

Assignment 5 – “Winter Journal”

Due Date – 1 December.

When you first visited and described your study site it was summer – 12 weeks later it is nearly winter. What has changed? How has it changed? For this assignment you need to revisit your study sites and apply the ecological principals you have learned this semester. In 3-4 pages (typed, double space) discuss **in detail** how a few (1-3) key ecological processes may have changed in your study site over the semester.

You should link processes with each other and with your observations. For example ... how has primary production changed from September to November and how might that affect ecosystem energetics, nutrient cycling, or community membership. Do not simply describe superficial changes – e.g., all the ducks are gone, it is colder – rather explore the causes or consequences of those changes.

I will look for a creative, in depth discussion (i.e., tell a cohesive story) that draws ideas and information from the **entire semester**.