

Unit VI Case Study

Choose one of the following Case Study options for this assignment. Evaluate each assumption you make within your reasoning, and identify and evaluate the evidence. The Case Study should be thoroughly discussed in a minimum two-page paper based upon your readings (not including the title page and reference page). Any outside sources used to support *your* statements should be appropriately cited using APA style.

Assignment 1 Option: Read the Case Study presented on pages 352 to 353 of the textbook, and answer the following questions:

1. Should alternative fuel be funded by the government? Based upon your readings, provide three reasons for or against this scenario, and discuss them thoroughly.
2. Identify and discuss any fallacies that may occur in your reasoning. How might you defend your stance in a debate?
3. What are some available sources of renewable energy that could meet our nation's energy demands?

Assignment 2 Option: Read the Case Study presented on pages 387 to 388 of the textbook, and answer the following questions:

1. Should the government take away the endangered species protection of grey wolves? Why, or why not? Based on your readings, provide two reasons for or against this scenario, and discuss them thoroughly.
2. Identify any assumptions the author may have made in the Case Study, and discuss whether these assumptions can be considered fallacies.
3. What information could be added to this Case Study to help you make your decision?

Unit VII Case Study

Read the Case Study presented on pages 432 to 433 of the textbook. Read both sides of the argument ("Amend the WTO" and "Process and Production Methods Cannot be Regulated"). After you have read the Case Study, answer the following questions:

1. Should the WTO be amended to address the concerns of environmentalists?
2. Should process and production methods (PPMs) be regulated?
3. What are some fallacies within the Case Studies that you recognize? What further information could be provided to help you make your decision?

Make sure you provide reasoning within your argument. The Case Study should be thoroughly discussed in a minimum two-page paper based upon your readings (not including the title page and reference page). Any outside sources used to support *your* statements should be appropriately cited using APA style.

Unit VIII Case Study

For this assignment, you are to evaluate the REDD+ through agricultural expansion, which greatly impacts the environment and international laws relating to the environment. To prepare this assignment, use the Internet to research more information on REDD+. You are also encouraged to read Chapters 10 and 11 from the textbook and additional professional reference sources to support your discussion. (Please note that Wikipedia is not an acceptable reference source for academic papers.) The first part of the evaluation assignment must describe the REDD+ Program and how deforestation has an impact on climate regulations. Define some of the key challenges of the program and how governments around the world are developing more laws in order to govern the strategies involving REDD+.

For the second part of the evaluation, evaluate how international laws such as the Kyoto Protocol have been put into action in order to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which in turn affect deforestation. You will also need to discuss how the REDD+ Program attempts to achieve its environmental goals through its initiatives to change international environmental laws through the success of the REDD+ Program.

The completed assignment must be a minimum of three pages in length, not including the title page and reference list. Any outside sources used to support your statements should be appropriately cited using APA style.

40. International Joint Commission. 12th Biennial Report on Great Lakes Water Quality, September 2004. <http://www.ijc.org/php/publications/html/12br/english/report/> (July 5, 2006).
41. International Joint Commission. "Persistent Toxic Substances." Tenth Biennial Report on Great Lakes Water Quality, June 29, 2000, 28. <http://www.ijc.org/comm/10br/en/indexen.html> (March 8, 2001).
42. 14th Biennial Report, August 2009, available at <http://www.ijc.org/php/publications/pdf/ID1631.pdf>.
43. 16 USCA § 1271.
44. National Park Service. "Wild and Scenic Rivers." <http://www.nps.gov/rivers/index.html> (June 28, 2006).
45. 16 USCA § 1531.
46. 16 USCA § 1533.
47. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 17.3 (1994).
48. *Sweet Home Chapter of Communities for a Great Oregon v. Babbitt*, 1 F.3d 1 (D.C. Cir. 1993).
49. <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d108:SN00369:@@DEsumm25m&>
50. http://ecos.fws.gov/tess_public/SummaryStatistics.do
51. World Conservation Union. "Confirming the Global Extinction Crisis." Press Release, September 28, 2000. <http://www.iucn.org/redlist/2000/news.html> (February 5, 2001).
52. Ibid.
53. Environment News Service. "Extinction Forecast for One-Quarter of All Primates." April 7, 2005. <http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/apr2005/2005-04-07-03.asp> (July 5, 2006).
54. World Conservation Union. 2006. "Table 5: Threatened Species in Each Country." IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. <http://www.iucnredlist.org/info/tables/table5> (July 5, 2006).
55. Ibid.
56. Ecological Society of America. "As the Grasslands Change and Disappear, What Happens to the Birds?" Press Release, January 25, 2001. <http://esa.sdsc.edu/pr012501.htm> (February 7, 2001).
57. World Conservation Union, note 49.
58. Ibid.

CASE STUDY

Resolving Controversial Environmental Issues

- In the following essays, identify the issue, reasons, and conclusion and then identify the assumptions that link the reasons and the conclusion. Are these assumptions justified? Do you see any problems with the assumptions?
- What important information is missing from the following argument? In other words, what information could help you make a decision regarding the worth of this argument? One way to identify missing information is to ask yourself the following question: "What questions would I ask the author if I had the chance?" If you need help, review the discussion at the end of Chapter 7 regarding missing information.

The Government Needs to Be Able to Use Lethal Means to Control the Booming Grey Wolf Population.

Over the past 25 years, Wisconsin's government has been forced to spend \$894,119 on losses accrued by farmers and hunters due to the state's grey wolf population. While the wolves used to be considered an endangered species and their numbers were next to nonexistent as of 1960 their numbers have since skyrocketed. In fact, the population has recently increased by 12% in the state of Wisconsin. While the numbers of the wolves may not be uniformly high across the country, the wolves in Wisconsin are not in danger of extinction.

The most important issue to ensure that the now seemingly stable Wisconsin population of grey wolves does not create economic hardships for the people of Wisconsin or economic problems for the state. Not only is the state paying money to the local residents plagued by problems created from the wolves, but hunters are losing steady numbers of hunting dogs that have taken years to train. Furthermore, the damages paid to farmers may not even amount to the actual total the farmers would have received for crops and livestock that had taken months and years to grow. In other words, both the state and individuals of Wisconsin are suffering unnecessary costs.

To combat such unnecessary costs, the government ought to take away the endangered species protection of grey wolves. Specifically, it is necessary that hunters be allowed to hunt a certain number of the species. That way, the numbers of the wolves will stop growing at such a high rate. Also, the economic problems caused by such high numbers will be kept to a minimum.

Now read the opposing editorial. Answer the same critical thinking questions, and then decide which editorial makes a better argument.

The Number of Grey Wolves Do Not Need to Be Regulated.

While the wolf population has risen quite a bit in Wisconsin, that is only one of a couple populations of grey wolves that exist in the country. While the wolves may be the cause of some damage, what is important is that the few populations of this species are protected. The only reason that the wolf population in Wisconsin is even growing is because they have been protected by the government.

Furthermore, even though the wolves have caused some damage, the damage has not been that excessive. Only a very small fraction of the farmers in Wisconsin have reported problems associated with the wolf population. Also, while the economic problems reported by the government may look high, the figures are a total amassed over 25 years. In 1985 the wolf population was not nearly as high as it is today, and problems were still occurring. Therefore, thinning the population a bit will not completely wipe out all problems associated with the wolves.

Another danger of allowing hunters to kill grey wolves and thus "control" the number of the wolves is that some hunters will illegally shoot the wolves. If enough wolves are killed and some are killed illegally, perhaps the population of wolves will dwindle down too much.

Moreover, while the population of the wolves in Wisconsin seems high the state is one of the very few areas where the wolves even exist. If one were to look at the national numbers of the wolves, one would see that the national total of the wolves is not nearly as high as the total number of other species in the United States. It is best to make sure that this species, which has been fragile in the past, is not put into jeopardy again.

International Environmental Law

Thus far, we have been examining the environmental law of the United States. Environmental protection, however, if it is to be truly effective, must have an international dimension.

THE NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Over the past two decades, there has been growing recognition of the need for international environmental law, primarily because of an increasing awareness of the severity of certain worldwide environmental problems. These problems are discussed first. Figure 11-1 shows the key environmental issues in various regions of the world, contrasted with the concern for the trends in each region. The next section explains the unique nature of international law, followed by descriptions of the sources of environmental law and the primary institutions that carry out those laws. The final sections address how international environmental law attempts to remedy some specific environmental problems and speculate about the future of international environmental law.

Overpopulation

One of the most severe problems in the world today is overpopulation. Just look at the numbers of people living in the various cities around the world, listed in the graph in Figure 11-2! Without a global solution, extremely adverse consequences will result. The threat of overpopulation was set forth originally in Thomas Robert Malthus's¹ *An Essay on the Principle of Population*. Malthus's 1798 work argued that population, which grows geometrically, will eventually outstrip food production, which grows arithmetically, resulting in mass starvation. Although Malthus's timetable for disaster may have been disrupted by unanticipated agricultural developments, many believe that the ultimate impact