1. It seems like there are a lot of issues with the assumptions of the two current extinction risk models used for freshwater organisms. Should we really be basing conservation actions on the results of these models? (312-313)
2. The chapter suggests that due to the "basin orientation and altitudinal range" of the US Great Plains, there will be less refugia for "aquatic species to escape increasing temperatures," however, this area of the country tends to have less biodiversity. Is it worth focusing conservation efforts there even though you wouldn't be saving as many species? Is there anything that can be done to save species stuck in environments like this or is it a lost cause? (323)
3. "Human caused fragmentation of freshwater systems" through the construction of dams is isolating populations and could encourage extirpations. What are your opinions on removing dams in the name of conservation? Is the cost of removing dams and the inconvenience to humans too great for this to be a viable conservation option? (323-324)
4. Do you think that we will lose the battle of protecting many freshwater species due to freshwater's increasing rarity? Will freshwater become such a scarce resource that freshwater floral and faunal conservation will fall by the wayside, or can we come up with water management techniques that will sustain human and organismal life? (311 and 329)
5. If species are declining due to the synergistic effects of climate change even without the added pressure of direct anthropogenic influences (Yellowstone was established in 1872), is there hope for conserving the organisms of freshwater ecosystems?
6. How can we realistically preserve freshwater habitats like wetlands if they are so sensitive to desiccation from increasing temperatures and decreasing precipitation and if recolonization rates are low (possibly suggesting inadequate dispersal) even in an unfragmented habitat?