Conservation Biology – Scientific Collections Discussion

* In addition to individuals having a value to their population, how important might it be to assess the individual’s value to its community and ecosystem (i.e., value as prey, as a symbiont, as decomposing nutrients when dead, etc.)?
* How differently should we consider the practices of killing animals for a research experiment vs. collecting for museum specimens?
* How could we convince non-scientific organizations (e.g., agriculture, corporations clearing land for developments/commercial outlets) that similar protocols must be followed when they are planning to deforest/pollute/etc. an area? Cost-benefit analyses?
* Environmental fascism can be applied to many aspects of research (especially conservation). Is there any extreme situation in which the end-goal (e.g., conservation of some species or community) is more valuable than the individuals of that target group?
* What could Sillett et al. have done to collect warblers, instead of killing, in their experiment? If there was no other way, could they have attempted to answer their question (whether reducing warbler density affects reproduction/behavior) without collecting the warblers?.