

Chapter 14 Section 3 Notes

Rural areas should be preserved because they provide ecological services

Farmlands

- it's important to preserve farmland because
 - it provides an important oxygen source for urban areas
 - it moderates the temperature of urban areas
 - it provides crops and fruits to support urban and rural populations
 - it is productive land for growing crops

Rangelands

- Problems on the Range
 - overgrazing – allowing more animals to graze in an area than the area can support; damages rangeland
 - overgrazing demonstrates a poor management of rangeland
 - methods to prevent overgrazing and sustain rangeland
 - limit herd size
 - removing herds and leaving land unused to allow vegetation to recover
 - replanting native vegetation
 - killing invasive plants

Forest Lands – use the largest amount of land in the United States

- Harvesting Trees
 - Timber industry classifies forestlands into 3 categories called
 - virgin forest, native forest, and tree farms
 - Harvesting methods include:
 - selective cutting and clear-cutting
- Deforestation– clearing trees from an area without replacing them; clear-cutting
 - environmental effects of deforestation:
 - reduction in wildlife habitat
 - soil erosion
 - loss of topsoil
 - when forests are not replanted after trees are cut, natural resources decrease
- Reforestation– planting trees to replace those cut down in a forest land

Parks and Preserves – provide recreation for people

Yellowstone – 1st national park in the U.S. – established by Congress in 1870 - located in Wyoming and Montana

- Wilderness– an area protected from exploitation; protected land
 - allowed in a wilderness area
 - fishing gear
 - hiking gear
 - camping gear
 - research
 - not allowed in a wilderness area
 - development
 - jet skis
 - 4-wheelers

conservation corridor – strips of protected land that connect one preserve to another preserve