

Writing and the Environment

Exercise 2a (Email due Sunday, March 6th by midnight.)

The briefest of all exercises:

Identify the water resource management issue that you intend to investigate in your next essay. The issue you investigate should be linked to a specific locale. Here are some possibilities:

How should we allocate the scarce water supply of inland Northern California?
(farmers, fishermen, and Native Americans in Upper Klamath basin)

Who owns Texas and Oklahoma groundwater and what role should it play in serving the water needs of growing cities? (Farmers and ranchers take on cities and wealthy corporations that mine the aquifers beneath rural landowners.)

What role should money play in controlling access to scarce water supplies in the arid Southwestern states? (Las Vegas and its neighbors)

How should we assess the last of the great US dams? Whose interests does it serve? (Glen Canyon Dam—final jewel in the crown or colossal blunder)

Do massive dam projects serve the best interests of developing countries? (Narmada dam project in India or Three Gorges dam project in China)

Is it possible to devise an equitable plan for water distribution among nations at odds with one another politically? (Israel vs. the Palestinian territory) (Turkey vs. its neighbors)

Send me your exercise via email by Sunday at midnight.