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Succession verse Restoration

Assessment 2-research

Date:

Topic: Ecological Restoration

Works Cited: Light, Andrew. "Ecological Restoration." *Encyclopedia of Environmental Ethics and Philosophy*. Ed. J. Callicott and Robert Frodeman. Vol. 1. Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA, 2009. 236-240. *Global Reference on the Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources*. Web. 28 Aug. 2018.

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Assessment

Ecological restoration is the way that humans recreate environments affected by human interference or natural disaster. It is a part of the environmental science field, and the main focus is to make damaged environments successful by removing exotic species that could threaten the overall success of the ecosystem. It is controversial because many believe that ecosystems will go through ecological succession without the human interaction; professionals such as Elliot and

Katz theories explain how a recreation is not an original, and it gives people no logical reason to treat the environment with respect as it can also be made again (Light).

Ecosystems should be preserved especially if they are destroyed, but they should also be able to thrive without human involvement. This creates a debt among environmental engineers and those alike as there is a need to be a line drawn on where interference should and should not be (Light). It is interesting however that people who try to fix the ecosystem end up hurting them by removing the parts that allow it to thrive. Most environmental engineers are focused on formulating new technology to make changes for the future. If engineers continue this work moving forward then environments would not have to be restored, they would already be able to thrive even when put under bad circumstances. This relates to one reason I do not want to become environmental, because even if you think you are helping an ecosystem, you could ultimately be hurting it by killing or taking away things that allow it to thrive.

It is interesting how ecosystems that were once too damaged to thrive can now be restored and made new, but there is no long lasting impact because humans are still going to continue to pollute, emit greenhouse gases, and produce a large amount of sewage and waste. So instead of things being recreated, new innovations needed to be produced in order to find solutions to the initial problems facing ecosystems, but this is not the focus of most at this point. Rather than focusing on problems that could save people in the future, engineers are focused on reformulating the past, and that does not have long lasting outcomes. Instead, innovations such as cars and other forms of transportation that decrease use of gas, factories that emit less carbon dioxide by-product, and creating healthier sewer systems that can recycle water or use rainwater can limit waste polluting rivers and oceans. Ecological restoration would not be as controversial

if it did not ultimately end up damaging the environment by removing native species (Light). If the goal is to fix damage then a focus should be put on strengthening the environment. I do agree with Elliot and Katz in their thinking and that with the research scientist have the should be able to see what they are doing is causing major damage.

Technology is improving at such high rates that ecosystems should no longer have to fail on the grounds of environmental problems created by humans. Environmental engineers can create products that can remove dangerous products an ecosystem that is facing challenges (Light). I believe that having more efficient trash system where products can be easily biodegradable can limit trash in oceans and rivers allowing native plant and animal life to survive. Combining ecological restoration with engineering can allow for more preservation and equality among regions (Light). In the future the goal is to create a better place for people to live, people who don't have clean water should be given access to technology such as water purifiers so they can be successful, as well as allowing the environment to stay in tact. Are, where the ecosystem is not successful, it can be created into thriving environments, but it is not, however, restoration and more about creation of technology to limit harm. It is important to understand that ecosystems can thrive with or without human interference (Light). Engineers can improve upon their knowledge of an ecosystem making technology that have a long-lasting impact.

Overall, environmental engineers conduct project for ecological restoration to help damaged environments, but the goal should be to have so much technology for sustainability and research done about the ecosystem that environments do not get damaged from human interference in the first place so engineers can work on creating innovations that have long-lasting effects on the world.