

ENVM 7509 CURRENT ISSUES IN NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Semester 2 2004

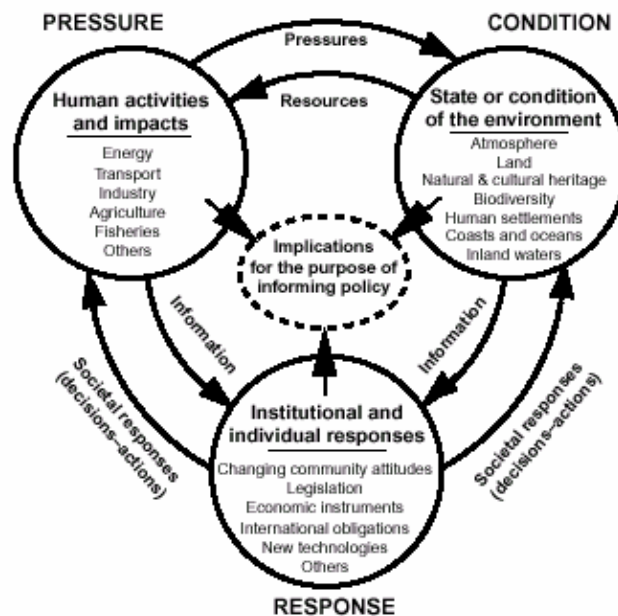
Course Outline

Course Coordinator: Margaret Chapman (contact details, p.2)

Welcome to ENVM7509 Current Issues in Natural Resource Management. In this course we shall examine some of the major natural resource management issues facing both Australia and the world. Since these are many and we have only limited time available, I have chosen five issues which I believe are of vital significance to Australia and many other countries around the world. These are:

- Land Degradation
- Water Resources
- Biodiversity Loss
- Off-Reserve Conservation
- Conservation through Sustainable Use

We shall be following the Pressure-Condition-Response approach to the study of these issues as outlined by the AESC (see diagram below).



SoE reporting model.
Source: AESC 1999.

COURSE AIMS

The aims of the course are to :

- increase the students' awareness and appreciation of the complex inter-relationships between ecology, economics, and culture, which lie at the root of many of our current natural resource management issues and;
- through the assignments increase the skill of students to write clearly and logically about the results of their investigations into particular issues.

CONTACTS:

Course Coordinator: Margaret Chapman, Hartley Teakle Bldg. (Rm. 548)

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- You can also leave a message at the department office in the Hartley Teakle Bldg., (Rm. 557)

TIMETABLE:

The class will meet for two hours every week on Thursdays, 10:00 –11:50 am, Rm 643 Michie Building.

The format of the classes may vary from week to week but will consist of lectures, group discussions of particular topics, and audio-visual presentations. There are no field trips or laboratory classes associated with this course

Course Program

Week		Module	Issues	Assignment Due Date
1	26 July-30 July	Intro.	Course Outline, Objectives and Approach. Understanding history: the first step towards sustainable resource use	
2	2Aug. -6 Aug.	1	Land Degradation - Measurement and Perception	
3	9Aug. -13 Aug.		Implementing Soil Conservation: Rhetoric vs. Reality	
4	16 Aug.-20 Aug	2	Water - Where Has it All Gone?	No. 1 19 August
5	23Aug -27 Aug.		Water - Learning to Protect the World's most Precious Resource	
6	30 Aug.-3 Sept.	3	Biodiversity Conservation and Poverty Alleviation - Can we have both?	No. 2 2 September
7	6 Sept.-10 Sept.		Making Biodiversity Conservation Pay in Developing Countries	
8	13 Sept-17 Sept.	4	Forestry - Management for Wood and Wildlife	No. 3 20 September
9	20 Sept-24 Sept.		Community Forestry and Sustainability	
27 September - 1 October Mid-Semester Break				
10	4 Oct.-8 Oct.	5	What Role for Traditional Ecological Knowledge?	No. 4 7 October
11	11 Oct.-15 Oct.		Fisheries Management: What are we doing wrong?	
12	18Oct. -22Oct.		Fisheries- Taking the First Steps Back from the Brink	
13	25 Oct.-29 Oct.		Course Conclusions - Where do we go from here?	No. 5 28 October

Assessment

<u>Items</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Weight</u>
• 3 short essays (see below for topics)	1500 words each	25% each
• WebCT Discussion	(see details below)	10%
• Open-book test	1 hour	15%

Item No. 1 (Essay)

Due date: 19 August

An effective management response to land degradation needs to address its underlying as well as proximate causes. Discuss this in relation to the land clearing issue in the Queensland rangelands.

Item No. 2 (Essay)

Due date: 2 September

Salinity is a major environmental issue for Australia and many other countries in the world. Evaluate Australia's *National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality* (NAPSWQ) as a response to this serious problem.

Item No. 3 (WebCT Discussion)

Due date: 20 September

This WebCT discussion will be focused on responses to the problem of achieving poverty alleviation while at the same time conserving biodiversity in developing countries. The use of the WebCT for this assignment will allow external students to interact with internal students on this topic. Details of the topic to be discussed and the use of the WebCT discussion group tool will be provided during the first week of the semester.

Item No. 4 (Essay)

Due date: 7 October

There is growing emphasis upon community resource management as a means of achieving sustainable resource use and improved livelihoods for local people. Evaluate the effectiveness of this approach for *forest* management using examples from a developing country of your choice.

Item No. 5 (Open-book test)

Date : 28 October

The test will consist of 15 short-answer questions on management responses to the current unsustainable use of the world's wild marine fisheries.

Assessment Criteria for all essay assignments (and relative weightings)

1. The amount of reading about the topic and the use relevant references..... **(30%)**
2. The level of understanding of concepts in the literature and the degree of critical analysis and interpretation of source material..... **(40%)**
3. The ability to organise information clearly and concisely and to draw relevant conclusions from presented material..... **(20%)**
4. The standard of presentation including accuracy of spelling, grammar and punctuation..... **(10%)**

Assessment Criteria for WebCT Discussion assignment

- Level of participation
- Originality of input
- Clarity of presentation

Essay Format

Please type on A4 paper, using 1.5 line spacing, size 12 font and paginate. Word limits do *not* include footnotes, tables, captions, quotes, references, or appendices. Further suggestions for ways of approaching the writing of the essays will be presented during the first week of emester.

NB: To receive a final mark for the course, *all* items listed above must be submitted for assessment.

TEXTS (recommended but not required)

During the course reference will be made to material in two publications in particular:

- Australian State of the Environment Committee, 2001. Australia State of the Environment 2001. CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood.
- Environmental Protection Agency, Queensland. 2004. State of the Environment Queensland, 2003. EPA, Brisbane.

Both these publications are available in book form and on the Web and the former on a CD.

Other valuable general sources include the following:

Journals

Agroforestry Systems
Ambio
Australian Journal of Environmental Management
Australian Journal of Soil and Water Conservation
Biological Conservation
Bioscience
Conservation Biology
Ecological Applications
Ecological Management and Restoration
Ecos
Environmental Management
Environmental Planning and Law Journal
Forest Ecology and Management
Human Ecology
Human Organization
Journal of Environmental Management
Marine Policy
Pacific Conservation Biology
The Rangeland Journal
Science
Society and Natural Resources
World Development

Media

Queensland Country Life
The Land
ABC Radio and TV (www.abc.net.au)
Environmental News Network
Environmental News Service
Green Planet
Planet Ark

Data bases

University Queensland Library Databases , eg. Web of Knowledge, CAB Abstracts, Streamline

Some Organisations with Useful Web Sites:

Australian Government sites:

Dept. Environment and Heritage (DEH)
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (AFFA)
CSIRO
RIRDC
National Land and Water Resources Audit (NLWRA)
Murray Darling Basin Commission (MDBC)

Land and Water Australia (LWA)
National Heritage Trust (NHT)

Government of Queensland sites:

Department of Natural Resources Mines and Energy (NME)
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Department of Primary Industries (DPI)

Australian NGO sites

Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF)
Queensland Conservation Council (QCC)
Greening Australia
Australian Marine Conservation Society
Marine and Coastal Community Network

International sites:

United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)
United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)
World Bank (IBRD)
The World Conservation Union (IUCN)
World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)
International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN)
WRI (World Resources Institute)
Resilience Alliance
CGIAR (Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research)
World Conservation Monitoring Centre
World Directory of Environmental Organizations

Useful Sources for Particular Module Topics

(Please note that you are not expected to read all these. They are listed here for your use and interest. Those that are especially relevant to the topic are marked with an asterisk *. Because of the overlapping nature of environmental management topics, some readings are listed under more than one Module)

Introduction

*Conacher, A. and J. Conacher. 2001. Environmental Planning and Management in Australia, Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Dovers, S. and S.W. River (eds) 2003. Managing Australia's Environment. The Federation Press, Annandale, NSW.

*Barr, N. and Cary, J. 1992. Greening a Brown Land. the Australian Search for Sustainable Land Use. Macmillan, Melbourne.

- Bolton, G. 1992. Spoils and Spoilers: A History of Australians Shaping their Environment. (2nd edn). Allen and Unwin, Sydney.
- Bonyhady, T. 2000. The Colonial Earth. Melbourne University Press, Melbourne.
- Flannery, T. 1994. The Future Eaters. An Ecological History of the Australasian lands and peoples. Reed, Chatswood, NSW.
- Flannery, T. 2003. Beautiful Lies. Population and Environment in Australia. Quarterly Essay, Issue 9, pp 1-73.
- Foran, B. 2002. Future Dilemmas: Options to 2050 for Australia's Population, Technology, Resources and Environment. Available for downloading from <http://www.cse.csiro.au/research/Program5/futuredilemmas/>
- Griffiths, T. and L.Robin (eds). 1997. Ecology and Empire: Environmental History of Settler Societies. Melbourne University Press.
- Jones, R. 1969. Fire Stick Farming. Australian Natural History 16:224-8.
- *Kirkpatrick, J. 1999. 2nd edn. A Continent Transformed. Human Impact on the Natural Vegetation of Australia. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.
- Landsberg, R.G. et.al. 1998. Learning from history to survive in the future: Management evolution on Trafalgar station, north-east Queensland. Rangeland Journal 20:104-118.
- Lough, J.M. 1991. Rainfall Variation in Queensland, Australia. International Journal of Climatology, 11: 745-68.
- UNDP/UNEP/WB/WRI 1994. A Guide to World Resources 2000-2001. People and Ecosystems. The Fraying Web of Life. World Resources Institute, Washington.
- Voortman, R. et al. 2003. African Land Ecology: Opportunities and Constraints for Agricultural Development. Ambio 32(5):367-373.
- *White, M. 2000. Australia's Geological History has set the parameters for sustainable land-use. Pp. 1-2, in Management for Sustainable Ecosystems, Hale, P. et al. (eds.), Centre for Conservation Biology, University of Queensland,
- Yencken, D. and Wilkinson, D. 2000. Resetting the Compass: Australia's Journey Towards Sustainability. CSIRO Publishing, Melbourne.

Module 1

Land Degradation

- AAS (Australian Academy of Science) 2002. Monitoring the White Death - Soil Salinity. www.science.org.au/nova/032/032key.htm)
- ABARE (Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics) 1999. Australian beef industry 1999, ABARE research report, 99.10, Canberra.
- ABARE (Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics) 1994. Murray-Darling Basin. Research Report 94.4., Canberra.
- ABS 2003. New ABS survey shows farmers are combating salinity. www.abs.gov.au
- Allen, L. et al. 1995. Is commercial harvesting compatible with effective control of pest animals and is this sustainable? Pp. 259-66 In Conservation through Sustainable Use of Wildlife, Grigg, G. et al. (eds), Centre for Conservation Biology, University of Queensland, Brisbane.
- *Australian State of the Environment Committee. 2001. Australia State of the Environment 2001. Land Theme Report. CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood.
- Barlow, T. and Thorburn, R. (eds) 2000. Balancing Conservation and Production in Grassy Landscapes. Procs. Bushcare Landscapes Conference, Clare, South Australia, August, 1999, Environment Australia.
- Bell, A. 1985/86. Fire vs. shrubs in the semi-arid rangelands. *Ecos* 46 Summer, pp. 3-8.
- Bennett, B. 1998. Dealing with Dryland Salinity. *Ecos*. July-September. (special lift out booklet published with this issue), CSIRO, Collingwood.
- Blaikie, P. and H. Brookfield. 1987. Land Degradation and Society. Methuen. London
- *Boulter, S. et al. 2000. Native Vegetation Management in Queensland: Background, Science and Values. Department Natural Resources, Brisbane.
- Bridges, E. et al. 2001. Response to Land Degradation. Science Publishers, Enfield.
- *Briggs, S. 2001. Linking ecological scales and institutional frameworks for landscape rehabilitation. *Ecological Management and Restoration* 2 (1): 28-35.
- *Chisolm, A. and R. Dumsday (eds). 1987. Land Degradation: Problems and Policies. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- *Conacher, A. and J. Conacher. 1995. Rural Land Degradation in Australia. Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- Coram, J. et al. 2001. An Evaluation Framework for Dryland Salinity. Bureau of Rural Sciences. AFFA. (on affa web site)

- *CSIRO, 2001. Balancing Conservation and Production. Understanding and Using Landscape Thresholds in Property Planning. Grazed Landscape Management Project, CSIRO Tropical Agriculture, Indooroopilly.
- Decker, W. 1994. New Recipe for Managing Rangeland Shrubs. *Ecos* 80 winter, pp.14-19.
- *DEST (Department of Environment, Sport and Territories) 1995. Native vegetation clearance, habitat loss and biodiversity decline: an overview of recent native vegetation clearance in Australia and its implications for biodiversity, Biodiversity Series, Paper No. 6, Canberra.
- Environment Australia. 1998. Environmental Indicators for State of the Environment Reporting, <http://www.ea.gov.au/envindicators/index.html>
- *EPA (Environmental Protection Agency). 2004. State of the Environment Queensland 2003. Chap. 4. Land. EPA, Brisbane.
- Franks, A.J. 2002. Landscape Health of Queensland . The Royal Society of Queensland,, St. Lucia, Brisbane.
- Geist, H.J. and Lambin, E.F. 2002. Proximate causes and underlying driving forces of tropical deforestation. *Bioscience* 52(2): 143-149.
- Groves, R.H. 1986. Plant Invasions of Australia - An Overview. Pp 137-49, in *Ecology of Biological Invasions: An Australian Perspective*, eds. R.H. Groves and J.J. Burdon, Australian Academy of Science, Canberra.
- *Hecht, S.B. 1993. The logic of livestock and deforestation in Amazonia. *Bioscience* 43(10):687-695.
- *Holmes, J. 1988. Land Degradation is a Global Problem of Increasing Dimensions. *The Australian Conservation Farmer*, pp. 5-8.
- Holmes, J. 2000 . Pastoral Leases Tenures as Policy Instruments, 1847-1997. In S. Dovers (ed) *Environmental History and Policy, Still Settling Australia*, pp. 212-242. OUP, Oxford.
- Industry Commission. 1998. A Full Repairing Lease - Inquiry into Ecologically Sustainable Land Management. Report No. 60, AGPS, Canberra.
- Knight, L. and Holmes, J. 1994. How Many Carrots and What Kinds of Stick? Policy Mechanisms and Rangeland Management Practices. *Australian Geographical Studies* 32 (1): 90-101.
- Low, T. 1999. *Feral Future: The Untold Story of Australia's Exotic Invaders*. Penguin, Melbourne.
- McIntyre, S. and McIvor, J.G. 1998. Diversity and Sustainability in Grassy Eucalypt Ecosystems. Occasional. Paper series No. 04/98. LWRRDC, Canberra.

- McIntyre, S. et al. 2000. Principles of sustainable grazing in eucalypt woodland: Landscape-scale indicators and the search for thresholds. Pp. 92-100, in Hale, P. et al. (eds.). Management for Sustainable Ecosystems. Centre for Conservation Biology, University of Queensland, Brisbane.
- *NLWRA (National Land and Water Resources Audit) 2001. Australian Dryland Salinity Assessment 2000: extent, impacts, processes, monitoring and management options. Canberra
- NLWRA (National land and Water Resources Audit) 2002. Australians and Natural Resource Management 2002. Canberra
(http://audit.ea.gov.au/ANRA/people/docs/national/anrm_report/anrm_contents.cfm)
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- *Pannell, D.J. 1999. Social and economic challenges in the development of complex farming systems. *Agroforestry Systems* 45: 393-409.
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- Standing Committee on Agriculture and Resource Management.(SCARM) 1998. Sustainable Agriculture: Assessing Australia's Recent Performance. Technical Report No. 70. CSIRO Publishing. Collingwood.
- Standing Committee on Agriculture and Resource Management (SCARM) 2000. Management of Dryland Salinity. Future strategic directions in the context of developing a national policy for natural resource management. Report No. 78. CSIRO Publishing, Melbourne.
- *Stephens, S. 2001. Visions and viability: How achievable is landscape conservation in Australia? *Ecological Management and Restoration* 2 (3):189-195.
- Stiraker, R. et al. 2000. A revolution in land use: emerging land use systems for managing dryland salinity. CSIRO, Division of Land and Water, Canberra.
- Stiraker, R. et al. 2002. (eds) Trees, water and salt: an Australian guide to using trees for healthy catchments and productive farms. RIRDC, Barton, ACT.
- *Stocking, M. 1995. Soil erosion and degradation. Chap. 12 In: O'Riordan, T. Environmental Science for Environmental Management. Longman, Harlow. (UQ library electronic access)
- *Thorburn, P. J. et al. 2002. Soil and Water Salinity in Queensland: The Prospect of Ecological Sustainability through the Implementation of Land Clearing Policy. *Rangeland Journal*. 24(1):133-51.
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- Williams, J. 2000. Managing the Bush: Recent Research Findings from the EA/WSRRDC National Remnant Vegetation R&D Program. National Research and Development Program on Rehabilitation, Management and Conservation of Remnant Vegetation. Research Report 4/00.
- World Resources Institute. World Resources , 1986- . UNEP,UNDP, Oxford University Press, New York.
- *Young, M. 1985. The Influence of Farm Size on the Vegetative Condition in an Arid Area. *Journal of Environmental Management* 21: 193-203.

Web Sites:

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
<http://affa.gov.au>

Department of Environment and Heritage
<http://deh.gov.au>

Land and Water Australia
<http://www.lwa.gov.au>

Murray Darling Basin Commission
www.mdbc.gov.au

National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAPSWQ)
<http://www.napswq.gov.au>

National Dryland Salinity Program (NDSP)
<http://ndsp.gov.au>

National Land and Water Resources Audit
<http://www.nlwra.gov.au>

National Weeds Strategy
<http://www.weeds.org.au>

Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy Queensland
<http://www.nrme.qld.gov.au>

Environmental Protection Agency, Queensland
<http://www.epa.qld.gov.au>

Queensland Conservation Council (QCC)
www.qccqld.org.au

Land Care
Information on Australia's Landcare Program can be found at:
<http://www.affa.gov.au>

Other useful sites for this Module are:

- www.fixlandclearing.org.au
- www.landmark.mdbc.gov.au
- www.salinity.org.au
- www.usq.edu.au/lurc/

Module 2

Water Resources

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www.abc.net.au/learn/silentflood/default.htm
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- *ESCAP (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) 1998. Sources and Nature of Water Quality Problems in Asia and the Pacific., United Nations, New York.

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- Dorricott, K. et al. 1997. Balancing productivity and conservation in southern Inland Queensland: a case study at the grass roots. Pp. 233-40 in Conservation Outside Nature Reserves, Hale, P. and Lamb, D.(eds). Centre for Conservation Biology, University of Queensland, Brisbane.
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- <http://www.deh.gov.au>
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- <http://www.ecosystemsproject.org>
- <http://www.resalliance.org>
- <http://www.mekong-protected-areas.org>
- <http://www.cigiar.org>
- <http://www.nht.gov.au>
- <http://www.fixlandclearing.org>
- <http://www.csiro.gov.au> (here you can find CSIRO's Sustainable Ecosystems group which is doing considerable research on ways to balance production and conservation in agricultural systems)

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- www.campfire-zimbabwe.org CAMPFIRE program.
- www.coastal.crc.org.au/ Cooperative Research Centre for Coastal Zone, Estuary and Waterways Management
- www.deh.gov.au for general environmental information relating to wildlife and fisheries management
- www.dpi.qld.gov.au for general fisheries management issues in Queensland
- www.epa.qld.gov.au for information on Moreton Bay Marine Park
- www.gbrmpa.gov.au for information on the Great Barrier Reef
- www.kangaroo-asn.au Kangaroo Industry Association of Australia.
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