

Faculti Summary

<https://faculti.net/rewilding-the-urban-frontier/>

This video discusses the author's transition from a rural environment to the industrial city of Spokane, Washington, and their observations of how wildlife, including deer and moose, thrives in urban settings. The author remarks on the untapped ecological value of neglected urban spaces, emphasizing that these areas can support both human recreation and biodiversity amidst the impacts of climate change.

The author highlights the concept of "urban ecology" learned at a conference and expresses intrigue towards "novel ecosystems," which are heavily modified by humans yet possess their own forms of life. They critique the terms "restoration" and "renaturalization," arguing that they imply returning to a past state that may no longer be relevant. Instead, the term "rewilding" resonates more as it suggests a future of ecosystem autonomy and resilience.

The discussion also touches on the historical neglect of urban rivers and the effects of the Clean Water Act. The author notes that revitalizing these waterways has shown potential for both ecological recovery and enhancing the quality of urban life. They argue that through reimagining urban environments to support biodiversity, humans can create healthier ecological systems that also enhance well-being.

Ultimately, the author advocates for a collaborative relationship between humans and nature, recognizing that while humans have significantly altered ecological systems, there is an opportunity to adapt and support biodiversity within urban environments. They propose that by stepping back and allowing nature to self-regulate, cities can transform their landscapes to benefit both residents and wildlife.