

## Everything's Okay Worksheet

Student Name:

Class:

Date:

Welcome to the Everything's Okay conservation group. You're so grateful for America's real conservation pioneers over the past 140 years, because you feel that they did such a super job that now... well, everything's okay. Conservation programs across the country are following the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and wildlife populations are healthier today than they have been in the past hundred years. So there's no valid reason to worry about or spend precious time and money on a new conservation plan. Your motto is, "If it ain't broke dude, don't try and fix it." In fact, your group believes that there are much bigger problems to face in life, such as reducing personal stress (which science shows shortens lifespans) by kicking back to enjoy a stress-free lifestyle of simply watching wildlife. Oh yeah!

The challenge you face is that some other stakeholder groups are "environmental radicals" that want to create an idyllic world for wildlife where nothing suffers or dies and everything lives in perfect harmony. Plus, they and other groups think that humans should invest our limited economic resources to create more biodiversity. Again, if an ecosystem isn't really broken, don't waste time and money trying to make it into something that it's not. We can't fix all the problems or changes in nature. We need to invest more in the future of humans!

On a separate sheet of paper or on your computer, develop your own 21st Century Conservation Pioneers Plan that should include:

- Why the North American Model of Wildlife conservation is already the perfect "conservation plan" that everyone should simply continue to follow.
- How America's 19<sup>th</sup> Century Conservation Pioneers set into motion real and lasting conservation plans that are working just fine for now.
- There's no need to waste time on new conservation plans, especially when the Planet is facing the bigger threats of climate change and over-population of human lifeforms. Consider a conservation plan that addresses those threats.
- People should leave the natural world alone and let it evolve or perish as it's done for millions of years. If we lose some species or ecosystems, that's an ongoing process that's part of the real natural world. That may be hard for some greenies to accept, but it's natural and "everything's okay" that way.