy-to-use map views of California's natural resources." It features information for the entire state or by region about terrestrial biodiversity, aquatic biodiversity and watersheds, urban open space and rural recreation, working landscapes, and environmental stressors. Internet Explorer is required to view the atlas. (Copyright 2004 by Librarians' Index to the Internet, LII.)

Environmental Data Registry: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/edr/>

"The Environmental Data Registry (EDR) is a comprehensive, authoritative reference for information about the definition, source, and uses of environmental data." The EDR does not provide data itself, instead it presents metadata that describe data in other applications; this web site explains data standards that EPA is creating and implementing in order to promote efficient sharing of environmental information among EPA, states, tribes, and other information trading partners. The EDR also catalogs data elements in application systems. Users can search the EDR to find and

download metadata elements to apply to their own work (by source, keyword, or organization).

National Geospatial Data Clearinghouse

<http://clearinghouse1.fgdc.gov/>

"The Geospatial Data Clearinghouse is a collection of over 250 spatial data servers, that have digital geographic data primarily for use in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), image processing systems, and other modeling software. These data collections can be searched through a single interface based on their descriptions, or metadata." Users select a server from an image map, then a "Search Wizard" interface appears, offering a check list of twenty-one broad topics. A search can include all or only a few of these topics, and the next step is to choose a geographic area using a pull-down list of place names or by supplying map coordinates. The search results in a list of servers providing data that meet the search criteria. The National Geospatial Data Clearinghouse is a component of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) and is sponsored by the Federal Geographic Data Committee, an U.S. interagency committee, organized to coordinate the use, sharing, and dissemination of geospatial data on a national basis.

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

<http://www.niehs.nih.gov/>

Headed by Dr. Kenneth Olden, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) is one of 27 institutes and centers of the National Institutes of Health, and is located in Research Park Triangle, North Carolina. The prime directive of the NIEHS is "to reduce the burden of human illness and dysfunction from environmental causes by understanding each of these elements and how they interrelate." The site presents an almost overwhelming amount of material, and new visitors may want to begin by reading the introduction to NIEHS, as it contains a number of helpful hyperlinks that for quick connections to specific topics of interest. Alternatively, visitors may also use the search engine that is provided on the site's homepage. The site has plenty to offer researchers and the general public, including direct links to the archived audio and video lectures presented by the NIEHS, the Environmental Genome Project, and the National Toxicology Program. Finally, the site contains a Kids' Page area where young people can play various games, activities, and brain teasers that are both engaging and informative. (This site and review are from the Internet Scout Project (<http://scout.wisc.edu>); see the copyright statement at the end of this section.)

Vents Program: Submarine Volcanoes and Hydrothermal Venting

<http://www.pmel.noaa.gov/vents/>

The Vents Program "conducts research on the impacts and consequences of submarine volcanoes and hydrothermal venting on the global ocean." This Web site includes information about specific research sites, the New Millennium Observatory (which "studies the dynamic interactions between submarine volcanic activity and seafloor hot springs"), ocean seismicity, bioacoustics, and related topics. Teaching material and images are included. This site is produced by the Pacific Maritime Environmental Laboratory of NOAA. (Copyright 2004 by Librarians' Index to the Internet, LII.)

Web Sites from Commercial Sources

Raintree: Tropical Plant Database

<http://www.rain-tree.com/plants.htm>

Hosted by Raintree Nutrition, Inc. in Austin, Texas, the Tropical Plant Database is authored and maintained by Board Certified Naturopath Leslie Taylor to provide accurate information about rainforest plants and to help promote rainforest conservation. Including over 300 well organized pages of documentation on rainforest plants, the Tropical Plant Database lists plants by common name, botanical name, ethnic uses, and action/disorder. The Database File for each plant includes an illustration and information about family, genus, species, common names, plant description, and more. Visitors can link to great illustrations and photos as well as web resources for each plant including Medline Abstracts, W3 TROPICOS Database, Ethnobotany Database, and Phtyochem Database among others. Plant Database File pages include references as well. (This site and review are from the Internet Scout Project (<http://scout.wisc.edu>); see the copyright statement at the end of this section.)

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Books

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Boyle, Godfrey, Bob Everett, & Janet Ramage (Eds.). (2003). *Energy systems and sustainability*. New York: Oxford University Press. ISBN 0199261792. US\$42.71

Canham, Charles D., Jonathan J. Cole, & William K. Lauenroth. (2003). *Models in ecosystem science*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. ISBN 0691092885 (cloth); 0691092893 (paper). US\$79.50 cloth; \$31.97 paper.

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Holaday, Bobbie. (2003). *Return of the Mexican gray wolf: Back to the Blue*. Tucson, AZ: University of Arizona Press. ISBN 0816522952 (cloth);

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Howard, Patricia L. (Ed.). (2003). *Women and plants: Gender relations in biodiversity management and conservation*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. ISBN 1842771566 (cloth); 1842771574 (paper). US\$75.00 cloth; \$27.36 paper.

Kiss, Alexandre, Dinah Shelton, & Kanami Ishibashi (Eds.). (2003). *Economic globalization and compliance with international environmental agreements* (International environmental law and policy series, vol. 63). Boston: Kluwer Law International. ISBN 9041119957. US\$116.47

Limburg, Karen E. (Ed.). (2003). *Biodiversity, status, and conservation of the world's shads: Proceedings of shad 2001, a conference* (American Fisheries Society). Glasgow: Curran Associates. ISBN 1888569514. US\$90.00

Love, Glen A. (2003). *Practical ecocriticism: Literature, biology, and the environment* (Under the sign of nature: explorations in ecocriticism). Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press. ISBN 0813922445 (cloth); 0813922453 (paper). US\$49.50 cloth; \$15.99 paper.

Mander, U., & M. Antrop (Eds.). (2003). *Multifunctional landscapes. Vol. 3: Continuity and change* (Advances in ecological sciences, vol. 16). Southampton: MIT Press. ISBN 1853129356. US\$136.31

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Parker, Larry, & Wayne A. Morrissey. (2003). *Stratospheric ozone depletion*. New York: Nova Science Publishers. ISBN 1590337921. US\$25.46

Postel, Sandra, & Brian Richter. (2003). *Rivers for life: Managing water for people and nature*. Washington, DC: Island Press. ISBN 155963443X (cloth); 1559634448 (paper). US\$43.14 cloth; \$25.00 paper.

Riddel, Robert. (2004). *Sustainable urban planning: Tipping the balance*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing. ISBN 1405102896 (cloth); 140510290X

(paper). US\$69.95 cloth; \$31.93 paper.

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Roshchina, Victoria V., & Valentina D. Roshchina. (2003). *Ozone and plant cell*. New York: Kluwer Academic. ISBN 1402014201. US\$113.88

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Simmers, Ian (Ed.). (2003). *Understanding water in a dry environment: Hydrological processes in arid and semi-arid zones* (International contributions to hydrogeology, 23). Lisse: Ashgate Publishing. ISBN 9058096181. US\$124.24

St. Clair, Jeffrey. (2004). *Been brown so long it looked like green to me: The politics of nature*. Monroe, ME: Common Courage Press. ISBN 1567512593 (cloth); 1567512585 (paper). US\$39.96 cloth; \$18.23 paper.

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Train, Russell. (2003). *Politics, pollution, and pandas: An environmental memoir*. Washington, DC: Island Press. ISBN 1559632860. US\$24.16

Walter, Jennifer K., & Eran P. Klein (Eds.). (2003). *The story of bioethics: From seminal works to contemporary explorations*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press. ISBN 0878401385. US\$25.84

Weart, Spencer R. (2003). *The discovery of global warming*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. ISBN 0674011570. US\$24.95

Periodical

Environmental Chemistry

<http://www.publish.csiro.au/journals/env>

CSIRO, the Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organization in Australia, will launch this journal in summer 2004. The web site offers this statement of scope: "*Environmental Chemistry* publishes manuscripts addressing the chemistry of the environment (air, water, soil, sediments, space, and biota). The scope encompasses atmospheric chemistry, (bio)geochemistry, marine and freshwater chemistry, polar chemistry, fire chemistry, interstellar chemistry, soil chemistry, climate change, chemical toxicology, and green chemistry. While focusing on the publication of important new original research and timely reviews, the journal also publishes essays and opinion pieces on issues of importance to environmental scientists, such as policy and funding." Its ISSN is 1448-2517. Online access to all content published in 2004 will be free with individual or institutional registration; subscription pricing is not presented on the web site but may be obtained from the contact provided: publishing.sales@csiro.au

Conferences and Educational Opportunities

Summer Writing Institute for Teachers and Non-formal Educators. June 21-25, 2004, Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center, Peninsula, Ohio, USA.

<http://www.cvnpa.org/NewFiles/lon1.html>

The Language of Nature: Third Annual summer retreat and writing institute. Explore the natural world through the eyes of a scientist and the voice of a writer to the end of making all of us better teachers and better stewards of where we are. Registration deadline is June 15, 2004. For more information call 1-800-642-3297.

New England Environmental Education Alliance 38th Annual Conference. October 15-17, 2004, Ripton, Vermont, USA.

<http://www.neeea.org/2003%20NEEEA%20Conference.htm>

The New England Environmental Education Alliance Conference theme, "Opening Doors: Collaboration strengthens our voice to build sustainable communities," is designed to exchange stories and share the skills of community stewards to inspire the growth and replication of these efforts. Co-hosted by: New England Environmental Education Alliance (NEEEA), Vermont State-Wide Environmental Education Programs (SWEEP), and

Middlebury College. For more information contact Linda Wellings (lwellings@shelburnefarms.org) TEL: 1-802-985-8686 ext. 50.

Science Lesson Plans: John Muir Study Guide

http://www.sierraclub.org/john_muir_exhibit/lessons/science/

The Sierra Club announces new standards-aligned Science Lesson Plans (K-12) inspired by and using John Muir's adventures and explorations. Learning about John Muir's life can serve as a launching pad to science-based environmental studies through plant and animal habitats, ecosystems, earthquakes, avalanches, glaciers, geology, weather, biodiversity, and forests. Teachers may obtain the new Science Lesson Plans free of charge.

Wild Republic Learning Adventure

<http://www.wildrepublic.com/lessonplans/2003/index.html>

This site features lesson plans about nature, animals and their habitat. The focus this year is on birds. Educators at Audubon provided the content for the 2003-2004 lesson plans, which cover topics such as puffins, upwelling, coastal food webs, and more. Each unit is designed to enrich students' knowledge and understanding of birds, their characteristics and habitats.

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