



History of the Environment Movement in the United States

{Environmental PBL

The First People in North America

- 25,000 years ago
- Many Native Americans are nomadic cultures
- Viewed themselves as one with nature
- Used resources but did not abuse the resource







The Exploration Years

1620-1900

The Roots of Abuse

- The First Colonists
- 3 “Things” that would change the continent
 - Gun
 - Axe
 - Wheel
- Manifest Destiny — man is controller of land, not part of the land
- Westward Expansion



Myth of Superabundance Raid of Resources



- Raid of the Wildlife
- Raid of Eastern Forests
- Raid of Wisconsin Forests
- Raid of Minerals
- Cattle Barons (ranchers) and Sod Busters (farmers)

Early Philosophers of Conservation

- Henry David Thoreau:
wildlife areas
 - Civil disobedience
- George Perkins Marsh: “Father of American Conservation Movement”, Man and Nature (1864)



Early Activists and Actions

- John Wesley Powell: Powell Report – first advocate to regulate land use
- Yellowstone National Park Created (1872) by President Grant



A globe of the Earth is positioned in the center-right of the frame, resting on a bed of vibrant green grass. The globe is semi-transparent, showing the continents and latitude/longitude lines. The background is a soft-focus green field with sunlight filtering through, creating a bokeh effect of light spots and rays. The overall mood is serene and natural.

The Conservation Years

1900-1942

The Beginnings



- President Harrison
- Passed a law stating that the President could set aside lands for national parks and national forests
- Extremely crucial legislation for the environment

Early Leaders

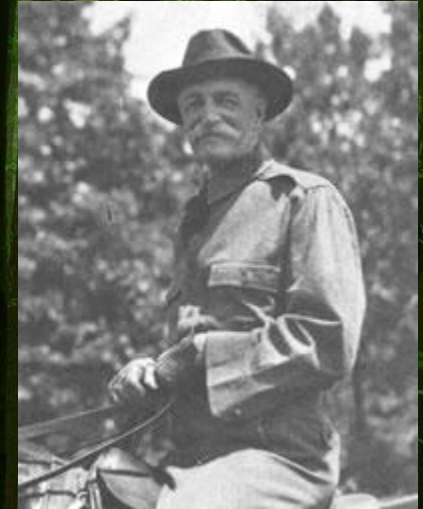
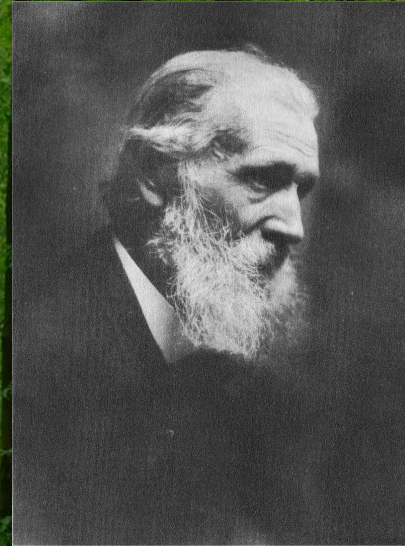
John Muir (1838-1914:
Sierra Club, “Father of
National Parks”

Gifford Pinchot (1865 –
1946): 1st Chief U.S.
Forester

Theodore Roosevelt (1901
– 1909): Boone and
Crockett Club

Reclamation Act: put
Powell’s ideas into effect

- The concept was that irrigation would “reclaim” arid lands for human use.



Park Service

- National Park Service created in 1916
- Stephen Mather: 1st Head of Park Service



Citizen Conservation Groups

- Sierra Club
- Audubon Society
- Wilderness Society



Decline of Private Lands

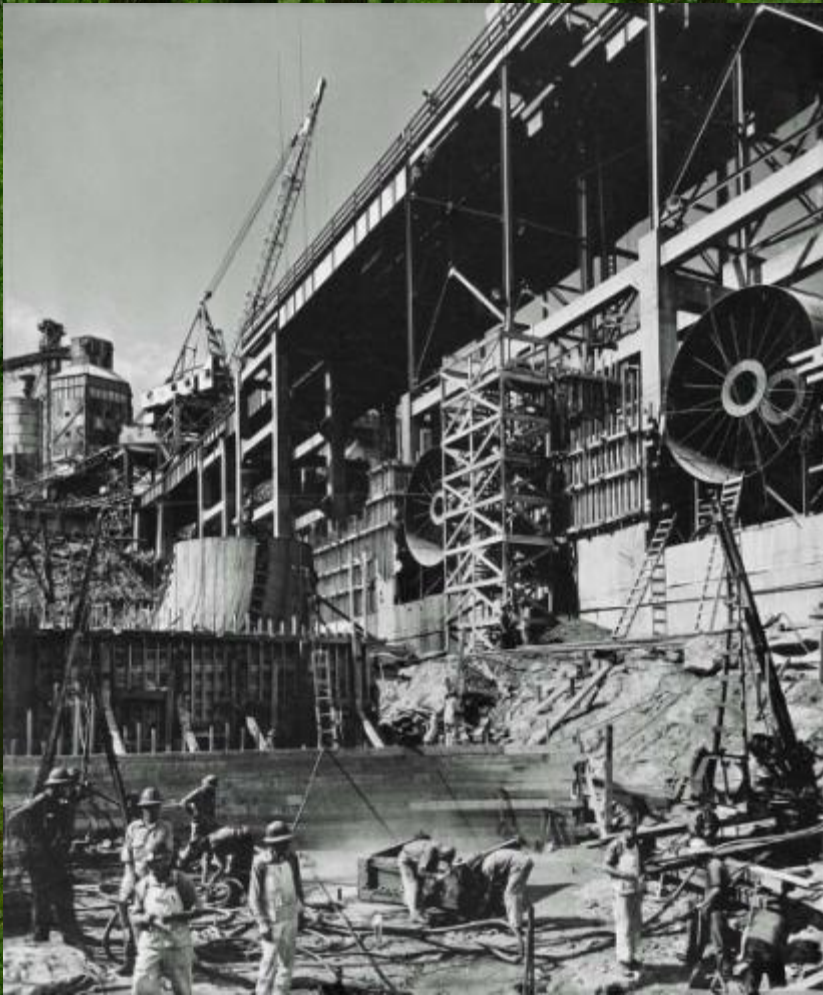


<http://www.history.com/topics/civilian-conservation-corps/videos/franklin-d-roosevelt>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PmkxyCM9Wm8>



Franklin D Roosevelt and Renewed Conservation Initiatives

- Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) – 1st Land Restoration Project

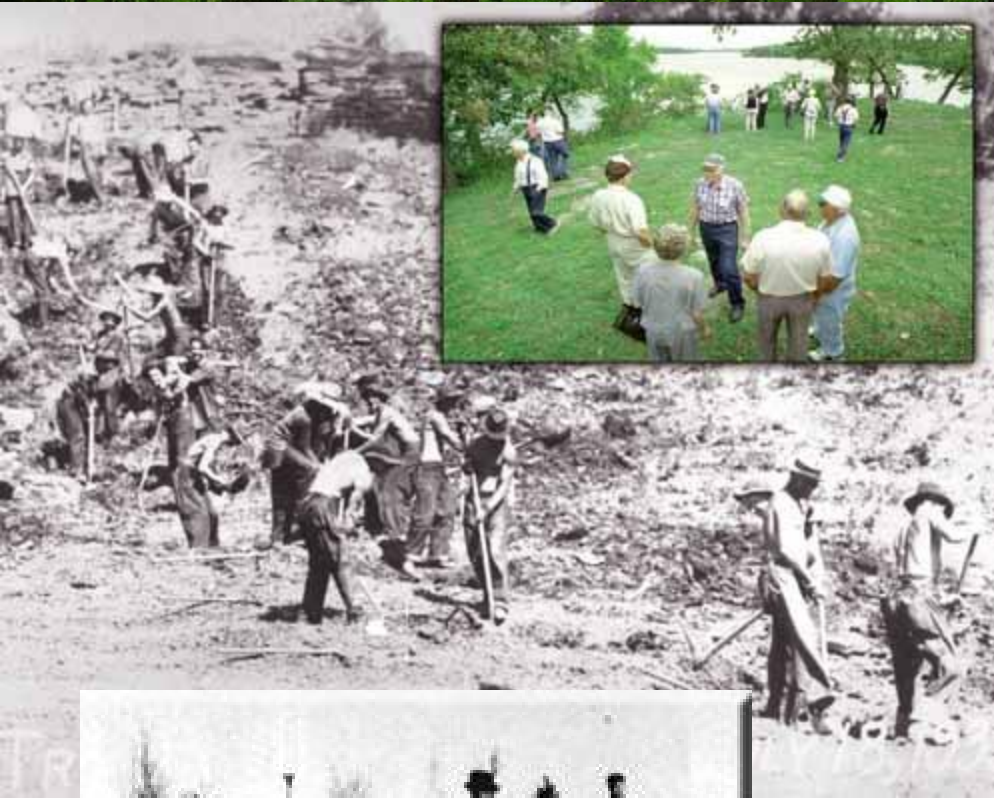


Franklin D Roosevelt and Renewed Conservation Initiatives

- Soil Conservation Society (SCS) – professional soil conservationists to prevent erosion and loss of soil nutrients



Franklin D Roosevelt and Renewed Conservation Initiatives



- Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) – planted trees, erosion control, nature trails, etc.
- Federal program to give the unemployed men jobs during the depression

Franklin D Roosevelt and Renewed Conservation Initiatives

- Rocky Mtn. District
 - 27 Nat'l forests
- Colorado: (1876)
 - Over 13 million acres of nat'l forests



Franklin D Roosevelt and Renewed Conservation Initiatives

- Taylor Grazing Act
– controlled use of
public land





THE NEW DEAL



World War 2

Ended the Conservation Years

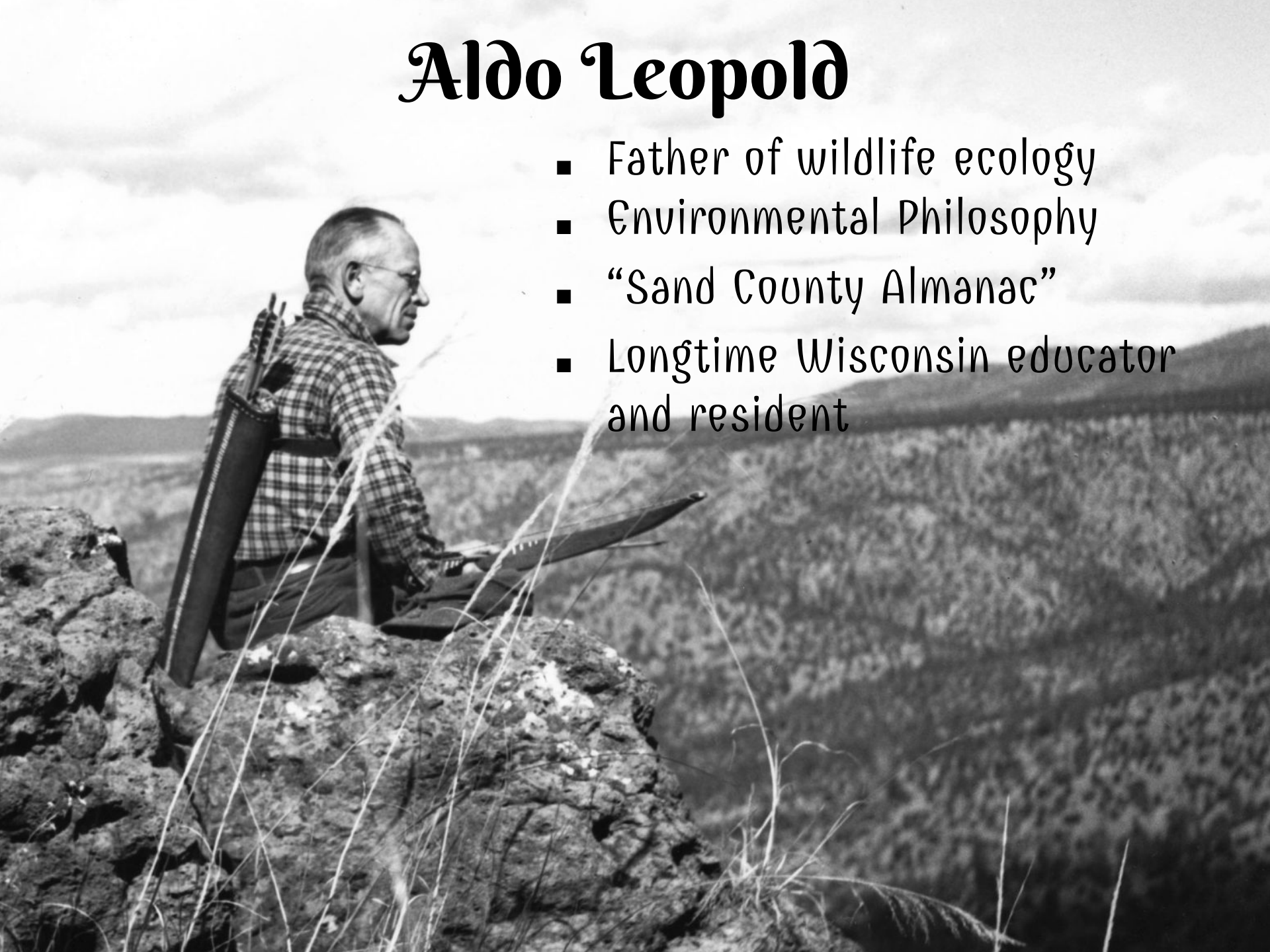




The Environmental Era
1948-Present

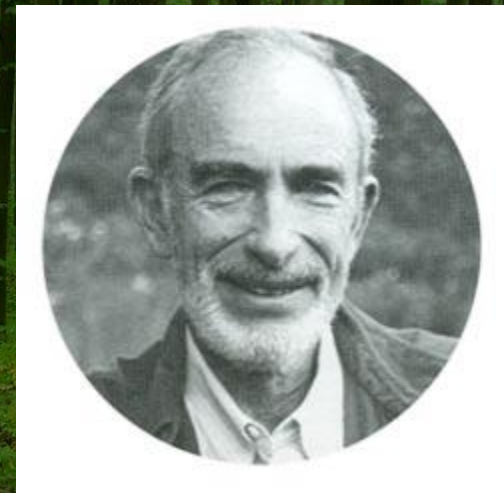
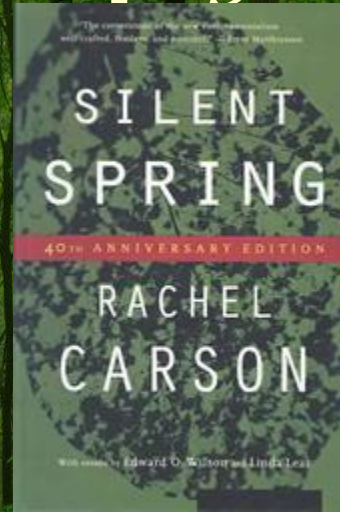
Aldo Leopold

- Father of wildlife ecology
- Environmental Philosophy
- “Sand County Almanac”
- Longtime Wisconsin educator and resident



Awakening of Environmental Philosophy

- Rachel Carson: “Silent Spring”, advocate for sustainability and regulations on pollutants
- Paul Ehrlich’s: “Population Bomb”
- <http://schoolworkhelper.net/paul-r-ehrlich-overpopulation-disaster-theory/>



Decade of Unrest (1960's)

SB Oil Spill, Union Oil's Platform A, 1969



- Racism and Vietnam
- Santa Barbara Oil Spill
- Cuyahoga River Burns: Cleveland
A View from Space



The part of Cleveland through which the Cuyahoga River runs is still highly industrialized, but today the water is much cleaner than it once was.

China's smog is so bad, you can see it from space



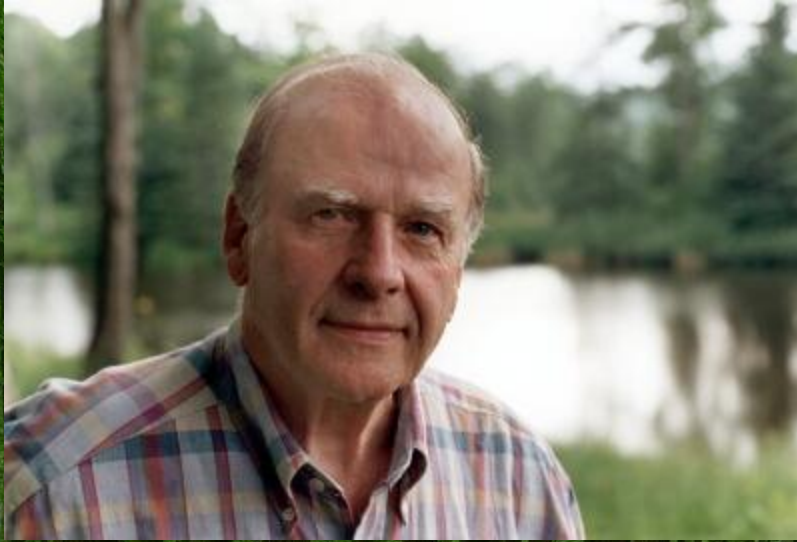
Grass Roots Movement Explodes

- Nixon's Environmental Message to Congress
- Supported political regulation of the environment





Earth Day



- First Earth Day
- 1970
- Gaylord Nelson
 - Wisconsin Governor and Senator
- 1st to teach on the environment
- 10am-2pm, free



2017 **EARTH DAY DENVER**
APRIL 21 AT SKYLINE PARK

“Environmental Decade” Legislation

- Wilderness Act: 1964
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act: 1968
- National Environmental Policy Act: 1969
- The Clean Air Act: 1972
- The Clean Water Act: 1972

Legislation

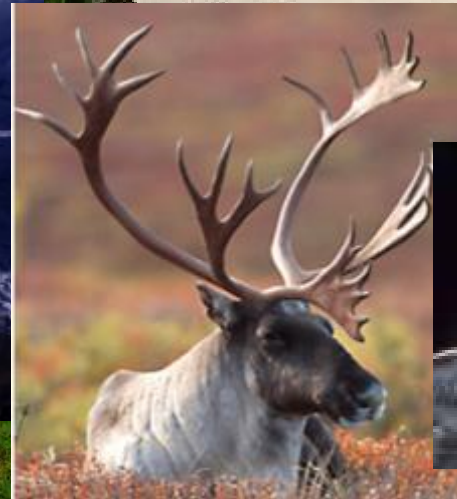


- Pesticide Control Act: 1972
- Endangered Species Act: 1973
- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act: 1976
- Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act: 1977



Legislation

- Alaska Lands Bill: 1980
- Superfund: 1980



Institutionalizing Environmental Protection

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): established Dec. 2, 1970
 - federal
- Colorado Department of Natural Resources (DNR): state



