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"Native Species, Human Communities and Cultural Relationships"

Knights, Paul

Knights, Paul. "Native Species, Human Communities and Cultural Relationships." *Environmental Values* 17, no. 3 (2008): 353–73. doi:10.3197/096327108X343121.

Species are ordinarily conceived of as being native or non-native to either a geographical location or an ecological community. I submit that species may also be native or non-native to human communities. I argue, by way of an analogy with varieties of domesticated and cultivated species, that this sense of nativity is grounded by the cultural relationships human communities have with species. A further analogy is drawn with the motivations of varietal nativists—who seek to protect native varieties of domesticated and cultivated species for the sake of their cultural value—to argue for the consideration of the cultural value of native species in environmental policy decisions regarding invasive non-native species.

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