

Adam Zack

From: Linda Ann Kuller
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2017 11:25 AM
To: Adam Zack
Subject: FW: A Survey Inclusion Suggestion

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From: Mike Cohen [mailto:nature@interisland.net]
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2017 11:00 AM
To: Linda Ann Kuller <lindak@sanjuanco.com>
Subject: A Survey Inclusion Suggestion

Dear Comprehensive Plan Administrators,

What is described below has increased by 30 percent since it was written and when I introduced its antidote to the Islands in 1991. No interest in it has developed. I think omitting this information is misleading and it should be considered and included as I state on my Survey reply. Its absence promotes a false sense of security that promotes the real problem rather than solves it. See www.ProjectNatureConnect.com for a remedy we can use to Think Globally and Act **Globally** to turn things around. Locally has proven not to be enough to reverse Earth Misery and its discontents that include the dilemma of how the way we learn to relate has increased by 50 percent climate change, species extinction, mental illness, resource depletion, obesity, violence and corruption.

April 22, 2000 (to update, add 30 percent)

EARTH DAY PLUS THIRTY, AS SEEN BY THE EARTH

By **Donella Meadows**, adjunct professor at Dartmouth College. *Used with permission*

If, in the thirty Earth Day celebrations we have held since 1970, (now forty-eight in 2018), the human population and economy have become any more respectful of the Earth, the Earth hasn't noticed.

The planet is not impressed by fancy speeches. Leonardo DiCaprio interviewing Bill Clinton about global warming is not an Earth-shaking event. The Earth has no way of registering good intentions or future inventions or high hopes. It doesn't even pay attention to dollars, which are, from a planet's point of view, just a charming human invention. Planets measure only physical things-energy and materials and their flows into and out of the changing populations of living creatures.

What the life of Earth sees is that on the first Earth Day in 1970 there were 3.7 billion of those hyperactive critters called humans, and now there are over 6 billion. *(2013 update, 7.046 billion)*

Back in 1970 those humans drew from the Earth's crust 46 million barrels of oil every day-now they draw 78 million.

Natural gas extraction has nearly tripled in thirty years, from 34 trillion cubic feet per year to 95 trillion. We mined 2.2 billion metric tons in 1970; this year we'll mine about 3.8 billion. The planet feels this fossil fuel use in many ways, as the fuels are extracted (and spilled) and shipped (and spilled) and refined (generating toxics) and burned into numerous pollutants, including carbon dioxide, which traps outgoing energy and warms things up. Despite global conferences and brave promises, what the Earth notices is that human carbon emissions have increased from 3.9 million metric tons in 1970 to an estimated 6.4 million this year, 2000, and no end to the increase is in sight.

You would think that an unimaginably huge thing like a planet would not notice the one degree (Fahrenheit) warming it has experienced since 1970. But on the scale of a whole planet, one degree is a big deal, especially since it

is not spread evenly. The poles have warmed more than the equator, the winters more than the summers, the nights more than the days. That means that temperature DIFFERENCES from one place to another have been changing much more than the average temperature has changed. Temperature differences are what make winds blow, rains rain, ocean currents flow.

All creatures, including humans, are exquisitely attuned to the weather. All creatures, including us, are noticing weather weirdness and trying to adjust, by moving, by fruiting earlier or migrating later, by building up whatever protections are possible against flood and drought. The Earth is reacting to weather changes too, shrinking glaciers, splitting off nation-sized chunks of Antarctic ice sheet, enhancing the cycles we call El Nino and La Nina.

"Earth Day, Shmearth Day," the planet must be thinking as its fever mounts. "Are you folks ever going to take me seriously?"

Since the first Earth Day our global vehicle population has swelled from 246 to 730 million. Air traffic has gone up by a factor of six. The rate at which we grind up trees to make paper has doubled (to 200 million metric tons per year). We coax from the soil, with the help of strange chemicals, 2.25 times as much wheat, 2.5 times as much corn, 2.2 times as much rice, almost twice as much sugar, almost four times as many soybeans as we did thirty years ago. We pull from the oceans almost twice as much fish.

With the fish we can see clearly how the planet behaves, when we push it too far. It does not feel sorry for us; it just follows its own rules. Fish become harder and harder to find. If they are caught before they're old enough to reproduce, if their nursery habitat is destroyed, if we scoop up not only the cod, but the capelin upon which the cod feeds, the fish may never come back. The Earth does not care that we didn't mean it, that we promise not to do it again, that we make nice gestures every Earth Day.

We have among us die-hard optimists who will berate me for not reporting the good news since the first Earth Day. There is plenty of it, but it is mostly measured in human terms, not Earth terms. Average human life expectancy

has risen since 1970 from 58 to 66 years. Gross world product has more than doubled, from 16 to 39 trillion dollars. Recycling has increased, but so has trash generation, so the Earth receives more garbage than ever before. Wind and solar power generation have soared, but so have coal-fired, gas-fired and nuclear generation.

In human terms there has been breathtaking progress. In 1970 there weren't any cell phones or video players. There was no Internet; there were no dot-coms. Nor was anyone infected with AIDS, of course, nor did we have to worry about genetic engineering. Global spending on advertising was only one-third of what it is now (in inflation-corrected dollars). Third-World debt was one-eighth of what it is now.

Whether you call any of that progress, it is all beneath the notice of the Earth. What the Earth sees is that its species are vanishing at a rate it hasn't seen in 65 million years. That 40 percent of its agricultural soils have been degraded. That half its forests have disappeared and half its wetlands have been filled or drained, and that despite Earth Day, all these trends are accelerating.

All these increases come with devastating human, resource and monetary costs, along with misery factors and disorders that keep growing.

Earth Day is beginning to remind me of Mother's Day, a commercial occasion upon which you buy flowers for the person who, every other day of the year, cleans up after you. Guilt-assuaging. Trivializing. Actually dangerous. All mothers have their breaking points. Mother Earth does not soften hers with patience or forgiveness or sentimentality.

The wholeness of the life of our earth mother dances in and around us. What we do to it, we do to our personal and collective body, mind and spirit.

Ten years later

The Global Footprint Network June, 2011-2015

You really do have to wonder whether a few years from now we'll look back at the first decade of the 21st century — when food prices spiked, energy prices soared, world population surged, tornados plowed through cities, floods and droughts set records, populations were displaced and governments were threatened by the confluence of it all — and ask ourselves: What were we thinking? How did we not panic when the evidence was so obvious that we'd crossed some growth/climate/natural resource/population redlines all at once?

We are currently growing at a rate that is using up the Earth's resources far faster than they can be sustainably replenished, so we are eating into the future. Right now, global growth is using about 1.5 Earths. Having only one planet makes this a rather significant problem. When you are surrounded by something so big that requires you to change everything about the way you think and see the world, then denial is the natural response. But the longer we wait, the bigger the response required and the greater the misery produced.

If you cut down more trees than you grow, you run out of trees. If you put additional nitrogen into a water system, you change the type and quantity of life that water can support. If you thicken the Earth's CO₂ blanket, the Earth gets warmer. If you do all these and many more nature-destructive things at once, you change the way the whole system of planet Earth behaves, in and around us, while producing the misery of destructive social, economic, and life support relationships.

In 1975, Earth Overshoot Day—the approximate date our resource consumption for a given year exceeds the planet's ability to replenish itself—was December 30.

In 1993, Earth Overshoot Day—was October 21

In 2003, Overshoot Day was on September 22.

August 2 was Earth Overshoot Day 2017, marking the date when humanity exhausts nature's budget for the year. We are now operating in overdraft on

borrowed time. Given current trends in our wanting and consumption, one thing is clear: Earth Overshoot Day arrives a few days earlier each year.

Revolutionary Wisdom identifies the point source of this critical dilemma and offers a practical, whole life art and science remedy for it from a maverick genius. Our socialization omits this organic antidote because it is inconvenient to our ever-wanting, never-satisfied, excessive conquest and exploitation of nature for profit. Instead we are trained and paid as perpetrators of this outrage that can be seen as the evisceration of Planet Earth and ourselves by our nature-disconnected stories.

Happily, the art and science of Organic Psychology identifies the source of, and remedy for, our runaway personal, social and environmental deterioration. The process itself is the key unifying tool needed to achieve this goal. Many dysfunctions and disorders that accompany our great technological achievements indicate that, unlike the life of nature, we reward ourselves to produce and suffer a monumental short circuit in the way Industrial Society works. As we addict to our increasingly advanced artificial lifestyles we increase our loss of Nature's self-correcting ways. Our artifacts can't replace the latter's wisdom and healthy satisfactions so we excessively want and artificially satisfy ourselves further reducing our wellness. With respect to the life of Nature and its optimums of harmonic balance, purity and beauty, there is no substitute for the real thing. Learning how to consciously tap into and enjoy the 54 sense, organic intelligence of our planet's life in natural areas improves our relationships. *Revolutionary Wisdom* enables each of us at any moment to do this, to stop our madness by consciously blending our lives with the life of Nature/Earth and each other as fiduciaries and reject those who withhold this remedy from us. Organic Psychology welcomes and empowers most people to integrate its methods and materials.

For Peace on Earth through Peace With Earth,

Michael J. Cohen, Ph.D.

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Educating Counseling and Healing With Nature

- Master sensory methods and materials that help us strengthen the dance of nature's peace and sanity, in and around us.
- Establish a socially and environmentally responsible relationship-building and stress-reduction livelihood or hobby.
- Benefit from grant funded, online, Ph.D., M.S., and B.A. degrees/courses/training.

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