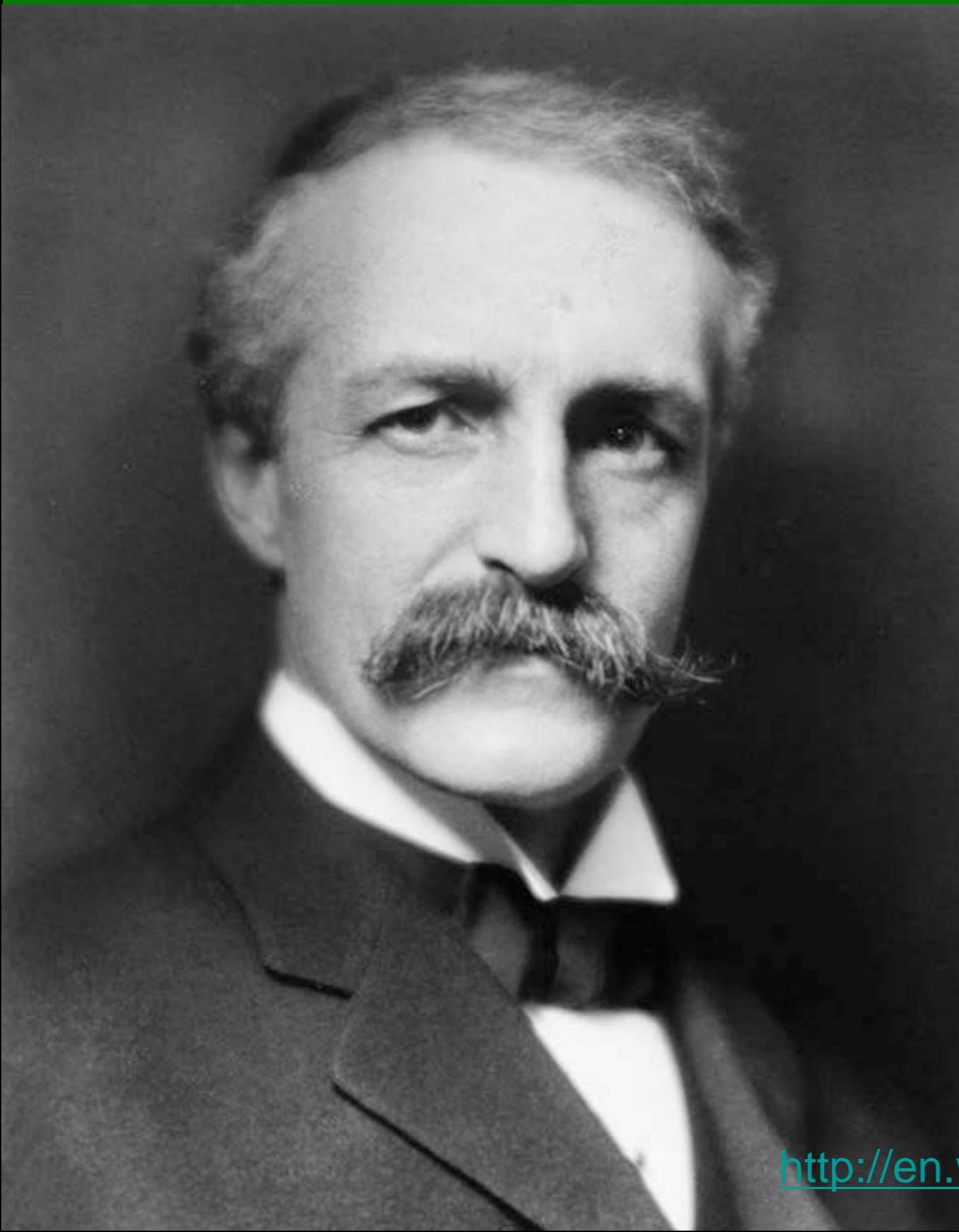

What is conservation anyway?

Lecture 17

Principles of Conservation
Gifford Pinchot

Land Ethic
Aldo Leopold

Gifford Pinchot



- **1865-1946**
- **Came from a 'lumber family'.**
- **1st Chief of the U.S. Forest Service.**
- **28th Governor of Pennsylvania.**

Principles of Conservation

- 1. Conservation stands for development: the use of existing natural resources for the benefit of the present.**
- 2. Conservation stands for the prevention of waste.**
- 3. The natural resources must be developed and preserved for the benefit of the many, and not merely for the profit of a few.**

(Pinchot, 1910)

Valuing Nature

Two schools of thought:

Biocentric

- **Nature has intrinsic value (value unto itself).**

Anthropocentric

- **Nature only has the value(s) that humans assign to it.**

Valuing Nature

Anthropocentrism

- **Nature only has the value that humans assign to it.**
- **Human rights are paramount.**
- **Human centered.**

Clark Briscoe Billard Jones Maddox Ingall Osborne Kircher



Walt Daniels Conrado Springer Simmons Williamson Silva Berkman Wolfe Gilmuth Johnson Humphrey

CLASS 1909

Hirst Pritchard DuBois Wheeler Halgson Snyder Wilcox Fogloy Gnylord
Moon Paxton Goffman Leopold Dunham

Frank B. ...
1911

Aldo Leopold

- **1887 –1948**
- **Joined US Forest Service in 1909 (Arizona/New Mexico).**
- **Created World' s 1st Wilderness Area.**
- **Taught wildlife management at University of Wisconsin–Madison.**





The Outlook

A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise.

- Aldo Leopold (p. 224-225)

Valuing Nature

Two schools of thought:

Anthropocentric

- Nature only has the value(s) that humans assign to it.

Biocentric

- Nature has intrinsic value (value unto itself).

Valuing Nature

Biocentric

Moral obligations extend to non-human species.

•4 components of biocentrism:

- 1. Humans are (one) part of Earth's community.**
- 2. Earth's ecosystems are all integrated.**
- 3. Each organism has a purpose... the functions that they carry out have value/worth.**
- 4. All organisms are equal.**