

Is our Future Through the Looking Glass or Down the Rabbit Hole?

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Consider Trends in Environmental Science as a Practice

- Not based on data - authors view
- Not trends in ecosystems.....
- Happy to add / amend
- *Language warning.....*



1. Ongoing marginalisation of the environment

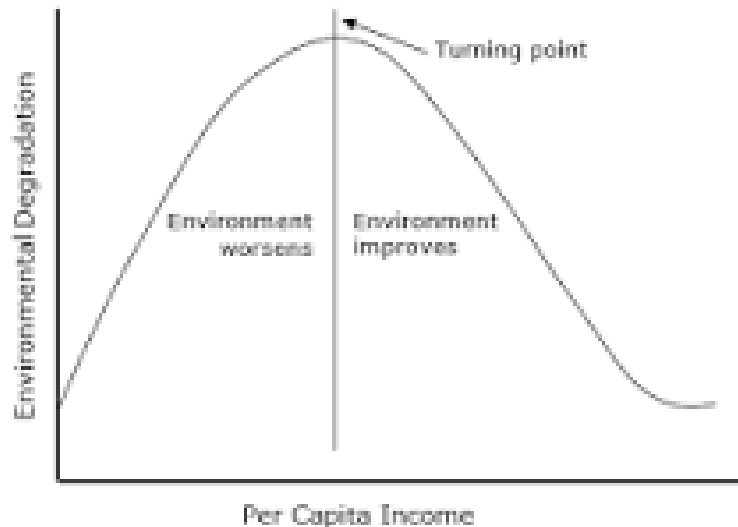
Little increase in the importance of the environmental in the eyes of the public.



Ongoing marginalisation of the environment

Evidenced by:

- Diminishing role and influence of environmental regulators in government
- Weakening and constant change in environmental regulation



2. Climate change

Whilst climate science has triggered advances in ecological understanding change, the climate change agenda has not necessarily helped the biodiversity agenda.....



Climate change

Indicated by:

- Climate change often seen as an environmental problem, until it gets to funding, then it becomes an energy or built environment problem

3. Technology

Low cost technology is enabling more, cheaper, faster data. However, 'virtual' environments replacing the need for 'real' environments.



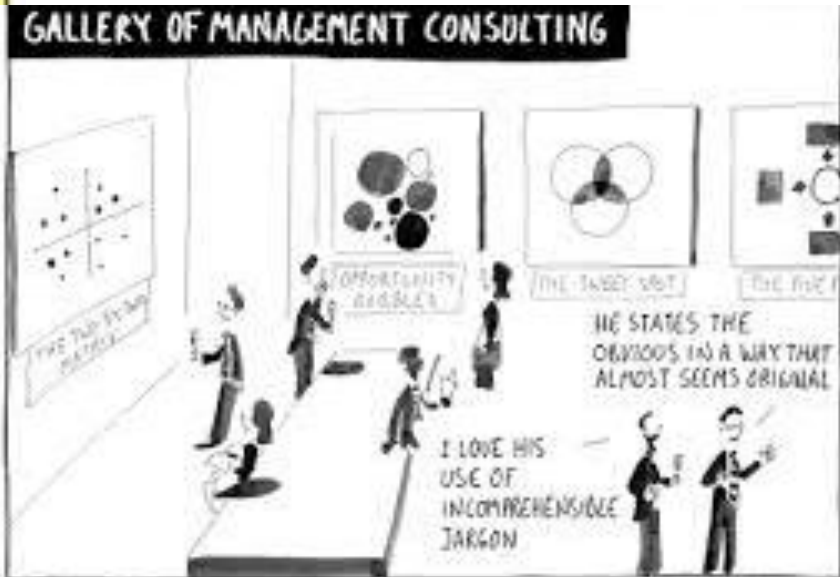
Technology

Indicated by:

- Rapid uptake of technology
- Virtual technology replacing the 'experience' of being in the environment – leading to lower participation rates.

4. Consultants

Environmental management increasingly outsourced to consultants



Consultants

Indicated by:

- Majority of environmental management and impacts studies continue to be undertaken by the private sector consulting industry
- Less than ideal level of interaction between consultants and researchers

5. NGOs

Are becoming a primary research and **delivery mechanism** for environmental management,

In some cases replacing the role of government



NGOs

As evidenced by:

Increasing scale and number of programs delivered by NGOs

6. The role of experts

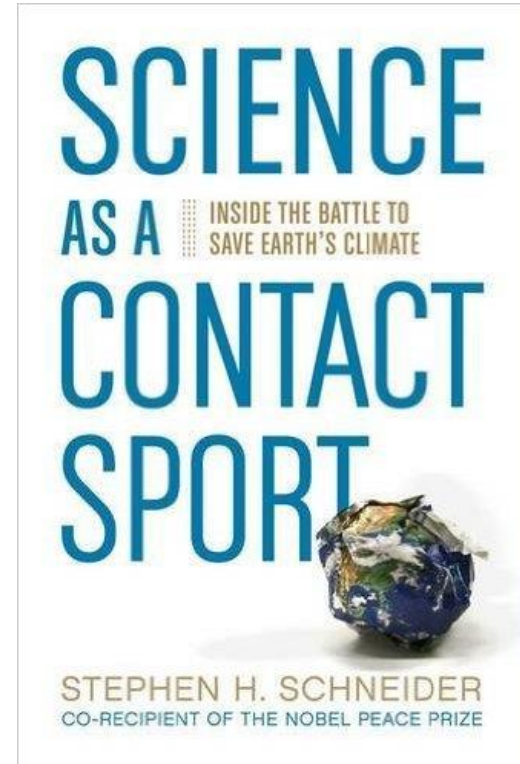
Social media is degrading the role of experts



The role of experts

As evidenced by:

Climate science debate

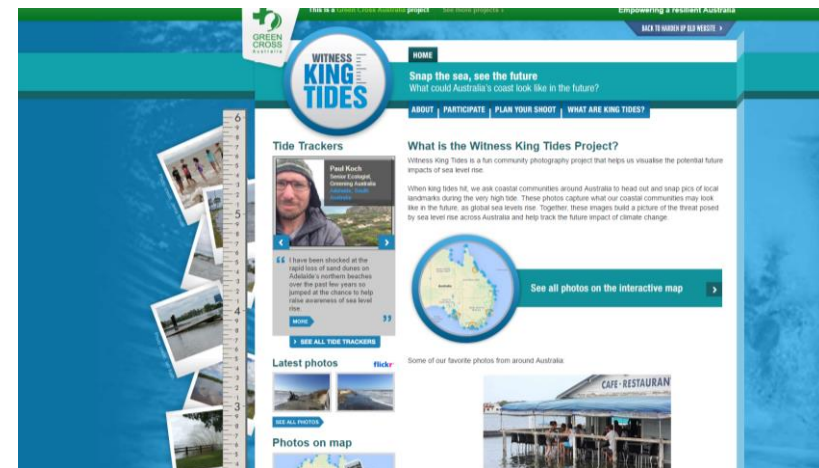
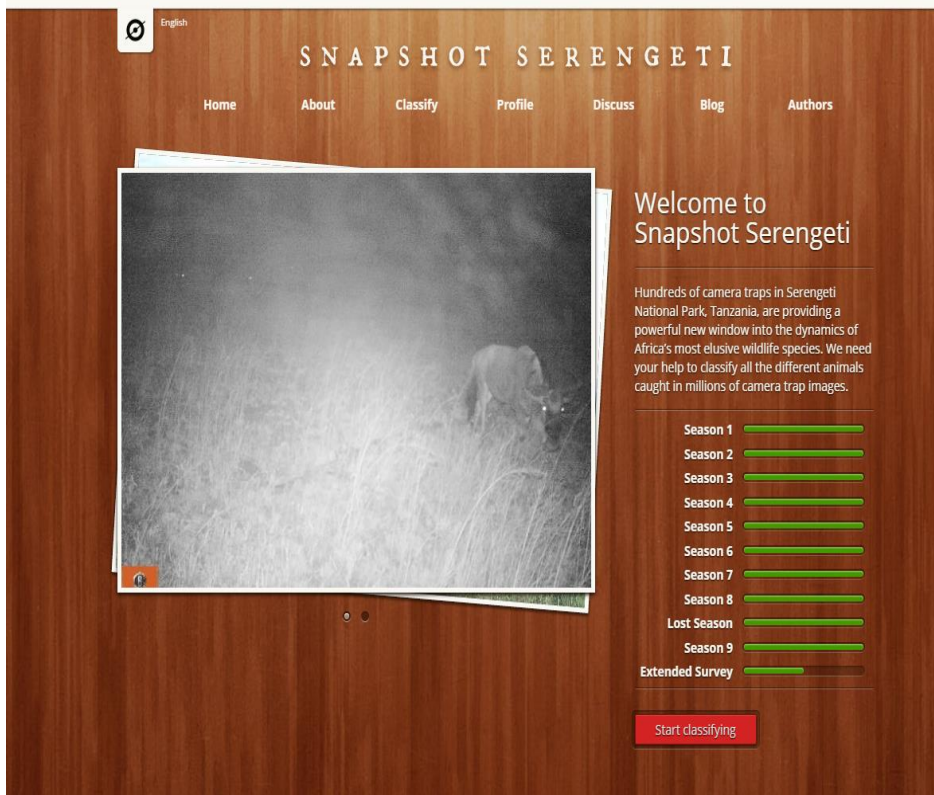


7. The rise of citizen science

Reductions in cost of technology is underpinning citizen science programs, which is empowering the community

The rise of citizen science

As indicated by:



8. Issues based

Funding, public awareness waxes and wanes with individual issues



8. Issues based

Indicated by:

- GBR

- GBR

- GBR

Jurassic Park

Why worry about conserving threatened species when we will soon be able to re-create them?



Jurassic Park

Evidenced by:

Entrepreneur TOP 50 HOW TO MAGAZINE FRANCHISE E360 EVENT SUBSCRIBE

GENETICS 2 min read

Scientists Say They Can Recreate Living Dinosaurs Within the Next 5 Years



Image credit: Pixabay

The image shows a digital rendering of a prehistoric landscape. In the foreground, a long-necked sauropod dinosaur is standing on a grassy plain, its neck extended high to reach the leaves of a large, ancient tree. In the background, a triceratops is visible near the base of the tree. The sky is filled with soft, horizontal light streaks, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. A small red information icon is located in the bottom right corner of the image area.

Summary



or



Thank You

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