

# WHAT IS NATURE?

“The idea of nature contains, though often unnoticed, an extraordinary amount of human history.” ~ Raymond Williams

## THE NATURE / HUMAN BINARY

- Are humans part of the natural world?

# THE NATURE / HUMAN BINARY

- If No, what are we?

# THE NATURE / HUMAN BINARY

- If yes, then are cities natural spaces?



# NATURE – A HUMAN CONSTRUCTION?

- Can we recognize nature when we see it?
- How can we understand the natural world if we don't segment it?
- Cultural constructions of nature change what we see.
  - What's the role of science in this?

## THE WILDERNESS ACT OF 1964

- “an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.”
- Powerful tool for conservation
- Establishes the right of the natural world to exist outside of its utility to humans (Leopold!)
- Limitations?
  - Accepts and codifies the nature / human binary
  - Cleaves “reality” into two categories (wild or non-wild).



# REWILDING

- Human Landscapes VS Wild Landscapes
- Processes VS Product
- How should we behave?
  - Leopold (ethics)?
- Examples from text??



## THE APOSTLE ISLANDS

