

Planning Your Research



Day 1

Agenda

Day 1:

- Read Background Info
- Art Activity

Three important federal laws

- Marine Mammal Protection Act
- The Endangered Species Act
- The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

Marine Mammal Protection Act

The U.S. Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) protects all marine mammals, including cetaceans (whales, dolphins, and porpoises), pinnipeds (seals and sea lions), sirenians (manatees and dugongs), sea otters, and polar bears within the waters of the United States.

The Act makes it illegal to "take" marine mammals without a permit. This means people may not harass, feed, hunt, capture, collect, or kill any marine mammal or part of a marine mammal.



The Endangered Species Act

The primary goal of the Endangered Species Act is to restore the species listed as endangered or threatened to a point where they no longer need protection.

Endangered Species Act

Protecting imperiled animals & plants since 1973



The Endangered Species Act (ESA) recognizes that all plants & animals have value & deserve protection.



Karner blue butterfly
endangered

DECEMBER
28
2013

is the 40th
anniversary
of the ESA.



The ESA has saved
99%
of listed species
from extinction.



Leatherback turtle
endangered



Bald eagle
recovered

Bald Eagle: An ESA success story

From 417 nesting pairs in 1963 to more than 10,000 nesting pairs today.

What we do

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, with our partners:

- Implements and improves the ESA
- Protects threatened & endangered species
- Works with landowners to restore habitat
- Plans a road to recovery for listed species
- Monitors and assesses wildlife populations



Carolina parakeet
extinct (pre-ESA)



Brown pelican
recovered

Why save endangered species?

- Biodiversity
- Contributions to medicine
- Benefits to agriculture
- Environmental monitors
- Ecosystem support
- Economic value
- Intangible values

We need your help!

Learn about the species in
your area.

Connect with us online to share
news & important info with your
social networks.



Swamp pink
endangered

Volunteer at your nearest refuge
or local conservation group.

Reduce waste &
energy consumption.



American alligator
recovered

Learn more about the Endangered Species Act, our research & what you can do to help: www.fws.gov/endangered/

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

Established to provide guidelines for managing U.S. fishery resources and for the problems that arise when marine mammals and fishermen are competing for the same fish and shellfish.

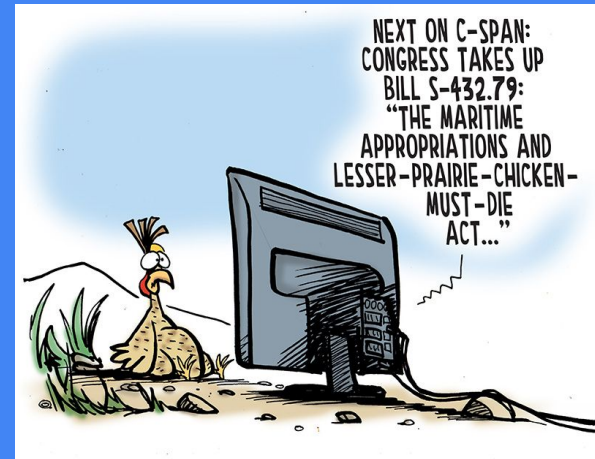
PUnishment: the offense is punishable by a fine of not more than \$200,000, or imprisonment for not more than 10 years, or both

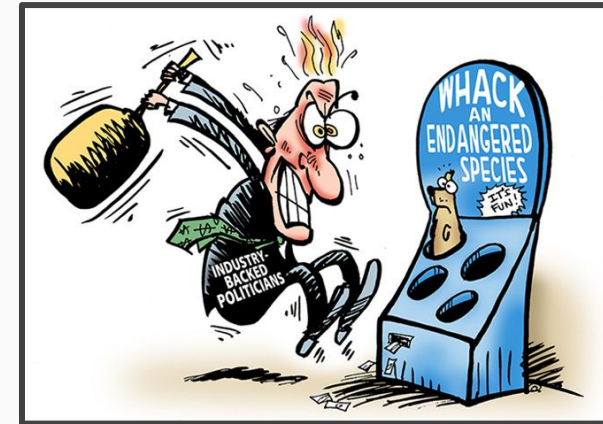
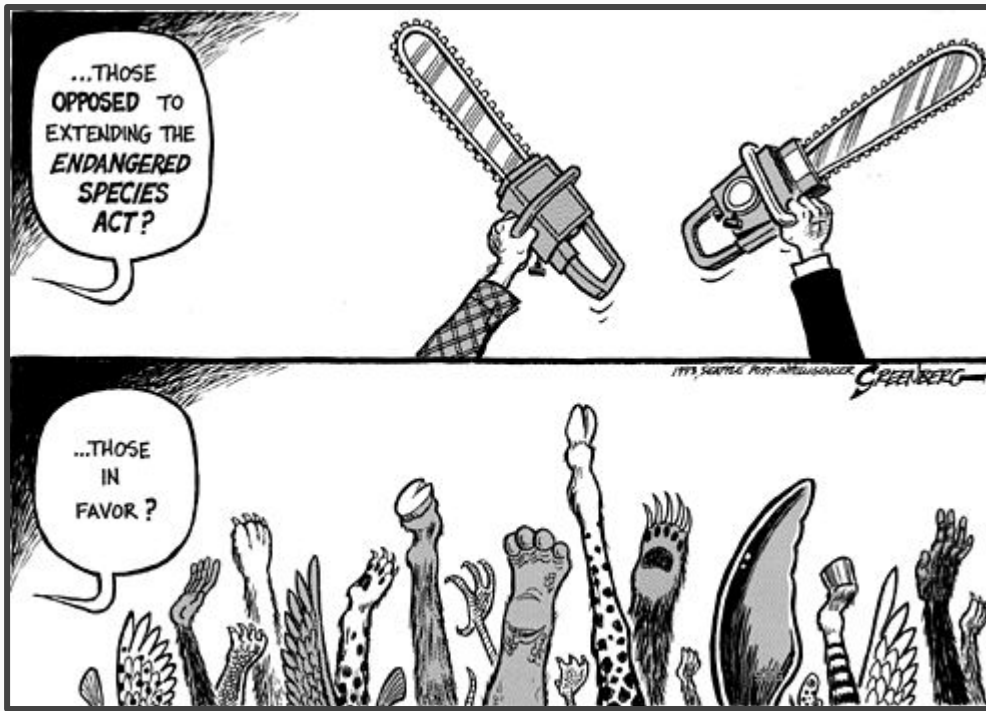


Art Activity

Create a political cartoon that expresses the importance of animal conservation.

Choose to have the cartoon from the viewpoint of : The Marine Mammal Protection Act, The Endangered Species Act, or The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act





Political cartoons are defined as illustrations or comic strips containing a political or social message that usually relates to or pokes fun at current events or personalities.

Day 2

Agenda

Day 2:

- Watch: Kingdom of the Blue Whale - National Geographic Channel
- Start listing ideas for research project



Research Ideas

Group Work (2 per group ONLY)

You are a scientist interested in doing whale research. Choose from the list of whales considered "endangered" under the Endangered Species Act.

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Beluga whale | • Gray whale | • North Pacific right whale |
| • Blue whale | • Humpback whale | • Sei whale |
| • Bowhead whale | • Killer whale | • Southern right whale |
| • Fin whale | • North Atlantic right whale | • Sperm whale |

Think about what
you would
like to research
about that species...

Prepare an application for a permit:

Your application would be reviewed by:

- Department of Commerce (National Marine Fisheries Service),
- The Department of the Interior (Fish and Wildlife Service), and:
- The Marine Mammal Commission and its scientific advisors

To be published in the Federal Register and be open for public comment

You must submit the following:

- Title your project
- Your qualifications as a scientist
- The species of marine mammals that may be bothered, or harassed, in the course of your research.
- The geographic location(s) where you will conduct your research
- The period(s) of time during which you will conduct your research
- The purpose of your research
- The methods to be used for conducting your research