HP 302 Pre-Course Survey

Please answer all of the following questions the best that you can in the order that they are presented. You should not go back and check your answers. This test is strictly diagnostic and will be used for research purposes only. You will be identified by a coding system that protects your anonymity, and we will not inspect this survey until after grades have been assigned at the end of the semester.

Birth-date and middle initial ________________
Sex ________________
Major ________________
Intended Career ________________
Clarkson GPA ________________
Home region (county if New York, state or province if US/Canada, or nation if elsewhere) ________________

Have you visited Adirondack Park? Yes No
Have you visited Algonquin Park? Yes No

Circle the best answer (True or False)

1) The Adirondack Park is a US National Park. True False
2) There is a breeding population of wolves in the Adirondacks. True False
3) Around half of the Adirondack Park is privately owned. True False
4) The St. Lawrence River is in good environmental condition. True False
5) There is more forest in northern New York today than 100 years ago. True False
6) Algonquin Park and Adirondack Park are biologically similar. True False
7) In general, government agencies have no legal right to regulate the use of private land in the US. True False
8) When an agency commissions an expert panel to produce a ‘white-paper’ on a controversial issue, the intended purpose of the paper is to persuade readers that the sponsoring agencies’ opinion on the issue is the correct one. True False
9) Economists have not yet developed systematic and sophisticated methods for placing dollar values on natural amenities such as wild areas. True False
10) In the U.S., less than 20% of the farms produce over 80% of total agricultural production. True False
11) The most planted types of transgenic crops are insect resistant crops. True False
12) Pesticide use on farms has not been documented to have adverse off-farm impacts on wild plants and animals or natural areas. True False
13) The two primary nutrients of concern in regards to the relationships between environmental quality and livestock production are nitrogen and potassium.  True  False

14) The goal of ecosystem management is to focus primarily on the science of sustainable resource use by removing political issues and politics from consideration as much as possible.  True  False

15) A conservation easement is a tax provision that enables land to be protected from certain uses and for certain uses in perpetuity (forever).  True  False

16) Ecotourism is a sustainable method for gaining economic benefit from natural areas without the risk of over extraction that is common to other types of uses.  True  False

17) In the U.S., public lands have been reserved almost exclusively for public uses.  True  False

18) The livestock industry of most economic importance to St. Lawrence County is the beef industry.  True  False

Answer each of the following as completely as you can in one sentence.

1) Why might someone wish to connect two parks via a habitat corridor?

2) Why is a species with a small population size at significantly greater risk of extinction than a species with a large population?

3) What are the main causes of biodiversity loss (extinction of species)?
4) When seeking to preserve biodiversity, why is it more desirable to have a large park than a small park?

5) Why would conservation biologists be concerned about the disappearance of top predators (like wolves, cougars, or lynx) from a biodiversity park?

6) What (if any) value is there in preserving biodiversity?

7) What type of organization is The Nature Conservancy (public or private; for-profit or non-profit) and what is its mission?

8) What are some of the concerns associated with the implementation of ecotourism schemes for protecting natural areas?

9) In general, what is the major change associated with the U.S. livestock industry over the past couple decades, and what has this meant regarding control of agricultural pollution?

10) In regards to private property and public (governmental) policy, what are “givings” and “takings”?
Circle the answer that best corresponds to your honest opinion.

1) By participating in this course, I will develop knowledge and skills that will be useful to me in the future.
   Strongly Disagree    Disagree    Neutral    Agree    Strongly Agree

2) I am interested in the content of this course.
   Strongly Disagree    Disagree    Neutral    Agree    Strongly Agree

3) My knowledge of issues relating to the Adirondack Park is
   Very Poor    Poor    Fair    Good    Very Good

4) My knowledge of environmental issues of concern to the St. Lawrence Valley is
   Very Poor    Poor    Fair    Good    Very Good

5) My knowledge of agricultural issues of concern to the St. Lawrence Valley is
   Very Poor    Poor    Fair    Good    Very Good

6) My knowledge of the science of conservation biology is
   Very Poor    Poor    Fair    Good    Very Good

7) My knowledge of the recent developments in agricultural science and technology is
   Very Poor    Poor    Fair    Good    Very Good

8) I am a member of an environmental or conservation organization
   Yes    No

9) I have a good understanding of the debates surrounding the private use of public lands
   Strongly Disagree    Disagree    Neutral    Agree    Strongly Agree

10) I have a good understanding of how and why local, state and federal governments acquire and manage lands for conservation purposes.
    Strongly Disagree    Disagree    Neutral    Agree    Strongly Agree

11) I am concerned about environmental degradation and biodiversity loss.
    Strongly Disagree    Disagree    Neutral    Agree    Strongly Agree
12) Private land use should not be regulated, even if it means that the local environment may become degraded or some biodiversity may be lost.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
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13) More land needs to be managed for conservation purposes in Northern New York.

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<tr>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
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14) More land needs to be managed for conservation purposes in the United States.

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<tr>
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15) The Adirondack Park Agency and the Department of Environmental Conservation are unfair to residents in the Adirondack Park.

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<tr>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
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<th>Agree</th>
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16) The Adirondack Park Agency and the Department of Environmental Conservation do a good job of preserving the environmental quality of the Adirondack Park.

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<tr>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
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<th>Agree</th>
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17) The Adirondack Park provides a good model for how to manage a conservation area that incorporates both public and private lands.

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<tr>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
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<th>Neutral</th>
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18) I am generally in favor of the use of transgenic crops in agricultural production.

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<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
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19) I support organic agriculture.

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<th>Neutral</th>
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20) The federal government should use public funds to pay farmers to employ environmentally beneficial management practices and technologies.

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