

A Look at some Recommendations



The UN Economic and Social Council

- Leadership roles it could play in addressing C C
- Creating a Declaration to the effect that economic affairs within and among nations be conducted with the health and wellbeing of the ecosphere, including humanity, as the overriding priority for the future of this planet.
- R 1

Establishing a medium-term view

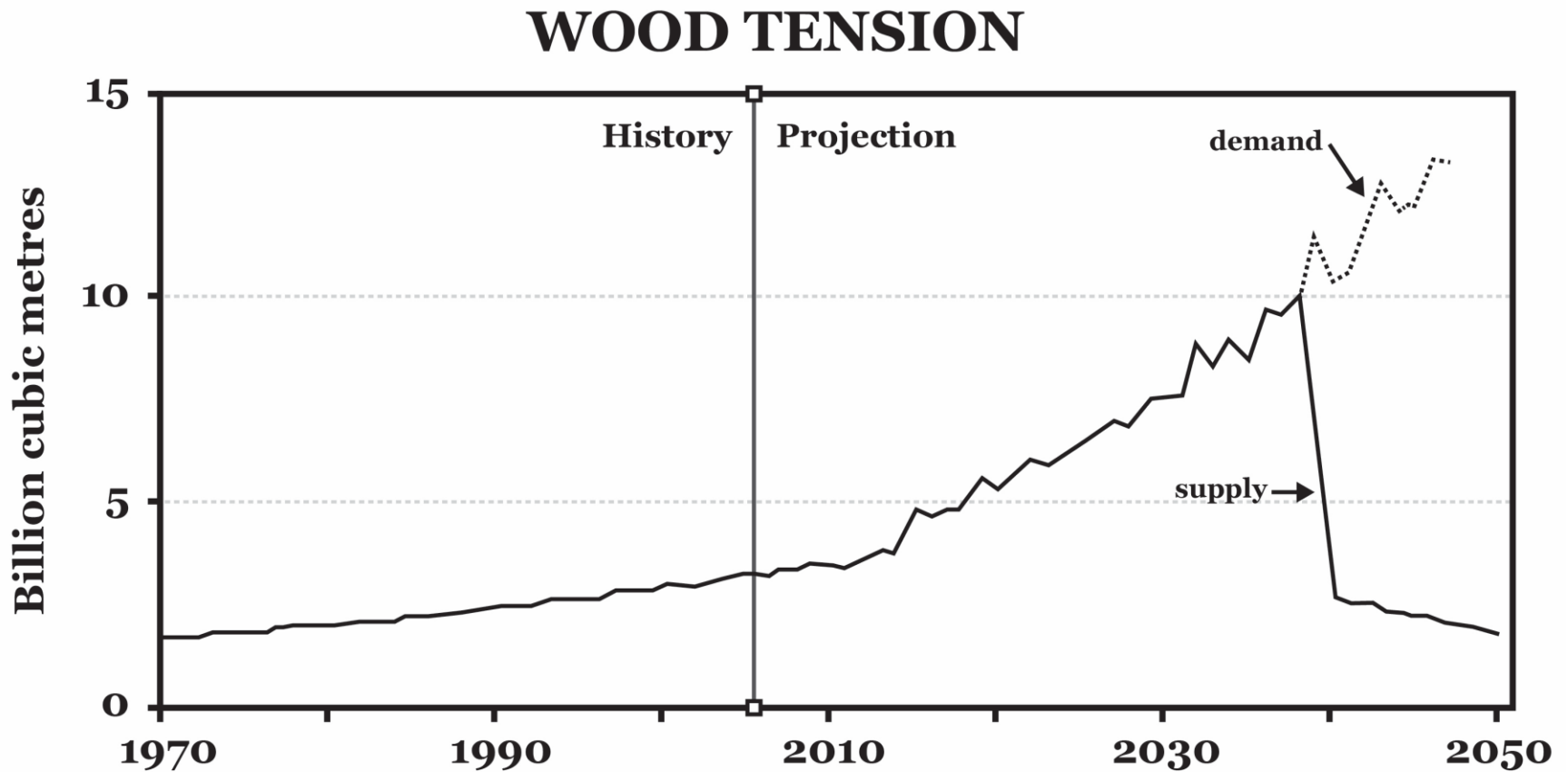
- Convince governments, especially national and state or provincial governments to set up high-level roundtables in their jurisdictions to examine futures on a 30-year perspective

- R 4

Important projects abroad

- Provision of aid to poor countries in areas that are of vital concern worldwide An example could be providing solar cookers in areas where live trees are being cut routinely to provide food for cooking.
- R 2c

Lumber availability projection



Taxation

- Abolish all service taxes and all sales taxes and replace them with taxes on primary materials
- Note, primary materials are currently valued at zero though there are costs associated with mining, delivery and processing, etc.
- R 5

Following Herman Daly's Precept

- Prices: New paper 100% recycled paper 70% recycled paper
- Cost/package \$4.73 \$7.85 \$6.92
- HST 0.61 1.02 0.90
- Total 5.34 8.87 7.82
- Add enough stumpage to make new paper cost:
- \$6.92 6.92
- and abolish the HST. The differences for government are:
- \$1.58 (more) -1.02 (less)
- The governments makes more money;
- Prior to the increased stumpage, few people buy recycled paper but, after the stumpage increase, there will be no impediment to buying recycled paper, except when very high quality is required.

Corporate Taxation

- Create a much fairer system of corporate taxes, based upon profits per full-time employee, and having tax thresholds analogous to current income-tax thresholds.
- Note, the new system would have the side effect of discouraging use of robots where there is no real need for them.
- R 5d

Population

- That the national governments of each country having an ecological footprint in excess of its biocapacity, create a population policy that such as would halt population and bring about a slow decline; and that such policy must essentially be in accord with public opinion/feeling on this subject.
- R 13

Bringing about conversations

- To bring about conversations among governments, industries and members of the public aimed at advancing reductions of CO2 emissions.
- R 6a

Spreading Robert Hoffman's ideas...

- Making public and spreading the knowledge to governments on Robert Hoffman's conclusion (through modeling via CANESS) that we have to reduce CO₂ emissions by policy, rather than carbon taxes and/or cap and trade. See Chapter 8 in A Leap...
- R 6b

The importance of organic farming

- This dual recommendation demands recognition of the Rodale Institute's claims about organic farming as a means of sequestration of CO₂, and an independent recommendation to accelerate the expanding acreages of organic farms to 70 percent worldwide by 2040.
- R 6c and 6f, and ties in with R 7

Increasing natural wealth

- Creating (three?) new national (or state) organizations in each country (or state) to fulfil the purpose of increasing natural wealth, on farmland, in forest, and in lakes and rivers.
- All of thee are long-term projects that will require financing. These wealth-building orgs will provide employment.
- R 7

How to develop superproductive-forest

- The forest floor (soil) needs improvement everywhere, but it is not practicable to create super-productive forest everywhere, because of the remoteness of much forested land.
- An alternative will be to create such forest near cities.

Eliminating CO₂ emissions from cement manufacture

- Two simple methods of heating the powdered calcium carbonate (to turn it into oxide) could reduce emissions to zero that currently come from coal burning.
- The emissions from the carbonate itself would have to be captured.

Selective taxes

- Add selective taxes to the methods used by national banks when it is necessary to reduce the amount of money in circulation
- Note, such a tax might have been used to prevent inflation arising from the huge amounts of money put into circulation during the COVID emergency.
- R 5h

Reducing federal government expenditures

- This proposal is based upon two premises: that redundancy in jobs in the Canadian federal government is higher than necessary to maintain good government, and that many functions of the government could be done better and at less cost by NGOs.
- Note, an NGO was hired following the signing of the Landmines Treaty to look after the follow-up and de-mining.

R 5f

Needed changes in the Canadian Constitution

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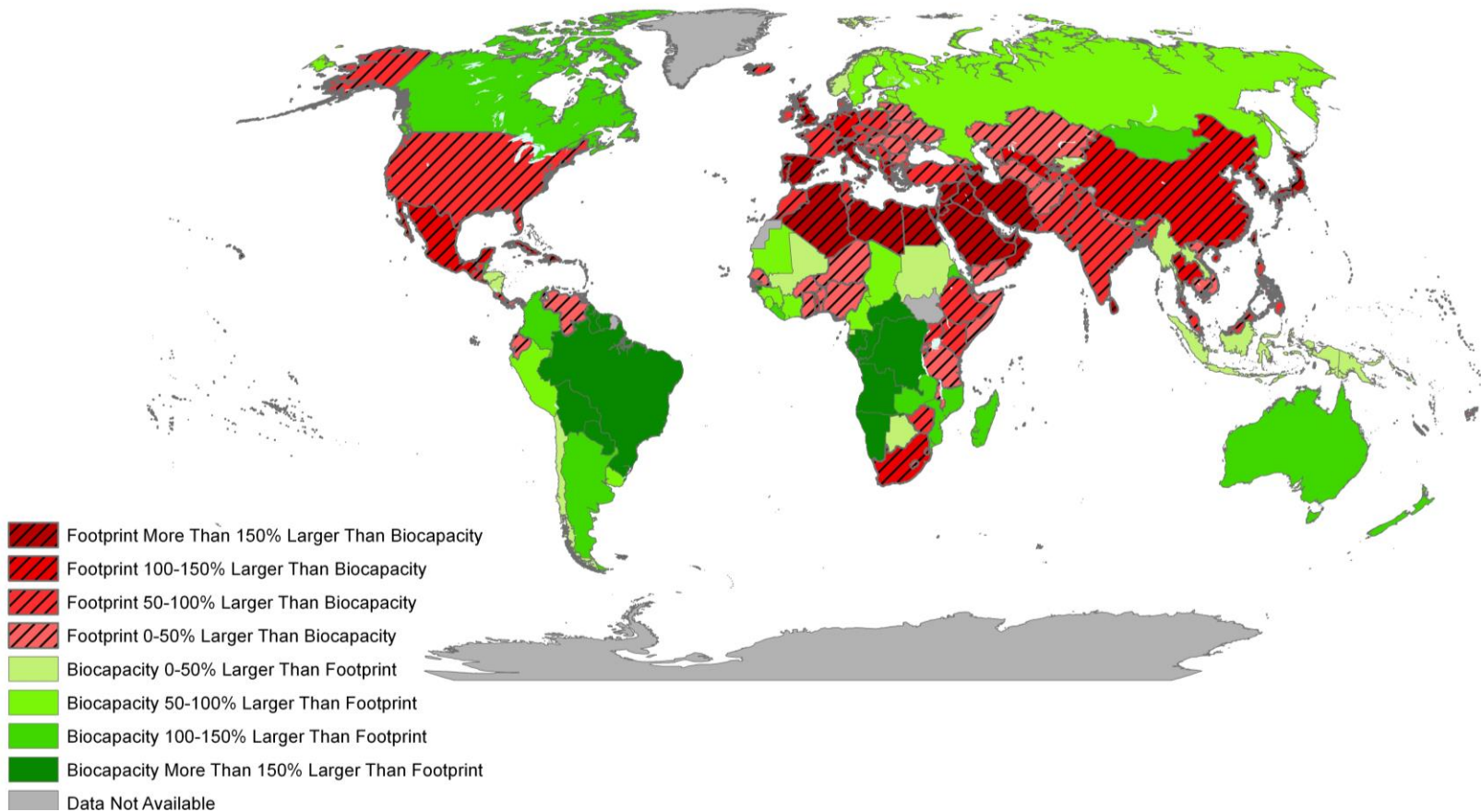
Corporate law

- Propose new law to prevent hostile takeovers of businesses.
- R 5e

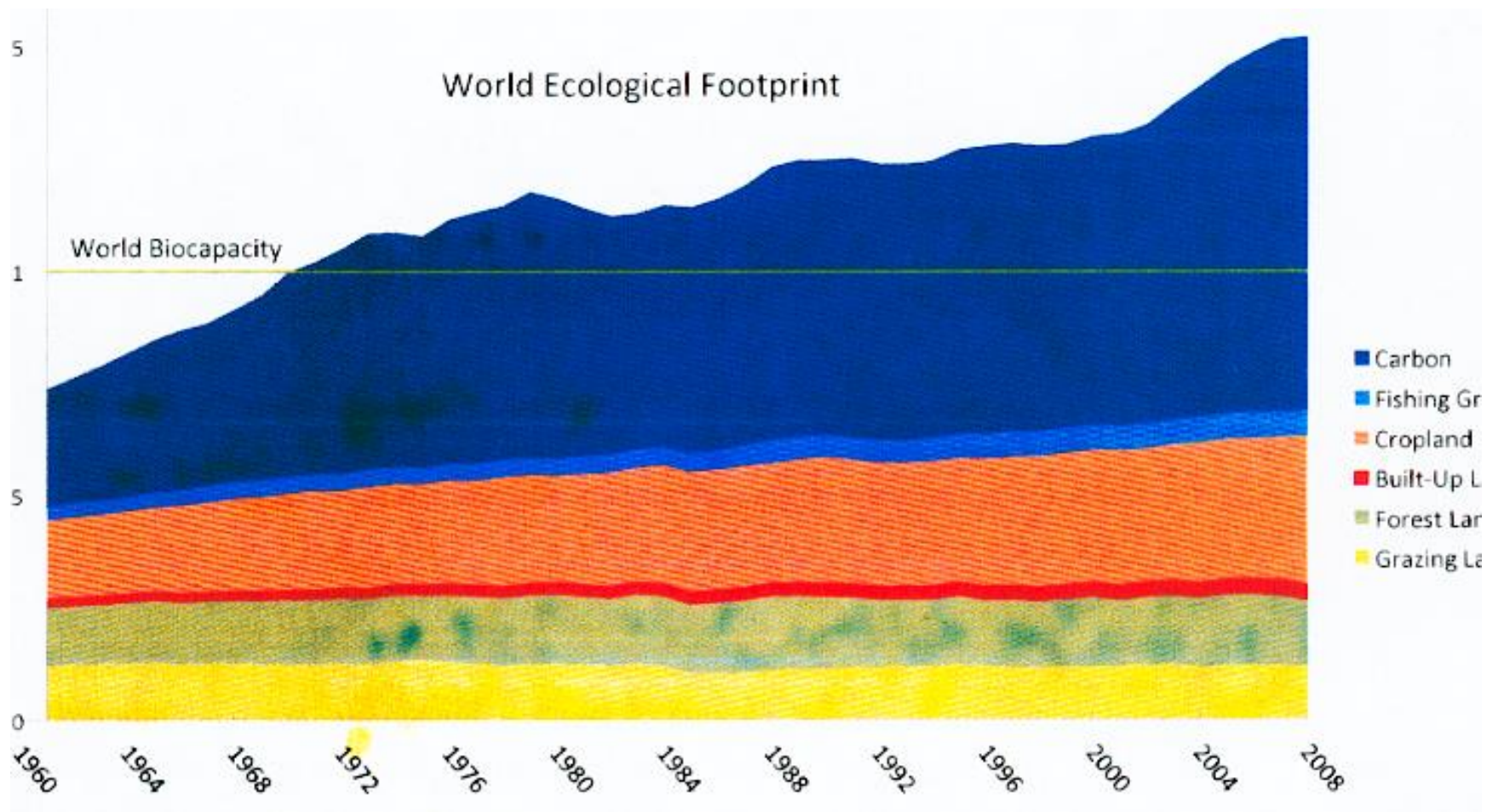
Definition of ecological footprint

- One simple definition is as follows:
- The land area a community needs to continue its lifestyle divided by the area it actually has.

Living above or within one's means



Footprint layer cake



- “The most important thing, in my view, is to study the reasons why humankind does nothing to avert the threats about which it knows so much, and why it allows itself to be carried onward by some kind of perpetual motion.”
- Vaclav Havel, Nobel Laureate and President, Czech Republic

Good News

- A start toward a new economy can be made at any time, for example by:
- Increasing employment
- Taxing primary resources
- Promoting Benefit Corporations
- Converting to renewable energy
- Electrification of Transport + ...

Adapted from Herman Daly (2011):

- Tax primary resources and increase tree stumpage; reduce HST and income and corporate taxes, eventually to zero, but introduce and maintain surtaxes on individuals and corporations.

- New Economics
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- Barbara Brandt *Whole Life Economics: revaluing daily life* New Society Publishers 1995 243 pp.
- Brian Czech *Supply Shock: Economic Growth at the Crossroads and the Steady State Solution* New Society Publishers 2013 366 pp.
- Herman Daly and Joshua Farley *Ecological Economics* Island Press 2011 509 pp.
- Ross V G Dobson *Bringing the Economy Home from the Market* Black Rose Books 1993 235 pp.
- Hazel Henderson *Building Win-win World: Life beyond global economic warfare* Berrett-Koehler Publishers 1996 398 pp.
- Hazel Henderson* *Beyond Globalization: Shaping a Sustainable Global Economy* Kumarian Press 1999 88 pp.
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- * Written for the New Economics Foundation

- Robert Hoffman, “A Cybernetic Approach to Economics”
- In *Cybernetics and Human Knowledge*, **17** 4 pp.89-97
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- Mainstream economics has failed to address the following issues:
- Impending ecological limits exemplified by . . . climate change
- The conflict between the goals of economic growth and sustainability
- The inadequacy of GDP per capita as an indicator of social wellbeing or prosperity
- The instabilities associated with financial bubbles
- The growing inequality in the distribution of income both within and between nations