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**Cover:** White pelicans and other waterfowl and shorebirds gather at a wetland on a Nelson County, North Dakota dairy/wheat farm (see page 251). Kirk Walter photo courtesy of *Successful Farming* magazine.

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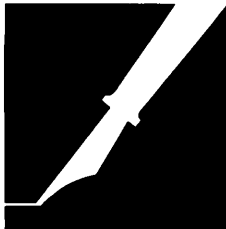
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## PEN POINTS

### Win-win proposition

I share Kevin Kosowski's view on the myths of land use planning ["Land Use Planning Myths, March-April 1991, page 85]. As a member of county, city, and village planning commissions, I have heard about every argument for someone wanting to do something with their property. Most of the arguments were economical in nature.

Unfortunately, land use planning is not couched often enough in terms of growth management—that is what it really is. Perhaps that term is not used because land use planning is not just growth control, but also controlling use of a particular parcel through appropriate ordinances. Planning is only the first step.

Wisconsin may be one of the most highly land and water regulated states in the country, but as a resident I would not have it any other way. As a result, we do not have people building in a floodplain, houses are not built on soils where septic tanks would fail, and city streets match up with abutting township roads (and they even have the same names most of the time).

Perhaps most importantly, it reduces the conflict that inevitably occurs when the new rural homeowner objects to the smell of manure being spread or the aerial application of pesticide. Then those rural landowners who object to land use planning climb on the right-to-farm bandwagon.

In the long-run, land use planning is a win-win situation for society. It is the practice of the art of wise resource use.

William J. Horvath  
Stevens Point, Wisconsin

Kevin Kasowski's viewpoint, "Land Use Planning Myths," in the March-April issue, breezily glosses over some very legitimate concerns of landowners about land use planning.

He maintains that all land use regulation is legal and does not constitute a "taking." He correctly asserts that a taking requires the denial of "reasonable economic uses." What he fails to point out is that there is a point where regulation becomes

unreasonable and compensation is required. The Supreme Court has affirmed this in *Nolan v. California Coastal Commission* and the U.S. Claims Court has also in *Loveladies Harbor Inc. v. U.S.* and *Florida Rock Industries v. U.S.*

Further, I fail to see the connection between land use assessment and whether land use regulation constitutes a taking. Land use assessment is simply based on a recognition that agricultural land requires minimal government services and should be taxed accordingly. It is the homeowner who actually receives a subsidy because residential property tax seldom generates enough revenue to pay for the services these homes demand. Even with land use assessment, localities make money on agricultural land while losing money on residential property.

While I am not intimately familiar with Oregon's land use planning, I believe it is a mistake to defend all planning efforts based on Oregon's experience. To do so you would have to extrapolate that all other efforts would involve similar problems and resources.

However, I can point to land use planning travesties like the experience of New Jersey cranberry farmers in the Pinelands. The Pinelands represent a flagrant violation of property rights, defensible only on the premise that not all economic use has been denied. Despite this assertion from planners in their ivory towers, there are real people living painful economic realities in the Pinelands today because they have had their economic security destroyed by planners.

As far as faith in the state government to succeed where local governments have "failed," this has yet to be seen. Repeatedly, we have seen where big government provides no solution but instead mazes of regulation, ever-expanding bureaucracy and higher taxes. We must hold dear the right to self-determination and keep any control as local as possible. Regulators must be accountable to the people they regulate. Insulating them in higher levels of government, far from the voting booth, is a recipe for disaster.

Last, Kasowski's contention that land

use planning enjoys widespread democratic support is almost laughable. Of course! When farmers constitute less than 2 percent of the population, it is likely the other 98 percent will be willing to tell them what to do with their land. It is easy for the general public to ask that we forego our economic choices to provide them with vistas and parks without borders, without costing them a dime!

The analogy to Eastern Europe is indeed appropriate. The federal government already owns 40 percent of the land in this country. That is a higher percentage than any other capitalistic country. We need to remember and safeguard the importance of private property and the commensurate rights associated therewith. The right to own property and to use it for its highest and best economic good is one of the fundamental cornerstones of our country and is responsible for giving us a standard of living that is the envy of the world.

Good planning is desirable. But there are no pat answers, and the process is fraught with difficulty.

John Johnson  
Virginia Farm Bureau  
Federation  
Richmond, Virginia

In the March-April issue, Mr. Kasowski, in his "Viewpoint—Land Use Planning Myths," closes the article saying that planning opponents are "misguided." However, he does welcome public debate so long as it is based on fact!

His stated "myths" are really the fears professed by those affected by land use planning, not excuses. His "facts" served to further his opinion only. There are also many corporate executives who oppose land use planning; limited rural "exception" areas for development become costly as demand increases; and there are marginal farmland soils and woodland areas not suitable for agriculture but highly desired by weekend "urban sightseers" to be left undeveloped.

The reality of having a positive "quality of life" environment is growth, and there would not be urban

fringe development if there was not a demand for it. Too often those who push for controlled growth planning have "no growth" as their hidden agenda. If you already live there, you are an "environmentalist." If you want to live there, then you're a "developer."

In Wisconsin, many local towns and counties have been successful in protecting farmland and sensitive areas in their land use plans in the 1980s and 1990s—but they try to pursue a rational, flexible, and constantly improving adaptation. Mr. Kasowski blames local officials in the 1950s and 1960s for poor land use decisions; therefore, he reasons, it's time to restrict this local control.

Land use planning can work to the benefit of all, provided those who will bear the costs and implications of such planning are included in the debate and not written off as "misguided." It becomes a matter of democracy, proper land use, *and* fairness.

Jeffrey L. Hammes  
Wisconsin Onsite Waste  
Disposal Association  
Madison, Wisconsin

### "Grinding" water

Hooray for the *Journal*! The current usage (ground water) ["Groundwater," *JSWC*, March-April 1991, page 84] stems from some (probably arbitrary) decision by the U.S. Geological Survey. I had raised the question several times within the U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Geological Survey. The answer was a version of "There's no reason for it—it's just our policy" from USGS, and USDA tended to concur.

We tend to become very narrow in our jargon, forgetting that the public has a stake in this too. Groundwater (as a noun) makes more sense than ground water. Did you hear that USDA received an inquiry for plans for a water grinder—for producing ground water?

It could be argued that there are really only two conditions for water—*groundwater* is that which you cannot see (unless, of course, you look down a

well) and *water* is that which you can see. There really is little reason for the specification of "surface water," except as a part of our technical jargon.

Kudos to the *Journal* and its staff!  
Keep up the good work!

Fred Swader  
Honolulu, Hawaii

### Forestry misused

I was greatly disturbed by the commentary, "Toward Sustainable Forestry Worldwide" by Sandra Postel and John C. Ryan [*JSWC*, March-April 1991, pages 119-222]. The problem is not the intent of the commentary, it is the failure of the authors to use the correct words. "Cut and run" is not forestry, nor is the "rapid mining" of stands.

By definition, "forestry" is "the science of developing, caring for, or cultivating forests; the management of growing timber" (*Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary*). Similar definitions can be found in various glossaries and other dictionaries. Such misuse leads to the degradation of the definition. We have butchered enough words in the English language; let's try to keep a few definitions intact.

It is very discouraging to see people who present themselves as experts on environmental issues be so loose in the usage of the language. If their knowledge of forestry is so poor that they do not know the definition of the word, it immediately raises a question about the entire presentation. It is not uncommon to see the terms "forestry" and "forester" misused by "environmental zealots" to arouse emotions or out of ignorance, but I do expect better from the vice-president

for research of The Worldwatch Institute that I support.

John C. Barber  
Warsaw, Virginia

I appreciate your defense of the term "forestry" as being applicable only to wise and caring management of forests. However, given the International Tropical Timber Organizations' finding that less than one percent of tropical forests are being managed on a sustained yield basis, and presumably even less to protect the forests' ecological values, I find it difficult to apply the term so strictly. These forests

often are under the management of "forestry" departments and ministries, presumably staffed by "forestry" personnel, but are not being managed in an environmentally or economically sustainable manner.

The same applies to current practices in old-growth forests in the western U.S. They are rarely being managed for their ecological values, but rather mined for their timber. You may not wish to call the people making these decisions "foresters," but they belong to state forestry agencies, the U.S. Forest Service, and forestry products companies—and no doubt call themselves foresters. They decide how much loggers will cut and where and what management rules will be enforced in the process.

What foresters are doing to the world's remaining natural forests—replacing centuries-old ecosystems with plantations or otherwise simplified ecosystems—can accurately be described as mining of a nonrenewable resource. That foresters consider this forestry does reflect a problem of definition.

The commentary in the *JSWC* is based on the last section of a chapter called "Reforming Forestry" in Worldwatch's *State of the World 1991* report. A primary goal of that chapter is to encourage the transition from "the management of growing timber" to "the management of forest ecosystems."

Thank you for taking time to write. We value your thoughts and opinions and appreciate your interest in our work.

Sandra L. Postel  
Worldwatch Institute  
Washington, D.C.

You missed the point of my letter. I believe that it is important to maintain a strict definition of the term "forestry." If you improperly use the term in your influential publications and your writings published elsewhere, then the term loses its meaning and you have no criterion to measure activities on forest land from the perspective of forest management.

If you stay strictly with the definition, then you can point out the failures of organizations and individuals to manage their land. Your criticism of the state, federal, and industrial organizations with regard to old growth is not a question of whether forestry is being practiced, but a question of the management objectives of the landowner. In the case of the national forests, the management direction has been set forth by Congress. You and I

may disagree on the management objectives, but the forester managing the land is carrying out that direction from the Congress elected by the people. Foresters do manage ecosystems and are aware of what they are doing. But the management objectives for the land determine the mix of outputs—wilderness for recreation and biotic preserves as well as water, wildlife habitat, etc.; watersheds for water, etc.; timber producing areas for timber, wildlife, water, recreation, etc.—put your priorities where you wish. Here in the East, where the majority of the forest land is privately owned, each owner sets his/her management objectives, (keep in mind that doing nothing is a management decision) and we see the mix of timber types, stands, age classes, and conditions that provide amazing diversity (that being the latest "buzzword") that demonstrates that land can be highly productive for commodities and still fulfill most of the noncommodity outputs desired by the so-called environmentalist. We who manage forest land are all environmentalists, only the management objectives are different.

Instead of derogating the term "forestry," I suggest that you use the strict definition and call to task those who claim to be practicing forestry but are not.

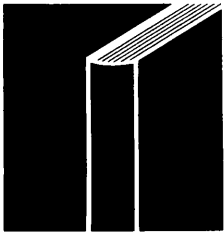
I won't comment on the situations in other countries as I have only traveled in Europe, Turkey, Australia, and New Zealand. While I have known and worked with foresters from tropical countries, I have not been there and thus can't judge whether the decisions to clear the forests are decisions of foresters or politicians. If they are political, don't blame the foresters.

John C. Barber  
Warsaw, Virginia

### A fairy ring?

William S. Brenneman, Jelm, Wyoming, suggested that the circle on nearby Ring Mountain ["Soil compaction," *JSWC*, January-February 1991, page 3] could have been established by Aborigines walking their ponies. An article in the *Journal of Range Management*, "Fairy Rings and Wildlife," [32: 478-479 (1979)] by J. G. Stelfox and D. Stelfox, would suggest that this circle could be a fairy ring. Fairy rings occur on rangelands in many areas of the Great Plains region.

J. F. Dormaar  
Leathbridge, Alberta



## BOOKS, ETC.

### *The Living Landscape: An Ecological Approach to Landscape Planning.*

By Frederick Steiner, 1991, glossary. McGraw-Hill, Inc.; New York, New York 10020. 356 pages.

*The Living Landscape* attempts to advance the state-of-the-art of public planning in the United States and Canada. It does so by promoting the use of ecological information in planning and by describing an ecological planning method, defined by the author as a procedure for studying the biophysical and sociocultural systems of a place to reveal where specific land uses may best be practiced. Terminology aside, urban and regional planners have always attempted to do just that as indicated by any number of historic planning efforts. Steiner, however, introduces terminology that may appear new to many practicing urban and regional planners and, by so doing, gives such planners a different perspective on their work. For this reason, the book is worth reading by all who practice urban and regional planning as well as those involved in planning at the federal and state levels, documenting as it does the approach that should be taken in such planning efforts.

Planners who deal with large geographic areas and with natural resource-related issues will find the author's terminology more comfortable and the concepts which that terminology represents more directly applicable to their work than will urban planners. In this respect, the book stresses the need for city and county planners to learn from long-standing planning efforts of federal land management agencies and for federal planners to understand traditional city and county planning practices.

The book contains an excellent exposition of the proposed ecological planning process, a process admittedly adapted from the conventional urban and regional planning process. Included are some helpful checklists of environmental components and processes to be considered and potential sources of information for use in the planning process. The book places a somewhat heavier emphasis on the means for achieving citizen involvement and community education than it does

on the more technical aspects of the planning process. The book also contains a useful glossary of ecological planning terms and an excellent list of references. The latter should be of interest to every practicing planner.

The author makes extensive use of case studies to illustrate the application of the concepts advanced. This is an interesting and useful approach but a somewhat dangerous one unless the author is intimately acquainted with—or better yet—has actually been involved in the planning efforts that are the subject of the case studies. In this respect, at least one of the case studies—that of the Walworth County, Wisconsin, farmland protection program—contains some inaccuracies and is abbreviated to an extent that it may be misleading to some readers.

The book should make interesting reading to all involved in comprehensive planning—rural and urban, areawide and local, federal, county, and city. If the book had included problems to be worked by students, it could make a good text for courses in planning, particularly for such courses offered in schools of natural resource management. As it stands, the book would make an excellent supplementary text for postgraduate level courses in planning and for use in federal, state, and local agency training programs. A course utilizing the book in this way and bringing into the classroom actual participants in the case studies to discuss those case studies with the students would represent an outstanding educational effort.—KURT W. BAUER, *Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, Waukesha.*

*Carbon Dioxide and Global Change: Earth in Transition.* By Sherwood B. Idso, refs., index, 1989. Institute of Biospheric Research, Tempe, Arizona 85282. 292 pages.

The conclusions of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change are by no means accepted by all scientists working in this field. Sherwood Idso has robustly challenged many of the conclusions on the changes in carbon dioxide content and the effect on global climate. In this book he explains and justifies his arguments

with a meticulous and exhaustive review of the vast literature. He discusses the current models of global climate and their inadequacies and describes recent developments in the empirical approach to climate change. Then he reviews current research directed to detecting "the first intimation of the predicted climate catastrophe."

The second half of the book is biologically oriented, particularly pointing out that the available information on the effects of increased carbon dioxide on plants and animals is quite inadequate for the predictions that are presently being made. The book is a scholarly and reasoned exposition of the author's position, but will also serve as a comprehensive reference. After 134 pages of text, the 2,172 references occupy another 100 pages, and there is a very detailed 32-page index. This certainly will not be the end of the discussion and argument about climatic change, but it is a welcome demonstration of the range of opinion in the scientific community.—N. W. HUDSON, *International Centre for Soil Conservation Information, Bedford, United Kingdom.*

### Agriculture

*Beyond the Large Farm: Ethics and Research Goals for Agriculture.*

Edited by Paul B. Thompson and Bill A. Stout. 312 pp., biblio., tpls., illus., index. 1991. Westview Press, Boulder, Colorado 80301. \$36.95.

*Strategies to Combat Desertification in Mediterranean Europe.* By J. L. Rubio and R. J. Rickson. 422 pp., illus., tpls., refs. 1990. Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Brussels, Luxembourg, Belgium.

*Improving Management of Cross-Cutting Agricultural Issues.* 52 pp., illus., tpls. 1991. U.S. General Accounting Office, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877. First five copies free; additional are \$2.00 each.

### Forests

*Correlation Analysis of Tree Growth, Climate, and Acid Deposition in the Lake States.* By Margaret R. Holdaway. 21 pp., illus., apps., 1990. Res. Paper NC-294. Forest Service, North Central Forest Experiment

- Station, St. Paul, Minn. 55108.  
*100 Years of Federal Forestry*. 200 pp. illus. 1990. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20401. \$12.00.  
*Costs of Sequestering Carbon Through Tree Planting and Forest Management in the United States*. By Robert J. Moulton and Kenneth R. Richards. 47 pp., illus., refs., tpls., appendix. 1990. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20401.  
*The Forest*. By Roger Caras. 178 pp., illus., 1991. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, 68588-0520. \$7.95.

### General

- Americans in Agriculture: 1990 Yearbook of Agriculture*. 200 pp., illus. 1990. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20401. \$10.00.  
*Economics of Conservation*. 219 pp., illus., tpls. Ministry of Agriculture and Marketing, P.O. Box 24, Maseru 100, Lesotho.  
*Keeping Your Company Green*. By Stefan Bechtel. 92 pp. 1990. Rodale Press, Inc., Emmaus, Pennsylvania.  
*A Berlitz Course in Free Market Environmentalism*. Terry L. Anderson and Donald R. Leal. 192 pp., refs., tpls., bibliog., index. Pacific Research Institute for Public Policy, Suite 500, San Francisco, California 94108. \$14.95 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling.  
*Climate Change: The IPCC Response Strategies*. 272 pp., illus., tpls. 1991. Island Press, Washington, D.C. 20009.  
*Meeting the Energy Challenges of the 1990s*. 194 pp., illus. 1991. U.S. General Accounting Office, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877.  
*No Right-Of-Way*. By Peter Lewington. 290 pp., illus., refs., glossary, bibliog., index. Iowa State University Press, Ames 50010. \$28.95 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling.

### Pollution

- Prosperity Without Pollution: The Prevention Strategy for Industry and Consumers*. By Joel S. Hirschhorn and Kirsten U. Oldenburg. 386 pp., refs., index, 1991. Van Nostrand Reinhold, Florence, Ky. 41042. \$19.95.

### Water

- Colorado Non-Point Water Quality Symposium Proceedings*. 200 pp., 1990. Colorado State University, Fort Collins, 80523. \$10.00.  
*Biogeochemistry of Major World Rivers*. By Egon T. Degens, Stephan Kempe, and Jeffrey E. Richey. 356 pp., illus., refs., tpls., index. 1990. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., Somerset, New

- Jersey 08875-1272. \$175.00.  
*Hungary and the International Hydrological Programme*. By Prof. Dr. O. Starosolszky. 325 pp., illus., tpls., refs. 1990. Research Centre for Water Resources (VITUKI), Budapest, Hungary.  
*Wetlands: Losses in the United States, 1780s to 1980s*. By T. E. Dahl. 21 pp., refs., illus., tpls. 1990. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.  
*A River Too Far: The Past and Future of the Arid West*. By Joseph Finkhouse and Marc Crawford. 175 pp., illus., tpls., bibliog. 1991. University of Nevada Press, Reno, 89557. \$14.95.  
*The Living Ocean: Understanding and Protecting Marine Biodiversity*. By Boyce Thorne-Miller and John Catena. 183 pp., refs., glossary, bibliog. 1991. Island Press, Washington, D.C. 20009. \$10.95.

### Remote Sensing

- Applied Remote Sensing for Land and Water Management: Proceedings from a Workshop held in Kwaluseni, Swaziland, April 12-24, 1989*. 70 pp., illus., 1989. Report No. 22. Southern African Development Coordination Conference, Ministry of Agriculture and Marketing, Box 24, Maseru 100, Lesotho.

### Waste Management

- Subsurface Migration of Hazardous Wastes*. By Joseph S. Devinny, Lorne G. Everett, James C. S. Lu, and Robert L. Stollar. 387 pp., illus., refs., tpls., index, 1990. Van Nostrand Reinhold, Florence, Ky. 41042. \$49.95.

### Fish and Wildlife

- Panther!* By Roger A. Caras. 185 pp., 1990. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, 68588-0520. \$7.95.  
*Monarch of Deadman Bay: The Life and Death of a Kodiak Bear*. By Roger A. Caras. 175 pp., 1990. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, 68588-0520. \$7.95.

### Wilderness

- The Future of Our Wild Lands and Parks: Managing America's Enduring Wilderness Resource*. 700 pp., 1990. CD-MI-3922. University of Minnesota, St. Paul, 55108. \$32.50.  
*Yosemite: The Embattled Wilderness*. By Alfred Runte. 271 pp., illus., index, 1990. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, 68588-0520. \$24.95.  
*Wilderness Management (2nd edition)*. By John C. Hendee, George H. Stankey, and Robert C. Lucas. 500 pp., illus., tpls., map, 1990. Fulcrum Publishing, Golden, Colo. 80401.