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Anacostia post-trip assignment

Answer the following questions by typing your answer in the space provided. Upload this document to ELMS in the Post-trip Assignment section before Friday 9/28 at 5:00pm.

1. What are the major reasons that the once expansive natural wetlands surrounding the Anacostia have disappeared?

2. Trash is still a problem in the Anacostia, as we saw while picking up trash along the river. However, the Anacostia has also come a long way. What are some things that used to be dumped in the river that you will not see anymore?

3. Give at least 2 examples of how human actions have *negatively* interfered with the natural state of the Anacostia (different from what you stated in number 1) AND at least 2 examples of human actions that are being *done to “fix”* the river.

4. “Environmental justice” is described as the focus is on the fair distribution of environmental benefits and burdens. There are a fair number of people in the District who use the river for subsistence fishing. Think about the Anacostia watershed – how could this be an issue of environmental justice? Would you feel comfortable eating fish caught in the Anacostia?

5. Why is Kenilworth Marsh special specifically regarding the Anacostia? Why do they fence in the vegetation?

6. UMD is part of the Anacostia Rivershed. Reflect on how your activities on campus could possibly contribute to the pollution that enters the river. Provide 2 examples of pollution that you may contribute to the river, and an alternative that could address one or both of them.

SOPHOMORES ONLY

1. Think about how the Army Corp. of Engineers at the time unknowingly eliminated wetlands in the Anacostia and the future negative effects it left on the river. In around 350 words, please identify a similar environmental example that could apply today where decisionmakers could possibly make decisions on the environment that lead to future negative impacts. Discuss what could be done to minimize or prevent something like this from happening.