Contents

List of Figures	X
List of Tables	XV
List of Boxes	xvi
Acknowledgments	xvii
About the Companion Website	xviii
1 Introduction: The View from a Human-Made Wild	1
What is This Book?	6
The Authors' Points of View	9
Part I Approaches and Perspectives	13
2 Population and Scarcity	15
A Booming China or a Busting One?	16
The Problem of Exponential Growth	17
Population, Development, and Environment Impact	19
The Other Side of the Coin: Population and Innovation	23
Limits to Population: An Effect Rather than a Cause?	24
Thinking with Population	29
3 Markets and Commodities	33
The Bet	34
Managing Environmental Bads: The Coase Theorem	37
Market Failure	39
Market-Based Solutions to Environmental Problems	40
Beyond Market Failure: Gaps between Nature and Economy	45
Thinking with Markets	48

4	Institutions and "The Commons"	5
	Controlling Carbon?	52
	The Prisoner's Dilemma	52
	The Tragedy of the Commons	54
	The Evidence and Logic of Collective Action	50
	Crafting Sustainable Environmental Institutions	58
	Are All Commoners Equal? Does Scale Matter?	62
	Thinking with Institutions	64
5	Environmental Ethics	67
	The Price of Cheap Meat	68
	Improving Nature: From Biblical Tradition to John Locke	70
	Gifford Pinchot vs. John Muir in Yosemite, California	72
	Aldo Leopold and "The Land Ethic"	74
	Liberation for Animals!	76
	CAFOs and Climate Change: Now that You Know, What Should You Do?	78
	Holism and Other Pitfalls	78
	Thinking with Ethics	80
6	Risks and Technology	83
	The Bt Cotton Revolution	84
	Environments as Hazard	8.
	The Problem of Risk Perception	87
	Risk as Culture	90
	Beyond Risk: The Political Economy of Hazards	92
	Thinking with Risk and Technology	9:
7	Political Economy	99
	The Contradictions of COVID-19	100
	Labor, Accumulation, and Crisis	10
	Production of Nature	108
	Global Capitalism and the Ecology of Uneven Development	110
	Social Reproduction and Nature	112
	Environments and Economism	114
	Thinking with Political Economy	114
8	Social Construction of Nature	118
	The Blank Spot on the Map	119
	So You Say It's "Natural?"	120
	Environmental Discourse	124
	The Limits of Constructivism: Science, Relativism,	
	and the Very Material World	129
	Thinking with Construction	132

vii

9 Feminism and the Environment	136
Gender and Environment	138
From Earth as Woman to Ecofeminism	140
Feminist Approaches to Economies and Nature	142
Feminist Approaches to Knowledge and the Environment	146
Thinking with Feminism and the Environment	152
10 Racialized Environments	156
Structural Environmental Racism	158
Environmental Justice	159
Settler Colonialism	163
Whiteness and Nature	169
Thinking with Racialized Environments	170
Part II Objects of Concern	175
11 Carbon Dioxide	177
Stuck in Pittsburgh Traffic	178
A Short History of CO ₂	178
Institutions: Climate Free-Riders and Carbon Cooperation	
Markets: Trading More Gases, Buying Less Carbon	190
Political Economy: Who Killed the Atmosphere?	193
The Carbon Puzzle	196
THE CUITOTH I UZZIC	
12 Trees	200
Chained to a Tree in Berkeley, California	201
A Short History of Trees	201
Population and Markets: The Forest Transition Theory	209
Political Economy: Accumulation and Deforestation	212
Gender, Trees, and Power: Feminist Insights into Forests	214
Ethics, Justice, and Equity: Should Trees Have Standing?	216
The Tree Puzzle	218
13 Wolves	222
Wolves, Be Wary Where You Tread	223
A Short History of Wolves	224
Ethics: Rewilding and Wolves	229
Institutions: Stakeholder Management	232
Feminism: Of Wolves and Masculinity	235
The Wolf Puzzle	238

14 Uranium	242
Promise and Peril in Post-Nuclear Worlds	243
A Short History of Uranium	244
Risk and Hazards: Debating the Fate of High-Level Radioactive Waste	250
Race: Environmental Justice and the Navajo Nation	253
Social Construction: Discourses at Work in Australia	256
The Uranium Puzzle	260
15 Tuna	264
Big Trouble for Big Tuna	265
A Short History of Tuna	265
Markets and Commodities: Eco-Labels to the Rescue?	270
Political Economy: Re-regulating Fishery Economies	273
Ethics: Saving Animals, Conserving Species	276
The Tuna Puzzle	279
16 Lawns	283
How Much Do People Love Lawns?	284
A Short History of Lawns	284
Risk and Chemical Decision-Making	288
Social Construction: Good Lawns Mean Good People	291
Political Economy: The Chemical Tail Wags the Turfgrass Dog	292
The Lawn Puzzle	295
17 Bottled Water	298
A Tale of Two Bottles	299
A Short History of Bottled Water	300
Population: Bottling for Scarcity?	305
Risk and Technology: Health and Safety in a Bottle?	307
Political Economy: Manufacturing Demand on an Enclosed Commons	309
Racialized Environments: The Burden of Bottled Water in the United States	312
The Bottled Water Puzzle	314
18 French Fries	318
Getting Your French Fry Fix	319
A Short History of the Fry	319
Feminist Approaches: The Body Politics of French Fries	325
Political Economy and Racialized Environments: Have it Your Way?	328
Ethics: Protecting or Engineering Potato Heritage?	333
The French Fry Puzzle	337

19	E-Waste	341
	Digital Divides	342
	A Short History of E-Waste	343
	E-Waste and Markets: From Externality to Commodity	348
	The Political Economy of E-Waste	351
	E-Waste and Racialized Environments	355
	The E-Waste Puzzle	359
~		
Gl	ossary	362
Ind	dex	372