

What Would Aldo Do? How To Think Like A Lake

or...

Falling in Love With Your Lake (All Over Again)

Eric Olson

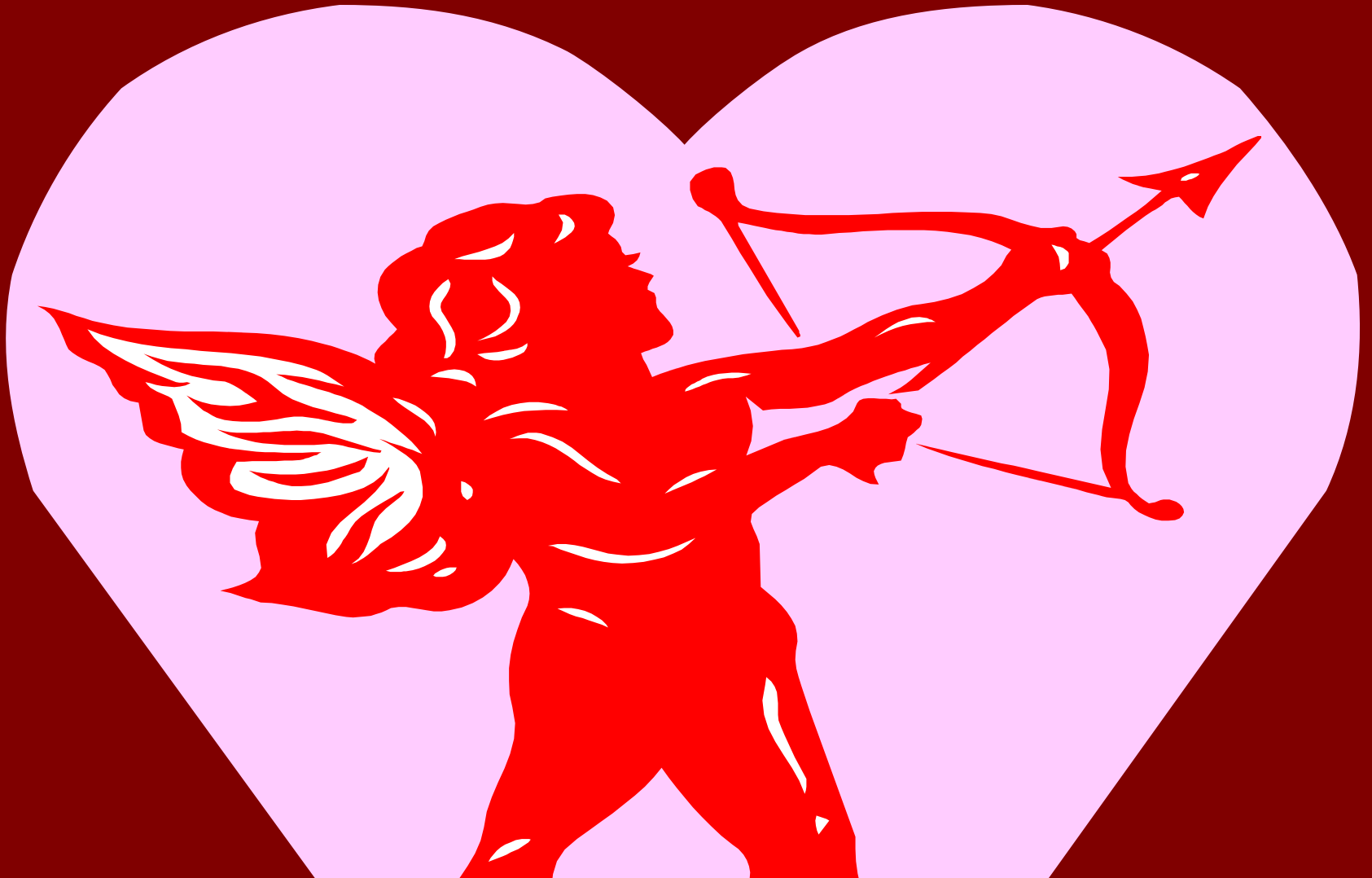
UWEX Center for Land Use Education

Examine each question in terms of what is ethically and esthetically right, as well as what is economically expedient.

A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise.

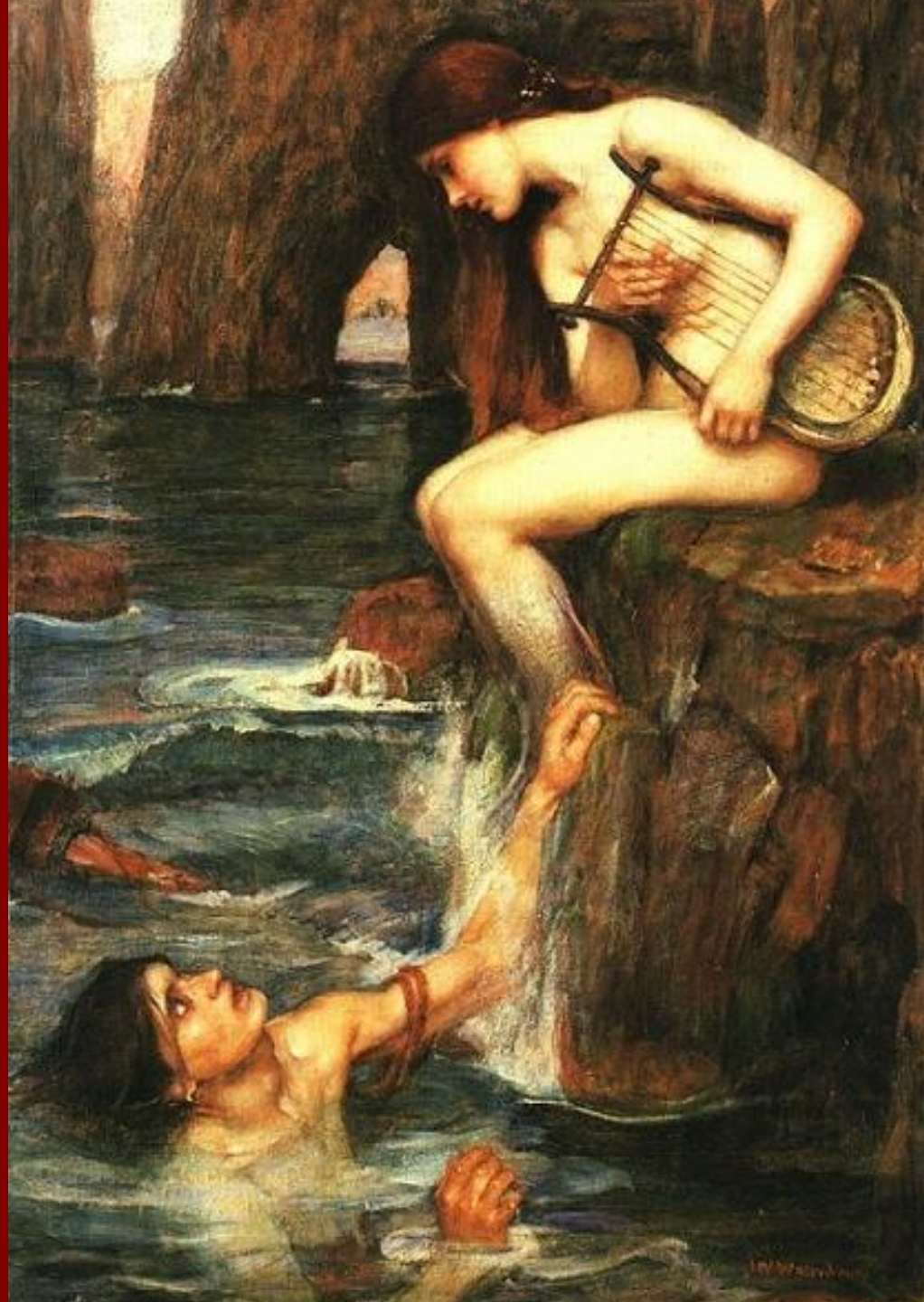
Done!

We can be ethical only in relation to something we can see, feel, understand, love, or otherwise have faith in.



Encounters with the lovely...

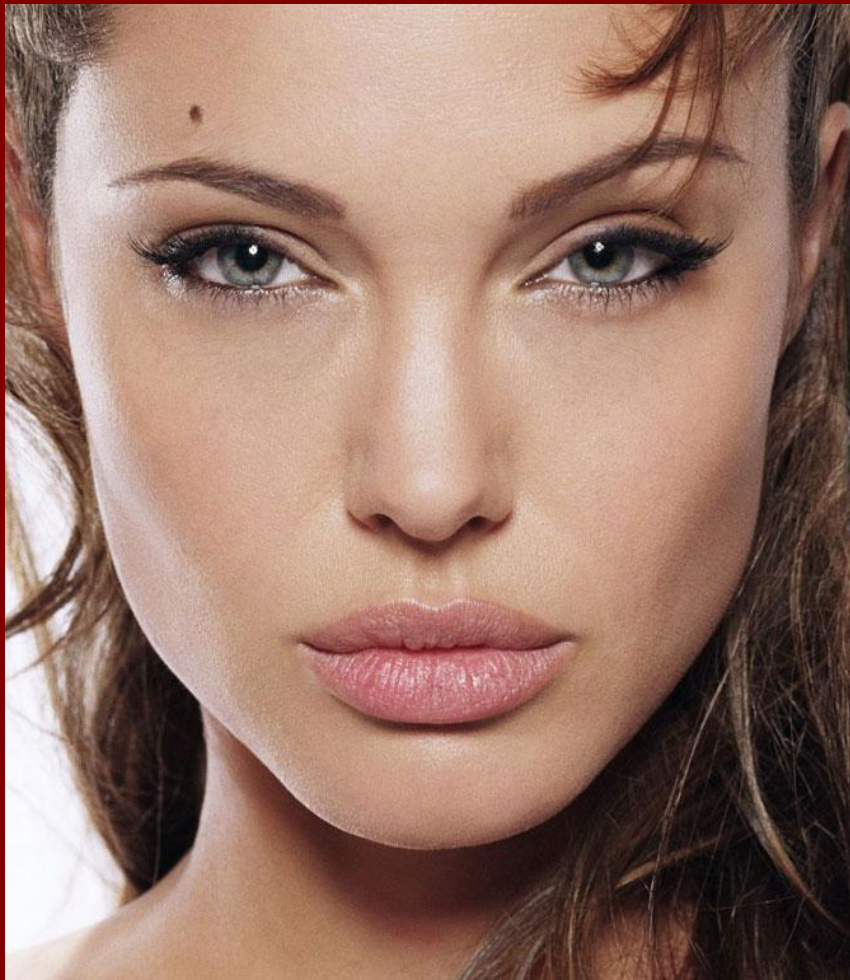




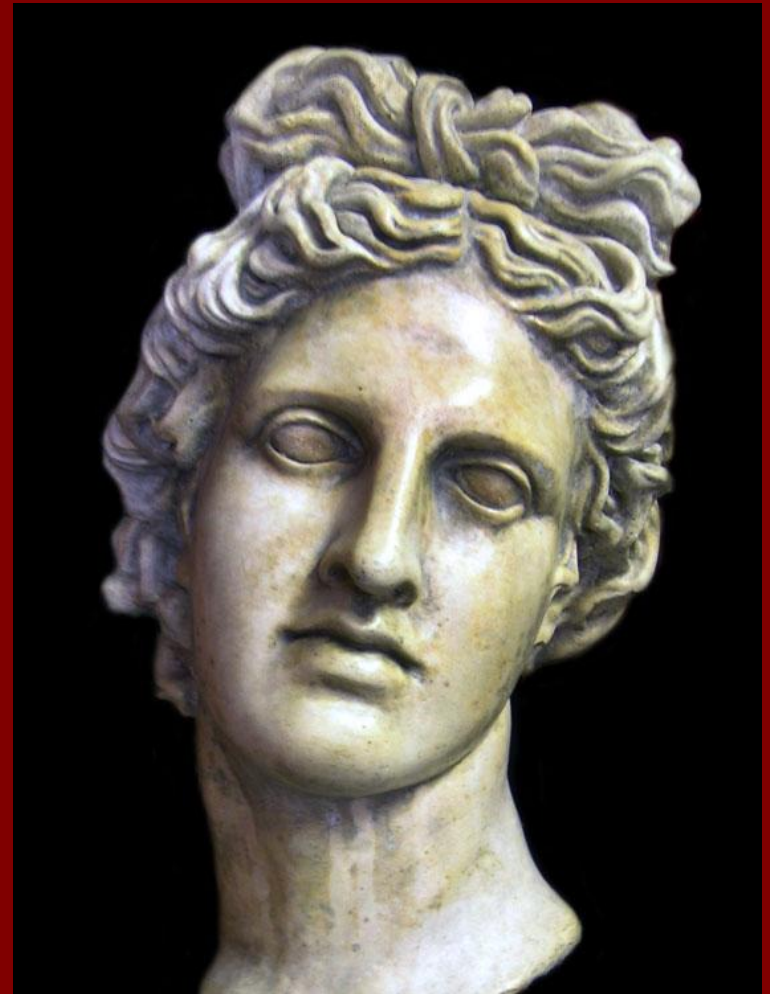
Our ability to perceive quality in nature begins, as in art, with the pretty. It expands through successive stages of the beautiful to values as yet uncaptured by language.

The quality of cranes lies, I think, in this higher gamut, as yet beyond the reach of words.





What is “pretty”?



Timeless

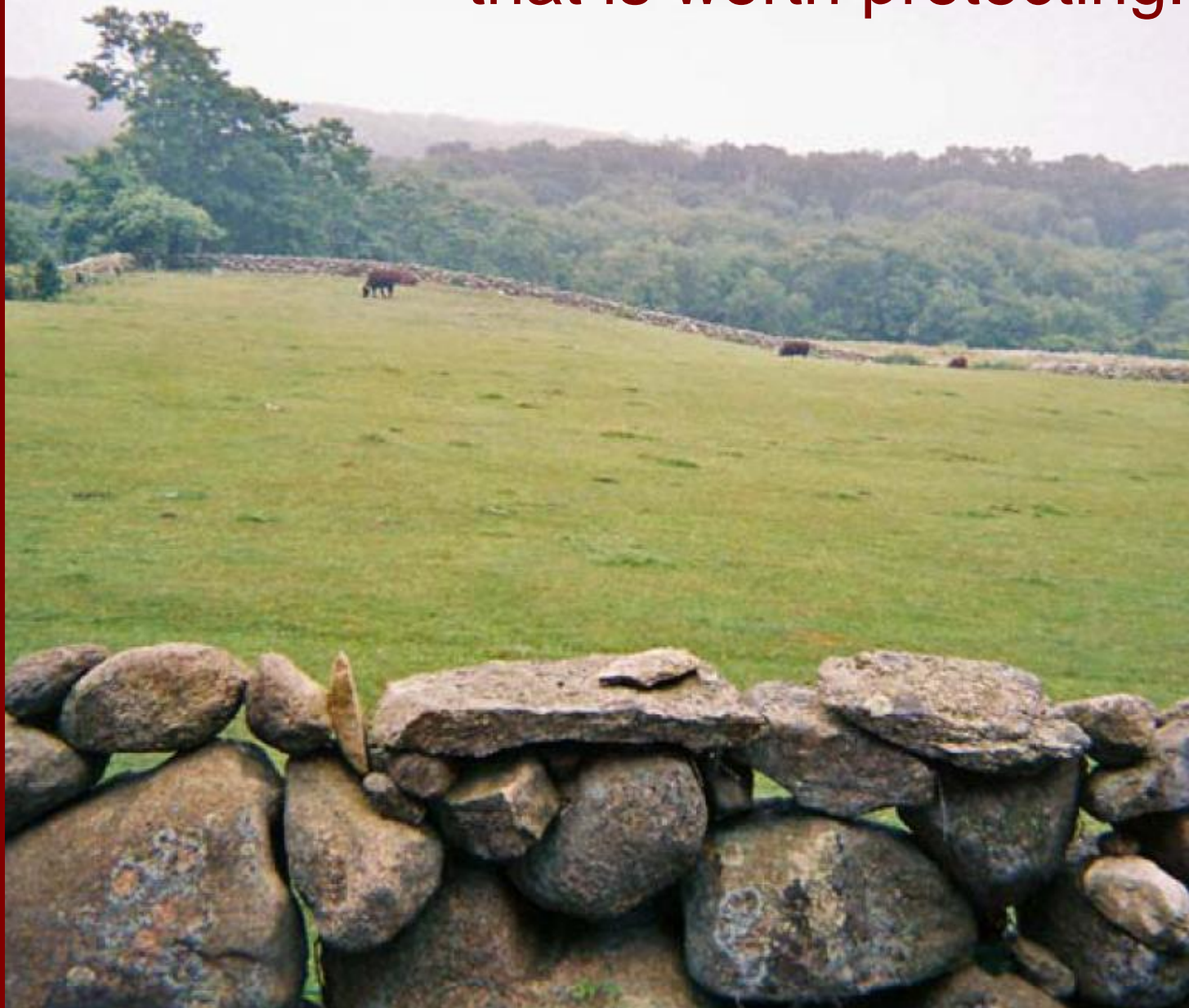








79% of respondents: This is beauty
that is worth protecting.



78% of respondents: This is ugly and requires remediation.



Superficial Love is Easy



A serene landscape featuring a calm pond in the foreground. The water reflects the surrounding trees and foliage. On the left, a large tree with vibrant yellow and orange autumn leaves stands prominently. To the right, a large, dense green tree with a weeping canopy is visible. The background is filled with a forest of trees in various stages of autumn, with some bare branches and others still holding colorful leaves. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

***Love and
understanding...***

Lake Sagatagan, Collegetown MN









“The central figure is a regal yellow birch, raising its branches almost 100 feet in the air”

This view shows a beautiful hard wood forest near Butternut, Ashland county. The central figure is a regal yellow birch, raising its branches almost 100 feet in the air. So still was the air when the view was taken that the outlines of the maple leaves hanging fifty feet above are plainly revealed.

Log jam of about 150 million feet of logs



Made-To-Order Farms



Wisconsin Colonization Co.

Western Sales Office

201-203 Plymouth Building

Minneapolis - Minnesota

FRANK SPRING, Sales Manager

Brochure for farm communities in eastern Sawyer County.

Credit: Wisconsin Historical Society

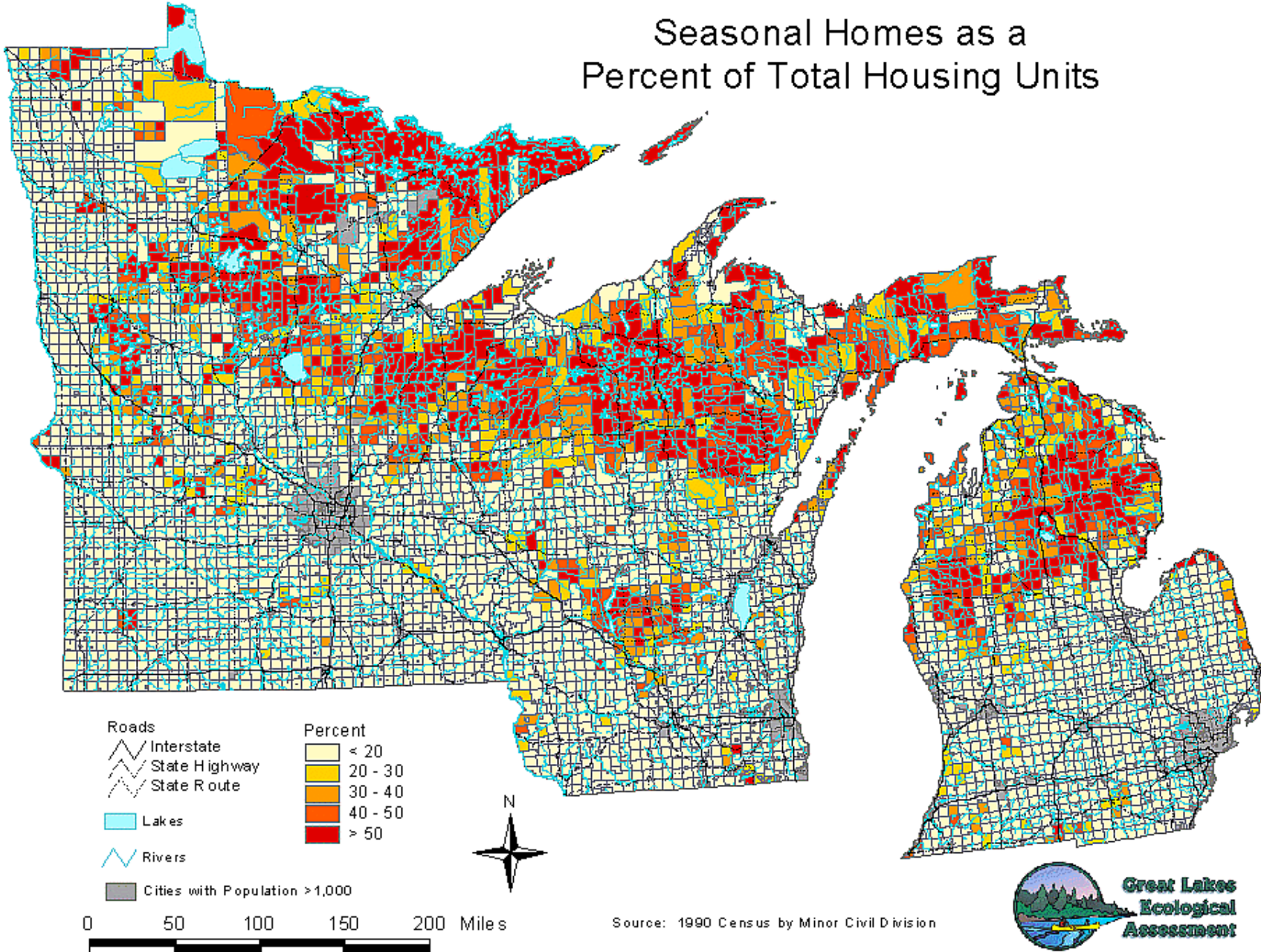




Abandoned.

Courtesy W. A. Rowlands

Seasonal Homes as a Percent of Total Housing Units



...our appreciation of the crane grows with the slow unraveling of earthly history. His tribe, we now know, stems from out of the remote Eocene. The other members of the fauna in which he originated are long since entombed within the hills. When we hear his call we hear no mere bird. We hear the trumpet in the orchestra of evolution. He is the symbol of our untamable past, of that incredible sweep of millennia which underlies and conditions the daily affairs of birds and men.





Aldo Leopold

(January 11, 1887 –
April 21, 1948)

USFS Forest
Ranger, NM and
AZ, 1909-1924





Published “Game Management” in 1933, following a multi-state survey of wildlife conditions in the midwest.

This was the first and for a long time only text on game and wildlife management.

1935: Leopold Family
begins restoration at
the Shack outside
Baraboo



Aldo Leopold's Guide to Loving The Land...

Keep all the pieces- don't permit native species to be extirpated or become extinct.



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Cisco (*Coregonus artedii*)

Keep all the pieces- don't permit native species to be extirpated or become extinct.



Understand the “land circuit” and carefully manage the flows of energy and sediment
...use natural areas as a reference.



Welcome the land into our community- extend to the land and the biota the ethical considerations we give to each other.



Conservationists have, I fear, adopted the pedagogical method of the prophets: we mutter darkly about impending doom if people don't mend their ways.

The doom is impending, all right; no one can be an ecologist, even an amateur one, without seeing it.

But do people mend their ways for fear of calamity? I doubt it. They are more likely to do it out of pure curiosity and interest.

What You Can Do NOW: Get to know your lake and the landscape around it...

- Begin a phenology notebook
- Learn to identify your critters and plants
- Let your curiosity get the best of you- ask questions, explore...familiarize yourself with the lake.

We can be ethical only in relation to something **3**
we can see, feel, understand, love, or otherwise
have faith in

Winter Visitants 1903-04

		DEPARTURE
402	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker!	March 15
474	Horned Lark	March 30
474b	Prairie Horned Lark	March 30
517	Purple Finch	May 1
559	Tree Sparrow	April 5
567	Junco	May 1
621	Northern Shrike	February 27
726	Brown Creeper	May 1
748	Golden-crowned Kinglet	April 7

July 15, 1908.

Notes on a Kingfisher's burrow.

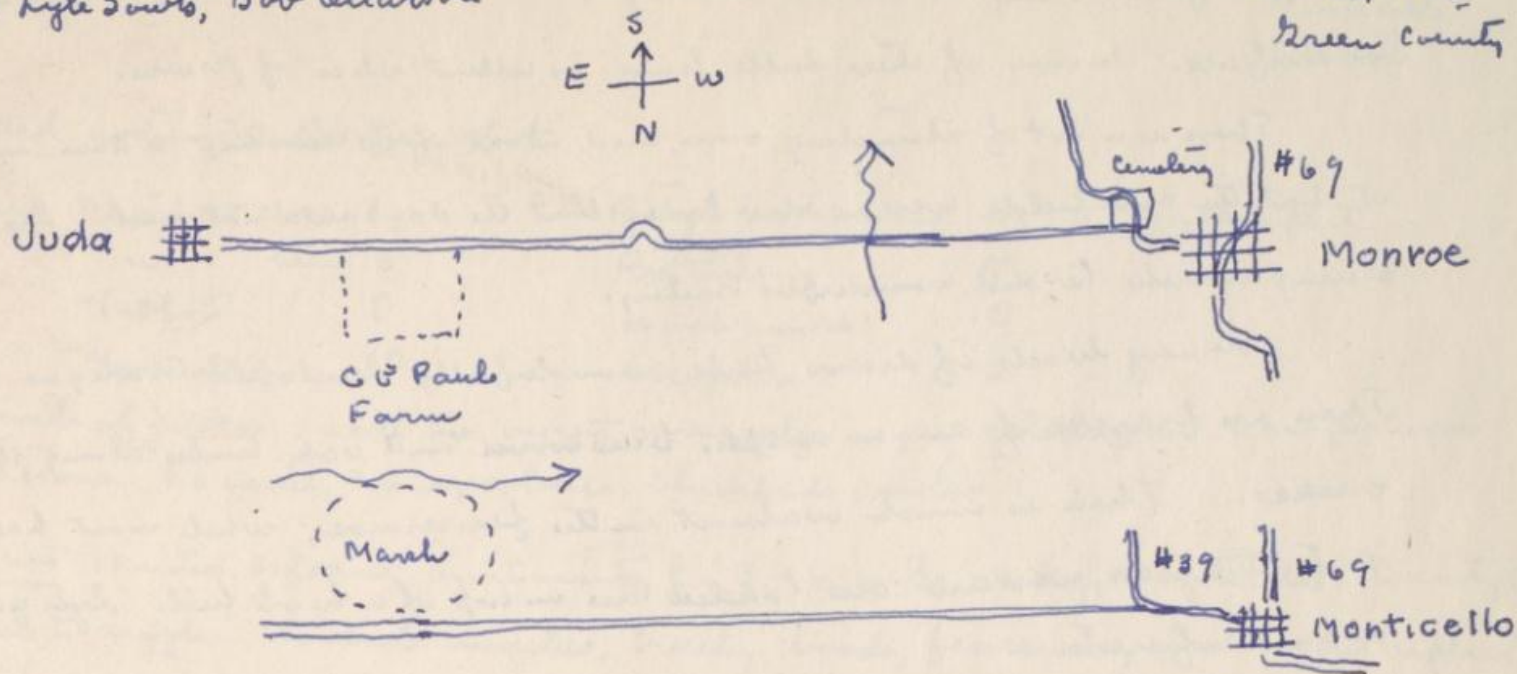
Page 15

Nest complete May 5.
Young out of nest July 3.

The burrow was, in a clay bank of a gully, and, contrary to the usual custom, at least 200 yds. from a small creek, containing water-spiders at the most, not even tadpoles. The place was well selected, and the entrance half concealed by a bend in the bank. The home consisted of 3 burrows. ¹ One had struck roots and was apparently unused. ² The ♂'s burrow, opposite the nest entrance, in which the ♂ roosted, during incubation only, there being a nest of the Rough Winged Swallow in it, which contained 4 eggs, at the

AL, Lyle Swab, Bob Bellarson

Oct 28, 1945,
Green County



Hunted two places in morning and afternoon, 5 miles east of Monroe and 5 miles east of Monticello. Bob Bellarson had hunted the second place yesterday and saw 9 cocks, 8 hens in an afternoon. 3 men killed 5 cocks, 4 young and 1 adult.

Seen Today 6 cocks, 10 hens, 114 unguinea partridge, 3 rabbits
3 marsh hawks, 3 redtails, 2 spermophiles. no squirrels, but 1 fox squirrel seen dead on road.

<u>Killed</u>	<u>Wt</u>	<u>age</u>	<u>By</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
no 1 cock	1305	1/2" brood	AL	After 1/2 mile breaking by 6-locks
no 2 cock	1175	1" brood	Bob	

If the individual has a warm personal understanding of the land, he will perceive of his own accord that it is something more than a breadbasket. He will see land as a community of which he is only a member, albeit now the dominant one. He will see the beauty, as well as the utility, of the whole, and know that the two cannot be separated. We love (and make intelligent use of) what he have learned to understand.



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all over again***

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