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Leave More Trace

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Leave No Trace



'Hands' off in Europe

- 'Leave only footprints, take only photos'
- John Muir Award
- Wilderness Foundation
- National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)
- Erasmus 'Imprint' project
- Wider discourse

leave no





Contradictions

Politics to create and protect such places

- The commercial imperative of tourist destinations to fund the railways
- Ethnic cleansing
- Reintroductions





The impossibility of 'leave no trace' (LNT).

What 'traces' do our everyday lives and our travel to these places leave right here?





More LNT

- Broaden LNT to include travel and everyday lives and so contribute to reducing footprints.
- Living with less in the developed world is certainly a necessary and important contribution to reducing our impact and to social equity globally.





Another point of view

Putting these global factors to one side, is LNT even desirable?







The Anthropocene

 Defined by the fact that humans impact on 100% of the land, sea, biosphere and atmosphere.





Keystone species

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Yellowstone



European keystone species

In Europe there is no wilderness.

The vegetation arrived along with humans.

We are the keystone species.





Coppiced woodland



Chalk downland



'Aaaah' and 'Oooooh'

The romantic gaze

- Connection
- Forest schools, etc

A vital first step but progression to an environmental citizen is missing





Engagement?

- Environmental citizenship
- Understand our actions and words as political
- Reintroduce not just species but also conversations in which all are engaged through actions and voice.





Consider your trace

- How much?
- What kind?
- Where?

'A collective (re)engagement with the politics of place in word and deed.'



Leave more trace: the literature

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