

AOS/IES 171

Writing Assignment #3

Biodiversity

10 points

First draft due Thursday, April 9, 2009

Second draft due Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Read the following three articles from Biodiversity, 1988, Edited by E. O. Wilson, National Academy Press, Washington D.C.

a) "The Current State of Biological Diversity", E. O. Wilson, pp. 3-18

b) "A Christian View of Biodiversity", J. B. Cobb, Jr., pp. 481-485

c) "The Earth as a Living Organism", J. E. Lovelock, pp. 486-489

(These are on the course website in pdf format.)

Write a 4-5 page response paper, including the following components:

- 1) a title appropriate to your theme,
- 2) an opening paragraph which clearly outlines where you intend to go with your paper,
- 3) brief descriptions of each of the three authors' main ideas,
- 4) your opinion about the relevance and status of biodiversity,
- 5) the relative merits of Cobb's and Lovelock's views.