Environmental Systems Test – 10/2

Topics to study:

Plant ID - be able to identify all 14 species from a photograph and description

Ecosystems

* definition
* 4 main components (definitions and application)
  + Biotic & Abiotic factors
  + Organisms & Species
  + Populations
  + Communities

Habitat - Definition and understand the difference between this and an ecosystem

Population density and the different types of dispersion

* factors that affect population size (competition, predation, resources, etc)
* Carrying capacity (definition and application)
* niches

Human Population growth

* Understand this is the main pressure humans put on the environment
* causing loss of habitat, pollution, over harvesting, bad farming practices
* Major problem because the majority of people turn a blind eye

Environmental scientists can study our impacts

* referred to as ecological footprint (know definition)
* We may have already passed the Earth’s CC

We need to develop more sustainable practices

* rely more on renewable resources (sun, etc)
* even resources that are renewable (lumber, etc) are being used faster than produced so they are technically non-renewable
* need to sustain biodiversity

Zero population growth might not be enough to curb harm

* unclear what the Earth’s CC is
* replacement fertility (know definition)
* Human impact is dependent on population size, affluence, and how we use our resources. Especially technology (cell phones!), which tends to increase our overall usage of resources.