

**Sustainable Estuary Council (SEC)
Angling Ethics Worksheet**

Student Name:

Class:

Date:

Welcome to the Sustainable Estuary Council (SEC). You're a unique breed of ethical thinker because you grasp the concept of sustainable environmental health throughout the entire estuary system. That includes all the abiotic factors such as water, air, sediment, plus the biotic factors such as all the living species... including you as humans. You represent a small community that prospers along one of the prime estuaries feeding the ocean from the Everglades. Fishing is a popular recreational activity that both benefits and sometimes negatively impacts your community and the fragile ecosystem there.

Despite the word "sustainable" in your name that implies ecosystem health, you are also influenced by your personal desires to maintain or increase your personal wealth as it relates to your property values along the water. So there's a hidden meaning in your group's motto, *What's good for the estuary, is good for us.*

To catch "two snook on one hook", so to speak, you want to preserve ecosystem health and your property values. So on a separate sheet of paper or on your computer, develop your own code of angler ethics that address these issues you've identified as real concerns:

- Plastic trash washing up along your property
- Dead fish stinking the shoreline. Some have fishing line in their mouths. You're unsure if they were injured during fishing.
- Manatees with propeller scars on their backs. You suspect anglers carelessly motoring over the creatures.
- Foul language from anglers that your family can hear in your homes along the water. "Holy ____, did you see the size of that _____!"
- Early in the morning and late in the evening when your family is resting, boats go racing by with noisy engines. This impacts the quality of your family's life and

your property values. Those big boat wakes may also impact shoreline ecosystems.

In class Sessions 3 and 4, all of the groups will present their ethical angler plans then have a class debate on solutions to developing an overall set of angling ethics that best serves the combined interests of the various groups and the ecosystem.

Being blessed with such clear sustainable insight comes with a price. Some of the other groups may view you as self-serving or with your heads in the clouds. Don't fret though, you'll be able to support your recommended angling ethics using the following methods when developing your plan and debating in class:

- Begin your research by watching the classroom video again, and decoding some key points on the webpage; <http://intotheoutdoors.org/topics/aquatic-ecosystem-ethics/>
- You're a creative group of thinkers so consider how ethics combined with new technology might help convert ethical problems into solutions. Do online research about your challenges to explore solutions.
- How can you use your personal value system to educate anglers on codes of conduct. Maybe use the old adage, "Treat others as you'd like to be treated".

Now go create an awesome set of ethical angling guidelines to present.