Topic for Essay 5: Encounters with the Archdruid

Write a three- to four-page response to the following:

John McPhee shapes his narrative as a series of three encounters between David Brower and key representatives of pursuits—mining, land development, water reclamation—the Archdruid (Brower) must fundamentally oppose. For you, which of these three encounters, with Charles Park, Charles Fraser, or Floyd Elgin Dominy, is the most interesting, revealing, significant, memorable? Choose a focus that suits your responses to that section, and recognize that the point of this assignment lies not your answer (one, two, or three) but in your explanation of and support for it. Therefore, please pay particular attention to our two key questions: How do you know what you know? and Why do you feel what you feel?

DOUBLE-SPACED, TYPED ESSAYS ARE DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS, Thursday, November 20th.