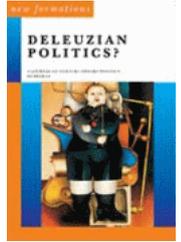


Author: Sullivan, Sian**Source:** [New Formations](#), Number 69, Summer 2010, pp. 111-128(18)**Publisher:** [Lawrence and Wishart](#)[< previous article](#) | [view table of contents](#) | [next article >](#)

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This essay is structured around the juxtaposition of two very different *expressions* of culture/nature relationships. The first is a current 'imperial ecology' constituted by the ideational transformation of 'the environment' into new commodity fictions called 'ecosystem services'. I suggest that this transformation intensifies a classical and modern desire for the release of culture from nature, even as its market rhetoric speaks of a greater valuing of 'nature'. The second is the possibility and implications of an animist 'immanent ecology' in which the human/non-human nexus is more explicitly experienced as one of intersubjective intensities and shared sentence. Here I work primarily with ethnographic material from a KhoeSan people indigenous to north-west Namibia. I draw extensively on the writings of philosophers Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari, whose profound suggestions add much to an understanding of the constitutive conditions in which these different ecologies arise, and the social and environmental trajectories they may bring forth and sustain.

References: [11 references](#) open in new window[Articles that cite this article?](#)**Keywords:** [IMPERIAL ECOLOGY](#); ['CARBON EARTH'](#); ['EARTH INCORPORATED'](#); [ECOSYSTEM SERVICE COMMODITIES](#); [IMMANENT ECOLOGIES](#); [ANIMISM](#); [DELEUZE](#); [GUATTARI](#); [KHOESAN](#); [PRIMITIVE ACCUMULATION](#)**Document Type:** Research article**DOI:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.3898/NEWF.69.06.2010>

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