ESM 102 Winter 2015

Week 1: worksheet

Written part is due at the beginning of Week 2 lab.

**Human impact footprint and footprint calculator**

*A “footprint” is a way to visualize human impact.*

One way to account for all the different impacts that humans have on their environment is to condense all of the activities onto a measure of how much land it would take to support and balance that impact. This is called a “footprint”. There are many versions of footprint calculators. We are going to use in this exercise was developed by the Global Footprint Network.

Go to the Global Footprint Network site at: <http://www.footprintnetwork.org>

Read the sections:

 Introduction

 Overview

 Personal Footprint

Then take the “quiz”, an animated and guided set of questions about your personal lifestyle and where you live. (Pick USA as where you live for the first round).

First round – Pick that you live in the USA and then do the basic (simple version).

* Record how many Earths you would use and the distribution between food, shelter, mobility, goods and services.
* Edit your basic mode if you like.

Second round – Do the same quiz but look at the more detailed questions.

* Did that change your footprint?
* What made the biggest change?

Explore the scenarios – how much of a difference did that make.

Third round – pick another industrialized country for comparison. Try to answer the basic questions as you did for the first and second rounds in the USA. How much different is it and what factor seems to be the most different (between the other country and USA)?

Fourth round – Pick a emerging or less-developed country and do the same quiz. If you know something about life in that country it will help. For example, I did mine based on the family that my daughter stayed with while she was in the Peace Corps in Peru.

Worksheet

NAME:

Round 1 basic USA

 Earth-equivalent footprint

 % of footprint

 food

 shelter

 mobility

 goods and services

Round 2 detailed USA

 Earth-equivalent footprint

 % of footprint

 food

 shelter

 mobility

 goods and services

 What factor do you think made the most difference?

Round 1 basic other developed country

 Country

 Earth-equivalent footprint

 % of footprint

 food

 shelter

 mobility

 goods and services

 What factor do you think made the most difference between the USA and the other country?

Round 1 developing country

 Country

 Earth-equivalent footprint

 % of footprint

 food

 shelter

 mobility

 goods and services

 What factor do you think made the most difference between the USA and the developing country?