References for our Podcast project on Knowing Nature Through Technology

By Elizabeth Gill and Andrea Jacobs

Works Consulted for “Technology” Chapter of Podcast Episode

1.) General:


We will use this reference for information on our overall topic of technology in nature. It talks about trivial technologies such as TV remotes and shoes impact our relationships with the environment around us. This reference will also help us because it includes many specific case studies on different trivial technologies and connects them to our relationship with the world as a whole and what this says about society.

2.) History:


This source gives us information on the relationships between nature and technology over time. This source emphasizes the convergence of all three of these ideas: nature, technology, and history. He also talks of nature being a part of society (and technology), which is an important issue when discussing this relationship because some people agree with him while others do not. We can then compare the relationship between nature and technology, today, to the relationships in the past. This will help to give our listeners, and us, a historical perspective on the issue.

3.) Roads:


doi:10.1111/j.1523-1739.2010.01635.x

This source will help us to convey the message of how technology has influenced nature. The type of technology in this article is transportation, specifically roads. The nature in this article is the birds. The effects of roads on birds include habitat loss and fragmentation, vehicle-caused deaths, pollution, and decreases in population density and richness. Technology is oftentimes associated with negative effects on the environment, an important point in the complicated relationship between nature and technology. Birds in this article can be connected to the larger picture, to the rest of the environment including animal and plant life. Roads can be a symbol for technology and even society as a whole.
4.) Solar Energy:


This article is about how solar energy is produced now and ways to enhance the harnessing of solar energy to create solar fuel. It also talks about how we are learning many of these things about solar fuel production from nature’s own processes such as photosynthesis. This shows how technology is being developed to make society have less of an impact on nature. Also how nature is a source from which to learn and to develop new technologies from. The relationship between nature and technology, therefore, goes both ways. This is a complicated aspect in the relationship between nature and technology.

5.) Construction:


This article in general is about nature and urban planning/construction. It exhibits the European reaction to suburban sprawl. They have adopted the idea of green cities, consolidation. The very detailed urban plan for Stockholm is analyzed in this article and both positives and negatives are pointed out. Urban sprawl is a problem created by technology, through transportation and construction, and now we have to develop more technology to fix the problem. The new technology in this case, is the idea of a green city. This shows the relationship between nature and technology in the way that technology is the new kinds of places we live and how we plan where to live, and how this all effects the environment.

6.) Wind Energy:


This source will allow us to talk about the technologies that go into creating and maintaining wind energy. As an alternative form of energy, we are interested in discussing the benefits of wind energy and other types of energy. This source focuses on analyzing this technology, how it will advance our lives, what it does to nature, and the strategies for making it as efficient as possible.
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7.) Tidal Energy:
Seattle, WA: Workshop Steering Committee of University of Washington.

This source consists of the efforts of many researchers for the usage of tidal energy and how it affects the environment and ecology. Technology, as we discussed in class, generally controls nature and can sometimes affect it in negative ways. This source will allow us to uncover the advantages and disadvantages of this type of alternative energy.

8.) Electronic waste:

As we discuss many positives of technology helping to improve living situations in nature, we also want to share the other side and explain the negatives. This source contains information on harmful aspects technology has on humans and nature. It shows the power of nature as well as the power of technology to harm it. It discusses electronic waste, pollution, and many other topics we’ve discussed in class.

9.) Energy in general:

This source relates technologies that develop different kinds of energy and how they can be used in order to not harm wildlife. This source pertains to North America which our listeners will be able to relate to. It gets into the specifics of the development of energy, its effect on ecosystems, our human footprint, the way humans try to control nature, and many other themes of technology we connected in class.

10.) Transportation:
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We wanted to focus on the discussion of improving certain types of technologies that control nature. This source discusses cycles of transportation, last effects of transportation, and harmful emissions from certain transportation. This source will allow us to be familiar with ways to fix the controlling aspects of transportation and if it makes to world smaller or larger.

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References From class:

1.) Time:


This source was used in class to talk about how time, a non-physical technology, controls nature. We wanted to relate to points mentioned in class regarding how time controls nature and if it makes us more connected or disconnected with each other.

2.) Fracking:


This article discusses the technologies used for fracking and the negative aspects as well as certain positive ones as seen from certain perspectives. Our podcast aims to have many sides to how technology affects nature, so this source we used for class will help to bring different views into our podcast to create a well-rounded presentation.
3.) Framing of Landscape


This article discusses technologies that put landscape in a box. These technologies include cameras, television, widows, cars, trains, and planes. With these new technologies nature is seen differently then it used to be seen. It is seen more as a sort of blur, stuck in time, or distant/removed. This is an important part of the technological – nature relationship.