

The Sustainable Society bibliography

Overview

Fears about disintegrating life-support systems are not confined to ecological circles. The word 'sustainability' appears in one official report after another. Yet it begs more questions than it answers. Some of its roots can be traced back to the wasteful destruction of America's forests at the turn of the century, in response to which came calls for the 'scientific management' of resources and the practice of what was called 'sustained yield'. Conservation was thereby equated with efficiency. As a result, old woods were replaced by uniform 'tree factories' in which toxic spraying threatened wildlife and humans alike. This reflects what has been called the ideology of 'resourcism', preparing the way for yet further manipulation and exploitation. 'Resourcism' justifies the assault upon anything, social or environmental, that is considered to lack 'utility' or to stand in the way of productivity.

You can find the same attitude in books from supposedly environmentalist organizations. Known reserves of particular resources are totted up. Colourful symbols locate further sources. In reality, these places are often the lands of tribal peoples, of wildlife habitats and of thriving farming communities. The inconvenient fact that they would be destroyed if such resources were to be exploited is glossed over. There is also much talk about 'integration'. The worthy goal is a multiple use of resources, especially land.

But the central issues remain: what kind of use, for whose benefit, and at what level? Interest in the environment may receive greater recognition than before, but in conventional planning the environment and non-human species remain factors on a list of many interests, to be traded away if political expediency, price fluctuations, or 'cost/benefit' analysis should deem it necessary. Furthermore, integrating bad practices in farming, forestry and tourism compound the problem. True integration puts one requirement first and foremost: the continuity of healthy environments and their associated lifeforms. It is around this that we can then integrate everything else.

Only such a holistic perspective points the way forward. We need to think in terms of the sustainable and balanced satisfaction of all kinds of needs. There are, of course, human need— material, psychological and spiritual. But we should not try to realize the aspirations of one community, culture or generation by sacrificing another. Nor should we strive to fulfil human wants by destroying other species. Only within this framework can we find lasting ways of supplying the needs of a truly worthwhile society.

Aberley, D. ed. (1994). **Futures by Design: The Practice of Ecological Planning**. New Society Publishers.

Beatley, T. & K. Manning (1997). **The Ecology of Place: Planning for Environment, Economy & Community**. Island Pr.

Bender, T. (1979). 'Sharing Smaller Pies'. In Lane de Moll and Gigi Coe, eds., **Stepping Stones: Appropriate Technology and Beyond** Marion Boyars. An example of how, contrary to myths spread in particular by left-wing writers, the link between ecological sustainability and equity long has been recognised in political ecology circles.

Coates, G., ed. (1981). **Resettling America: Energy, Ecology and Community**. Brick House.

Czech, B., & H. Daly. (2004). 'The steady state economy: what it is, entails, & connotes.' **Wildlife Society Bulletin** 32(2): 598-605. Posted @ <http://www.steadystate.org/files/SSE.pdf>

Dale, A. (2002). **At the Edge: Sustainable Development in the 21st Century**. British Columbia UP.

Edwards, A. R. (2005). **The Sustainability Revolution: Portrait of a Paradigm Shift**. New Society Publishers.

Ehrlich P. & R. Harriman (1971). **How to be a Survivor: A Plan to Save Spaceship Earth**. Pan, 1971. An older work which provides, amongst other things, an opportunity to assess how accurate were the diagnoses and prescriptions of 60s environmentalists. It is worth noting that its contents provide further evidence that refutes the charge that such thinkers ignored inequity and narrowly focused on physical resources at the expense of related social issues. See also Ehrlich, P. & A. Ehrlich, P. (1991). **Healing the Planet**. Addison-Wesley.

McKibben, B. (2007). **Deep Economy: The Wealth of Communities and the Durable Future**. Times Books.

Odum, H. et al (2001). **A Prosperous Way Down: Principles & Policies**. Colorado UP.

Pimentel, D. et al, eds. (2000). **Ecological Integrity: Integrating Environment, Conservation, & Health**. Island Pr.

Schneiderman, J. S., ed. (2003). **The Earth Around Us: Maintaining a Liveable Planet**. Westview.

Williams, T, ed. (1997). **Nature and Human Society: The Quest for a Sustainable World** National Academy Pr.

Specific Programmes.

Boyd, D. (2004). **Sustainability within a Generation: A New Vision for Canada**. David Suzuki Foundation. Of more general relevance. Posted @ <http://www.davidsuzuki.org/files/WOL/DSF-GG-En-Final.pdf>

Goldsmith, E. et al. (1972). **Blueprint For Survival**. Penguin. One of the classic analyses of the human predicament and how to build a sustainable society. Its authors now dissent from the original book's exaggerated faith in the capacity of governments to act. However, as an overview of what is to be done, it generally stands the test of time.

IUCN/UNEP/WWF (1991). **Caring for the Earth: A Strategy for Sustainable Living**. Earthscan. A programme put forward under the umbrella of sustainable development. Whether it gets to grips with overdevelopment and overpopulation is open to question. It tends to focus upon aims rather than specific mechanisms, leaving unclear what sustainability will mean in practical terms. Will, for example, present levels of air travel continue? Or, to look at institutional aspects, will banks maintain their role in the economy?

Trainer, T. (1995). **The Conserver Society: Alternatives for Sustainability**. Zed. Outlines the features of a sustainable society and spotlights examples of what is being done now to shift lifestyles and social structures in that direction.

Linking Ecocentric Values, Analysis & Policy

Carroll, J. (2004). **Sustainability and Spirituality**. SUNY Press.

Devall, B. (1993). **Living Richly in an Age of Limits**. Gibbs Smith. See also his **Simple in Means, Rich in Ends** (Green Print, 1990)

Foley, J., ed. (2004). **Sustainability & Social Justice**. Institute for Public Policy Research. Downloadable via http://www.ippr.org.uk/ecommm/files/sdsj_sum.pdf

House, F. (1999). **Totem Salmon: Life Lessons from Another Species**. Beacon Pr. Eloquent study of salmon, their life cycle & habitats...and what it teaches those willing to listen.

Johns, D. (1992). 'The Practical Relevance of Deep Ecology'. **Wild Earth**, Summer: 62-66. Argues that a Land Ethic is not just abstract moralising.

Vanderveer, D. & C. Pierce, eds. (1994). **The Environmental Ethics & Policy Book: Philosophy, Ecology, Economics**. Wadsworth Publishing.

Sustainability: Definitions & Principles

- Ausubel K. & J.P. Harpignies, eds. (2004). **Nature's Operating Instructions**. Sierra Club Books
- Daly, H. (1990). 'Towards Some Operational Principles of Sustainable Development'. **Ecol. Econ.**, 2: 1-6.
- Cairns, J. (1997). 'Defining Goals & Conditions for a Sustainable World.' **Environmental Health Perspectives** 105(11): 1164-1170. Posted @ <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/picrender.fcgi?artid=1470321&blobtype=pdf>
- Cairns, J. (2004). 'Will the Real Sustainability Concept Please Stand Up?' **Ethics in Science & Environmental Politics**, June, 2004: 49-52. Posted @ <http://www.int-res.com/articles/esep/2004/E53.pdf>
- Czech, B. (1995). 'Ecosystem management is no paradigm shift; let's try conservation.' **Journal of Forestry** 93(12): 17-23. Posted @ <http://www.steadystate.org/EcosystemManagement.pdf>
- Daily, Gretchen C. (1999). 'Developing a Scientific Basis for Managing Earth's Life Support Systems.' **Conservation Ecology** 3(2):14. Posted @ <http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol3/iss2/art14/>
- Goodland, R. (1995). 'The Concept of Environmental Sustainability'. **Ann. Rev. Ecol. Syms.**, 26: 1-24.
- Hemenway, D. (1985). 'Eight Principles for Designing Natural Systems'. **Whole Earth Rev.**, 48: 72-73
- Holdren, J., G. C. Daily, & P. Ehrlich (1995). 'The Meaning of Sustainability: Biogeophysical Aspects.' in M. Munasinghe & W. Shearer (eds.), **Defining & Measuring Sustainability: The Biogeophysical Foundations**, United Nations University & the World Bank. Posted @ <http://dieoff.org/page113.htm>
- Norton, B. (2005). **Sustainability: A Philosophy of Adaptive Ecosystem Management**. Chicago UP.
- Orians, G. (1990). 'Ecological Concepts of Sustainability'. **Environment**, 32(9), 1990: 10-39.
- Peine, J. ed. (1998). **Ecosystem Management for Sustainability: Principles & Practices**. CRC Pr.
- Prugh, T. & E. Assadourian (2003). 'What is Sustainability, Anyway?' **World Watch Magazine** September/October:10-21. Posted @ <http://www.worldwatch.org/system/files/EP165A.pdf>
- Rees, W. (1991). 'Conserving Natural Capital'. **Int. Jnl. Canadian Studies**, 4, Fall:7-27.
- Rees, W. (1998). 'Understanding Sustainable Development.' Pages 19-42 in Hammand, B. & P. Muttagi, eds. **Sustainable Development & the Future of Cities**, Intermediate Technology.
- Rees, W.E. (1999). 'Achieving sustainability: reform or transformation' in Sutterwaite, D., ed., **The Earthscan Reader in Sustainable Cities** Earthscan, reprinted from **Journal of Planning Literature**, Vol. 9, No. 4, May 1995 pp. 343-61, pp.22-52.
- Robèrt, K.-H. et al (1997). 'A Compass for Sustainable Development.' **International Journal Of Sustainable Development And World Ecology**, 4: 79-92. Summary posted @ <http://www.nrec.org/synapse39/misseldine.html>
- Wells, M. (1971). **The absolutely constant incontestably stable architectural value scale**. First published in **Progressive Architecture** but with more general application and now posted @ http://media.wiley.com/product_data/excerpt/17/04714659/0471465917.pdf

Sustainability Studies for Specific Regions

Green Party, Highland Region (1989). **A Rural Manifesto for the Highlands: Creating The Second Great Wood of Caledon**. Green Party of Scotland Land Use Working Group. An investigation of possible land use and lifestyle alternatives to revive a long degraded environment, the Scottish Highlands, though some of the forest history is a bit suspect.

Human Population

Without the socially acceptable reduction of human populations to levels well within the carrying capacity of specific bioregions (rather than the comparative abstraction of the 'Earth'), all other causes, no matter how worthy, are doomed.

Abernethy, V. (1993). **Population Politics: The Choices That Shape Our Future**. Plenum Pr.
Davis, K. (1973). 'Zero Population Growth: The Goal & The Means'. *Daedalus*, 102: 15-39
Formos, W. (1987). **Gaining People, Losing Ground: A Blueprint for Stabilising World Population**. Population Institute.
Jacobsen, J. (1986). **Promoting Population Stabilisation: Incentives for Small Families**. Worldwatch Institute.

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Why the UK Needs a Population Policy. Posted @ <http://www.optimumpopulation.org/opt.sub.briefing.whypoppolicy.Jul06.pdf>

Sustainability and Carrying Capacity

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Wisniewski, R. (1980). 'Carrying Capacity: Understanding Our Biological Limitations'. *Humboldt Jnl. of Soc. Relations*, 7: 55-70.

Sustainability and Carrying Capacity: Specific Studies

Brakel, M. von & M. Buitenkamp (1992). **Sustainable Netherlands: A Perspective for Changing Northern Lifestyles**. FoE, Netherlands. What ecological sustainability & an assumption of global equity might mean for the average citizen in a rich country.

Odum, E. (1970). 'Optimum Population & Environment'. *Current History*, June: 355-359, 365. Focus on state of Georgia in USA.

Peterson, R. (1973). **Carrying Capacity Analysis of the Pacific Northwest**. Environment Protection Agency.

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Smith, J.W., ed. (1991). **Immigration, Population & Sustainable Environments: The Limits to Australia's Growth**. Flinders Pr.

Sustainability and Ecosystem 'Health'

Agee, J. K. & D. R. Johnson, eds. (1988). **Ecosystem Management for Parks & Wilderness**. Univ. Washington Pr. Looks specifically at the greater Yellowstone ecosystem in the USA but with relevance to general measures and management structures for greater sustainability

Costanza, R, et al, eds. (1993). **Ecosystem Health**. Earthscan

Pritchard, J. (1999). **Preserving Yellowstone's Natural Conditions: Science & the Perception of nature**. Univ. Nebraska Pr. Though focused on the famous Yellowstone National Park, the study has deep significance in term of how human land use and conservation efforts can be part of broader and changing ecological processes & patterns.

Woodley, S., et al. (1993). **Ecological Integrity and the Management of Ecosystems**. St Lucie Pr. A mainly Canadian collection.

Ecological Land Use Planning, Taxation & Ownership

Dresser, P. van. (1972). **A Landscape for Humans: A Case Study of the Potentials for Ecologically Guided Development in an Uplands Region**. Biotechnic Pr.. One of the few attempts to conceptualise regional development within ecological constraints.

McHarg, I. (1969). **Design With Nature. Doubleday**. Classic study of how to plan land use so that it harmonises with ecological tolerances, rhythms and cycles, for example, not citing dense settlements on flood plains.

McHarg, I. (1981). 'Human Ecological Planning'. **Landscape Planning**, 8(2): 109-120.

Newsom, M. (1992). **Land, Water and Development—River Basin Systems and their Sustainable Management**. Routledge. Looks at a critical framework for land use planning—watersheds and river basins.

Land Ownership & Land Taxation

Freyfogle, E. (1995/6). 'Land Ownership, Private and Wild: a Proposed Strategy'. **Wild Earth**, Winter: 71-77.

Girardet, H., ed. (1976). **Land for the People**. Crescent Books, 1976.

Harrison, F. (1984). **Land Tenure**. Paper to The Other Economic Summit, London, 1984.

Shoard, M. (1987). **This Land is Our Land**. Paladin. Particular reference to land taxation.

Stillman, P.G. (1977). 'Property Rights, Ecological Limits & the Steady State'. In D. Pirages, ed. **The Sustainable Society**. Praeger.

Wilderness Protection& the Protection of 'Protected' areas

Burton, R., ed. (1991). **Nature's Last Strongholds: Conserving the World's Wild Places**. OUP.

Foreman, D. (1986). 'A Modest Proposal for a Wilderness Preservation System'. **Whole Earth Review**, 53: 42-45

Frome, M. (1992). **Regreening the National Parks**. Univ. Arizona Pr. Exploration of how to rescue America's national Parks from the industrialised tourism and other depredations

Noss, R. (1991). 'Sustainability & Wilderness'. **Conservation Biology**, 5(1): 120-122. Argues for the importance of large areas of comparatively unmodified and unmanaged areas ('wilderness') in plans for sustainability.

Sellers, R. (1997). **Preserving Nature In The National Parks: A History**. Yale UP.

Terborgh, J. et al, eds. (2002). **Making Parks Work: Strategies For Preserving Tropical Nature**. Island Pr.

Protection Initiatives: Case studies

Kellett, M. (2000). 'Maine Woods National Park. *Wild Earth*, Summer: 60-64. See also 'Maine Wildlands Network' by R. Long & P Mackay in same issue, pp 66-74. Together these articles provide a strong model, albeit one tuned to American circumstances.

Protection of Biodiversity: general

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Barker, R. (1993). **Saving All The Parts**. Island Pr.

Ehrenfeld, D. (1970). **Biological Conservation**. H.R.W. See also his **Conserving Life on Earth** (OUP, 1972)

Grumbine, E. (1994). **Environmental Policy & Biodiversity**. Island Pr.

Hudson, W., ed. (1991). **Landscape Linkages & Biodiversity**. Island Pr.

Kerasote, T., ed. (2001). **Return of the Wild: The Future of Our Natural Lands**. Island Pr.

Lavigne, D., ed. (2006). **Gaining Ground: In Pursuit of Ecological Sustainability**. International Fund for Animal Welfare.

Noss, R. & A. Cooperrider (1995). **Saving Nature's Legacy: Protecting & Restoring Biodiversity**. Island Pr.

Rolston, H. (1994). **Conserving Natural Value**. Columbia UP.

Western, D. & R. Michael Wright, eds.. (1994). **Natural Connections: Perspectives in Community-Based Conservation**. Island Pr.

Wolf, E. (1987). **On the Brink of Extinction: Conserving the Diversity of Life**. Worldwatch Institute.

Nature of 'Conservation Biology' & 'Restoration Ecology'

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Miller B. et al. (1998/99). 'Using Focal Species in the Design of Nature Reserve Networks'. *Wild Earth*, Winter: 81-91.

Moffe, G. & R. Carroll (1994). **Principles of Conservation Biology**. Sinauer.

Norton, B. (2002). **Searching for Sustainability: Interdisciplinary Essays in the Philosophy of Conservation Biology**. CUP.

Soulé, M. E., ed. (1980 & 1986). **Conservation Biology**. Sinauer, 2 vols.

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Cairns, J., ed. (1988). **Rehabilitating Damaged Ecosystems**. (2 vols.) CRC Pr.

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Also see:

<http://www.twp.org/> website of the truly visionary Wildlands Project.

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Askins, R. (2000). **Restoring North America's Birds: Lessons from Landscape Ecology.** Yale UP.

Maehr, D. et al, eds. (2001). **Large Mammal Restoration Ecological & Sociological Challenges In The 21st Century.** Island Pr.

McKibben, B. et al (2000). **Return of the Wolf.** Univ. Pr. New England. Essays on wolf reintroduction, with focus on New England.

Ray, J. et al, eds. (2005). **Large Carnivores & The Conservation of Biodiversity.** Island Pr.

Protection & Restoration Of 'Wildness' & Biodiversity: regional & national case studies

Berger, J. **Restoring the Earth.** Knopf. 1986. A look at the work of individual and groups in America.

Crumbo, K. & B. Walder (1998/9). 'Restoring Wilderness at Grand Canyon'. *Wild Earth*, Winter: 65-68.

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Miller, B et al. (2004). **Southern Rockies Wildlands Network Vision: A Science-Based Approach to Rewilding The Southern Rockies**. Southern Rockies Ecosystem Project & Colorado Mountain Club Pr.
Watson, A. (2001-2002). 'Restoring Scotland's Caledonian Forest'. *Wild Earth*, Fall/Winter: 66-71.
Wynne, G. et al (1994). **The Biodiversity Challenge: An Agenda for Conservation Action in the UK**. RSPB. Report on threats to biodiversity in the UK and possible remedial measures.

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Protection & Restoration Of Biodiversity: particular projects

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Margolin, M. *The Earth Manual: How to Work on Wild Land Without Taming It*. Heyday, 1985.

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'Ecozones' & 'green corridors'

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Gardening: general

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Flores, H. (2007). **Food Not Lawns**. Green Books.

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Kruger, A. (2005). **HDRA Encyclopaedia of Organic Gardening**. Dorling Kindersley.

Lewis, P. (2005) **Sticky Wicket: Gardening in Tune with Nature**. Frances Lincoln.

McVicar, J. **New Book of Herbs**. Dorling Kindersley

Roberts, J. (2005). **The Organic Kitchen Garden**. Conran Octopus.

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Creating Wildlife Ponds

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Mason, T. (2006). **Landscaping Earth Ponds**. Chelsea Green

Sibley, P. (1994). **Your Wildlife Pond**. S.G.C Books

Steel, J. (2002). **Wildlife Ponds**. Webbs Barn Designs.

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Costner, P. (1989). **We All Live Downstream: A Guide to Waste Treatment That Stops Water Pollution**. Waterworks Books.

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Clift, J. & A. Cuthbert (2006). **Water: Use Less – Save More**. Green Books.

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Waste Water and Sewage Disposal

Grant, N. et al (2005). **Sewage Solutions: Answering the Call of Nature**. CAT (Wales)

Porto, D. et el (1999). **The Composting Toilet System Book**. Sustainable Strategies (USA)

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Steinfeld C. & D Del Porto (2004). **Reusing the Resources: Adventures in Wastewater Recycling**. Chelsea Green.

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