

Exam Preparation

(closed book)

1. Animal sign identification

(a) Within 20 meters of your current location, find and identify sign of a non-human animal. The sign should be persistent; you would not receive credit for seeing the animal itself unless you also describe enduring signs of its presence. Identify the animal to family and use generally recognized names (zoological and/or vernacular; use names found in most field guides.)

(b) Briefly describe the characteristic(s) that you used to identify the animal sign. If your description includes drawings, please draw arrows pointing to the relevant characteristic(s).

(c) What was the animal doing when it left the sign? Please justify your answer with characteristics of the sign.

2. Fern/moss/lichen abundance.

(a) Describe the most abundant fern, moss, or lichen growing within 20 meters of your current location. Feel free to support your description with a drawing(s).

(b) What trait(s), characteristic(s), and/or conditions allow that kind of fern, moss, or lichen to exceed others in abundance?

(c) Was that fern, moss, or lichen the most abundant of its kind 50 years ago? How do you know?

3. The Forest

(a) Describe the forest in sight of your current location (within 200 meters).

(b) Describe how the same area would have appeared 70 years ago. Explain evidence you observed to infer differences from the forest you see now.

(c) Describe how the area likely will appear 200 years in the future, barring catastrophic disturbances. Assume that the area remains protected from timber harvest, development, or incursion by motor vehicles. Assume further (unrealistically) that the current climate prevails throughout that time. Please justify your answer.