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FROM FOREMAN
B

EARTH FIRST! JOURNAL



December 21, 1990

Vol. XI, No. II

IN DEFENSE OF WILDERNESS & BIODIVERSITY

THREE DOLLARS

Activists Assaulted At Tract Pond

"You realize it's \$5000 each."

— Sheriff deputy at Franklin County Jail

by Andy Molloy

We had the money, \$10,000 worth of loans on credit cards, to bail out two environmental activists who were being held on assault charges for trying to stop the biocidal "reclamation" of a small body of water in the Adirondacks. Tired and bleary eyed, Jeff Elliott and Jamie Sayen, both with Preserve Appalachian Wilderness (PAW), were released in early November from the Franklin County Jail in northern New York.

They were charged with 2nd degree felony assault on two New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) wildlife cops. In reality, however, Jamie and Jeff were the ones assaulted — by the so called conservation officers. As they commonly do, the cops charged the activists with the crime as insulation against police brutality accusations. Political pandering around election time, coupled with an Adirondack climate of hostility toward Earth Firsters, prevented a reduction in charges and bail, forcing the two to endure several cold nights in the cell. What's worse is the potential jail sentence carried with these charges.

Tract Pond Is Sentenced To Die

Tract Pond, one of the many thousands in the Adirondacks, is a wooded and swamp-like water body, eutrophic and filling in rapidly on its successional path toward being a meadow. With a depth of 39 feet and size of five acres, it still functions as an aquatic ecosystem, providing habitat for such fish species as Yellow Perch, suckers, and dace. Unfortunately, the pond is affected by acid rain and other non-point pollution sources which are straining systems throughout the region.

The DEC had decided to manage the pond through its euphemistically named policy of "pond reclamation." This process entails the dumping of fish poison, rotenone, into the pond, thereby wiping out, if all goes as planned, the entire fish population. The fish are then left in the pond to rot. The rotting fish deprive the pond of oxygen and seriously jeopardize aerobic aquatic organisms. Amphibians, aquatic invertebrates, and other organisms are negatively impacted. DEC then restocks the pond with hatchery raised game fish, such as Brook Trout. Growing up in an artificial environment, hatchery fish are not properly subject to the processes of natural selection, and may genetically pollute natural populations of Brook Trout in the region.

With the help of Legal Action for Animals (an animal protection group based in New York City) and attorney Cindy Hill, PAW coordinators Jeff Elliott and Jamie Sayen had attempted to overturn New York's

policy of pond reclamation, as well as its policy of poisoning tributaries of Lake Champlain with lampricide, through legal means. When it became evident that their legal efforts might not suffice, Jeff and Jamie rushed to the trailhead leading to the condemned pond on Tuesday, October 30. Also present were Bill McKibben, the noted author of *The End Of Nature*, a journalist from the Glenn Falls Post Star, and a photographer. The state had their wildlife biologist and assistant on hand with gear and rotenone as well as a contingent of EnCops. The reclamation was set for that day, as soon as a judge ruled on whether to extend a court injunction barring the treatment.

At the pond, Jeff and Jamie found piles of supplies and a steel rowboat, property of DEC. Jamie took their own canoe down while Jeff headed back to town to call Legal Action for Animals. The restraining order they had obtained was due to expire at noon. Jeff soon learned that the injunction was not extended.

The legal efforts should have stopped the poisoning. Tract Pond had never been reclaimed before and thus should have been

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A soggy Jeff Elliot is dragged away from Tract Pond after interfering with a plan to poison it.

A National Disgrace

Livestock Grazing on the National Parks

Grazing on park land is permitted where authorized by law or permitted for a term of years as a condition of land acquisition.

Grazing and raising of livestock is also permitted in historic zones where desirable to perpetuate and interpret the historic scene.

—National Park Service Guideline NPS-53, Special Park Uses

by Lynn Jacobs and Dale Turner

America's National Parks are world-famous for their beauty and grandeur. Since the late 1800s Congress has been setting aside these lands as the most impressive examples of untrammeled Nature in this country. Today they comprise the most extraordinary system of natural preserves on Earth.

Naturally most Americans think their National Parks and Monuments are protected from commercial exploitation. And generally they are, outside certain heavily visited locations, where concessionaires are permitted to operate stores, gas stations, lodges, and other services deemed necessary for tourists. However, ranching is a glaring exception. A little history:

As with most Forest Service (FS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), state, and other public lands, most lands in the West chosen for the National Park Service (NPS) system were, prior to designation, open to ranching. More than any other group, the stockmen

holding permits to graze these lands, and owning strategic inholdings, influenced their ultimate fate.

In some cases, the federal government was able with generous offers to buy out grazing permits and base properties or make special deals with stockmen to establish ranching-free Parks. Many ranchers increased their wealth and power as a result; some left the livestock business, others expanded their ranching operations elsewhere.

In many instances, however, stockmen (supported by their elected representatives) refused to relinquish "their" grazing permits to the proposed National Park lands, even though usually most of their forage and browse needs were met by other lands. They used their substantial influence to force the government into special agreements that allowed them to continue ranching the new Park lands in perpetuity or for a period of years. Consequently, some Parks (Sequoia, for example) have over the years paid off ranchers and phased out ranching, while others (such as Great Basin) plan to continue

ranching indefinitely. Currently, a bill to expand southern Idaho's Craters of the Moon National Monument and turn it into a National Park contains wording mandating continued livestock grazing at near-traditional levels. A proposal by the Hell's Canyon Preservation Council to turn Hell's Canyon National Recreation Area into a National Park is likewise shackled with wording designed to continue ranching. New Mexico's newly designated El Mapais National Monument plans to continue ranching.

Some stockmen owning base properties and/or other ranchland within proposed Park boundaries required that as a condition of acquiring these private lands

the government allow them to continue traditional ranching on the new Park land. Others refused to yield their private lands and as a consequence some Parks, such as Zion and Black Canyon of the Gunnison, still contain private ranches within their borders.

Some ranchers even convinced the government to allow them to maintain ranching operations in new Park units under guise of "preserving the historic Old West" for the benefit of tourists (Pipe Springs NM in northern Arizona is a disgraceful example). These and some other NPS units actively promote ranching. However, ranching in many Parks proceeds only under the ardent objections of Park supervisors and staff.

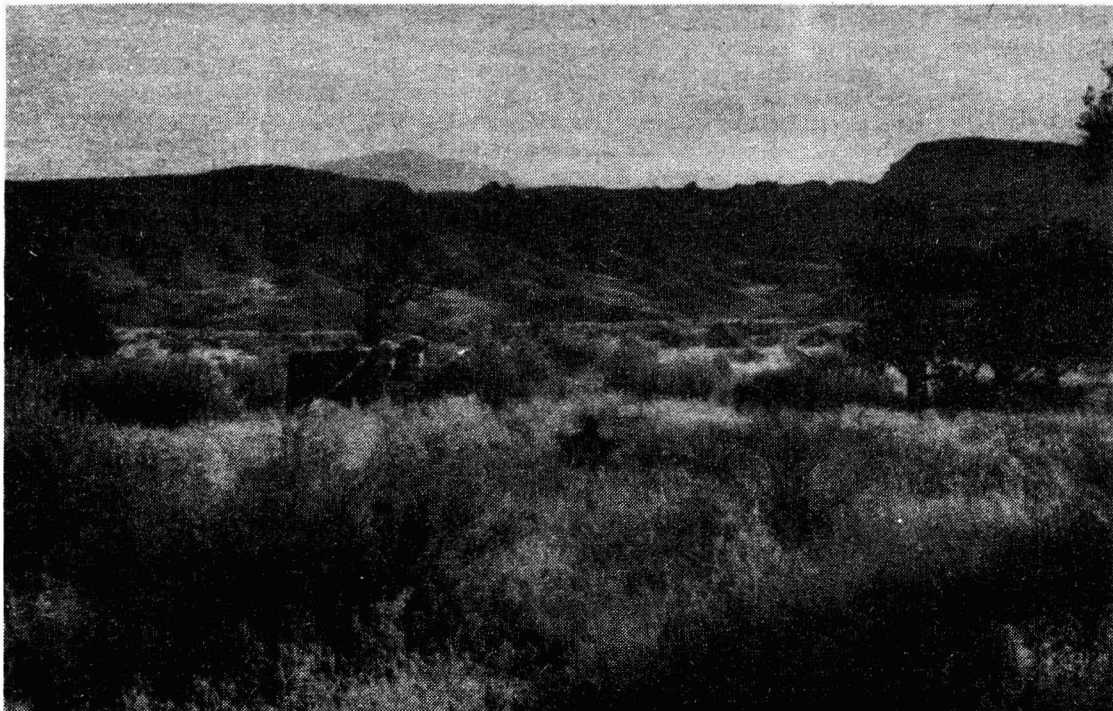
In the 11 Western states the National Park Service currently administers 23 National Parks, 47 National Monuments, 11 National Recreation Areas, and 17 National Memorials, Historic Sites, Historic Parks, Battlefield Parks, Seashores, and such. These 98 NPS units cover about 17 million acres, or 2.3% of the West. Somewhat less than 3 million acres of this land is open to commercial ranching, within 7 National Parks, 7 National Monuments, 5 National Recreation Areas, and 7 National Memorials, etc. Many NPS units outside the West also allow ranching, even Haleakala National Park in Hawaii.

Livestock production on NPS lands, mostly cattle ranching, is administered by the National Park Service or, in several cases, adjacent federal land management agencies. Ranching impact generally is less severe than for any other public or private ranchland category in the West. However, some NPS units have serious problems and in most

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Cattle grazing in Capitol Reef National Park.

photo by George Wuerthner

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Periodical Sources of Death, Sorrow, and Destruction

By John Davis

In the interest of ensuring that you, our readers, maintain ample supplies of verbiage focusing on the Big Three — death, sorrow, and destruction — as the Cenozoic Crisis deepens (recent report puts daily extinction rate up to 150 and counting), Dale and I have compiled lists of our favorite periodicals. (We've omitted the many EF! newsletters, which are good sources of information on local group actions and issues. These are indicated by asterisks in the Directory in each issue of *EF! Journal*. We've also omitted some favorites not of great import to conservationists, such as *Gentlemen's Quarterly* and *Modern Maturity*.) We recommend you read in your library or borrow (or subscribe to, if willing to don sackcloth and ashes and do penance for the trees thus butchered) these publications:

**Anderson Valley Advertiser* (PO Box 459, Boonville, CA 95415; Weekly, \$27/year outside Mendocino County)

For news from behind the Redwood Curtain, it's hard to beat the AVA. Editor Bruce Anderson produces one of the best little newspapers in the country, and much of it focuses on the old-growth battles in northern California. In addition to the local high school basketball scores, you get news of corporate timber corruption and EF! actions, along with worthy commentary on politics, media, and the Earth First! movement. The AVA has a nasty habit of reprinting articles without permission, but that's

kind of like a worthy dog who occasionally pees in the house.

**Audubon Activist* (950 Third Ave, New York, NY 10022; \$20 for membership in National Audubon Society; *Activist* free [11/yr] to members who join Audubon Activist Network)

This was until recently perhaps the best general source of information for activists in the United States looking for advocacy letters to write. The new editor seems, unfortunately, to be scaling it back somewhat, but it is still full of information. Also unfortunately, the population column seems to have been dropped. (WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write the editor and tell him to renew the overpopulation coverage.)

**Bioscience* (American Institute of Biological Sciences, Central Station, POB 27417, DC 20077; 11 issues/\$43.50 for membership and subscription)

Many of the articles herein are too abstruse for those of us who couldn't discern phagocytosis from opsonization if our life depended on it, but most issues also contain very understandable articles on conservation matters. This has less conservation biology than one might hope, but what's there is excellent and perhaps there will be more if enough conservationists subscribe. (A subjective aside: at times AIBS writers show the proper disrespect for anthropocentrism — a patently unscientific worldview — until talking about laboratory animal experimentation; whereupon they cast aside scientific objectivity and castigate animal rights

proponents in an irrationally humanistic manner. In the interest of scientific consistency, they ought, if they must do invasive experiments, to suggest the tests be done on those they are intended to simulate and to benefit, humans.)

**Conservation Biology* (Blackwell Scientific Publications, Three Cambridge Center, Suite 208, Cambridge, MA 02142; 4/\$29.50 membership & sub)

This quarterly also includes articles accessible only to biologists, but the bulk of each issue is comprehensible information of great import to conservationists. This is published by the Society for Conservation Biology, a new force on the conservation spectrum which in coming years will probably favorably influence environmental legislation if it gains enough members. So if you're reasonably affluent, consider joining. **Defenders* (1244 Nineteenth St NW, Washington, DC 20036; 6/\$20 membership & sub)

Of the big mainstream conservation groups, *Defenders of Wildlife* produces perhaps the most useful glossy magazine for activists. *Defenders* is paying increasing attention to the lessons of conservation biology; it is talking not just about species but about ecosystems.

**Earth Island Journal* (300 Broadway, Suite 23 San Francisco, CA 94133; 4/\$25 membership and sub)

David Brower's latest group, Earth Island Institute, is fast proving its effectiveness in international environmental efforts. *EIJ* runs articles on environmental projects throughout the world, including Earth Island's dolphin and sea turtles campaigns.

**The Ecologist* (MIT Press Journals, 55 Hayward St, Cambridge, MA 02142; 6/\$30)

I've tried to avoid overseas publications here because overseas mailing costs are prohibitive. However, *The Ecologist*, produced in England and distributed via Massachusetts, is available in most good libraries; and it offers unusually devastating indictments of industrial civilization. Edward Goldsmith and his co-editors began warning people about global environmental crises 20 years ago — and identifying the main culprits, such as the World Bank — and their predictions are consistently proving true.

**Econet* (3228 Sacramento St., San Francisco, CA 94115; 24 hrs/day; \$10/month + \$15 one-time signup fee)

While this computer network isn't a publication like the rest, it is one of the best sources of current environmental news available. You can get up-to-the-minute reports about events worldwide, including stuff you'd never hear about without subscribing to thousands of magazines and newsletters. This is news from an activist's perspective, as it's written by the people involved. Many *EF!* *Journal* articles began life posted in an Econet conference. Dale recommends the "efl.general" and "en.forestplan" conferences as great places to start.

**Endangered Species Update* (School of Natural Resources, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109; 10/\$23)

The obituary pages for wildlife, these describe species proposed for and added to the federal Endangered Species list. The bulk

continued on page 3

The successors of EF!

ed. note: By now you should have received the letter we sent to all *EF!* *Journal* subscribers explaining the new *Earth First!* periodical and the new biocentric wilderness periodical that will replace the present *EF!* *Journal* next year. However, for those of you who remain unsure of what's happening, here we go again:

The Wild Earth Journal

The periodical that we are for now calling *Wild Earth Journal* will focus, from a biocentric perspective, strictly on wilderness, wildlife, habitat, and biodiversity. It will offer news, proposals, defense strategies, conservation biology articles, art, and essays pertaining to the effort to avert the most serious extinction event in the planet's history. It will leave humanist issues to other groups.

Among the correspondents for this journal will be Paul Watson, Doug Peacock, Dolores LaChapelle, Bob Mueller, Reed Noss, George Wuertner, Mitch Freedman, Trudy Frisk, Nancy Zierenberg, Howie Wolke, George Sessions, Christoph Manes, Jasper Carlton, Ned Mudd, Margaret Young, Rick Bonney, Jeff Elliott, and Jamie Sayen. Dave Foreman will resume the roles he originally played with *Earth First!*, as editor and columnist.

Initially, this publication will be a quarterly. Due to the upcoming Arizona 4 court case, we won't be able to launch the journal immediately, but will aim to send out the first issue in spring of 1991.

We urge you to choose both the new *EF!* newspaper and the new biocentric wilderness journal. Our mailing list policy will be as *EF!* *Journal*'s was: our list will not be sent to anyone. For new subscriptions, please send checks (\$20/yr) to *Wild Earth Journal*, POB 492, Canton, NY 13617.

—John Davis

The New Earth First! Journal

The *Earth First!* journal will remain much what it always has been, a voice crying for the wilderness, howling, snarling; radical, wild, and offensive. It will continue to focus on biodiversity and wildness; within this context it will embrace the diversity of the movement and, encouraging debate and self-criticism, it will provide a forum for evaluating and honing our strategies for defending the wilds.

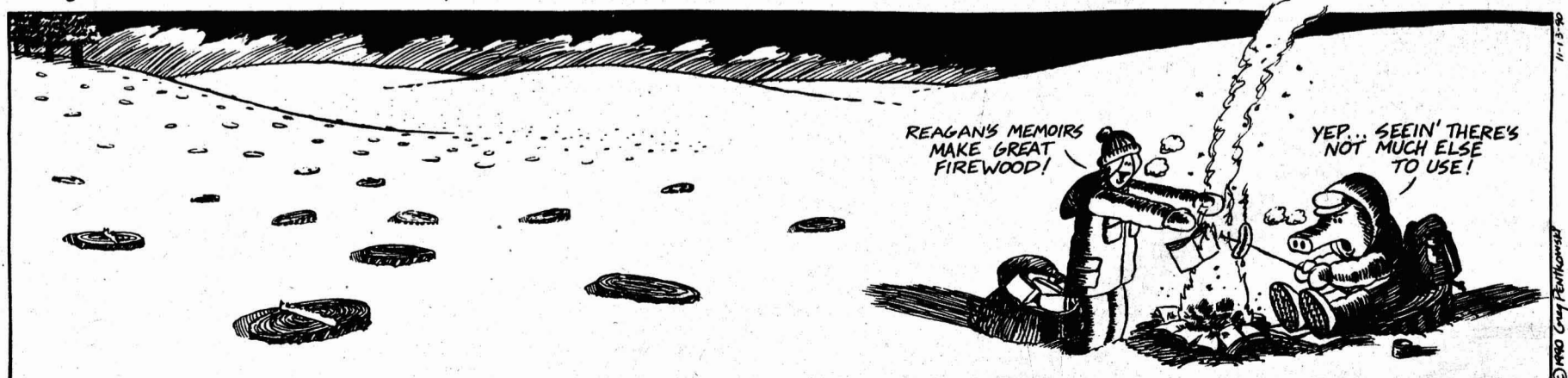
The main change in the paper will be in editorial organization. The journal will have a core of editors in the Wild Rockies and guest editors for each issue from around the country. We hope this will make the journal more accessible and reflective of the national movement.

Now is no time for factionalism or retreat! We encourage you to continue your subscription with the *Earth First!* journal and to try the new publication as well. Long live diversity!

For new subscriptions, please send checks (\$20/year) to *Earth First!*, POB 5176, Missoula, MT 59806.

Beyond the Slab

by PENTKOWSKI



**EARTH FIRST!
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FOR SUBSCRIPTION AND CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION, SEE "SUCCESSORS" ARTICLE ON THIS PAGE.

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Although we do not accept the authority of the hierarchical state, nothing herein is intended to run us afoul of its police power. *Agents provocateurs* will be dealt with by the Grizzly Defense League on the Mirror Plateau.

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Death, Sorrow & Destruction . . .

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of each issue is a reprint of US Fish & Wildlife Service's own Endangered Species Technical Bulletin, but also included are book reviews and essays by guest writers.

**Glacial Erratic* (RFD 1, Box 530, N Stratford, NH 03590; 4/\$12.50, but send more!)

Focusing on environmental issues in the Northern Appalachians (likely to soon be expanded to 6 issues a year covering all the Appalachians), Jamie Sayen and Jeff Elliott, PAW coordinators, are turning this into the best environmental periodical in the bioregion. Subscription fees help keep these heroic and impecunious activists active.

**High Country News* (Box 1090, Paonia, CO 81428; 24/\$24)

Do not confuse this with *High Times*. The subject matter is decidedly different. *HCN* offers the most thorough coverage of land issues in the West. Those of us who rue the days bovines were domesticated and chainsaws invented will find the general acceptance of multiple use management irksome at times, but most of the writers align themselves, implicitly or explicitly, with conservationists.

**Katuah Journal* (POB 638, Leicester, NC 28748; 4/\$10)

Of the growing number of bioregional journals on Turtle Island, *Katuah* — the Cherokee name for the Southern Appalachians — stands out as an inspiring and informative news source. The editors are conservation activists as well as simple livers, so those who subscribe know their money is well spent.

**Living Bird* (Cornell Ornithology Lab, POB 223, Ithaca, NY 14853; 4/\$25 membership & sub)

This quarterly is a beautiful mixture of bird photos and illustrations and bird ecology articles, with a goodly amount of general conservation news as it pertains to the class Aves. Senior editor Rick Bonney is a widely respected conservationist as well as ornithologist. Good libraries take *Living Bird*; membership in Cornell Ornithology Lab also brings *Birdscope*, a newsletter about the Lab's studies.

**Natural Areas Journal* (320 S Third St, Rockford, IL 61104; 4/\$25 membership & sub)

Yes, more science; but little scientific background is needed for most of the articles. Natural Areas Association is a nonprofit group dedicated to preserving natural areas, even though many of its members are of the bureaucratic ilk. You'll find here valuable information on disappearing habitats.

**Nature Conservancy* (POB 79181, Baltimore, MD 21279; 6/\$15 membership & sub)

Each issue describes recent additions to The Nature Conservancy's preserve system, and has a feature article on a greater ecosystem that TNC is trying to save piece by piece. Like most of the big conservation groups, TNC receives blood money (corporate donations) and overpays its CEO (over \$100,000 a year!), but no other group in this country has directly saved so many habitat remnants.

**Natural History* (POB 5000, Harlan, IA 51537; 12/\$22)

Natural History is published by the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. Most of its articles are simply fascinating and fun, not essential for the conservation activist; but conservation biology themes are common and becoming more so. The columns by Jared Diamond and Stephen Jay Gould bespeak extraordinary comprehension of Nature.

**National News Report* (Sierra Club, 730 Polk St, San Francisco, CA 94109; 24/\$18).

Inspid and essential reading, Sierra Club's *NNR* provides current information on federal environmental legislation. This should be read with a wary eye (as well as a cup of thick, black coffee), for it is published by mainstream environmentalists who are too quick to endorse weak environmental bills. (The full text for each issue of the *NNR* is posted on Econet in the "sc.natnews" conference.)

**Northwest Conservation: News & Priorities* (POB 2813, Bellingham, WA 98227; 4/\$15)

Former Washington *EF!* leader Mitch Friedman is now making waves in the field of conservation biology. His new group, the Greater Ecosystem Alliance, is working for ecosystem management — large Wilderness Areas, buffer zones, corridors, etc. — of the North Cascades and other ecosystems. GEA recently filed suit to force FWS to list the Grizzly Bear in the North Cascades (where the presence of the Griz was recently confirmed) as Endangered.

**Orion Nature Quarterly* (136 E 64th St, New York, NY 10021; 4/\$14)

"Published by the Myrin Institute in association with Conservation International," *Orion* includes thought-pro-

voicing essays on humanity's place in Nature, as well as conservation news. The column by David Ehrenfeld is always insightful.

**Rustic Gazette* (POB 130411, Birmingham, AL 35213; irregular [in every way]/\$5 for EFers \$500 for institutions)

Ned Mudd, the Biodiversity Project's attorney, is the funniest lawyer in the South *bar none* (and note the pun). His slim newsletter is replete with absurd witticisms and facetiously penned (typed, actually) environmental news from down under — Alabama, that is, land of greets, Senator Heifer (Howell Heflin [D-AL], ugliest man north of Noriega), and Muudd!

**Sea Shepherd Log* (Box 7000-S, Redondo Beach, CA 90277)

Granted, this article is already cluttered with superlatives, but a couple more are unavoidable: Sea Shepherd Conservation Society is the boldest, most effective group on the high seas. Their *Log* is a quarterly summary of their latest exploits — sinking whaling ships, ramming drift net boats, liberating dolphins, and other non-violent acts. Send them a generous donation and you'll get the *Log* free (author's, not Sea Shepherd's, monetary double-speak).

**Thunderbear* (POB 71621, New Orleans, LA 70712)

"The Oldest Alternative Newsletter in the Federal Government" is also the funniest. Its sole contributor, PJ Ryan, has a wit not matched in the National Park Service since Ed Abbey was a ranger. If you've missed the Thunderbear articles we've run in *EF!* *Journal* before, suffice it to say that his publication is the antidote to a dour disposition, scourge of jaded activists. You'll not find this in your library, but it is parsimonious enough in its use of paper that you scarce need feel guilt for subscribing.

**Way of the Mountain Newsletter* (Box 542, Silverton, CO 81433)

The Way of the Mountain Learning Center carries "hard-to-find books and other materials on Deep Ecology, Place and the 'old ways'." In her newsletter, Center founder and widely acclaimed deep ecology author Dolores LaChapelle reviews the works she sells and offers wise counsel on numerous earthy topics.

**Whole Earth Review* (27 Gate Five Rd, Sausalito, CA 94965; 4/\$20)

Published by a nonprofit corporation called POINT, this quarterly is an unlikely mix of news and essays on alternative ideas and politics, the arts, the sciences, conservation and restoration, and dweeb esoterica (computer information). [J— Who you callin' dweeb, huh? —D] Though some of the topics it covers might better be ignored (e.g., said esoterica), and it occasionally gives voice to bad ideas (e.g., Julian Simon's warped criticisms of population whistlers), most of its coverage is on the cutting edge.

**Wild Oregon* (ONRC, 1050 Yeon Bldg, 522 SW 5th Ave, Portland, OR 97204; 4/\$25 membership & sub)

The Oregon Natural Resources Council works tirelessly for eastern Oregon's arid and forgotten BLM lands, as well as for western Oregon's lush and renowned Forest Service lands. ONRC's journal provides news on wild areas throughout the state.

**Wilderness Record* (2655 Portage Bay E, Suite 5, Davis, CA 95616; 12/\$15)

California certainly has its faults, but it also has more roadless areas than almost any other state, and it has a coalition of dozens of conservation groups to defend them. The California Wilderness Coalition's exemplary newspaper covers wildlands from the Mojave Desert in the south to the Siskiyou Mountains in the north.

**World Rainforest Report* (RIC, PO Box 368, Lismore 2480, New South Wales, AUSTRALIA; 4/\$20 Australian)

Australian Earth First! leader John Seed has made the Rainforest Information Centre a focal point in global rainforest conservation efforts. RIC's publication describes threats to rainforests worldwide, with tips on how to get involved.

**World Rivers Review* (301 Broadway, Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94133; 6/\$25 membership & sub)

Tales of woe and sorrow fill the pages of this International Rivers Network publication. IRN is an affiliate organization of Friends of the Earth International, and is leading the fight to stop dams worldwide.

**World Watch* (1776 Massachusetts Ave NW, DC 20036; 6/\$30)

Worldwatch Institute has won international acclaim for its annual *State of the World* reports. Its new magazine is equally effective in explaining global problems and offering solutions potentially palatable to the masses (going back to the Pleistocene is not suggested in these pages; going forth to the solar age is). *World Watch* is one of the few environmental periodicals that gives overpopulation considerable attention. For international coverage of environmental problems from a reformist perspective, there is no better source of information. Editor Lester Brown is a hero even if he doesn't think *appropriate technology* is an oxymoron.

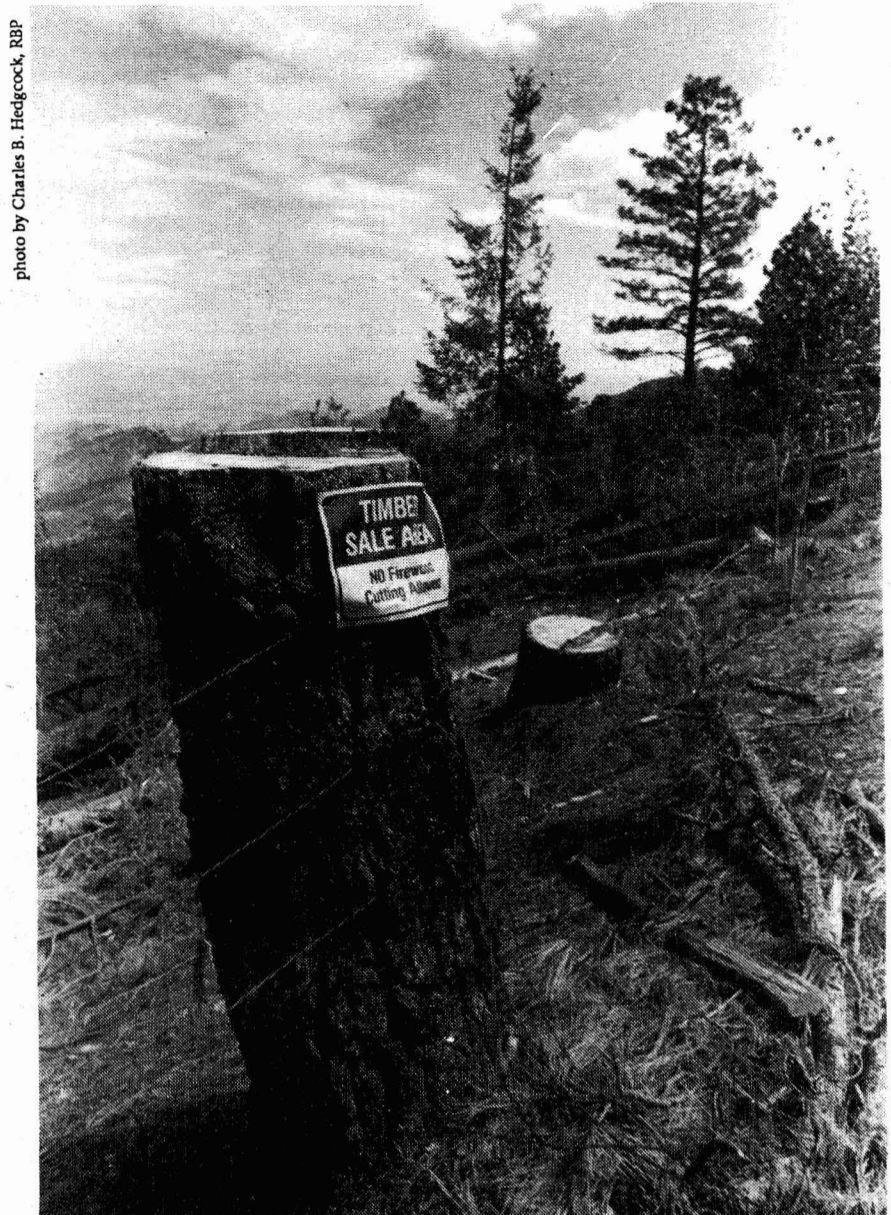


photo by Charles B. Hedgecock, RBP

"No Firewood Cutting Allowed"

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear shit fer brains . . .

The opinions expressed here represent only their opinionated authors, and are not official positions of the Journal staff or the Earth First! movement.

EF!

A woman in Maine was killed in her backyard because a hunter mistook her white mittens for a deer. The jury found the hunter innocent.

Camo toilet paper is now being sold because so many hunters have been shot while using white T.P. in the woods. What would be the results if short strips of white T.P. were hung throughout the woods a few days prior to deer season? It's biodegradable and squirrels would use it in their nests. Would trigger-happy punks scare game away from danger by blasting away at fluttering white? Would inconsiderate clods be forced to study their targets more carefully thus eliminating wounded deer and dead bird-watchers? Would impatient bozos tire of stalking toilet paper and abandon this sport? — Rocky Raccoon, Norton, MA

Dear fellow wilderness lovers:

Enclosed, in case you're not already aware, is a copy of a propaganda sheet distributed by the "Hummingbird Ski Club," which I picked up at a sporting goods store in Silver City, NM, after a recent backpacking trip into the Gila Wilderness. As is stated within their communique, the "ski club" plans to lobby Congress for a deletion of land in the Gila Wilderness in order to construct a ski resort in the pristine, old growth forest of the Whitewater Baldy and Hummingbird Saddle region.

Having personally hiked this exceptional section of the Gila, I feel that to allow this project to proceed would be a tragedy. Besides damaging virgin, subalpine climax forest — relatively rare and limited to the highest elevations of the Wilderness, road building, and other ill effects obvious to fellow conservationists, this action if permitted would set a dangerous precedent for other legally protected wilderness areas around the country. It must be stopped dead in its tracks.

I have written letters of opposition to this project to David W. Dahl, Gila National Forest Supervisor, 2610 N. Silver St., Silver City, NM 88061; Alex Ocheltree of the ski "club"; and after the November elections will also write to the New Mexico Senators and

Representatives.

As I'm sure you'll agree, our wilderness system, including the Gila, needs to be expanded not reduced here and deleted there. The developer's shortsightedness and thinly veiled self-interested greed are appalling. Hopefully this damaging activity can be successfully arrested.

— Robert Watson, Farwell, TX

Ed. note: See our September issue for excerpts from the above-mentioned propaganda sheet. — JD

Dear jOhn:

Green fire rolls in today. I have the dubious pleasure of introducing the show. "Friends, rotunds, and country hicks ... lend me you wives."

"New vision: confidential/not for publication or verbal babble. Yet. [permission accomplished—ed.] As you know (or should, from reading Vol.1, No.3 of the *Rustic Gazette*), the Rustics are running Pete Jones for Guvner of Alabama. Sorry to say, it doesn't look good at this point. Think Pete has name recognition problem to date. However!

"New plan: upcoming Presidential election! Check this plan out. "We" enter a candidate: a bona fide, qualified character (femme?) to challenge both party candidates via a seriously thought out platform based on exemplary ecological ideology. This candidate begins the bid for the oval office with a mediacized event: i.e. he or she is first seen standing on the shores of Oregon whereupon the candidate announces to public that they are going to run across the heartland of America in an attempt to focus the country on the plight of America's sad demise, ecologically speaking. In sum: "our" candidate is literally going to RUN FOR PRESIDENT! Just think of the sensational media attention. "We now take you the plains of South Dakota where Billy Smith is in his third week of running for President amidst the amber waves of grain ..." (From sea to shining sea!) Candidate picks up support along the way (plants) who join in the race for the White House. Soon an entire entourage of interesting (and famous?) folks are merrily sprinting down America's well known highways and byways with half of the world staying tuned. Of course, every day or so brings new and exciting events to bare: pre-planned & involving the various aspects of deep ecology and conservation biology that we want to promote. A rehabbed eagle is released on tuesday; we jog thru a wildlife refuge on

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friday, a horrible clearcut on sunday, etc.

But that's not all! The candidate will arrive in Washington on the night of the election to great fanfare (riding on a donkey?) to lead a huge rally of "green thinkers" in front of the presidential domain. It is at this point that "our man" announces that, when elected, the first presidential act will be to paint the White House green! The (friggin) GREEN HOUSE! So begins what history will ignominiously dub "the Green House Effect." Ha!

Cabinet? Secy of Interior: Jasper Carlton. Secy of Defense: Doug Peacock....

So. What do ya think? We'll need about \$20,000 to pull it off. Sponsors (Nike running shoes, etc.) All participants wear American flag jogging shorts, etc. We'll need a beer sponsor, too. Walkie talkies (from Greenpeace?). Nothing but simple logistics.

Ted Turner has got to like this idea. CNN exclusive on Saturdays. Maybe release a compilation album to raise funds.

Better start working on this soon, eh? Christoph Manes for Attny general? Foreman for Secy of Wilderness (new cabinet post)? Featherstone at head of EPA? Good god, this could be a friggin blast! Captain Paul Watson as Secy of the NAVY? YEE-HAW!

Ok. Better go ... think I'll start fund raising today!

—Hawg Wild, B.ham, AL

ed. rejoinder: Hawg you're maniacal. We need more like you. Your idea is brilliant. I've suggestions for possible candidates:

*Anne and Paul Ehrlich (It's time we had a woman as President; and Paul would be the best vice president in history.)

*Yvon Chouinard (He's biocentric, he can run, and half the yuppies in this country already wear his clothing ... and think of the fringe benefits — free fleece for the masses, new routes up the Washington Monument, etc.)

*Alice Walker (She has brilliance, the right ideas, and the name.)

*Dave Foreman (He still doesn't want to run, and Nancy M. won't let him; but with enough threats, we can change their minds.)

I've also some random ideas for key stops in the race and posts in the new administration: Early in the race, the future President's entourage stops for a benefit concert at a logging site in Oregon. Dana Lions (he misspells his last name "Lyons"; work on that, will you, Hawg?) leads the seething multitudes in an incendiary chorus of Burn That Dozer — which they'll not fail to do.

When these Raging Greenies reach DC (Death Capital), a huge rally ensues. Some promising young musicians warm up the crowds: Bruce Springsteen, Jackson Brown, Bruce Cockburn ("If I Had a Rocket Launcher"), Talking Heads ("Burning Down the House"). Then we bring out the powerhouses: Glen Waldeck, Bill Oliver, Cecilia Ostrow, Dana Lions (you'll have prevailed upon him by then, Hawg).

The future President gives a firey speech, setting forth a biocentric platform. He'll present a simple two step approach to solving the problems of environmental decline and overpopulation: 1) Ban all motor vehicles. 2) Institute the death penalty for all driving infractions. (Hang and compost the outlaws!)

The crowds go into a frenzy. We don't need a riot; we're going to win the Presidency by legal means. So, for comic relief, we send up the glabrous Dave Foreman himself, to sing a few Hank Williams tunes.

The rally is concluded by serving

George Bush an eviction notice. Glen Waldeck leads the crowd in issuing a warning: leave the White House now, else ... we're coming back with a big wreckin' ball!

Your list of appointments is good. However, Roger will be the campaign manager and then head of the FBI (likes walkie talkies), not EPA chief. Why? Because years ago when he started driving that infernal "Iron Maiden" (if that's a maiden, Howie Wolke is a belly dancer), I demanded he do an environmental impact statement before taking it on a roadshow. He refused to comply. We can't have an EPA chief who has such a record of non(friggin)compliance.

Here are some more likely post fillers:

*Green House Chief of Staff: Kris Sommerville

*Secretary of State: Carole King (no more stodgy old white men in that post; need a good singer there)

*NASA chief: Robert Mueller (Return Bob to his old agency, to quietly eviscerate it. The US public is too ignorant to want NASA disbanded, so Bob will subtly and effectively disband NASA by appointing Californians to key posts and charging them with using the consensus process for reaching all decisions. No spacecraft will ever again be launched!)

*Bureau of Land Management Director: Lynn Jacobs

*Forest Service Chief: Marilyn Olson (Her husband, Howie Wolke, knows more about FS lands than anyone else, but he once said he'd accept timber cutting on 10% of National Forest lands. That's swill! All public lands are to be protected as Wilderness! [Yee haw!] So we'll have his less compromising wife fill the post.)

*National Marine Fisheries Service director: Rod Coronado

*Housing and Urban Development head: Glen Waldeck

*Secretary of Labor: Cesar Chavez

*Department of Transportation head: Keith Hammer (His Road Rippers' Guide will henceforth be DOT's manual of guidelines.)

*Department of Education chief: Dolores LaChapelle

*National Endowment of the Humanities head: David Ehrenfeld (The Arrogance of Humanism)

*Civil Rights Commission: Jesse Jackson (our token mainstream politician)

—John

Editor,

Last issue, a letter of warning appeared in this section which claimed I was a "sick opportunist" for proposing to write a book entitled "Earth as Hostage." The writer of this letter, signed "Friend from New York," noted my earlier books on the environment, but claimed they were designed to "spin deception."

I understand the tremendous pressure "Earth First!" has been placed under in recent months, and the legitimate caution of the group. I cannot, however, let such a misinformed, and mean-spirited, letter go unanswered.

Writers must be free to write on whatever passionately interests them. Otherwise, we will not be read. Since I now find ecotage one of the most intriguing and significant cultural events of our day, I cannot accept the notion that I should be silenced, or ignored, by "Earth First!". In fact, if that occurs, my book will not achieve the balance and readability that I am seeking.

Moreover, since I am proud of my work, I sign my name to it, thereby allowing formal response and correction. I find it unfortunate that the letter-writer felt free to publish my name and affiliations, while hiding themselves.

I would be happy to pursue a correspondence to perfect my prose for accuracy and honesty. In addition, I welcome any reader to visit my earlier titles, especially Beyond Dumping (1984) and my new book for Simon and Schuster In Search of Environ-

mental Excellence. In these, I rest assured you will find many passages on behalf of the environment which are neither "sick," nor "opportunistic."

—Bruce Piasecki, Associate Professor
ed. note: In the unfortunate maligning of Bruce Piasecki, an old lesson is repeated to those of us who work on journals: Check your sources and your facts. Had we simply gone to the library and read one of Mr. Piasecki's articles or books, we'd have realized that he is a writer with abiding environmental concern. Thank you, Mr. Piasecki, for correcting our mistake, and please accept our apologies. —JD

Dear Earth Firsters,

Another animal rights activist has been jailed as part of the government's continuing harassment of animal rights and environmental activists.

Henry Hutto, an activist from Eugene, Oregon, was jailed in California on October 31 for refusing to answer the questions of a Federal Grand Jury. He is one of a dozen people subpoenaed in an attempt to acquire information about the Oct. 1986 burglary at the University of Oregon animal research labs, the April 1987 arson fire at the veterinary sciences building at the University of California, Davis, and other incidents connected with the animal rights movement. [See Tribal Lore this issue.—ed.]

Henry is a quiet, reserved activist with a degree in ecology and a deep philosophy against the killing of any life. His only apparent crime is that he refuses to let his political and personal affiliations to the government. He is not accused of any crime. He is being kept in solitary confinement without any formal charges or trial.

I spoke with Henry from jail, and he asked me to issue this statement: "My imprisonment is merely a continuation of long-standing government harassment of progressive movements for social change. I refuse to testify because the questions asked of me are a violation of not only my constitutional rights but also my personal right to privacy. It is not the government's business who I associate with, what I do or when, where, and with whom I do it. By not cooperating with this investigation, I am following in the footsteps of people like Elizabeth Morgan, Nelson Mandela, and Ronnie Lee."

Like political prisoners in South Africa, who can be jailed for two years without charges, Henry also faces months in prison—without a trial, or charges being filed. People in this country must realize the threat to liberty the Grand Jury system represents. As it is now being misused by an ever more repressive government, the Grand Jury can imprison citizens for 18 months without trial, without due process. This contradicts the freedoms we claim as our birthright as Americans.

—Diane Sontag, POB 1545, Eugene, OR 97440

John Davis:

You might be interested in this internal FS memo that was passed to us recently by one of our moles. It documents our worst fears about overcutting in the Fremont NF in recent years.

This memo comes as no surprise to those of us who attended a meeting in Lakeview OR last year the purpose of which was to work out a compromise agreeable to environmentalists and the timber industry. The meeting was called after various environmental groups appealed the proposed Augur Creek timber sale in the Deadhorse Rim RA of the Fremont NF. In a supreme effort to reach a compromise, environmentalists offered to relax environmental constraints on cutting to protect the few remaining roadless areas. The meeting ended in stalemate.

The Fremont is one of the most heavily logged National Forests in the nation, with

far less than 10% of the forest still roadless.

After huddling briefly with his staff, the Fremont Supervisor responded to the offer by announcing that even relaxed constraints could not supply the needed timber — without opening up the remaining RAs. It was an admission that so much of the Fremont has already been nuked that relaxing constraints along roads and creeks now cannot fill the gap. The Fremont Forest Plan has since been appealed.

EF!ers should write Supervisor Grossarth and demand that the FS publicly admit that the Fremont has been overcutting for many years. Letters should demand that remaining RAs remain roadless to protect remnant wildlife habitat on the Fremont. Write Supervisor Orville Grossarth, Fremont NF, Lakeview, OR 97630.

—Mark Gaffney, Chiloquin, OR

ed. note: The following is from the FS memo. Please remember that this memo is not for public consumption, as we would not want to offend the august Orville Grossarth.

Subject: Roadless Area Entry for Timber Sales To: Ted Yarosh and District Rangers

As we have been discussing, we are having problems in meeting our timber ASQ as allocated in the LMP. Because of this situation, I feel we must enter roadless areas (those allocated to timber management) at a faster rate than we originally anticipated....

With this letter, I am requesting that you develop a long term timber plan that would have at least one timber sale in a roadless area each fiscal year for the next eight to ten years. For FY 93, you could consider two sales if it appears feasible and appropriate. For your consideration I have attached the roadless area entry portion of my July 20, 1990 DG note which contains my comments. [It lists sales by Roadless Areas: FY 91 Deadhorse Rim, FY 92 Crane Mountain, FY 93 Coleman Rim and Antler, FY 94 Hanan Trail, FY 95 Deadhorse Rim, FY 96 Crane Mountain, FY 97 Coleman Rim, FY 98 Hanan Trail, FY 99 Deadhorse Rim.]

There is some urgency to complete this task since a roadless area entry would require an EIS and this should be started this summer/fall for any FY 92 sale. Please complete this task as soon as possible.

—Orville D. Grossarth, Forest Supervisor

Dear SFB,

I am very sorry to hear the EF! Journal as we know it may fold. I always read the whole thing. I wonder if a less print-oriented generation can really appreciate the power of words to bring out hidden truth, try out strategies and philosophies, and radicalize people. G. T.'s letter and poem give me some pause here, seeming extremely naive and, well, young.

I, myself, was first turned out as an environmentalist, long ago, by reading Not Man Apart in a university library. EF! is a more sophisticated and powerful magazine than Not Man Apart ever was. It hasn't been bound down by the necessity of having to present a platform, preach to the converted, or process the inductee. In my experience as environmental propagandist, organizing and coalition-building are not friends of really good writing. And in the long run—even a year or two—who is to say that good writing about animals, plants, books and philosophy will fail, where direct action will succeed? Thoughtful prose and poetry might unlock some deeply-buried spark in another heart. Let everyone try what skill they have—but don't dump on people who have done a difficult thing marvelously.

Furthermore, there are unacknowledged benefits, I think, in reading and writing about monkeywrenching. Even those who never do more than pull up a furtive stake feel stronger for reading about it. Fantasy is not, I have come to believe, a waste of time in the effort to change the planet. The



AMERICA LOVE IT OR LOG IT!



world owes Dave Foreman for having exercised our First Amendment rights in *Ecodefense*.

I wonder if articles about actions are really more energizing than those about monkeywrenching or conservation biology. Don't hate me if I confess I don't feel energized by hearing of martyrdom: of people getting police records, getting kryptonite locks blowtorched off their necks, getting punched in the stomach by pro-development ruffians, shoved around by dozer blades, taunted by ominous crowds of saw-wielding loggers, shot at, and so on. These things are painful to read about. Such a cost to people's bodies, minds, livelihoods, and such precarious victories so much of the time! I understand the heady feeling of confronting the enemy face-to-face, on one's feet, identifying oneself bodily with the Opposition. But you only have one life, one mind, and one body; which lost cause will you expend them on, and how?

When a movement signs onto the whole progressive or left platform, I believe it is signing onto a long-term struggle of dubious outcome. I used to think, like G. T., that some kind of revolution was around the corner, but the left has been with us a long time, in the cramped little place the system makes for those who too visibly threaten it. After the first terror and shock I felt at the bombing of Judi Bari's car, I listened to KPFA (Pacifica radio in the Bay Area) to get all the information I could. I confess, listening to pundits putting this whole horror in the historical context of the left, I felt a creeping feeling of lost cause. And lost humor and lost joy. KPFA is the station of lost causes—of the permanent opposition.

Furthermore, if we are to join coalitions, the need to control or at least predict the public statements and behavior of members emerges. How did Earth First! decide to endorse a peace march, or a march for Uhuru House (an Oakland anti-racism organization), as has been announced on East Bay telephone poles? If the organization renounces tree-spiking, will it be able to keep individual members from monkeywrenching or indeed random vandalism? These needs for unity and predictability seem almost impossibly complicated by the "ecoterrorist" smear of the EFi name, which like "wobbly" or "communist" in past ages, will be linked in the media with every conceivable anti-social act; it may become a category in which anyone and everyone is put who in any way risks being marginalized and stigmatized for the sake of the environment.

I don't see how coalition building can exist without compromise, sometimes on a very deep emotional level. Much as I admire

Judy and Darryl's courage and creativity in confronting and talking to loggers—I know what a difficult feat of coalition-building that must have been—I'd say, on my most honest days, that I feel about loggers about the same way Paul Watson does.

I guess the bomb that blew apart Judi Bari's car is going to blow apart EFi too, into the amoebas of Howie's metaphor. Maybe it has to be that way. This bombing experience would make anyone think that the sick thing is not just the relation of the human race to the planet, but The System, by whatever name. When I was investigated by the State Police in New Mexico regarding "environmental sabotage," I got the merest whiff of this impulse. It's enough to make you want to volunteer for life as an openly declared public enemy of the system, to join hands with every enemy of that system, in every cause. But—is there joy in this? And is it going to work?

The writing and example of Foreman and the old folks gave me a sense of fun, of power, of freedom, of meaning. Now the FBI and the Oakland Police are trying to take this away, from all of us. And how do we keep it? Let everyone try and keep it as best they can. —Alison Monroe, Davis CA

Dear SFB:

Gene Lawhorn's article "Why Earth First! Should Renounce Tree Spiking" contained only two arguments against spiking. Each argument fails both anthropocentric and biocentric analysis.

First, Lawhorn argues that spiking may injure loggers. On a humanistic level, this argument must fail, as all jobs have risks and loggers can stop logging if they do not accept the risk posed by spiking. Of course, there have been no or few injuries from spiking, so the risk of injury is low.

In a biocentric context, arguments against spiking based on injury to humans can never be persuasive. Since overpopulation ensures that enough humans exist to continue the species, there is little biocentric value in individual human life. Forest habitat, however, is threatened and necessary. Thus, protection of the forest habitat clearly outweighs the risk of injury to a few loggers.

Lawhorn's second argument is that tree spiking is used in propaganda against Earth First! and is therefore divisive. He urges the rejection of spiking to "help bridge the gap that separates workers and environmental activists."

On a humanistic level, however, I suspect that many people are drawn to Earth First! because of the media coverage of spiking and other acts of ecotage. Spiking also clearly identifies those individuals with bio-

centric concerns and motivations, and until recently, acted as a litmus test in determining support for biocentric philosophy.

Spiking's effectiveness in protecting the forest habitat may also be weighed against the detriment of having "a gap that separates workers and environmental activists." Since in this context "workers" means dwindling numbers of loggers, there seems to be little tactical advantage to any such alliance.

In a biocentric context, divisiveness must be measured against the protection of the forest habitat. Since there is little intrinsic value in human cohesiveness, the only value must be as a means to the end of habitat protection. If Lawhorn means public relations are necessary to save habitat, it will be far too late for most habitat by the time humans reverse course.

Spiking, on the other hand, delivers immediate protection to the forest habitat. Such protection should outweigh the alleged need for cohesiveness and public relations.

The tree spiking issue clearly identifies anthropocentric motivations. Since Earth First! is (or was) dedicated to biocentrism, wilderness conservation and biodiversity, Gene Lawhorn and his ilk should join the Sierra Club.

—California Foremanista

Dear EFJ,

Foreman and Morton have it right by comparing the evolution of EFi with that of "a generalist species now differentiating" and with "an influx into the gene pool by those more adapted to a social and economic justice worldview than an ecological one." I am of the mind that this isn't a bad thing, that like all evolution, you just take it as it is. Or move on to greener pastures, as many original EFlers seem to be doing.

Earth First! is not selling out, or lost sight of its original goals, rather it has transformed into something else. An influx into the gene pool will do that. Foreman and the others leaving the aegis of EFi for their biocentric activities will have to be pioneers yet again, fighting the battle on a new front, or serving as anchor lest the ship be pulled astray. The ship is biocentrism, not EFi! The original goals are still in place, but they now must share space. There are many more people fighting the battles EFi championed early on, it is thus better to differentiate, to focus on the different priorities, with each differentiated grouping working on their priority. If all EFlers shared the views of Foreman and the others the movement wouldn't be healthy. Nor would it have gained mainstream appeal.

The philosophical differences have emerged due to differing perceptions of scale. Biocentrism is the ultimate goal, obviously, but the differences occur over how fast, what tactics, what costs. Humanist views have likely supplanted those who favor biocentrism first already. This is due to perceptions of scale in terms of time. The humanists seek to reach biocentrism in a comfortable gradation of time intervals, whereas the militant biocentrists (we can call them that can't we?) seek fundamental change in human behavior now. The militants are not wrong, in fact they are right to push so hard for their position, yet in an expanded environmental movement, and in an expanded EFi, theirs is the minority position. Yet, just as when EFi first formed, theirs was a cutting-edge position. It still is. The growth and change in EFi has in no way eclipsed its founders and leaders, rather the growing EFi movement never caught up with the founders and the leaders in terms of commitment to specific goals and in commitment to sacrifice for those goals. There simply isn't that high a percentage of people who will sacrifice the way Foreman et. al. have for their beliefs. Just as the social movements in the 60s and punk in the late 70s/early 80s were rendered impotent once they passed the threshold of being about ideas to being about fashion, so too is this the ultimate threat to EFi! Foreman and the others are smart to get out now to carry on their fight their way rather than waste their time infighting and getting no real work done.

Elitist sentiments over who is right ultimately, the strict biocentrists or those more adapted to the social and economic justice worldview, serve no one. Such a question cannot be answered when both aims are noble. Those who would engage in such a debate are wasting valuable time, when there is much work to do.

As a green I am a cousin of sorts to those in EFi! (yet after the split in our movement—caused, at least in California, by a few power-hungry elitists who want to run for office and waste time and money building a party—I don't know what the fuck being a green means anymore). I have worked with EFlers doing my green work, and living in decidedly urban Los Angeles I would probably be labeled in the humanist category, an outsider. But if this outsider has anything to offer let it be this: Earth First! the movement, and its instrument of communication the

EF! Journal, are a powerful testament to the work of the founders to manifest in the public mind the passion to save this world from the destruction of our own hands, and to take direct action in doing so. Wherever EFi goes from this day forward, toward a biocentric approach, toward a humanist approach, or a conjunction of the two (some think them inextricably intertwined in the first place), they are still on the front lines of changing the world.

—Jeff Softley, L.A., CA

Dear Earth First!,

While reading John Davis's note in the November *Journal*, that in the near future I would be receiving a notice in the mail asking whether I wanted to receive the old or new *Earth First!*, I felt as if I were witnessing the end of an era.

Like many, when I first started to subscribe to *EFJ* in 1985, I was a leftist social activist, who had worked with the anti-nuclear and anti-interventionist movements for many years. What I sensed when I discovered *Earth First!*, however, was something new under the sun, almost like a new animal, or a new continent.

As a committed humanist, I was uncomfortable with some of *EFJ*'s more misanthropic aspects, and wrote "Towards an Integrated Approach to Population and Justice," (*EFJ*, August 1986) which addressed some of them. I felt it was possible to disagree with certain statements people made, and still freely acknowledge the positive character of the vast portion of their work. Others disagreed, and apparently saw them as some sort of stain or plague that needed to be blotted from the face of the Earth. I know of one anarchist paper that was still publishing hate mail directed at Ed Abbey several months after he had passed on ('we're watching you,' etc.). Now that's tolerance with a capital T!

It seemed perfectly amazing to me that in the pages of *EFJ* everyone from hardened misanthropes to rainbow types to serious academicians were free to express their views without being buried under columns and columns of harsh criticism and name-calling, as is the custom in my tribe. Wasn't it Dave Foreman who said in *Outside* magazine some years back: 'We can tolerate macho cowboys, hippies, gays, etc. in Earth First! The one thing I cannot tolerate are fans of Wayne Newton.'

I think this statement perhaps best summed up what myself and so many others found so refreshing about *Earth First!* Ironically, though EFi's principle critics made much of the myth that EFi was controlled by some sort of heavily centralized 'junta,' was intolerant, bigoted, and so forth, anyone who had been to any *Earth First!* gathering knew what a farce this was. If anything, I think *Earth First!* showed us all up at our own game, and proved just how many outrageous tendencies could be tolerated under the same banner. Until now, that is.

There is a passage from D.H. Lawrence, which I cannot locate at the moment, but he was describing how he felt to hear of the 'discovery' of the south pole, I think it was. The gist of it was it would have been far better to leave it a mystery, there was nothing we could do to improve it, there was much we could do to harm it.

Looking back, in some ways, I think Lawrence could have been speaking to us humanists who discovered *Earth First!* in the mid-80s. This was something outside the realm of our experience, something we could have learned from, if we would or could have left it alone.

What did we do? Well, of course we did what humans always do with new things. We handled it and analyzed it and dissected it and poked it with a stick to see if it fought back. We squirted harsh solvents in its eyes to see how it would handle the shock.

Well, as it turned out, it didn't handle it too well. The eccentric *Earth First!* of just 5 years ago is virtually nonexistent. Instead, we have something that goes by the same name, but curiously enough, now devotes a great deal of its time to internal bickering and back-stabbing, just like us leftists do. Ain't progress grand!

It would have been better, I think, if people like me had never discovered *Earth First!* It probably would have been better if you had a secret tongue, and only spoke it among yourselves. Because, like Antarctica, your feathers are now soaked in oil, your landscape littered with 50 gallon drums.

Sure, you had your problems, and I don't doubt the early *Earth First!* was no utopia either. But it seems only fair to me that if cowboy misanthropes, tree worshipping druids and other assorted oddballs wanted a place to gather and exchange views, they were entitled to such a place. Perhaps it is the irony of the 20th century, but I think the misanthropes had something to teach us all about tolerance.

—Bill McCormick, Charlottesville, VA

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Letters . . .

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EF!

I found the September edition of the *Journal* decidedly bizarre. Despite the excellent action coverage proving the vitality of the movement, the *Journal* staff and others took up about 1/3 of the issue whining about the end of EF! It seems that certain people are determined to drag the whole movement down with them.

I'm currently pounding the western pavement on the EF! Grizzly Bear Revival Show and have been too absorbed in this to pay a lot of attention to all the absurd political infighting and posturing occurring within EF! I didn't get involved with EF! to argue endlessly about tactics and goals and political leanings. In fact I have purposefully avoided paying too much attention to this sort of crap, but I feel cynicism rising like bile in my throat. Goddamnit, SNAP OUT OF IT! Get back to the real work or we truly have had it. EF! is becoming so concerned with the image of the movement that we are spending more energy on this than on defending the planet. We haven't got time for such drivel.

Nothing irks me more than endless debate and bickering in lieu of action. Is anyone with me? Will it be arguments or actions? I don't give a damn what we call ourselves, EF! or Toads From Hell, so long as we act effectively in defense of Earth and not our own egos and agendas.

I'll quit whining now, but let us take our lesson from the Shawnee blockaders and get down to it.

— Phil Knight

Dear EF! *Journal*,

Your last issue was great. I read it from cover to cover. Scandal and infighting doesn't save any wilderness, but it sure makes good reading. Why don't you consider a spin-off publication solely devoted to bickering and expose? What people really want is gossip, not news.

Seriously though, the issue was good — really good. Why? It made me realize how many subtly different and yet rational ways there are of looking at the same subject. A movement that tolerates such diversity can survive — even if it is not as a single unit. You need people that are willing to take direct action with no compromise — yes, that is the core of it. That's what Earth First! needs. But what the Earth itself needs is more than that — it needs a change in the hearts and minds of the vast multitudes. It needs a paradigm shift towards biocentrism, or something like it. I think that wildly divergent views within Earth First! and even its fragmentation is somehow part of that process.

— Karla Jamir, Alexandria, VA

E magazine's interview with my ol' friend Dave Foreman plays into the hands of those who would discredit and dismiss "Earth First!", both outside the movement (the FBI, and exploitive corporations, and compromising environmental organizations) and within.

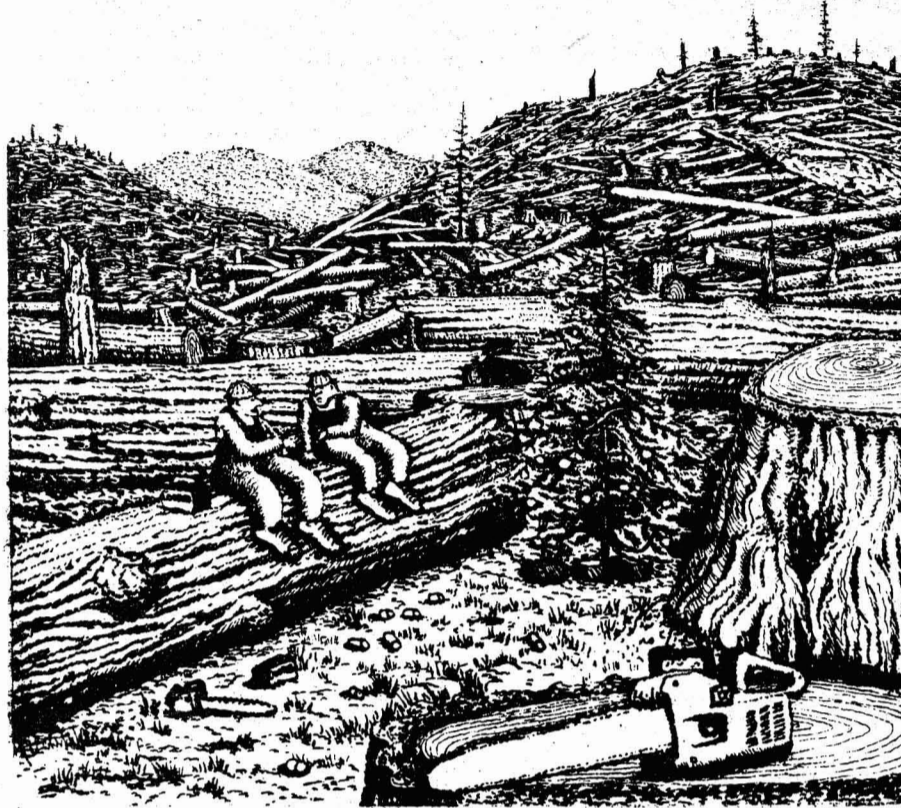
I've been involved with the diverse EF! movement for years, organizing and participating in literally hundreds of demonstrations in defense of the last wild places. As a contributing writer and artist for the *EF! Journal*, I've watched the evolution of ethical resistance and the re-making of a tribe. Never intended as a homogeneous group, EF! has unified around a common, singular priority: the Earth organism, en toto, comes first, ahead of the narrowly defined human agenda. Now called "deep ecology", our ethos stems from the "sacred world-view" of primal peoples still in touch with the soul of the land. The spirit of EF! is defined by our diversity, autonomy, and nonviolent escalation in the face of the impending destruction of the entire biological fabric. To answer Dave, yes! — Earth First! the priority, and Earth First! the tribe should and will survive attacks by both the exploitive, dominant system, and the divisive gestures of departing "leaders." The tribe is alive!

Foreman has my lasting gratitude for his contributions to our biocentric struggle, and his fiery speeches were instrumental in my personal "activation". His rules for radicals and attendant dress code, however, have been flatly rejected by the movement. I'm tired of reading in every national magazine (and page after page of the last *Journal*) whining attacks on EFlers. "California hippies"? There's never been more than a couple "rednecks for wilderness" at any action, and those willing to risk arrest for the Earth come predominantly from the alternative culture, "Leftists"? No! We are, however, "tribalists" tired of apologizing for remarks made by media-created "leaders" construed as sexist, racist, or fascist. As deep ecologists, we cannot accept the validity of artificial boundaries (whether defining token wilderness ar-

reas, or blocking the migration of "hispanic hordes"). We cannot accept a set of rules and an '80s dress code that purports to limit us. Deep ecology describes the inextricable connection between all elements of a living, breathing planet. Likewise, we recognize the inherent connection between the suppression of women and minorities, and the suppression of other lifeforms; between tolerance of nonutilitarian wilderness and tolerance of our own imminent re-wilding.

We seek no common platform, no unified party line. Like Martin Luther King, we are less a victim of extremists and FBI than of those "more devoted to order than to justice. . . who constantly say 'I agree with the goal you seek, but I cannot agree with your methods.'"

There is no conflict between monkeywrenching and civil disobedience, revolution and restoration biology. Spirituality without manifestation is indulgent and



CHRISTMAS IN THE REDWOODS

By Claus Sievert

bankrupt. Likewise, direct action without a sense of the sacred emulates the mindset and methodology of the dominant paradigm. Ask the women and men still active in the EF! movement for a more accurate report on its health. No flag-waving. No flag-burning.

I'm moved by the Rendezvous image of hundreds of activists at the Tribal Unity Dance, celebrating their magical empowerment. The joyous cause. The good dance. — Lone Wolf Circles, Reserve, NM

Dear SFB:

I had hoped I'd be able to avoid writing about this, but now it seems this'll be my only chance, I must. Some Earth Firsters think burning the flag is a trivial issue. I strongly disagree. The first indication of cultural sensitivity is respect for manners. Burning the flag, while it does absolutely nothing for preserving wilderness or biodiversity, does alienate a large number of Americans.

Specifically, it rankles the sizeable veterans community, of which I am a member. It gives politicians like George Bush an issue that they can get elected on. In short, it has no place among members of the environmental movement, radical or otherwise.

We talk a lot about toilet training industry. Ralph Nader used those very words as a description of Big Green, an initiative on the California ballot, when he came to the UC Berkeley campus. It's time we toilet trained the people who will be working with us on our campaigns.

I have seen several disappointing campaigns where spontaneity and anarchy were placed first, and Earth second. I don't want this trend to continue.

— Dennis Fritzing

Dear Everybody:

I have been a "member" of EF! and a subscriber to the *Journal* for several years and felt compelled to comment on some of the problems covered in the last issue.

1. My thanks to the present and past staffs of the *Journal*. I hate to see it change. To me, the valuable portions of the *Journal* are (a) conservation biology articles, (b) Tribal Lore, and (c) book reviews.

As to the book reviews, there are books being published that I would not hear of were it not for your paper. It may be boring for some, but it doesn't take up that much space and is irreplaceable.

As to the biology articles, I am preju-

dated in that I am a science buff. However, education of its human inhabitants is extremely important to the survival of the Earth. When I read one of those articles or books, I pass on the information I have learned to others. This, in turn, prevents (admittedly in a small way) destruction and ignorance of the planet that would have otherwise occurred.

Tribal Lore is a tremendous help to this avid letter-writer. Occasionally, I am asked by other groups or organizations to let them know what they, as groups, can do to help the Earth. I just turn to my latest Tribal Lore and give them several tidbits of what horrors are occurring and what to do about it.

As far as the "action" controversy goes, I admire those who participate in direct action and heartily support them and participate myself, though not to the degree most of them do. However, it doesn't assist me in educating myself, educating others or per-

seems the current majority of EFlers doesn't agree with me. Thank you for the information, inspiration and the laughs you've given me over the years, and I wish you all the best in the future and hope I hear from and of you in the years to come.

— Frances Longmire, Los Angeles, CA

Hey! Listen up —

I'm mad as hell! I spent a year and a half of my young male life searching for someone else who felt the same as I did (later, I found out, biocentric). Then, lo and behold, I found the *Journal*. Not just a person, an entire newspaper! Reading my first issue (May 1) was sheer ecstasy.

But, I was (am) disturbed by the apparent hypocrisy shown in the public lands grazing = welfare ranching dispute. Yes, it is wrong for "our" government to subsidize the destruction of the American West, but it is also wrong to support the subsidy by eating the beef produced. kd lang is right. Meat stinks!

On another note, I nearly lost my cruelty-free lunch when I read J.P. Bernhard's "As the Sizzleworm Sizzles." I quote, "Skinning and gutting a rattler is an easy nearly odorless job. When that's done you whack 'em up into six inch pieces", etc., etc. That's not even factory food, or exotic shoot-to-kill game birds, that's honest to goodness, indigenous All-American rattler. How can one actively promote biodiversity when one is busy eating it? Don't talk with your mouth full of shit, OK?

Now I'm a nice guy. I don't mean any harm but if I HEAR ONE MORE BLEEDING HEART CRY FOR SAWMILL WORKERS, I think I may just lose. The Nazis in Dachau were just following orders, right? Same principle. I don't want to hurt anyone but I'd rather shoot a human than an indigenous white-tailed deer. Maim a poor, innocent sawmill worker than see one more coyote in a leg-hold trap. I'm sick of this sympathy shit!

So, for the record, I'm for spiking every tree in the U.S., torching every Caterpillar, closing every sawmill, and stopping all those innocents from butchering trees.

Now then, if some of you want to sit in a circle, hold hands, smoke grass, and wish everything away, that's fine. Go on a hunger strike. BUT YOU DAMN WELL BETTER LEAVE MY RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL ALONE! Got it?

— Buffalo Dreamin' in Topeka

Kill the guards!

I will confess now at the outset that I shed no tears over the recent resignations of certain prominent persons. It's been awfully boring listening to reactionary whining. Now that's done, hopefully, but we're only halfway home. As some folks are packing their bags, others are waiting to move in and redecorate. I say burn the house down, and let's live outdoors for awhile.

This whole hoopla seems to derive from some people's attachment to media image and public perception. The old guard doesn't want to be viewed as woo-woo leftie reformers and the new guard doesn't want to be viewed as insensitive redneck assholes. To hell with that! I don't give two hoots what America thinks Earth First! is. It doesn't affect my work in the world. It only affects people who are making a personal career out of "representing" Earth First!. All that these folks give me is headaches. Let's throw the bastards out!

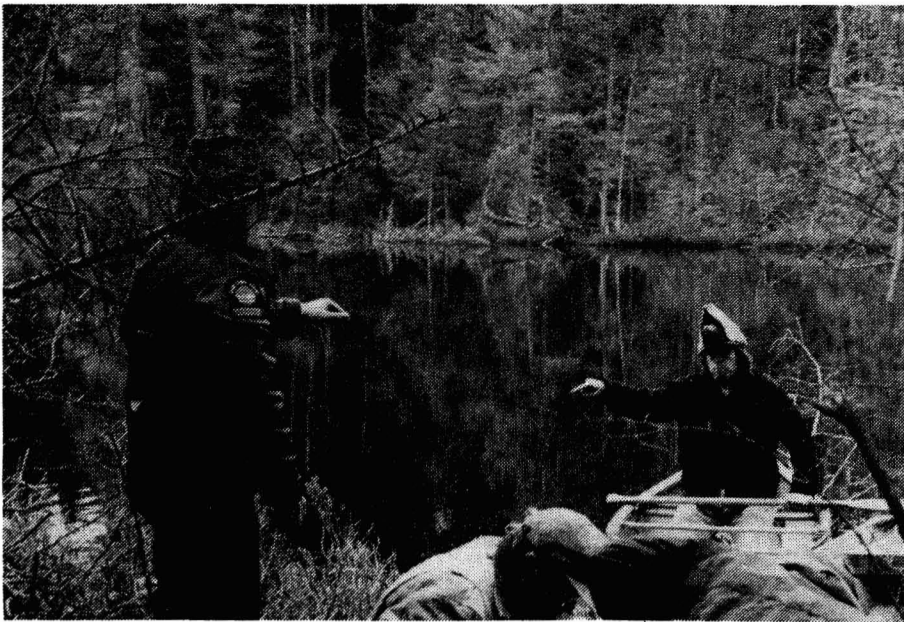
When I first saw the renouncement of tree spiking by a handful of "organizers" in California, I read it as their resignation from the movement. But I'd like them to make it more explicit, just so we don't have to listen to them anymore. Let's have one more excrement issue with the last statements and formal resignations of everyone who signed that renouncement. It won't be any great loss, since all their recent activism that I know of has been calling media friends from their offices. They might as well get jobs.

That will leave Earth First! to the wolves, as the saying goes; it will leave it to people who don't care about their national image because they are too busy working on campaigns or sleeping under old trees, as if all the excited media garbage had nothing to do with the real world of sagebrush, stars, bearshit and bison. It is a garrulous bunch, an ugly crowd, a mixed blessing. I for one am not inclined to overlook others' faults, such as racism, sexism, or socialism, but we can deal with it; I won't split with anyone just because I'm embarrassed by them in front of a TV. Smash the media! and kill the guards, kill the old guard, kill the new guard, kill every guard you meet, kill all the guards! Let's live wild for our little time, and then die, with dignity.

— Simon "ConSafos" Zapotes

Dear Earth somewhere in th Top 10!ers:

Now that those damn Foremanistas are headed towards extinction, we'll need more of us, so please quit printin those 'no more



Jamie Sayen debates an EnCop over the fate of Tract Pond, while a would-be pond-poisoning crew attempts to launch their boat.

Tract Pond . . .

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exempted under state wetlands law. Also, October 15 is the last date rotenone may be legally used. Injunctions had pushed the date beyond that. Trout Unlimited then became involved, on the side of the state, which delayed the hearings that could have stopped pond reclamation altogether. Up to this point, Nellie, Betsy, and one other pond had already been poisoned. PAW and Legal Action for Animals hoped to stop DEC from also doing in Dry Mountain and Tract Ponds.

Jeff returned to the trailhead and met Officer Jarvis, a notorious lawbreaker reportedly disliked even by many in the police force. "And don't you dump any shit on the equipment," Jarvis warned. Apparently wood sprites had showered the supplies with butyric acid, leaving a vile stench.

Jeff went down to meet Jamie, who was paddling around in the pond wearing his salmon hat. Jamie looked up to see the boat plug from the DEC rowboat land in his boat. Jeff grilled Bill Bostittute and his assistant on pond ecology as they readied their equipment. "The biologist couldn't answer shit about pond ecology," Jeff later said.

Pond Reclamation

Is Not Restoration

The following are some of the problems with pond reclamation:

* The poisons used in pond reclamation are not species specific and therefore destroy life

beyond the scope of the perceived problem. Non-target victims include salamanders, crayfish, aquatic insects, nematodes, leaches, phytoplankton, and zooplankton.

* Habitat destruction through out-of-region factors (e.g., global warming and acid deposition) is unraveling the biotic systems of the Northeastern United States. Healthy ecosystems are best able to respond and adapt to these factors because of their stability and diversity. Reclamation drastically reduces the diversity, and therefore the stability, of aquatic ecosystems.

* The ponds in question show normal and healthy populations. Suckers, dace, and chubs are the prey base for a healthy trout population.

* Reclamation is only effective for five to ten years before natural and human-made factors mitigate the process by reestablishing diversity. A niche will not remain unoccupied. If a pond has low diversity it is because the pond is poor in trophic levels and very susceptible to ecological crashes. Simplistic systems are unstable and lack resiliency.

* Pond reclamation is the destruction of life, not restoration. Reclamation is to a pond what the Exxon Valdez was to Prince William Sound — except Exxon did that by accident.

While Jeff was verbally agitating on shore, Jamie paddled toward the men carrying the DEC boat down to the shore. He paddled up close, as his objective was to prevent the poisoning. The boat motor was attached and gear hauled down to the boat. The EnCops yelled to get out of the way. Jamie responded "you're not going to poison this pond!" The cops started to get aggressive. One of the cops slammed the rowboat

into Jamie's canoe. A cop in the rowboat reached out and grabbed the canoe, yelling about Jamie interfering. However, Jamie's only purpose was to interfere with the dumping of the rotenone and that was still 20 yards up on the bank.

On shore Jeff was told by EnCop Jarvis to stay put. Jeff moved out on a mossy, watery hummock jutting out into the pond. Jarvis yelled "stay right there!" Jeff was now only arms length from the canoe and Jamie.

Jamie argued with the cops who had a hold on the canoe and were dragging it in. "Move or be arrested," they told him. When Jamie stood up, the cop said he was under arrest. Action then shifted to the shore.

Jeff was explaining to the cops how you can't arrest a person who hasn't done anything yet when EnCop Jarvis lost his temper and grabbed him. Jeff lost his balance on the unstable hummock was very unstable and began to fall. He reached down to stop his fall onto a downed tree. When Jarvis couldn't pull Jeff up, he pushed him into the pond. Then Jarvis fell in too.

Jamie, Bill, and the reporter watched in horror as Jarvis forced Jeff's head down into the water. Jarvis, by the way, was of great size. "It looked like the guy was trying to drown Jeff," Jamie said later. A second cop entered the water and pounced on Jeff. The two cops dragged him out and 15 feet up the grade. They dropped him face down in the moss, where he lay motionless.

The cop about to arrest Jamie told him to move up the hill. "If you want to protest go to Saudi Arabia," one of the semi-literate cops bellowed.

Accompanying Jamie back up the trail were two of the cops. No other witnesses went with them as everyone else was by the pond where Jeff still lay face down. Two to three minutes down the trail Jamie and the cop started arguing. The cop halted them, obviously unable to handle himself, and shoved Jamie, yelling at him, "put your hands on that tree!" Jamie hugged the tree. The cop was screaming at this point, "hands behind, feet spread!" He went berserk and grabbed Jamie's ankles to physically force them apart, causing Jamie's head to scrape down the tree as his feet went out from under him. When his head hit bottom, he gashed his chin, later requiring six stitches. Jamie landed with one hand behind his back. The cop dropped on top of him demanding the other hand, shaking and screaming "If you say another word I'll break you."

"All I know," Jamie later said, "was that I went into the woods without handcuffs on and no blood on me. When I came out I was cuffed and bleeding." When he reached the road Jamie turned to the second cop who was escorting and watching the whole time. "Did you see an act of violence against me?" Jamie asked. "I didn't see anything," the cop

muttered. At this point Jamie did not know that he would be charged with felony assault on the cop who attacked him.

Back by the pond Jarvis wrenched Jeff's arm up behind him. Jeff had a knee in his back and was tightly handcuffed as he was pulled to his feet. He fell to his knees due to the blinding pain in his arm and wrists. After negotiating, they loosened the cuffs and Jeff agreed to walk out with Jarvis.

Sitting soaking wet in the police car with Jeff, Jarvis suddenly complained of his aching shoulder, calmly stating, "yeah, what I have is a dislocated shoulder." This was to be the so-called evidence of assault. Both Jarvis and the cop who abused Jamie checked themselves into the hospital the next morning for "dislocated shoulder" and "aggravated gall bladder condition."

Jamie subsequently requested hospital care for the gash in his face. Jeff spent one and one half days cold and wet in his cell before he dried out and warmed up. Bail was set at \$5000 each. Reportedly, the district attorney was supposed to drop the bail and possibly reduce the fabricated charges; but being up for reelection against a conservative who made the issue of cracking down on criminals the focus of the race, he reneged and bail and charges stood.

Both Jamie and Jeff are now out on bail and recovering. A trial date has not as of this writing been set.

Tract Pond lost many of its inhabitants that day. "Conservation officers" showed their true faces as they assisted in the biocide and fabricated serious charges against the two committed activists. However, in losing the battle, PAW may have won the war. Rumor has it that Governor Cuomo has told the DEC to stop its pond poisoning for the year; and PAW has generated enough public sentiment against the DEC's pond killing that the agency will think twice before renewing such efforts next year.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

*Write Thomas Jorling, DEC Commissioner, Albany, NY 12224 and demand an investigation of the incident that is railroading these activists toward incarceration.

*Write NY Governor Mario Cuomo with the same concerns at Executive Chamber, State Capitol, Albany NY 12224 (518-474-8390).

*As bail money interests and lawyer costs rise, contributions are needed. Send to PAW, RFD 1, Box 530, North Stratford NH 03590. Jeff Elliott and Jamie Sayen, as you may know, write for *EF! Journal*, put out the *Glacial Erratic*, attend hearings, file injunctions, speak for an untold numbers of species, and put their bodies on the line as full time Earth defenders throughout New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, and New York. They deserve our utmost support.

Letters . . .

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bables' articles. Ya see, doodoo is my business (it may be shit to you, but it's my bread and butter!). I need people shittin in toilets cause I produce, assemble, an install wastewater treatment systems. Therefore, more people means I'll always have a job — Labor First! Which brings up another point . . . concrete. I work at a batchplant an I need sand, gravel, an portland cement, so please quit printin those 'repeal th 1872 minin law' articles. Shit, how can I help all those YUMPIes move into th forests if I can't get supplies at a decent price? An speakin of minin, please quit printin those 'stop pumice mines' articles. Shit, if I can't use lavasoap to get the 'crete off my hands from buildin all these tanks for all those people, I'm liable to trash my stonewashed dungarees. I don't like bein wasteful. . .

These are th real issues — jobs an their interconnectedness to th planet!
— Monee MacHine, Nohabitat, VA

POINTS OF CONSIDERATION re THE GREAT EARTH FIRST! DEBATE

1) The editor, and others in the editorial group of the *Earth First! Journal*, have been thin skinned in their response to criticism. My own view, based on several years of subscribing to this journal, is that critical commentary was suppressed because of the viewpoint that such commentary was "divisive" and a distraction from the practical work. There was little understanding that critical discussion was needed, providing it was in the context of building the movement.

2) It is wrong for those who are being criticized in *Earth First!* to walk away. The *Journal*, for example, whatever its faults, has provided needed leadership to the *Earth First!* movement. Walking away is actually cutting off the head of a movement which has fundamentally challenged the American

rape of the natural world and inspired a number of people to action. *Agents of Repression*, the book on the FBI by Ward Churchill and Jim VanderWall, a recommended *EF!* reading, shows that this police agency has exploited differences and egos in oppositional movements in order to destroy them. *Earth First!* is such a movement. So anyone who has become influential in *EF!* should be very tolerant of differences and take the high road. Personally, I can admire reported actions by some "high profile" *Earth First!*ers, but there is no way I would want to spend any time with them. The way a few of these people write, comes through as arrogant and self serving. A secondary point is that a person can make a contribution through having put their body on the line for wilderness, wildlife or the defense of biodiversity, but be quite backward in their political or social views, or in their understanding of the necessity of diversity from an intellectual viewpoint. It can never only be one way forward.

3) *Earth First!* should welcome all those with a biocentric perspective and who want to do some work to advance this. *EF!* is not a social club for what we call in Canada, "flopsters", who have nothing else to do with their lives. Yet it is important to not ask someone to do more than she or he is prepared to do at a particular time. Commitment grows with involvement.

4) People come into the environmental movement from across the political spectrum. There is nothing wrong with this. But contrary to some who seem to have come from a right-of-center political position, socialists or communists can have a biocentric perspective. To label, as has been done, criticism as "leftist", is merely to reflect the general anti-communist sentiments which are part of mindless America. (Socialism is a human-centered perspective but so is capitalism as an economic or political philosophy.) There has been a general anti-left hostility among some "leading" *Earth First!*ers. In my opinion, this has not only been stupid but helped promote the human-

centered social ecology position as being concerned with the "larger" picture. Yet *EF!* has to be concerned with this expanded vision, if wilderness, wildlife and biodiversity are to have a chance. America is the contemporary imperial power in the world, using the military, technology, economic power and crass "culture", to impose its will. Capitalism does promote endless growth and a consumerism without end. What this means for the soul and practice of *Earth First!* has to be a major concern, not dismissed as leftist anthropocentrism.

5) Re coalition building: We need to raise the alternative vision of relating to the Natural World and then a major concern has to be how to implement this. Implementation requires coalition building but is secondary to the first task. Coalitions are fine if they take the preservation of the ecological integrity of the planet as the primary task. But social justice is only possible in a context of ecological justice. We should strive for alliances, but it is wrong to give up fundamental beliefs, or proven tactics which have given individuals an opportunity to make a difference.

6) It is very hard to establish an oppositional movement in America. But *Earth First!* has done this. Large numbers of people have come forward and been prepared to make sacrifices for non-human life forms. This has been a real achievement and has become a threat to those who look on the Earth as a warehouse of "resources" waiting to be exploited and put to human use. This is no time to walk away.

— David Orton, Saltsprings, N.S., Canada

An open letter to the good folks on the staff at *EF!*:

It was with great dismay that I read of your impending resignations from the *Journal* staff. Your services and talents will be greatly missed.

I was struck with the degree of pain and anguish which was displayed in your editorials of the September edition. Your frustra-

tions are shared by many who have watched *EF!* grow and evolve. Possible, you may be experiencing those feelings of the parent watching their offspring divert from those parental expectations to go out and fulfill their own needs. Certainly, the movement has grown in number and diversity, and it is logical that such would happen.

Growing up in the traditional Midwest, I was never exposed to others with a sense of environmental balance. The *EF! Journal* has provided support for many, like me, who need that sense of community and support to hold onto those untraditional values while laboring under the dominant paradigm of anthropocentrism. I am concerned for myself, at the philosophical diversion of the movement's original premise — *Earth First!* and ecoteism.

And possibly the most disturbing development is the recent emphasis upon personalities rather than issues. I have never met any of you all, personally (though someday I would like to). I have objected to many ideas and disagreed with others, but would not allow those ideas determine a bias about the authors as personalities. From a psychiatric perspective, the relegation of issues as secondary to the personalities involved is immature.

Your decision to end your duties with *EF!* is healthy. Like a child that develops its own personality and goals, *EF!* has grown and evolved into something with which you can no longer identify and may no longer believe. It sounds like you are now prepared to let it evolve as it will, and return to the philosophy, life, and activities with which you began. While it may be painful, it is certainly adaptive. And mother earth has shown us that adaptation is the trait most necessary for healthy survival.

My only concern is for those of us who have benefitted so dearly from the efforts and support of the original *EF!* philosophy. Please stay in touch. We need you.

— Brent Bolyard, San Antonio, TX

Grazing in National Parks . . .

continued from page 1

units historic ranching damage lingers (Yosemite, Canyonlands, and Petrified Forest, for example). Some ranchers with allotments on NPS lands — and even some without — are granted permission to trail livestock across NPS lands.

Most NPS stockmen pay the same micro-fee charged other federal permittees under the Public Rangelands Improvement Act formula — \$1.81 in 1990, or about 1/5 fair market value. Also, as with other BLM and FS permittees, the government sponsors nearly all of their range developments and guarantees construction and maintenance of any range "improvements" deemed necessary for continued ranching. NPS reports indicate that NPS spends millions of tax dollars each year on or because of ranching — at least several times what it takes in from grazing fees. Many of these reports complain of fiscal waste on ranching management, personnel tied up with ranching matters, overgrazing and structural damages to Parks, and cattle in campgrounds and other tourist areas.

... there is no authorized cattle grazing in the park . . . There are inholdings of private land and many acres of private and public land along Zion's boundaries where grazing is permitted. Maintaining fence along the boundary is a large task. Although we have a very good fence crew, it needs to be bigger to completely exclude cattle. We also badly need additional managers to patrol for cattle trespass and other violations.

—Harold L. Grafe, Superintendent, Zion National Park, Utah, 8-18-89 letter

Rivaling and perhaps even surpassing permitted ranching as a problem on National Park Service lands is trespass grazing. The Parks' relatively lush vegetation is a magnet for nearby hungry livestock, which commonly break through fences or come through open gates, perhaps with a little help from their owners. Ranchlands border nearly all Parks in the West and the thousands of miles of protective fences in often rugged terrain are difficult and expensive for NPS to maintain. Thus, the job descriptions of many NPS employees, even in "ungrazed" Parks, include patrolling for trespassing livestock; closing gates; chasing cattle, sheep, and horses out of tourist areas; rounding up, moving, and caring for trespass animals; repairing developments and mitigating environmental impacts; dealing with permittees; and building and mending fence.

Most Parks in the West report problems from trespass livestock. A 1986 project statement by Kings Canyon National Park in California, for example, states that impacts from trespassing cattle include, "trampling of wetlands, conversion of grass to feces, formation of cattle trails, extra erosion, fecal deposition in streams, and destruction of sedges . . ." The statement requests "\$300,000 for the first year and \$20,000/yr thereafter for increased patrol and fence maintenance." A similar statement by Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument in southern Arizona requests \$195,000 for fencing, patrolling, and other management due to "serious" trespass problems "which could multiply manifold" if protective measures are not taken. At world-famous Grand Canyon National Park, officials state that trespass grazing has caused changes in soil, native wildlife, and vegetation; they likewise request more protective fencing. In northwestern California's Redwood National Park, 117 cattle and horses were reported to have trespassed 1170 acres in 1984 (the latest figures available); recently \$22,000 was expended there to modify 4 miles of the boundary fence because Elk were dying on it. And so on.

Roughly half of all Western Parks are trespassed more or less regularly by livestock from adjacent public and private lands, or from NPS allotments themselves. The Rocky Mountain Region of NPS reports in its *Summary of Livestock Grazing for 1987* that livestock trespassed 11 of its 14 grazed units and ate 8% as much herbage as permitted animals. However, as with other federal lands, officially recorded amounts probably represent only a small fraction of actual trespass. I have several times witnessed trespassing cattle or sheep which were undiscovered or ignored or later chased out of Parks without official recognition.

Wyoming's U.S. Senator Clifford Hansen held, in the Tetons, the largest grazing permit in all the Park Service — for 569 cattle. The permit had originated as trespass grazing in clear violation of federal law years before. The record was clear — the Park Service would have to enforce its own laws and regulations and cancel Hansen's permit and others like it. . . . The chief ranger was a tall, experienced man who carefully read my memorandum

before he called me into his office. He clapped a fatherly hand on my shoulder and looked both concerned and sympathetic. "Young man," he said, "I don't care what you find in those records; as long as Cliff Hansen sits on the Senate Interior Committee, we ain't going to fuck with his cows."

—Bernard Shanks, *This Land Is Your Land* (1984)

Here's the ranching situation on several NPS units:

In Wyoming's Grand Teton National Park 24,000 acres are grazed by 1600 cattle owned by 8 permittees. Most of this acreage is in the beautiful, grassy, and profitable Snake River Valley; political string pulling secured continued ranching here. Park visitors are encouraged to view the overgrazing cattle, fences, and other range developments as part of the natural scenery.

Southern Utah's Zion National Park, world-renowned for its spectacular canyons and colorful rock formations, hosts a private cattle ranch within its boundaries, with guaranteed access, though none of the Park is legally grazed. An adjacent permittee drives herds of cattle through part of the Park each spring. Reports show that in 1987, 200 trespassing cattle grazed 1200 AUMs on 5400 Park acres, upsetting fragile riparian corridors and desert ecology. Herds of sheep also trespass Zion's verdant high country, but little of this is officially recognized or challenged.

The recently created, largely overgrazed Great Basin National Park in east-central Nevada would have encompassed hundreds of thousands of acres of basin and range if it had been meant to truly represent the Basin and Range province. Under pressure from stockmen the proposed Park's size was reduced until all that remained was 77,100 acres — all in the steep mountains, with the least productive rangeland. Thus Great Basin National Park contains no basin! Language in the Park bill — without which the bill probably would not have passed — allows grazing to continue at more or less pre-existing levels indefinitely. A Park brochure assures tourists that "cattle grazing [is] an integral part of the Great Basin scene." It fails to say that visitors will see thousands of cattle en route to the Park and will hardly wish to see more, especially in the campgrounds, where they now graze. On the sides of the Park's 13,000 foot Wheeler Peak, you may (as I have) find cattle above 10,000'.

Throughout the grazing season, we assisted permittees with livestock management on the Park as often as possible. This fostered good working relations with the permittees.

—Resource Management Plan Updates, 1989, Great Basin National Park

Big Bend National Park in southwest Texas is a designated World Biosphere Reserve. Historic ranching there was so destructive that even now, several decades after being banned, much of the Park bears little resemblance to pre-livestock times. Although most of the Park is gradually recovering, trespassing livestock, mainly from Mexico, so heavily degrade the Rio Grande canyon that in many riparian areas cottonwood regeneration is virtually nonexistent.

Even Channel Islands National Park, off the southern California coast, has livestock problems. Ranching there is scheduled to be phased out over the next decade; however, officials report that largely from past and present overgrazing, all the islands have high rates of soil erosion. Livestock also cause vegetation destruction, disturbance of archeological sites, trail damage, and sloughing of sea cliffs.

Until a few years ago, 1800 to 2500 cattle grazed under BLM administration from October to May each year over most of southern Utah's fantastic Capitol Reef National Park — on 146,393 acres in 1987. A century of grazing had stripped off native vegetation, caused serious soil erosion, dried up springs and creeks, severely harmed the few remaining riparian areas, destroyed most of the cryptogamic layer, and helped extirpate Bighorn Sheep and other species. Cattle and ranching developments degraded the fragile desert scenery and disturbed Park visitors.

When the Park was created from Capitol Reef National Monument and surrounding public lands in 1971, the thirty-some permittees agreed to phase out grazing by 1982. That year, however, Utah Senator Jake Garn and other ranching advocate politicians introduced legislation to extend grazing in the Park for the lifetimes of the permittees and their heirs. Congress compromised by extending grazing until 1994. The Park supervisor recently attempted a buy-out of permits, but the politicians pushed through a provision extending grazing for permittees



photo by Dale Turner

Cattle grazing in El Malpais National Monument.

who don't want to sell, for their lifetimes and those of sons and daughters living in 1971. Today, negotiations and generous pay-offs have induced most stockmen to sell "their" permits, but several permittees still graze the Park.

Ranching in northwest Colorado's 200,000 acre Dinosaur National Monument has also been reduced in recent years, from about 120,000 acres on 22 allotments to about 80,000 acres on 11 allotments. A phase-out program similar to Capitol Reef's allows permittee family members to retain grazing privileges for their lifetimes or cash them in, whichever they desire. As on Capitol Reef, though ranching in the Monument is waning, its legacy will remain for decades or centuries — ravaged grasslands converted to sage and bare dirt, devastated wildlife (Bighorns, for example, were extirpated mostly due to ranching by the early 1950s), depleted soil and waters, ravaged riparian areas, worsened flooding (which damages the Monument's dinosaur fossil beds), road cuts, and other ranching remnants.

Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument in west-central Colorado encompasses a 20-mile portion of the rugged Gunnison River gorge and some rangeland above it. Several permittees run nearly 1000 cattle on about 7000 acres (the remainder is inaccessible, much of it vertical). The owner of one ranch inholding has threatened to bulldoze an access road, clear brush, build stock ponds and ranch structures, harvest Christmas trees, and generally create as big an eyesore as possible if the Park Service doesn't make a lucrative offer for a scenic easement on his 600 acres, while he retains actual title. Another Monument rancher was recently paid 2.1 million dollars for his 4200 acre ranch inholding and given grazing privileges within the monument for 20 years.

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area spreads across 1.25 million acres in southeastern Utah. Its infamous Glen Canyon Dam entombs some of the most wonderful river canyons on Earth under the dead waters of "Lake" Powell. Nearly one million fragile, arid to semi-arid NRA acres are included in 38 grazing allotments that could only support 554 cattle in 1987/88 (about 1800 acres per animal). Most of the remaining one-quarter million acres is under water. Several government agencies are presently conducting tax-sponsored studies for a management plan for long-term livestock grazing in Glen Canyon NRA.

The 1.5 million acre Lake Mead National Recreation Area of southernmost Nevada, northwest Arizona, and southwest Utah is host to the largest National Park Service ranching operation of all, covering about 1.1 million acres. Aside from the Colorado River and "Lake" Mead itself, the entire NRA is low-elevation, hot, arid, and relatively barren. An Eastern livestock producer might think turning cattle out on this burning desert a cruel joke. But the joke is once again on the public and its land, as well as the livestock. BLM resource area offices in Nevada, Arizona, and Utah provide ranching administration and assistance on the NRA for 20 permittees and their cattle. The huge bovines trample and erode the fragile desert soil, crush the cryptogams, and consume the scant greenery. They congregate around the area's few water sources and along the "Lake" Mead and Colorado River shorelines where they invade campgrounds and foul beaches. We pay to fence them out of the locations popular with tourists and a few of the most environmentally sensitive areas. Aside from the usual seasonal grazing, stockmen are allowed to bring their cattle into much of Lake Mead NRA whenever wet weather produces a "surplus" of forage or browse — what is termed "ephemeral grazing."

Point Reyes National Seashore north of San Francisco is largely a livestock operation. Eighteen permittees graze beef cattle, dairy cows, and sheep on about 25,000 acres and cultivate an additional 2000 acres for oats and rye — together, roughly 40% of the Seashore. This includes the most sensitive

portion of the Seashore, with 23 rare plant species and 4 animal species targeted for protection (due partly to ranching impacts). Ranching roads, fences, and outbuildings displace wildlife. Overgrazing removes native vegetation, spreads "pest" species such as thistle and poison hemlock, and increases flooding. Herbicides, pesticides, and livestock wastes pollute fresh and salt water. These influences and increased soil erosion, calculated at 110,000 tons annually, threaten the health of the Drakes and Limantour Estuaries, the last two estuaries on the California coast in a semi-natural state. NPS is currently throwing hundreds of thousands of tax dollars at the problem, rather than halting livestock operations.

Several miles south, just across the bridge from San Francisco, commercial cattle and horses graze more than 2000 acres of Golden Gate NRA.

Through the years ranchers have been foremost among those working to prevent establishment of new National Parks. In some cases they halted them altogether, and often they were able to limit their size. At present, in California's Mojave Desert six permittees are fighting tooth and nail to prevent transformation of BLM's East Mojave Scenic Area into Mojave National Park. The ranchers graze only about 3000 cattle on the arid 1.6 million acre expanse — about one cow per square mile — but their opposition is a formidable barrier to Park designation.

On the 210 million acres in the Midwest that were tallgrass prairie, there are no National Parks or Monuments and less than 3% of the original grassland remains — in degraded condition. Ranchers there have thus far beat back serious attempts to establish a Tallgrass Prairie National Park, first in Kansas and then in Oklahoma.

And of course, many potential Parks will never be realized because stockmen own outright about a quarter of the rural West, including many locations that might otherwise have become Parks.

Nearly every NPS unit where ranching has been banned shows significant recovery — Grand Canyon, Petrified Forest, Rocky Mountain, Yellowstone, Yosemite, Sequoia/Kings Canyon, Canyonlands, Arches, Bryce, Natural Bridges, Wupatki, and many more. In 1978-79 livestock were removed from Arizona's Organ Pipe National Monument. Previously, most of the expansive 500 square mile Monument was desolate due to decades of ranching abuse. Today, even this arid desert is relatively verdant.

Where grazing is permitted and its continuation is not in the best interest of public use or maintenance of the park ecosystem, it will be eliminated . . .

—National Park Service Guideline NPS-53, Special Park Uses

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Cut the cowboy romanticism and treat ranching as the environmental disaster it is.
- Eat less cow or boycott cow.
- Educate about NPS ranching; organize to stop it.
- Contact: Director, National Park Service, Dept. of the Interior, Interior Building, Washington, D.C. 20240; (202) 343-6843. Inform him of NPS ranching problems and demand that the Park Service permanently ban commercial ranching on the world's premier system of natural preserves. Also contact your political representatives, supervisors of individual parks, and anyone else who may have the clout to make changes.
- Involve yourself in management plans for Park Service grazing allotments and use various environmental and public protection mandates to thwart ranching.
- If you discover evidence of ranching while visiting park land, bitch, moan, and generally stir up controversy to the park supervisor, employees, and tourists.
- Take direct action to protect and restore park land.

Boulder Activists Conference

by Sage, Howler, Da'Non, and Karina

The weekend of November 9-11, a group of 80 EF! activists met in Boulder, Colorado. All discussions reflected the opinions and perspectives of those of us there only. When we reached consensus, it was not to make decisions for EF! as a whole, but as agreements between those of us present to take back to our bioregions and local groups for discussion.

Kicking off two days of meetings, an honorary member of the Revolutionary Ecoterrorist Pie Brigade filled two pie shells with whipping cream, and placed them in the center of our circle as an inducement to keep people from talking too much. The two days were spent in a campus classroom discussing, occasionally reaching consensus, with frequent groans about getting outside. Some spent nights drinking, and introduced the Writhing Amoeba concept at a party thrown by Boulder environmentalists.

There were large contingents from Montana and California, with smaller groups and individuals from New Mexico, Missouri, New York, Florida, Texas, Massachusetts, Vermont, Wisconsin, North Carolina, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Alaska and Colorado. Highlighting the meeting were discussions about our direction as a movement, where the Journal will be published, how fundraising mechanisms work, and what rumors need refuting. We also addressed philosophies, tactics, media, security and communication. This was an opportunity to "take the gloves off," i.e. the gloves of niceness that keep us from honestly challenging each other's words and actions.

We began Saturday by focusing on "what is Earth First?!" After much discussion we realized a few basic things we can all agree on. Our joint statement of who we are follows:

- EF! is a collection of autonomous groups and individuals operating under 4 basic principles:
1. Put the Earth First!
 2. Biocentrism, Biodiversity, and Wildness
 3. No Compromise
 4. Take Action

As a movement, one with respect for diversity, these are merely simplified concepts which underlie our actions and positions. We agreed that while the movement is growing, we have no right to keep any people out, and yet we need to be wary of cooptation and compromise (e.g., to please a large group).

Ideas for improving communication were shared, as we all agreed that waiting for a paper to arrive every six weeks was not enough. One idea, an Earth First! National Hotline, is being set up right now (see sidebar). EcoNet has been a very effective communication tool for many of us computer dweebs. A phone tree has been set up among local contacts. It was also suggested we use the mail more often, particularly with respect to the many EF!ers who have no phones.

Finally we agreed to get down to some of the real problems. A high priority is to stop the name-calling and deal with rumors by direct communication, checking with people before assuming that what we hear is accurate. We discussed the use of the Journal as a place for internal analysis, self criticism and debate. We condemned the airing of

personal conflicts in the media and failure to communicate directly instead. Many reluctantly acknowledged their enormous egos and decided to try not to be so thin-skinned. Some activists expressed frustration at having to deal with the fallout from statements made by a few media starlets. Recognizing how manipulative and distorted the media is, let's not believe everything we read (really?). We reiterated that anyone who speaks in the name of EF! speaks for herself only and must make this clear in every interview. Since it's natural for "media sluts" to arise, we're all committed to spreading the responsibility of spokespersons, so that more opinions and personalities are expressed.

Although many local EF! groups are still strong, some are burnt out and some have been successfully infiltrated and fractured. We were reminded that movements have been splintered by back-biting and feuding. Is there really a split in the EF! movement? No, just a lot of rumors, bad-mouthing, hurt feelings and poor communication. Unfortunately a small, but important group is leaving our diverse tribe to pursue their vision for saving some wilderness.

Some people, particularly in the East, think that the EF! split is between the conservation biology types and the direct action types. We agreed that both these philosophies are equally important and vital to our struggle. Taking action can be via pen as well as monkeywrench. On the other hand, a rumor has spread that activists don't want the Journal to print any more conservation biology articles. This myth was dispelled by those of us present agreeing that direct action and conservation biology should work hand in hand. This seeming split may have come from a debate over what the Journal has been choosing to cover. The new Journal group promised to address this with fairness and respect.

Three groups made proposals for the new Journal: Wild Rockies EF!, Colorado EF!, and Big River Action Group. Each gave presentations on format, staff structure, and purpose of the Journal, as well as their qualifications for the job. Although Wild Rockies clearly had the best qualifications and ideas, we all know it was one Montanan's collection of cardigan sweaters that swayed the vote.

Certainly all groups appeared qualified and enthusiastic. As their format will show, the structure WREF! described will make it easy for people to fill staff positions with a choice of time commitments. Several individuals outside of the Wild Rockies expressed interest in working on the Journal and were encouraged to join in with the new staff when things get rolling. (See letter of introduction in this issue.)

The Direct Action Fund (DAF) was the first in a series of topics on fundraising mechanisms within Earth First!. Pickin' Karrots gave us a summary of what campaigns DAF has funded, how to apply for funds, and who's been working with it. DAF is in transition with some new people moving in and others moving out. After discussion of how DAF works, consensus was reached to keep DAF the way it is, to let people working with it choose a new backup check signer, to publish reports in the Journal every six months or so, and to have an east coast DAF contact chosen at the PAW

conference in December.

The discussion over the Arizona Five Legal Defense Fund revolved around raising enough money to cover legal costs and living expenses for the defendants during the upcoming three month trial. Nearly all money received thus far has gone for trial preparations, and the fund is now almost empty. A letter will be sent out soon to raise funds for better lawyers (a public defender was fired for suggesting one defendant testify against another), and for defendants to survive during months of sitting in a courtroom. Donations can be sent to EF! Legal Offense Fund, c/o David Atkin, 296 E 5th Ave #309, Eugene, OR 97401.

A member of the EF! Foundation board gave a brief presentation. He noted that the board has become all-male and predominantly Californian. We discussed the gender imbalance (nearly all board members who've resigned in the past three years are women) and supported nominations of several women (not from California). It was suggested that the Journal include regular reports as well as occasional reminders of how the Foundation works.

In the tactics discussion, people urged groups that are planning mass media statements about a policy or philosophy shift to communicate with other groups carefully beforehand. We must use the Journal for clarifications as well as communiques, to allow input prior to these kinds of announcements. For example, the denunciation of tree spiking in Northern California was widely misunderstood and distorted by media miscommunication, as though it was a national EF! position. The people responsible for renouncing tree-spiking in Northern California and Oregon explained that the statement was a tactic chosen specifically for their area, and was never meant to be seen as an EF! policy. Further, they explained that a letter asking for input had been sent out to every EF! contact, and only two replied. Their press statement clearly stated the renunciation was only from the groups and individuals who signed. Unfortunately the media distorted the statement to imply that all of the EF! movement renounced spiking. Several activists felt that the press shouldn't have been used at all, and that the renunciation had negative repercussions in their areas. (In many places, tree spiking has been very effective in stopping timber cuts, but media coverage made it seem like EF! was discouraging it.)

One Montanan suggested we all read his quotes in Pro-Warriors to learn how not to talk to the press. Two women informed us that we can find them quoted (not pictured?) in the latest issue of a "men's magazine" — at which point a cream pie flew and struck one of them in the face. (The women also confessed that the interviewer misrepresented his position and type of magazine.)

The security discussion brought hair-raising stories of infiltration and harassment from several states. Suggestions included documenting all incidents of harassment and suspicious behavior, and keeping a file on infiltrators, because one agent may travel from group to group, and will often use similar tactics. The Journal is a good place to report on suspicious characters, although some people warned that we'd have to be pretty sure before writing in, and not to let paranoia blind us. Other suggestions: put files in a "safehouse" where no one is directly connected to your group. Mix your EF! contacts into an address book with friends and perhaps even others unknown to you, picked randomly from the phone book. (ed. note: Roger Featherstone has suggested that this is a poor idea, as it could mean bringing uninvolved persons under the watchful eyes of federal agents. Perhaps it would be better to mix in the good names with names of corporate executives.—JD)

Keep friends and family informed about what you're involved in as much as possible. Confront anyone (tactfully) who seems to be saying weird or stupid things, and ask them personal questions if you are suspicious. Occasionally go back and repeat questions to see if they keep their story straight. Don't feel bad, just check it out. Read Agents of Repression, by Ward Churchill, et al., and The War at Home, by Brian Glick.

With mid-day temperatures in Boulder rising to 75 degrees, our restless group met outside and continued with an address by two speakers from the International Indian Treaty Council. The first offered sage (and the rest of us) advice: "North is not up, and South is not down." As descendants of 500 years of resistance and struggle, and a constant target of government persecution, they spoke of ways in which our issues and theirs are the same.

On dealing with violence, he asserted that most white humans see violence as something that can be avoided, a rude intru-

EF! Hotline

To hear EF! action alerts, urgent updates, and events scheduled for the current week, call the Earth First! National Hotline:

415-647-9175

If you have information you think should be on the hotline, call the number and leave a message with your name and phone number and any info you think we should include. Due to limited space, we cannot include everything going on with every local EF!

sion; whereas native people know that violence is something that just happens, "like the weather." Violence can shock and immobilize us. But when we come to accept it as a reality, we can be free to cry and laugh and then move on with our work.

The second speaker reminded us that the government lackeys in the BIA and on tribal councils often do not represent the feelings of the tribe. So while it may seem that many native people are abandoning their earth-centered ways in favor of development (mining, logging, tourism), we would do well to contact traditional peoples directly, not via middlemen who do their best to keep us from working together.

As tribal cultures are being destroyed, so is their mother (and our mother), the Earth. Native peoples' sense of "self" is not separate from the Earth, therefore they don't see human rights issues as different from wilderness or other environmental issues. We don't need to totally agree with or embrace their issues, or they ours, but where our struggle is the same, we will come together.

A hot topic of discussion was "Racism in Earth First!" Some people feel that Earth First! has always been open to anyone wanting to participate. Many expressed that merely being "open" is no solution, as we have all seen in regard to wimmin in the movement. One person gave an example of the lie of "openness" by citing that he is one of only three openly gay people within this movement, and that others at a RRR planning session expressed fear that he would bring his gay friends. Homophobia, racism, sexism, classism, and other "isms" are things we may not embrace as our issues, but let's not pretend they don't exist in our biocentric little heads.

In the Redwood Summer campaign report, organizers reminded us that Redwood Summer was organized as a coalition, not as an EF! campaign. It was an experiment of mass actions in the woods, in corporate headquarters and in the streets. The organizers present acknowledged that mistakes were made, but they feel they've been disproportionately criticized, with few or no pats on the back. Organizers feel that the campaign was very successful in moving a lot of people into direct action, and training them in woods skills.

Much of the criticism was around a lack of direction experienced by new arrivals at the Redwood Summer base camp. Some folks were offended and alienated by the requirement of signing a non-violence pledge, which included a statement against property damage, thus equating property damage with violence. Others felt the campaign was too dependent on media. Organizers described the atmosphere of potential violence on the Northern California Coast as an impetus for the non-violence code, and reminded us that in many EF! campaigns civil disobedience and monkeywrenching are not mixed. Overall, 20 instances of "violence" were reported (none by our side) though without the code there might have been many more.

Shawnee Summer activists described their campaign as very successful. Much forest was protected, community support was widespread and media coverage was extensive. They didn't discourage monkeywrenching, and this put spice into the media reports.

We decided to use the pool of energy gathered at this conference to pick an issue for a national campaign. After a brainstorm of about 20 issues, we chose to focus on the Endangered Species Act. Jasper smiled. (See end of this article for list of issues and contacts.)

We were done, and lived through it! Some of us had visions of arguing, factionalizing, vicious bloody fights, and nothing accomplished. It's reassuring to discover that we are not totally juvenile, and that we have not sold out to the anthropocentric Gods of Amerika. There's no denying that sometimes we've gotta clear out the shit before we can get back to work. Hopefully this article offers other EF!ers food for thought and some clarifications. It does not include every discussion. This is our interpretation of several people's notes, so take it for what it is. If anyone feels something important was left out, please send it in to the next Journal or call us up and yell.

National EF! Issues

At the Boulder Activists Conference, we brainstormed a number of national EF! issues for local groups to work on collectively. This by no means exhausts the possibilities or claims to be the most important. Anyone interested in working on one of the following issues is encouraged to contact others listed below. See EF! Directory for group and local contact addresses.

American Express Boycott
Mike Stabler, Boulder EF! (Colorado)

Ancient Forests
Karen Coulter, POB 904, Concrete, WA 98237
Save America's Forests, 1742 18th St NW, Wash DC 20009

Animal Damage Control (ADC)
Tom Skeele, POB 6733, Bozeman, MT 59715
Karen Coulter & Asante (see Ancient Forests, above)
Karen DeBraul, Santa Cruz EF! (California)
Jim Flynn, Portland EF! (Oregon)
Michael Robinson, Boulder EF! (Colorado)
Andrew Wetsburd, Big River EF! (Missouri)

Bison Hunt
Delylah Dogwoman & Fire Grizzly, POB 1733, Bozeman, MT 59771

Endangered Species Act (not including committee members)
Gary Bennett, New York EF! (under Local Contacts)
Heather Chertin, 636 Arapaho #3, Boulder, CO 303-786-8845
Karen Coulter & Asante (see Ancient Forests, above)
Mike Howell, SF Bay EF! (California)
Erik Sohlberg, Vermont EF!

Everglades/Sugar Boycott
Maria Quintana, Everglades EF! (Florida)

James Bay & The Grande Canal
Ursula Aves, JABAT, PO Box 408, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10276, 212-674-3306

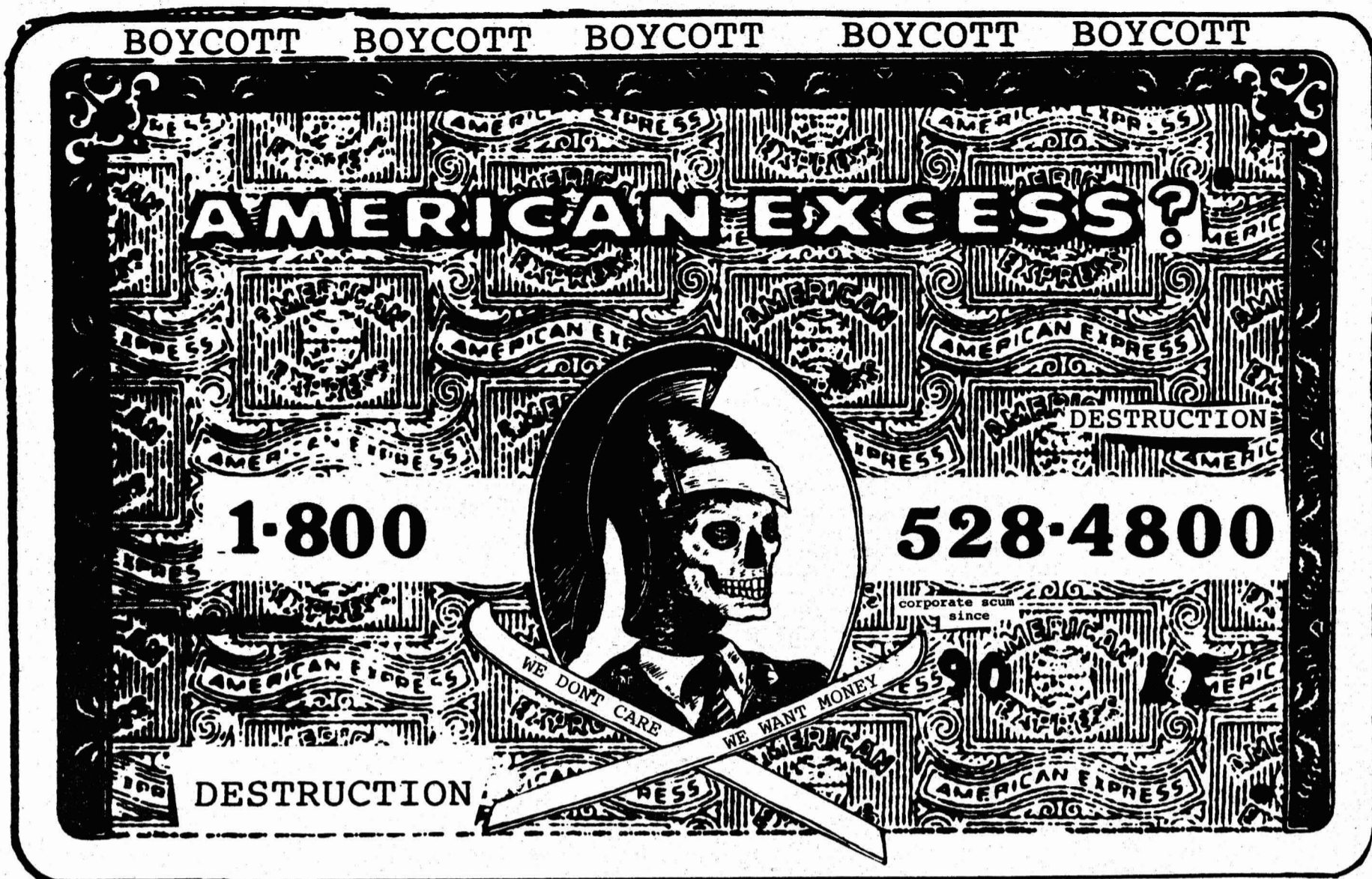
Oil War; Arctic Refuge
Gary Bennett (see Endangered Species Act, above)
Verena Gill, 5132 W 72nd, Anchorage, AK 99502

Overpopulation
Daniel Barron, SF Bay EF! (California)
Jim Flynn (see Animal Damage Control, above)
Maria Quintana, Everglades EF! (Florida)
Christi Stevens, Austin EF! (Texas)
Kelpie Willson, POB 1444, Cave Junction, OR 97523
Jessica, 413 Eddy #1, Missoula, MT 59801

Restoring Pre-Columbian Americas (500th Anniversary of Columbus Getting Lost)

Joanne Dittersdorf (see James Bay, above)
Jim Flynn (see Animal Damage Control, above)
Tracy Katelman, POB 1473, Redway, CA 95520, 707-923-3378
Erik Sohlberg, Vermont EF!
Christi Stevens, Austin EF! (Texas)
Alex Williams, Karen Coulter & Asante (see Ancient Forests, above)
Karen Wood, Southern Willamette EF! (Oregon)
Mike Zwikelmaier, POB 85, Sharon, VT 05065

Stonewashed Jeans - 1872 Mining Law Repeal
Jeanne Crawford, POB 40445, Albuquerque, NM 87196
Jim Hobson, New Mexico EF! (same info as Brad Lagorio)



17 ARRESTED DEFENDING SAN JUANS

by Leeward Island

Activists from around the country were rounded up by police and some were charged with felonies after a non-violent action to save a Colorado wilderness where Grizzlies have been reported.

Seventeen folks were arrested on November 12 after visiting an American Express office building near Denver to speak for the Grizzlies whose future (and possibly current) habitat would be trashed by a proposed San Juan Mountains ski area financed partly by Amex. There was no civil disobedience. The activists, who were arrested as they left the building, were told they'd be charged with two felonies — second degree burglary and conspiracy. Most sat in jail for four days because they couldn't afford the balls of \$2000-3000 each.

Arapahoe County Sheriff Pat Sullivan produced a series of lurid press releases charging the EFlers with assault and claiming they had damaged equipment and poured "vials of red, blood-like substance" all over the place. But when time came to file formal charges (and after the news stories had come out and folks had been in prison with felony balls) most charges were dropped to misdemeanor trespass and disorderly conduct. The assault charges and other dramatic accusations vanished.

Three activists, though, still face felony charges and a worst-case scenario of several years in prison. Michael Robinson of Colorado is charged with criminal impersonation, while Heather Cherin of Colorado and Moss of California are charged with second-degree burglary and conspiracy.

All of the Amex 17 are innocent, and that's how they intend to plead. In the meantime, their First Amendment Right of Free Speech and their ability to organize against American Express and East Fork Ski Area has been stifled because they were required to sign a restraining order, a procedure attorneys say is highly uncommon.

None of these folks had planned to be arrested. There was no civil disobedience, and from what attorneys said (the defendants, of course, can't talk about it) the protest was no rowdier than any EFl action, with wolf howls, singing, drumming and leafleting. The sheriff's press release says graffiti was found on mirrors, porcelain and chalkboards. One activist cut up her American Express credit card in front of company officials when they refused to listen to her concerns.

Colorado EFl has been fighting for three years to save the East Fork of the San Juan River — in the heart of Colorado's wildest and most ecologically diverse area, the San Juan Mountains — from mutating into another Vail. Chicago developer Dan McCarthy owns 2780 acres in the area and won

a special-use permit in 1987 from the Forest Circus to develop his land, plus 4660 acres of National Forest, into a resort with 2700 housing units and a ski area with eight lifts. His financial partner in crime is Balcor, a subsidiary of American Express.

Colorado already has a ski resort for almost every letter of the alphabet. East Fork (which would be number 2 for the letter E, after Eldora) would be built on the edge of the South San Juan Wilderness Area, where the last known Grizzly Bear in Colorado was shot by a bow hunter in 1979. The Grizzly was a female and may have had cubs, but her uterus was never examined.

Tony Povlitis, a senior scientist for the Humane Society, spent last summer looking for Grizzlies in the area and thinks he found tracks near Quartz Creek, which would become part of a ski run. Local residents, including an outfitter, have also reported Grizzly sightings. A sighting of a mama Grizzly and cubs was reported around the time of the action.

Even if all the sightings are wishful thinking, this is one of the few places in the country that may actually get Grizzlies again in the future. The Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee was conducting hearings in Washington the week of the arrests on a revised draft plan for reintroduction of the Grizzly. The San Juans were a last-minute addition to the list, which also includes the Cascade Mountains in Washington and the Bitterroot Range in the Wild Rockies. This is also the likeliest spot in Colorado for Gray Wolf reintroduction, and serves as critical habitat for Elk, Peregrine Falcons, eagles, Wolverines, River Otters and Lynx.

Because the ski resort deal is already on shaky financial ground, Colorado EFl chose to pressure American Express to withdraw its 33% backing. So, following the Boulder conference of EFl activists, about 30 people went to the largest American Express office in the region to make their feelings known.

The building happened to be in the Denver Tech Center corporate park, a particular baby of Sheriff Pat Sullivan, who undoubtedly links the corporations with his own reelection. When the cops arrived, about a dozen EFlers managed to vanish, but the rest got caught in the wholesale roundup. The Amex 17 are from Colorado, New Mexico, Washington, California, Texas, Missouri, Massachusetts, New York, and Vermont.

There are some irregularities in the way this case has been prosecuted so far. The sheriff was in the courtroom during the formal filing, which is very unusual. The charges on the press release failed to materialize. No one got an assault charge, though the media was told they would. Even the judge objected to the district attorney's

criminal procedure — for instance, the D.A. tried to get people to pay felony bails of up to \$3000 each on misdemeanor charges. The defendants have been required to sign restraining orders ordering them not to "harass the witness or victim" — in other words, they can't organize against East Fork and the Amex involvement.

The arraignments and preliminary hearings are scheduled for December. Meanwhile, people are back in their bioregions, where they hope to find support in raising court and travel costs and related expenses, which could easily exceed \$25,000.

Many lessons were learned in this action:

*Any action, however peaceful, can result in unplanned arrests. Do non-violence training beforehand. Talk about what you'll do in jail if arrested. For instance, is it useful for people who can make bail to stay in for solidarity?

*All participants should attend the planning meetings. Consensus on what will happen is essential.

*Be polite, friendly and non-threatening to low-level employees.

*Plan the exit timing. Give clear signals as to when everyone should go. Post a lookout to

let people know if cops are coming.

*Park cars far enough away to enable undetected departure. (Cops track cars more easily than people.)

*Don't talk to the cops at all without a lawyer and remember that COPS LIE.

*Remember that anything you carry could be confiscated. If you've been taking pictures, pop the film out and expose it if you're arrested. Don't carry stuff you can't live without, like traveling money.

*Weigh the pros and cons of having the media present. EFl doesn't do actions for the sake of the media, but media witnesses can provide a measure of protection.

*Do outreach in the community beforehand if possible — that's where a jury will come from.

*When doing recon, find out about the political situation, sheriff, cops, etc. — though actions will sometimes, of necessity, take place in less-than-desirable locations.

*Have fun. Disarm people with humor. A few people in bear costumes might have had a good effect on Amex employees and even the cops.

Please send donations to Colorado EFl, POB 1166, Boulder, CO 80306.

Mount Graham Update

By Dwight Metzger

Having seen three moons come and go, and hundreds of people come to oppose construction of an international observatory atop Mount Graham, the Mt. Graham Preservation Camp closed for the winter on November 12. Resistance to the project, however, and efforts to restore integrity to the Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act continue.

To date, over thirty people have been arrested. Countless direct actions have interfered with workers and equipment and have slowed the destruction of this unique old-growth spruce fir forest; a stand of old-growth has been spared and the University of Arizona has been prevented from pouring concrete until next spring. Although construction will stop when the snow files, this will be the first winter in 10,000 years that Mount Graham's high elevation forests will not be isolated from human intrusion (automobiles, heavy equipment, etc.). With six inches of snow the first week of November, and the closing of the road to all but Earth rappers, the camp made a tactical retreat to the desert, but a regular presence on the mountain will continue through the winter.

Despite protests by US Fish & Wildlife Service and members of Congress, construction was allowed to continue. A recent report

issued by the General Accounting Office condemns the project for violating national environmental policy and for ethical and political corruption, and should have some bearing on the Ninth District Court of Appeals' ruling on a Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund lawsuit in December. (As mentioned last issue, on Sept. 28, Ninth District Court Judge Poole "changed his mind" and lifted a three-month injunction on construction.)

The fight is far from over! We must resist this and any attempt by the Bush Administration to weaken our environmental protection laws. If necessary, the preservation camp will resume in the spring. Meanwhile, folks are encouraged to come to Mount Graham this winter (topo maps available through AZEFl) or to organize a protest in your area. As the economics of the project are as hollow as the ethics, demonstrations around the country this winter will target the investors in this international development. They include Ohio State University, the Smithsonian Institute, the Vatican, and Max Planck Institute. Recent demonstrations have been held in Columbus, OH, Los Angeles, and Albuquerque.

For updated information on Mt. Graham or for organizing materials, please call the Mt. Graham Hotline at (602) 629-9200, or write AZEFl at POB 3412, Tucson, AZ 85722.

Congress Protects (some) AZ Desert Wilderness

By Dale Turner

Five minutes before the close of this year's session, Congress doubled the federal Wilderness acreage in Arizona by passing the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990. They set aside 2.4 million acres of prime Bureau of Land Management and National Wildlife Refuge land as off-limits to most human development. Protection was given to some large and precious desert riparian areas, and to one of the most pristine wild areas in North America, Cabeza Prieta NWR.

This was the first statewide BLM wilderness bill to pass since the process began in 1976 (with the passage of FLPMA), and its language sets a reasonably good precedent. It protects 20% more land than the BLM recommended. It establishes federal water rights for all but two of the newly protected areas. It does not block the agencies from reconsidering the wilderness potential of areas not designated in this round ("hard release" language, which has been advocated for many state wilderness bills by such anti-

wilderness congresspersons as Jim McClure, prevents future consideration of unprotected areas). And its provisions for Wilderness management are no weaker than the pre-existing standards.

That's the good news.

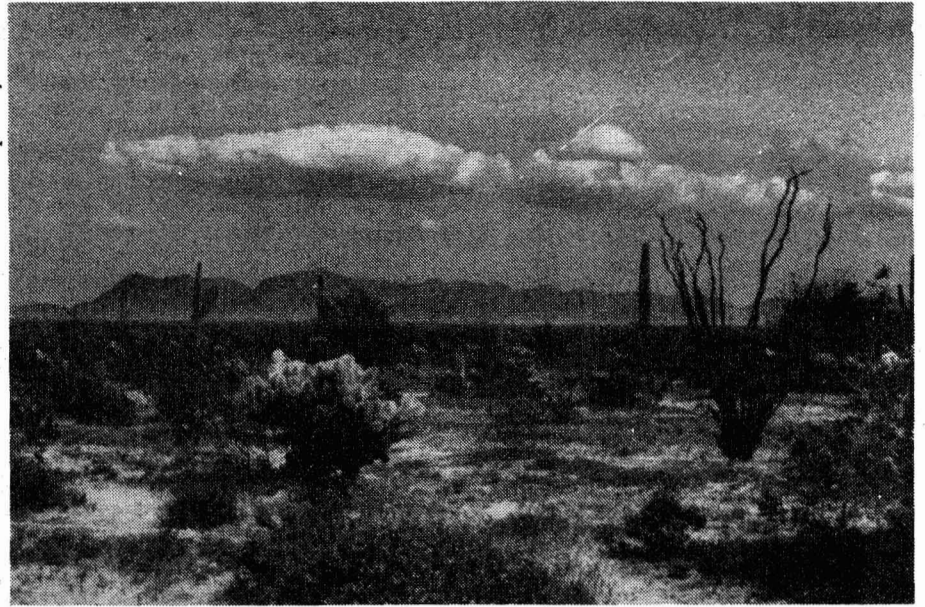
The bad news is that Congress released almost a million acres from interim protection, punted on a few key areas, and missed the point of protecting large complexes of adjacent wilderness areas. Decisions were based on political whims rather than ecological realities, without an overall vision of protecting and restoring the desert. Also, the Wilderness management language is no stronger than usual, and thus allows grazing and the development of pre-existing mining claims in Wilderness Areas.

The act gives official Wilderness status to 1,097,869 acres of BLM land and to 1,291,626 acres of National Wildlife Refuges in Arizona. This 2.4 million acre total is small when compared to the moderate 4.2 million acre proposal by the Arizona Wilderness Coalition, and is positively tiny when compared to the biocentric (and quite reasonable) 19 million acre proposal put forth by Arizona Earth First! (EFJ Journal, 2-88).

Protection of four National Wildlife Refuges was the biggest news of the bill. Cabeza Prieta and Kofa NWRs have long been recognized as premier examples of big desert wilderness, but their management has been haphazard. One of Cabeza's recent managers was known for blading new "administrative" roads to replace two-track jeep trails, and hunting groups have waged a long campaign to fill every pocket in every canyon in both Refuges with concrete water catchments for deer and Bighorn Sheep. Wilderness designation should now curtail both types of activity.

Also protected were the small Havasu and Imperial NWRs, along the Colorado River. Thanks to Colorado Senator Bill Armstrong, water rights for these two areas were explicitly denied, but it didn't really matter; the Wilderness boundaries stop at the high-water mark.

Most of the designated BLM land is desert mountain ranges in sparsely-populated western Arizona, encompassing both Sonoran and Mojave Desert ecosystems. The aridity of the region makes the few riparian areas protected by this



Newly designated Wilderness in the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge.

bill especially valuable. Most of these are tiny springs or short stretches of canyon, but several include perennial stretches of the Bill Williams River.

Congress waffled on one BLM riparian area, the Gila Box, in the southeast part of the state (near Mt. Graham). It includes the confluence of the Gila River (coming from the Gila Wilderness in New Mexico) and the San Francisco River (coming from the Blue Range Primitive Area), along with two perennial streams, Eagle Creek and Bonita Creek. With this much water, the Gila Box is an ecological gem, harboring at least 17 protected species within its canyon walls. Unfortunately, it's also considered prime grazing land, a prime ORV course, and it sits beside an enormous open-pit copper mine. The delegation avoided the whole question of Wilderness conflicts by designating a 20,900 acre Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area, the second such area in the nation. Reading the legislation shows that this is not multiple-abuse business-as-usual, but it's also not Wilderness. Exactly what it is remains to be seen.

It is worth noting that the Gila Box was also featured in the AZ Wilderness Coalition's most visionary proposal. The two tributaries, Eagle Creek and Bonita Creek, were not eligible for Wilderness status under the normal standards — each has a dirt road both crossing and following its streambed — yet they were in desperate need of some protective status. The AWC got around the Wilderness standards by proposing a

new National Monument which would encompass all the canyons, two Wilderness Areas, and adjacent watershed, a total of 151,680 acres. While this proposal didn't fly, it proved very useful at highlighting the importance of the region, especially the two creeks. Bonita Creek is now part of the RNCA, and Eagle Creek will be whenever the Phelps Dodge Corp. decides to sell.

In many cases, the BLM areas that were finally designated Wilderness were considered on an individual basis, rather than in a larger geographic context. The most striking example of this occurred along the Bill Williams River, where BLM identified more than 719,000 acres of roadless land in a complex of 16 Wilderness Study Areas. Many of the areas were separated from other areas by a single dirt road or utility corridor, and the rest were separated by BLM land in comparable condition. The region was a prime candidate for road closures and other restoration measures which would allow its management as an ecological whole. Instead, the Arizona Congressional delegation chose to designate less than 298,000 acres as Wilderness, in nine widely scattered areas (they also left 55,000 acres in undecided Wilderness Study Area status).

Ironically, in one instance, big-money political pressure worked to our advantage. The North and South Maricopa Mountains WSAs had no significant conflicts but BLM didn't want them designated Wilderness. The BLM State Director (D. Dean Bibbes, now director of the Washington/Oregon district) had a lot of pull with the delegation, and things didn't look good for the areas.

Until, that is, Charles Keating stepped in. That's right, he of the Keating 5 fame. Arizona has 2 of the notorious 5, and Charlie had their ears. It seems Charlie also had a landscaper who depended on the Maricopa Mountains for his wildflower seed, which then went to the grounds of Charlie's posh resorts. So Charlie wrote a nice letter to his Senators asking them to work something out. Suddenly, the areas were back in the running, and sailed through the rest of the process essentially unchallenged. The two areas are now protected.

So just remember, Charles Keating did his part for biological diversity.

I learned a few lessons from this round of working for Wilderness. One is that a decent Congressperson can make a world of difference. We have Mo Udall, who was critical to getting this bill passed and to keeping it big enough to be worth the trouble (he's also been approximately worthless on Mt. Graham, but *c'est la mort*).

Another is that advocates for big wilderness need to push their visions harder, and not limit themselves to big-area proposals. The basic principles of ecological wilderness protection and restoration just didn't make much of a dent in this process, with the result that the big areas needed for those purposes were almost universally disregarded.

As a final note, it's worth mentioning that one of the most fitting proposals also didn't make it into law but got some recognition nonetheless. At a hearing in June 1989, AZEF! made a special proposal to honor our favorite senator, Dennis DeConcini. The DeConcini Wilderness Area, suited to the man's great achievements for the environment, covered one-eighth acre of a highway rest stop, the portion used by dog owners to give their pets relief. Congress failed to include this in their final legislation, but it entered the hearing record and Congressional aides (for other Congressfolk) still mention it with a smile.

Maybe we can get that passed next year. As a rider.

Page 11 Earth First! December 21, 1990



The Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area designation served as a mongrel compromise — its exact protections will be clear only after a management plan is written.

Congress Kills G-O Road!

by Jim Owens

Ed. note: Opposition to the G-O Road, proposed to slice entirely through the Siskiyou Wilderness, was among the first major Earth First! direct-action campaigns (see, among others, EFJ, May 1, 1983 and June 21, 1988). The following account is reprinted from ECONIEWS, newsletter of the Northcoast Environmental Center.

In late October, Congress created a 300,000-acre Smith River National Recreation Area in the watershed of the Smith River, detouring forever the Gasquet-Orleans (G-O) Road and protecting unique stands of ancient forests.

Congressman Doug Bosco's bill, sponsored in the Senate by California's Alan Cranston and Pete Wilson, was approved in the last hours before Congress adjourned and was signed by President Bush on Nov. 16.

It protects 3,100 miles of tributaries in the state's last major undammed watershed, long considered the crown jewel of the California Wild and Scenic Rivers system. The river's five forks support a world-renowned salmon and steelhead fishery, and form a bridge between two rich, diverse biological communities—the Klamath Mountains and the coastal range.

It also adds the G-O Road corridor to the existing Siskiyou Wilderness, putting an end to the controversy over the Forest Service's attempts to build this two-lane forest highway through the heart of the Wilderness and through sacred Native American religious lands.

The watershed is host to 210 wildlife species and more than 1,000 plant species, including 27 plants that are rare and sensitive, and 21 old-growth conifer species.

The composite values of the Smith River distinguish it, in many resource experts' minds, as the most ecologically significant and publicly valuable watershed on the West

Coast. It also was threatened for years by incompatible logging, road construction and mining practices.

Bosco's bill was strongly supported by the Smith River Alliance, an association of California's leading environmental and recreation groups. Alliance President Richard May said, "This bill represents a significant step in the 25-year pitched battle to protect the Smith's resources. While it isn't perfect, it puts the Forest Service on notice that this is an area whose natural beauty and outstanding natural resources exceed the commodity value of timber or minerals."

After the House voted unanimously to pass an earlier strong version of the bill in September, the legislation was bottled up in the Senate due to opposition from the Forest Service.

In a letter to the Senate, Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter stated his agency's opposition to provisions which eliminated mining in the watershed, limited Forest Service salvage logging, and called for

Arizona 5 Trial Postponed

At a hearing on November 26, U.S. District Court Judge Robert Broomfield reset the first trial for the AZ 5 for January 7. Marc Baker, Mark Davis, Dave Foreman, and Peg Millett, 4 of the 5, had been scheduled to face trial on December 4 on charges of conspiracy to damage an energy facility. The fifth defendant, Ilse Asplund, faces related charges but not the conspiracy charge.

The government has devoted enormous resources in its efforts to intimidate environmental activists everywhere by making an example of the AZ5. The use of infiltration to cause disruption and set people up, who must drain movement resources in defending themselves from such government actions, is meant to weaken and

destroy effective environmental action.

The importance of a successful resolution to this case — both the conspiracy trial and the trial on other charges filed against Baker, Davis, Millett, and Ilse Asplund — cannot be stressed too much. Solidarity with the AZ5 as well as continuing your own work is critical. Although the attorneys for the defendants are not being reimbursed for their time, there are major costs associated with trial preparation and the trial itself. The government has spent millions, which we can't hope to match. But with your contributions and encouragement we can win. Send contributions to the Legal Defense Fund, POB 4666, Salem, OR 97302.

photo by Dale Turner

photo by Paul Hirt

Reform Finally Comes to the Tongass

by Jeffrey St. Clair

For the past five years environmentalists have waged a concerted effort to reform the logging practices on southeast Alaska's Tongass National Forest, the nation's largest public forest. Those efforts finally came to fruition in late October when Congress passed a compromise version of the Tongass reform bill that will modify long-term timber contracts and protect over a million acres of old-growth temperate rainforest.

The comprehensive package worked out by a Senate-House conference committee is less protective than the House bill passed in 1989, but it protects more acres of wilderness and roadless land than the Senate bill approved in June.

The final version of the Tongass Reform Bill removes the mandatory 4.5 billion board feet per decade harvest target and instead

requires the Forest Service, after consideration of environmental and social effects, to offer timber sale levels that meet market demand.

It also repeals the automatic \$40 million dollar Tongass Timber Supply Fund and requires the Tongass timber program to be funded out of the general Forest Service appropriation process.

The House bill took action to terminate the long-term timber contracts, but the compromise, negotiated under pressure from the Alaska delegation and the White House, merely instructs the Secretary of Agriculture to modify the contracts to make the provisions more like those found in short-term Forest Service contracts. While Tongass must still supply 300 million board feet to the two pulp companies, the timber must be sold at fair market values. Existing laws guaranteed these companies a profit,

allowing them to purchase Tongass timber for as little as \$1.48 per thousand board feet, even though some of the timber has a market value of over \$200 per thousand.

Major stream corridors are also legislatively protected by the Tongass Reform bill. It establishes 100 feet no-cut buffer strips on both sides of salmon streams and streams with other sport fisheries that flow into salmon streams.

The bill creates 296,000 acres of Wilderness on the Tongass and legislatively protects another 722,000 acres in a primitive use classification that will prohibit commercial timber harvest and restrict other developments. The House bill would have designated 1.8 million acres as Wilderness, while the Senate bill would have legislatively protected only 675,000 acres.

After passage of the bill, Senator Frank Murkowski said, "It's time for peace to come to the Tongass." Murkowski and fellow Alaskan Senator Ted Stevens, who had used parliamentary maneuvers and other rule actions to stall Tongass reform in the Senate for the past few years, quietly supported the Senate bill and the conference committee report. The final bill was approved by the Senate on a unanimous voice vote. Congressman Don Young was the only member of the delegation to actively oppose the conference committee's compromise bill.

Bart Koehler, director of the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC), called the passage of the bill "a bittersweet victory," since the compromise fails to terminate the two long-term timber contracts held by Louisiana Pacific and Alaska Pulp Company and allows logging on over 800,000 acres of old-growth forest that environmentalists wanted protected as wilderness.

Koehler said he expects environmental-

ists "to work with the Forest Service to press for the revised Tongass Forest plan to be responsive to community concerns and administratively protect some of the Tongass's remaining old growth."

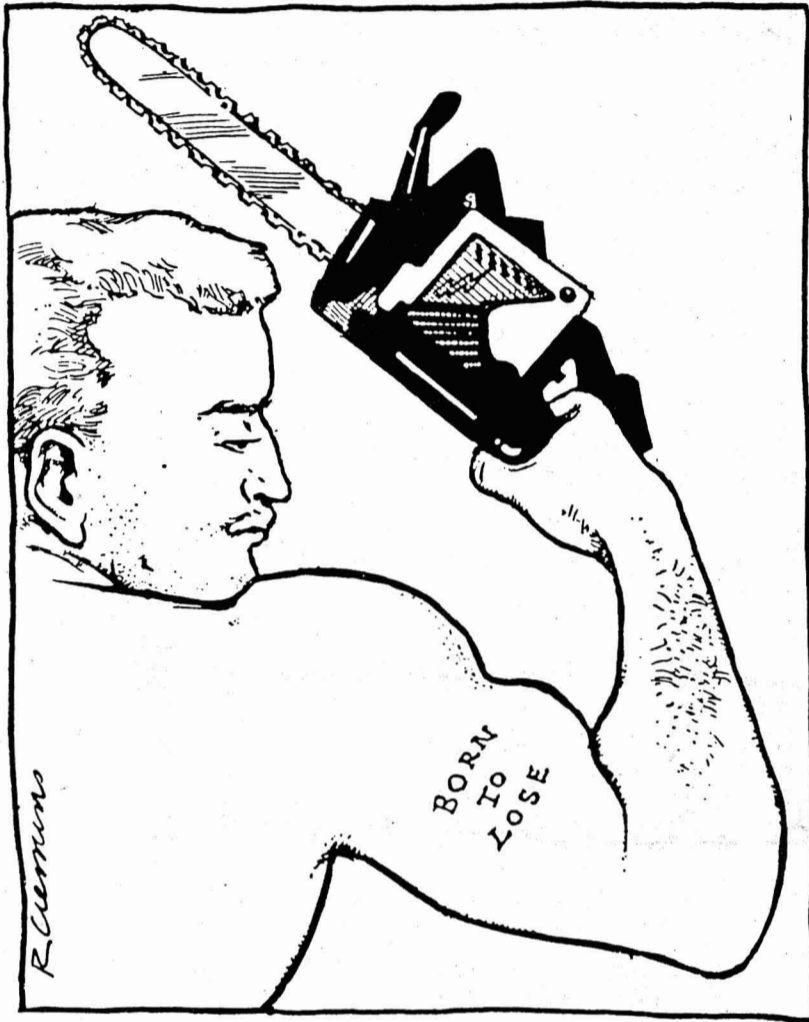
In July, the Tongass National Forest published a draft revision of the forest's ten year old land management plan. Koehler and other environmentalists believe the Forest Service was politically pressured to rush the plan out, in order to avert passage of the Tongass Reform bill. Now, however, there is some question as to how the Tongass Reform Act will affect the new Tongass plan. [See sidebar.]

"There will be changes to the plan, but not a total overhaul," said Stephen Ambrose, spokesman for the Region 10 office. "We are not going to start over and we don't expect the bill to have much effect on the allowable cut or other forest outputs."

Congress directed the Forest Service to manage the legislatively protected non-wilderness lands in accordance with Land Use Designation II from the 1979 Tongass plan—a designation that has been discarded in the revision. Ambrose said the Forest Service will develop a new land allocation prescription for these lands that will prohibit commercial logging, but will allow mining, firewood cutting, cabins, recreation developments, and the construction of roads to access timber sales on adjoining lands.

Clayton Yeutter, Secretary of Agriculture, indicated in a letter to Representative Don Young (R-AK) that he will urge President Bush to veto the Tongass Reform Bill. However, Senator Stevens said he expects the President to sign the bill.

For more information, contact SEACC, 801 Pennsylvania Ave SE, Washington, DC 20003.



Save the Endangered Logger!

After recently learning that the Northwest loggers have asked the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list them as an "endangered species", *Washingtonius contractii* ssp. *loggerus*, we felt compelled to DO something. Concerned individuals have come together to form Friends of Endangered Loggers Limited (FELL). We've taken this step because of the Bush administration's serious threats to the Endangered Species Act (ESA). It's time for Beat-Around-the-Bush to put up or shut up! If he's truly our environmental president, let him stand up now to defend our emergency plan to save the *loggerus* subspecies.

Since only 5% of our American old growth forest remains, and it's obvious that this habitat can no longer support this rare subspecies, we feel it is imperative that a captive breeding program be initiated before we lose another piece of the evolutionary puzzle. If there are truly only 600 of these creatures left, we want to be assured that all precautions are taken to prevent losses in the capture and transfer process. We suggest an incidental take of no more than 10%. Scientists predict that the minimum number of individuals in a species for a viable population is between 500 and 1000, or weird things happening genetically. There are signs that this population may already be aberrant in that most individuals tend to spend their waking hours actually destroying their own habitat!

We suggest setting up a baiting station to lure individuals for capture. The expert in baiting techniques, Sly Cy Jamison of the Bureau of Land Management, should be in charge of this operation. Although they are rare and elusive, some shiny new chainsaws and all the cheap beer they can guzzle should bring them in. *Loggerus* may become dangerous using this process, but by bringing in our own Quotable Quayle to utilize one of his patented sleeper speeches to put them under (drugs are currently a BIG taboo), we feel that the danger factor will be minimal. We're also

told that the Quayle method causes only temporary impairment. While they're under, the standard research techniques such as radio collaring, ear tagging, vaccinations, and taking blood samples can be done.

The next part of the operation involves bringing in "Round 'em up" Roadman Robertson of the USFS for loading and transportation through the maze of roads that wind through our public lands (Roadman has approximately 385,000 miles of Forest roads these days.) As quickly as possible, the few remnants should be transferred to the Sununu Zoo for safe keeping and further study. One management direction could be to strengthen the weak genotype of the Northwest subspecies by introducing the Andean *loggerus*, a similar but more hardy type, and enforcing a cross-breeding program. We foresee one problem: few female *loggerus* have ever been seen; but we have faith in the expertise of Neuter Yuetter in conducting his experimental selective breeding program to come up with a new "super species" able to withstand the rigors of our society.

To illustrate what FELL is up against, here are the immortal words of Cool Hand Lujan. "Nobody told ME the difference between *Washingtonius* and *Oregonius* loggers. Do we have to save every subspecies?"

Yes, we do, Cool Hand.....which brings us to our recovery plan. Complete reforestation is a must. We have to provide habitat in which to return the rare *loggerus*. This, of course, may take several hundred years, but where else do you put them? Then they will have to be retrained, and perhaps individual modification techniques will be needed so that the species will not again begin their traditional habitat destruction cycle toward self-extinction. Obviously this subspecies is very new on the evolutionary scale and has not evolved enough to have found its niche in the natural world.

— Spruce Vincent, Executive Director, FELL

FS Plans Heightened Abuse of Tongass

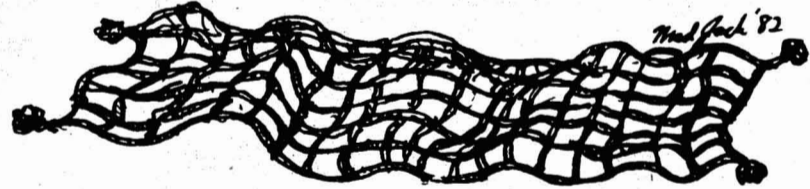
In July, the United States Forest Service (FS) released a draft management plan for the Tongass National Forest in Southeast Alaska. The plan is even worse than conservationists expected. The preferred alternative sets a goal of clearcutting 420 million board feet of timber annually — even more than recent cutting rates, of about 375 mbf a year.

Along with commercial timber production, the FS plan emphasizes minerals production. For example, mining rather than recreation will become the dominant activity in Alaska's Juneau Borough, if the Forest Service has its way. According to the draft plan, a "minerals prescription" will be applied to nearly all of the borough's most popular National Forest areas for hiking, fishing, hunting, and skiing. In these areas the FS's primary management goal will be to "encourage and facilitate the prospecting,

exploration, mining, and processing of mineral resources." (p.F119) Other "uses," such as recreation and wildlife, will be maintained only at levels "compatible with the level of mineral activities."

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Mike Barton, Regional Forester, Forest Service, POB 21628, Juneau, AK 99802. Tell him the agency's preferred alternative is a disgrace, and that he should ban all roadbuilding, commercial timber cutting, and mining on the Tongass NF. Tell him that the minerals prescription in the Juneau Borough is an unfair giveaway to the mining industry.

Jeffrey St. Clair works for Cascade Holistic Economic Consultants, and wrote this article for their magazine Forest Watch.



NEMESIS NEWS NET

NH Doctor Needs Cats

Earlier this year two New Hampshire doctors were charged with violating CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) regulations by importing the skins of Jaguar, Ocelot, and Mountain Lion from Mexico to a taxidermist in Colorado. The two hunting partners periodically traveled abroad after big game; and the mounted cats were confiscated by Fish & Wildlife Service investigators in the doctors' homes.

The first BWH (brave white hunter), Edward Hager, pleaded guilty and paid a \$75,000 fine. The other, Constantine Hampers, pleaded not guilty. Hampers's lawyers claimed he was ignorant of the regulations despite his experience hunting other endangered species "legally," such as rhino and crocodile. On previous hunts he did not attempt to bring his "trophies" home after learning which were illegal to import. The first trial for Hampers resulted in a hung jury, but FWS will likely try again.

Meanwhile, the good doctor's cats are being held for evidence and his collection suffers. Sympathetic parties are called on to donate whatever they can, either cash in large denominations or any "trophies" you may come across. Federal postal law requires that all perishable items be clearly marked, and in some cases overnight delivery may be advisable. Send contributions to Dr. Constantine Hampers (or B'wana Doctor), Box 2, Oak Hill Rd, Dublin, NH 03444.

—Granite Dome

Deep Ecology in High Places or, Medieval Metaphysician Speaks Out for Biodiversity

"They reason falsely who say that since an angel is better than a stone, therefore two angels are better than one angel and a stone.... Although an angel, considered absolutely, is better than a stone, nevertheless two natures are better than one only; and therefore a universe containing angels and other things is better than one containing angels only; since the perfection of the universe is attained essentially in proportion to the diversity of natures in it, whereby the divers grades of goodness are filled, and not in proportion to the multiplication of individuals of a single nature."

—Saint Thomas Aquinas, 1225-1274, scholastic philosopher known as the "Angelic Doctor"

The next time you argue with a logger, rancher or forest supervisor about the need for biodiversity, play upon their well-known weakness for medieval scholasticism by using this quote to remind them that one of the greatest figures in pre-Reformation Christian philosophy — author of the popular *Summa Contra Gentiles*, and chief explicator of the difference between being and modalities of being — believed that monoculture, clearcuts and cattle grazing are contrary to universal perfection as established by God. If that doesn't change their attitude, nothing will.

—Bernie Mushkin

Does Sierra Club Support Resettlement of Love Canal?

Love Canal, "the nation's most notorious hazardous waste site," is becoming a hot spot for the Sierra Club. James Carr, a member of the Atlantic Chapter's Board of Governance (BOG) and former chapter chair, is also director of planning for the Love Canal Revitalization Agency (LCRA). Sierra Club's national leaders find the conflict of interest acceptable; the Atlantic Chapter's BOG does not.

In the 1940s Hooker Chemical and other firms dumped into Love Canal more than 20,000 tons of toxic chemicals. Ridding itself of responsibility, Hooker sold the dump and adjacent land to the city of Niagara Falls, New York, for \$1 in 1953. Houses, a school, and a church were built next to the waste. In 1978, because numerous residents had become seriously ill, President Carter classified Love Canal as an emergency area, and evacuation began. The state and federal governments paid for hundreds of homes.

The dump is now capped with clay and plastic, but the wastes, including dioxin, benzene, and toluene, have never been treated. Containment rather than cleanup has been the goal.

Nevertheless, LCRA, the quasi-governmental body in charge of the buy-out, is now sprucing up and planning to sell some 250 of the previously evacuated homes. The official justification for this move is a federal-state study showing that conditions are no worse in four of the seven areas near the canal than they are in other parts of Niagara Falls. The finding is hardly a guarantee of safety, as

Niagara Falls is a center for the chemical industry, with 200 chemical dumps within a radius of fifty miles.

In April the Atlantic Chapter voted to join five other organizations in a suit against the LCRA and the state's Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to prevent the occupancy of homes in previously evacuated areas. According to Chapter Conservation Chair Michael Vickerman, Carr attempted to head off litigation and later criticized the suit.

Carr refused to leave a meeting of the Niagara Group before a discussion of possible litigation. In March, Vickerman says, Carr attempted to remove Richard Lippes, an outspoken critic of the resettlement, from the position of chapter legal chair, and to replace him with Fern Summer, Carr's wife. Furthermore, Carr told the press that the Club's suit was "regrettable" and "not fully thought out" and that the decision to undertake it was made without input from him. At a July 21 BOG meeting, he let it be known that he intended to continue to state such views publicly.

The BOG asked Carr to resign from either the BOG or the LCRA. When he refused, they made plans to hold a recall election. The vote in the BOG was 17-5 against Carr.

The office of the New York Attorney General, as well as environmental organizations, has criticized the LCRA and in particular Jim Carr, for the way in which it is promoting Love Canal homes. In a letter of

August 16, Eugene Martin-Leff, Assistant Attorney General, expressed to Carr his concern about a quotation from Carr in a newspaper: "It's no more hazardous to live [in the Love Canal vicinity] than in any other rural area." September 7, Martin-Leff wrote to Carr again, criticizing the LCRA for "failure to include information [on Love Canal's history and current condition] in the proposed contracts for Love Canal home purchases . . .", "production of a promotional videotape which distorts the facts . . .", and "dissemination of misleading information about Love Canal to the press."

The Sierra Club's national leadership has the authority to review chapter recall elections. They can approve or cancel the election or even remove the person in question directly. The Club's president, Susan Merrow, appointed a three-member ad hoc committee to look into the Carr situation. October 5, after the committee had reported to the national board of directors, Merrow sent a letter to the Atlantic Chapter's BOG, in which she rebuked the BOG for acting "hastily and unwisely." She requested that it not hold the recall election and required that, if it does, it send all materials to the ad hoc committee for prior review, mail ballots "sealed" and "separately" ("not as part of a newsletter"), and follow other time-consuming and costly procedures. The procedures make balloting infeasible.

In reviewing Carr's situation, Merrow's letter did not mention two of the charges against him and watered down a third. Fur-

thermore, it ignored the importance of Love Canal itself. Nowhere in the letter is there any indication that, as Vickerman says, Love Canal bears the same relationship to the Superfund as Pearl Harbor to World War II.

Unfortunately Merrow's reaction to the Club/Canal crisis is not the first time in recent years that the Club has strayed from its principles. For example, in 1989 the Club supported the notorious Hatfield-Adams amendment that accelerated the destruction of the ancient forests of the Northwest.

A spokesperson for the Natural Resources Defense Council, one of the litigants against LCRA and DEC, states that the resettling of Love Canal "sends the complete wrong signals to everyone involved with hazardous waste issues": cleanup need not precede resettlement.

In a memo to the BOG about Merrow's letter, Vickerman points out that the national Sierra Club's attitude reinforces the "wrong signals" on toxics. It also, he says, encourages club members who are pseudo-environmentalists, and discourages those who are trying to preserve the integrity of their groups and chapters.

—Mary Davis

Last-minute update: According to the *Niagara Gazette*, the national Sierra Club Board of Directors has disbanded the Atlantic Chapter's Board of Governance because the BOG was going ahead with the recall election.

SAVE THE ANCIENT FORESTS!

STOP THE SIERRA CLUB!

—BEFORE THEY COMPROMISE OUR FORESTS AWAY—

THEY'VE DONE IT BEFORE:

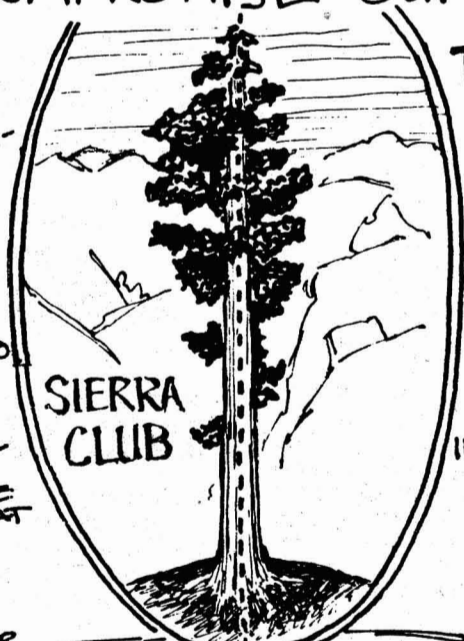
THE CLUB TRADES IRREPLACEABLE WILDERNESS FOR ACCESS TO POLITICIANS

THE CLUB SUPPORTED:

- DAMMING HETCH HETCHY IN YOSEMITE NAT'L PARK AND GLEN CANYON ON THE COLORADO
- DIABLO CANYON NUCLEAR PLANT
- SENATOR HATFIELD'S UNCONSTITUTIONAL "RIDER FROM HELL" (SECTION 318), WHICH DESTROYED 400 SQUARE MILES OF SPOTTED OWL HABITAT

THE CLUB OPPOSED:

- NATIONAL PARK PROTECTION FOR THE COLUMBIA GORGE AND SISKIYOU-KLAMATH MOUNTAINS
- MAKING OPAL CREEK A PARK
- REDWOOD SUMMER



WHEN IT CAME DOWN TO THE LAST OLD-GROWTH TREE, THE CLUB WOULD TRY TO COMPROMISE AND SAVE HALF OF IT.

THEY'LL DO IT AGAIN:

"I THINK THAT IT IS VERY CRITICAL FOR THE SIERRA CLUB TO BE AT THOSE FINAL MEETINGS WHERE THE CARDS GET 'PLAYED.' WE NEED TO STAY FLEXIBLE SO THAT WE WILL REMAIN A PLAYER. WE SHOULD SIGNAL TO HATFIELD, AU COIN, AND OTHERS THAT WE ARE INTERESTED IN THEIR THOUGHTS."

— MARTIN JACK DESMOND
CHAIR, FOREST PLANNING COMMITTEE
OREGON CHAPTER
SIERRA CLUB
SEPT 8, 1990



ONLY TEN% OF THE ANCIENT FOREST IS LEFT...

STOP THE SIERRA CLUB!

TELL THESE PEOPLE NOT TO BETRAY THE FORESTS!

- MICHAEL FISCHER (415) 776-2211
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
- DAVID GARDNER (202) 547-1141
WASHINGTON DC
- RICK JOHNSON (206) 621-1696
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
- LIZ FRENKEL (503) 754-6790
CORVALLIS, OREGON

Kansas Landowner Destroys Tallgrass Prairie Relict

by George F. Frazier

A long battle to save the Elkins Prairie, an 80 acre tract of virgin upland prairie located in northeastern Kansas, has ended in disaster. On November 19, the owner of the tract, Jack Graham, plowed the tract despite attempts by The Nature Conservancy to purchase the land, a last minute effort by the Douglas County Commission to meet Graham's ransom price for the prairie, and the heroics of local environmentalists who placed themselves between the prairie and the plow.

There is very little left of the original tallgrass prairie biome which once dominated eastern Kansas and most of the Midwest. Many feel that this is the most endangered biome in North America. The Elkins Prairie, which was located just east of Lawrence, Kansas, was a relict upland prairie, heretofore unplowed and ungrazed by livestock, reminiscent of what the area was like before Euro-American conquest began in 1854. Over 150 species of plants had been catalogued at the site, including two on the federal list of Endangered and Threatened Species: the Endangered Meade's Milkweed and the Threatened Western Prairie Fringed Orchid. The prairie also contained such uncommon species as Rattlesnake Master, Wild Indigo, Lead Plant, New Jersey Tea, and Pale Purple Coneflower. It was a possible site for reintroduction of the Greater Prairie Chicken.

Graham bought the property six years ago from the family that homesteaded it. He reportedly paid 1200 dollars an acre for the plot. When local environmentalists identified the site as a valuable evolutionary preserve which against incredible odds had escaped the plow, various groups entered negotiations with Graham to purchase it. In 1989, with help from the Audubon Society, Environs (a student environmental group at the University of Kansas), and the Save the Elkins Prairie Foundation, The Nature Conservancy offered Graham roughly \$3500 an acre for the property. Graham refused the offer.

Also threatening the tract was the proposed Southwest Lawrence Trafficway. This originally was planned to intersect the prairie as well as another endangered site south of Lawrence called the Baker Wetlands, which contains critical habitat for the threatened Northern Crawfish Frog. The EIA [environmental impact assessment] concluded the road would adversely affect the colony of Meade's Milkweed at the site, and after several lawsuits the planned road was rerouted around the prairie.

As of this writing (11-20), it is still unclear why Graham decided to plow. A local farmer told activists at the site that Graham didn't need the money. It is possible that local officials — worried that by violating the EIA, any disturbance of the land would result in funds for the road being cut — threatened him with an injunction, and that Graham therefore decided to plow before they could issue the injunction.

For whatever reason, on Saturday November 17, Graham exercised his legal "right" to destroy "his" prairie. By cover of night, Graham's hired sidekick began plowing. By early Sunday morning he had destroyed almost half of the tract. Red-tailed Hawks, Northern Harriers, and Rough-legged Hawks swarmed above the freshly plowed soil gorging themselves on voles and pocket gophers. Before noon Graham's action was discovered and environmentalists convinced him to give them 24 hours to try to get the county to purchase the land at his exorbitant asking price of \$6000 per acre.

After an emergency late night meeting, the County Commission offered to give Graham a 10%, non-refundable down payment and to purchase the rest of the tract in six months provided they could turn the sod back over on the plowed section. But then Graham further stipulated that he would sell only if the county guaranteed him that no future legal or political action would alter the county's contract. Since no government agency below heaven could legally promise him this, Graham walked out of the meeting promising to plow come sunrise.

On the morning of November 17 about 30 activists surrounded Graham's tractor. When confronted by Graham and the sheriff's posse, about half peaceably left the property. The others attempted to put themselves between the prairie and the plow. When Graham's sidekick headed straight for them, they were forced to move or become one with the land. One activist said the tractor almost knocked her over. With no other options available, a disheartened group spent the rest of the day watching the prairie become just another brome field.

Unlike tropical rainforests or redwood forests, the tallgrass prairie has few supporters. There are several reasons for this. One is that most of it is already gone. The remaining fragmented prairies aren't outstanding scenic treasures like Yellowstone or Yosemite. The prairie's wonders are subtle, fragile, and, now, extremely rare.

This biome is a vital part of the evolutionary heritage of North America. If our future is to be shared with Bison, Pronghorn, or Meade's Milkweed, then the remaining tracts of prairie must be saved. Only from these can we hope to rebuild what we have destroyed. We can't afford to lose even one more acre! Kansas is not the only state with virgin prairie. Most Midwestern states were once predominantly grassland, and with your help perhaps they will be again. But we must act now to make this possible.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- *Find and contribute to local prairie foundations like the Missouri Prairie Society.
- *Contribute to The Nature Conservancy, and mention that you want your money used to buy prairies.
- *Write your congressional representatives urging them to support legislation aimed at establishing a Tallgrass Prairie National Park in eastern Kansas's Flint Hills.



Media and Next Year's RRR

by Jean E.

Last year's Rendezvous saw a lot of interesting discussion (again!) about the role, control, use, abuse, and exclusion of the Media. As a former reporter, and overall Media-holic (see how I capitalize Media), I'd like to offer my attempt at an unbiased synopsis of last summer's debate and my suggestions for next summer (as the group requested).

The problems the Media have presented include:

- *Breaking promises, lying (taking photos despite requests not to, and after promises not to)
- **"Making money off us"
- *Taking fringe elements as EF! doctrine
- *Taking up our time with Media issues
- *Bad coverage, bullshit (from mainstream media)
- *Distracting from spiritual/personal experiences
- *Giving footage to police

The benefits of Media attendance:

- *Helping get issues before public
 - *Very positive coverage (some media)
 - *Safety in coverage
- While the "cons" seem to outweigh the "pros," other issues argue against outright exclusion of the Media:
- *Exclusion is, itself, a story that would likely result in bad or undercover reporting.
 - *We usually camp on public land, making it illegal to exclude anyone.
 - *Too much energy is required in excluding Media.
 - *And from the real pragmatists: all participants, Media included, can be charged the registration fee.

So, the general conclusion was to form an affinity group for dealing with the media. "The Rendezvous Media Group" would consider the following suggestions to keep our experience what we want while helping the Media get meaningful stories:

- *Have a committee to deal with Media at Rendezvous
- *Have Media registration table
- *Media wear ID badges
- *Media pay like all participants
- *Have identified Media spokespeople
- *Produce Media package ahead of time with EF! background, statements from different groups, spokesperson list and issues back-

grounds

- *Set Media guidelines
- *Send Mudheads

Other suggestions that got little or no support included:

- *Define areas where Media are allowed and not allowed
- *Request Media stay awhile, to limit superficial stories
- *Ask for agreements to review stories
- *Set times Media are allowed in
- *Go to private land to exclude Media

This concludes my notes from the final debate. Near the end, I presented my idea for how the group's consensus could be applied, which seemed to be received very positively. It follows:

It's possible to put all these ideas together to make our experience a better one AND help our EF! ISSUES get before the public in a better way than ever before.

I'd be willing to help pull together a "Media packet" that EF! groups from around the country/continent/world? could have a part in. It would include EF! history, statements from different folks on our current issues, list of workshops (if done ahead) and most importantly statements and background ISSUES. A spokesperson list could name individuals who want to talk about specific issues (and who have some recognized history with EF!). The packet could also explain our non-hierarchical nature, what affinity groups are, why some people get naked, some get rowdy and some get spiritual. It could also present guidelines on Media Etiquette (asking permission, respecting spiritual exercises, etc.) and an explanation of who the Mudheads are and how serious a threat they could be. Packets could also be sent to all the national Media folks who've covered us in the past along with a Media Release. We could also prepare a sheet for everyone else explaining how to work with the Media, recognizing some Media individuals separate from their corporations, and spelling out one's "rights" with the Media.

In order to prepare this, of course, the RM Group would have to hash out some decisions, which — like all committee work — would be a blast; and EF!ers, being the fun-loving folk they are, should take to the task like a duck to mucky water. The other details to work out will be: registration table legis-

Women and Group Processes

by Jean E.

The Women's Caucus at last year's RRR dealt with the group process and how well women are included. The subject was brought up in the context of some women's experience (small minority) that certain men make it hard for them to play meaningful roles, and some women's experience (majority) that the Media still goes after the men, and the most redneck men, as images.

tics, Media ID badges, collecting registration, handling complaints, working with site-selection groups to determine if open/media areas can be separated from private/"living room"/non-media areas. Admittedly, creating a fair and representative spokesperson list could be controversial, but has that ever stopped this group? (Let's include everyone, even those we consider dangerous; we'll just put a warning label on!)

Those who volunteered for the Media Group are Jean Crawford, Michael Robinson, Roger Featherstone, Steve Horton, Mike Jakubal, Jeff McDuff, Anne Petermann, Barry Auskern, and myself. Come January, someone call someone and let's get started. Any others who want to join, call someone.

Oh yes — it was also majority opinion to publish this and ask for input from anyone and everyone on any detail. Please don't wait till you arrive to add your 2 cents; we want it now. Thanks!

The majority felt that, Media images to the contrary, most women are able to take on just about any role in EF! they want and, indeed, are the major players in many areas, though some men — like everywhere — are a problem. But the feeling seemed to be that those men are a small though powerful minority; even EF! women have a hard time with them. A greater challenge seemed to be how to "outreach," run meetings, and "mentor" (myntor?) to get more women involved. (We haven't gone to those women managers' "How to Develop an Effective Team" seminars.)

A "round robin" turned up many helpful suggestions for solving these problems. Not all were roundly agreed upon, but they include:

- *show respect and confront disrespect, even joking-style disrespect
- *draw out those who hang back
- **"mobile" leadership (leadership should move, so no one always has the responsibility), or -
- *consensus (the group split between consensus and less structured forms; in any case, get everyone's opinion)
- *no structure for rotation, but understand that input should come from different people
- *reaffirmation for a good job
- *help individuals take on new tasks
- *educate the group about "process"
- *have fun! have food! social is important!!

continued on page 15



VICTIMS OF THE WAR ON PREDATORS. These mountain lions were all killed on one Arizona rancher's Forest Service allotment by agents of the federal Animal Damage Control agency.

Boycott Public Lands Beef!

By Linda K. Wells

A public lands beef boycott will begin this month in the 11 Western states. The boycott will be used as an educational program to teach the public about the destruction of public lands by livestock grazing, to attract media attention, and to drive a wedge between public and private producers. All beef will have to be boycotted until public lands beef is labeled. It will start in the West but the goal is a nationwide boycott.

The loss of wildlife due to livestock grazing is overwhelming. Wildlife numbers have been reduced to small fractions of pre-settlement populations. Every year Animal Damage Control (ADC), a federal agency formed to protect livestock, kills hundreds of thousands of animals, and ranchers themselves add to the toll. Ranchers can kill any animals that cause problems for their livestock (except game animals because these can be sold by local game agencies) and they don't need a license and they are not required to report their kills. The methods used are generally cruel. Traps, snares, poisons, denning (digging out or hooking pups from den and clubbing them) and shooting from planes and helicopters are a few of the

barbaric methods used by both ADC and ranchers.

ADC and ranchers also kill many non-target animals because their techniques are non-discriminatory. Animals are also killed on fences and in stock tanks. Ranch roads open up areas to hunters, ORVs and other destructive influences.

Livestock ranching has caused more soil damage and erosion and has depleted, destroyed and polluted more natural water sources than any other land use. Native vegetation is also highly impacted by livestock ranching. In many areas of the West, the native vegetation is cleared and non-native species of no use for wildlife are planted. On public land, most plants that cows will not eat are considered weeds and eradicated. The loss of vegetation further reduces wildlife numbers by reducing food

sources and nesting areas.

The destruction caused by livestock grazing is subsidized by our taxes. Almost half the area of the Western states is grazed public lands, including National Wildlife Refuges and Wilderness Areas. Yet these public lands produce only 3% of the forage provided for US beef production.

In short, there are no good reasons to continue this destructive practice, but ranchers have enormous political clout. The myth of the rugged independent Western rancher is so much a part of our history it is hard to fight. Challenging that myth and exposing the truth of today's public land rancher is considered un-American. Yet that is exactly what we must do; public lands must be set aside to be truly wild and the public lands rancher must go the way of the whaler.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- * Organize a boycott in your area. For more information, contact Linda Wells, Ranching Task Force, POB 41652, Tucson, AZ 85717; (602)327-9973.
- * Donate to cover costs of printing bumperstickers and brochures for the boycott. Send donations to Nancy Ferguson, Star Route, Bates, OR 97817.
- * Become more informed about public lands ranching. Read *Sacred Cows at the Public Trough* and *Ecodefense*, and rent the overgrazing slide show to show your group (see ad in this *Journal*).
- * To get more information on ranching and to send donations, contact Lynn Jacobs, Ranching Task Force, POB 5874, Tucson, AZ 85703.

Women . . .

continued from page 14

- *have things for new people to do and for people who can't make meetings
- *choose an environment with no distractions
- *have all women's group dinner
- *have "vibes" watcher
- *encourage spirituality (this was not unanimous)
- *have "round robins": personal to begin; assess process at end
- *have humor sessions
- *express your passion
- *train members for new responsibilities
- *use word like "organizer" instead of "leader" (the necessity of this was disputed, as some feel "leader" should not connote a single person but many different people in a role for a time, and therefore is not a negative word)

The Women's Caucus asked that this be published to help all our groups be more effective.

By Brian Wyatt

Fifteen miles southeast of Eureka, CA, stands the largest unprotected grove of ancient redwoods, the 3,000-acre Headwaters Forest. This grove serves a vital ecological role, not only as a core habitat for Spotted Owl, Marbled Murrelet, Pacific Fisher, Red Tree Vole, Tailed Frog and others, but also as a migration corridor to allow genetic mixing between populations in Redwood National Park and Humboldt State Redwoods, which stand to the north and south of Headwaters. This area will determine the fate of the entire redwood ecosystem. The next largest grove of untouched redwoods is a mere 300 acres.

This magnificent stand of primeval forest is now scheduled for slaughter as early as January to pay off the next installment of

Maxxam's junk bond debts, incurred when they bought the grove's corporate "owner", Pacific Lumber. The two timber harvest plans proposed to completely fragment and destroy this fragile ecosystem are up for review by the corporate-dominated Board of Forestry on January 9th in Sacramento, CA.

The plans were originally denied by the CA Dept. of Forestry because Headwaters is the third most important habitat for the Marbled Murrelet, now petitioned for federal Threatened status in the lower 48 states. (I'm sure the 3,000 letters of disapproval also affected their normal rubber-stamping process.) Needless to say, Pacific Lumber appealed the plans to the state Board of Forestry.

Now it is up to us to face the beast with a massive outcry. At this point in the game,

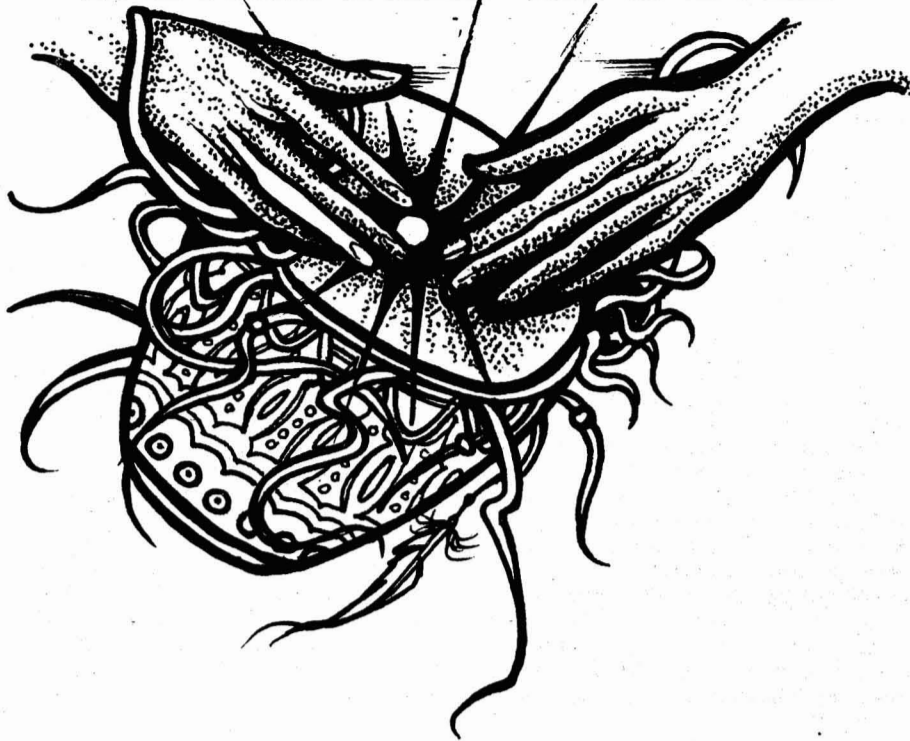
immense national pressure is our best chance. We're asking for letters to be written ASAP from all over the country. We only have until Jan. 7 to comment. Please send comments to: Ross Johnson, c/o Board of Forestry, 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 94814; or FAX: 916-327-0000. Ask for denial of THPs 1-89-762 and 1-89-793.

A statewide call is going out for a march in Sacramento on the day of the meeting. Contact 707-895-2043 for more info.

We expect a huge turnout in defense of Headwaters at the Board meeting, and are requesting people come ready for the woods in case of approval. Dress in full camo. If you would like to help with actions in the woods call 707-468-1660.

HEADWATERS FOREST NEEDS YOUR HELP NOW

TRIBAL LORE



You Buy Winters Bayou

One of the most botanically diverse areas in North America needs your help. The 710 acre Winters Bayou Scenic Area in the Sam Houston National Forest offers habitat for rare species such as Crane-fly and Yellow-fringed Orchids, Pileated and Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, and Painted Bunting. It contains mature stands of Loblolly Pine, gigantic Cabbage Palmetto, and a bird rookery.

Unfortunately, the official boundaries of this area are too small to properly maintain such genetic diversity. With the acquisition of 1,100 acres of private land, the closing of one dirt road, and the addition and rehabilitation of some of the Forest Service's pine plantations, the Scenic Area could be expanded into a Winters Bayou Wilderness. The private land that needs to be acquired has Indian sites, successional ponds, and the world's largest Laurel Oak tree.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: 1) Donate money for land purchases to Wilderness Club, Rt. 3 Box 114, Cleveland, TX 77327. 2) Write the FS supervisor asking him to outlaw hunting in Scenic Areas and to end clearcutting: William Lannon, National Forests in TX, 701 N First St, Lufkin, TX 75901. 3) Lobby your senators and representative for Wilderness designation of Winters Bayou; and urge them to strengthen and support the Clear-cut Restraint Bill, HR 2406: senators, US Senate, Washington, DC 20510; representative, House of Representatives, DC 20515. 4) Visit the area to hike and carry away trash. Call the caretakers at 713-592-7664 to schedule your visit so as to minimize impact.

Trekkin' Turtle Island

"I'm an Eastern Bluebird. Can you help me?" I ask. The hiker scans my be-winged pack, my decorated t-shirt, my feathered cap, and decides to be amused.

"Bluebirds used to be common throughout the Eastern woodlands," I continue. "They have become scarce because they can't find places to nest. Bluebirds nest in abandoned tree cavities, preferably near an open field. But people have become afraid of dead trees, and cut them down so they won't fall on their property. Fences that used to be made of wood are now made of metal. In the few places where there are dead wood cavities, birds of European descent — like House Sparrows and starlings — take over. These birds have had centuries of getting used to humans, and are much meaner and tougher than bluebirds. Sparrows have been known to kill bluebirds and build a nest on top of the bluebird nest. I am here to speak not just for bluebirds but for all plants and animals that need a place to live."

By now, the hiker realizes I am serious. We begin to talk.

We discuss what humans do. We share what we have seen in the woods, and what we have not seen. I point out that the Appalachian Trail is very limited; wide enough for people to lose themselves in the illusion of green, yet too narrow for Cougar, bear, eagle to find the necessities of life.

"Imagine a wildlife corridor from Maine to Georgia," I say. Like most land in America, the Appalachian Trail serves human use. It is a hiking corridor of over 2000 miles which follows a chain of mountains from Springer Mountain in Georgia to Mt. Katahdin in Maine. The trail crosses towns and roads and occasionally threads through wilderness areas.

"Most plants and animals that become

rare, threatened, endangered, or extinct do so because they need a place to live," I tell the hiker. "They need habitat. Bluebirds are lucky because people like them and noticed when they became scarce. People put up special starling- and sparrow-proof boxes and bluebirds have been making a comeback. Most other species are not as fortunate."

When the cause of imminent extinction is loss of habitat, the solution is to set aside more land. But most land in the East is privately owned. Decisions are tough — especially when they involve your acreage. Broadening the Appalachian Trail has to be a gradual process. But how gradual? And who will pay? Will it be the small farmers who have owned the land for decades (and, though their farming practices are not sustainable, still have fierce loyalties to the land)? Will it be spread out nationally to the American taxpayers?

Many of us were on the Appalachian Trail this summer. We were cougar and bluebird, wolf and grasshopper, small-footed bat and timber rattlesnake. We hiked different sections of the trail, spreading the word from Georgia to Maine.

What Humans Can Do

Support the Biodiversity Bill (HR 1268, Representative Jim Scheuer, D-NY). This bill would compel us to maintain biological diversity and educate ourselves about species and ecosystems. The bill suggests we set aside habitat *before* indigenous plants and animals become listed as Endangered. (It does not mention specific areas to be set aside; these will follow in future legislation.) Please write, call and send telegrams to your representative and senators (representative, House of Representatives, DC 20515, 202-225-3121; senators, Senate, DC 20510, 202-224-3121); and contact the Audubon Society about setting up bluebird boxes!

—Miriam Feinstein, Eastern Bluebird

Sequoia Forest Charges Dismissed

Charges against an EF! organizer and a Redwood Summer protester were dismissed on 4 October 1990 in US Magistrate's Court at Ash Mountain, California. The court presides over matters arising in the adjacent Sequoia National Forest.

The defendants were charged with damage to property, not having a Forest Service permit, not complying with the FS permit they did have, and allowing others to commit criminal acts. The criminal complaints alleged that these criminal activities were conducted by the organization Earth First!

Actually, the defendants signed for a FS permit to hold a rendezvous on August 28 and 29. The following day, other protesters blocked a logging road and committed other acts against logging operations. Shortly thereafter, even though the defendants were not present, they were charged with the logging road offenses.

The dismissal occurred when attorney Bill Logan, Three Rivers, argued that the criminal complaints failed to allege any crime, and convinced the government to drop the case. The government, however, blamed the dismissals on a lack of witnesses and the danger of violence from EF!ers if a trial were held. Attorney Logan was assisted by attorneys Ron Sinoway, Humboldt, and Dave Wheeler, Sugarloaf.

—Dave Wheeler, POB 1398, Sugarloaf, CA 92386

A Washington Group Pushes NFPA!

Finally a DC based group is pushing for passage of the Native Forest Protection Act (NFPA). Most of this country's big mainstream groups have been advocating a painfully moderate bill, the American Forests Protection Act (AFPA), but Save America's Forests, a new national grassroots lobbying coalition, is championing NFPA. Save America's Forests is rapidly emerging as a catalyst for nationwide forest protection in the United States.

The group's first major success was on 16 September 1990, when over 1000 concerned citizens from around the country converged on the steps of the US Capitol for the "Stop Clearcutting Our National Forests" Rally. It was the largest forest protection protest ever held in Washington, and it helped stop several timber lobby proposals being considered by Congress at the time. The crowd sent a message of outrage to Congress and the President, calling for an end to logging of our last ancient forests, and demanding introduction and passage of the Native Forest Protection Act. [See comparison of NFPA and AFPA in Tribal Lore section of August EF!].

Since its inception in May 1990, Save America's Forests Coalition has grown to over 50 local, regional, and national groups from 21 states representing over 160,000 activists. The campaign for NFPA should attract a broad base of groups, including those working on recycling, animal rights, endangered species, and air, water, and soil quality, since forest protection directly or indirectly advances these causes. NFPA would protect ancient and native forests on public lands nationwide, ban clearcutting and road-building, and provide economic assistance to workers, communities, and industries facing difficult transitions.

The group's future plans include regional organizing conferences, professional media coordination, and a huge Rally for the Forests and congressional lobby week this spring, all pushing for passage of NFPA. By basing their action in Washington DC, the group will challenge the system of congressional compromise.

Save America's Forests welcomes group and individual membership in its coalition. Members receive political action updates through mailings, phone trees, and computer communications. The Washington office helps link them with other groups and learn how to be effective grassroots lobbyists. The coalition is represented directly in Congress by the DC lobbying staff. For more information, contact Save America's Forests, 1742 18th St. NW, Washington, DC 20009; 202-667-5150.

Cattle Shot; K-Mart Mart Thought Responsible

Several cattle in central Washington's Methow Valley were recently found dead of bow & arrow shots. Apparently a cheap K-Mart set was used, yet K-Mart has not offered to compensate the rancher.

Endangered Species ... ACT!

There are 6000 species of plants and animals currently threatened with extinction in the United States, and with the exception of a few charismatic species, the government agencies entrusted with their well-being aren't doing a damn thing about it. Development, logging, and mining go on unrestrained, violating Congress's order that the well-being of these species must take precedence over all other considerations in all federal decisions regarding alteration of their habitat. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) is not being enforced. Starting with the Reagan years and continuing with the Bush/Lujan regime, pro development cabinet members, representatives and senators have undermined the implementation of the law.

Of the 6000 *biologically* threatened and endangered species, only 575 are formally listed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) as Threatened or Endangered. Over 1000 others are on the brink of extinction!

These 1000 species need immediate listing and protection, but this won't happen unless we take action. We must demand full implementation of the Endangered Species Act and work for passage of an Endangered Ecosystems Act. Earth First! is calling for a week of organized action to give the ESA its claws back. Grassroots activists throughout the nation will rally to save species diversity the last week in March 1991, followed by a massive demonstration in DC.

You can begin preparing now. Demand (real friendly like) from the FWS a list of all Endangered, Threatened and sensitive species in your region. Also demand a list of all candidate species (C1, C2) recommended for listing and find out why they're not. Natural heritage foundations can help here, as well as

the Sierra Club, Audubon Society, etc. Federal agencies are required by law to protect all these species. Ask the FWS, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service et. al. for their comprehensive management plans for these species and ask to see the implementation in the field. We'll use your information to organize simultaneous actions throughout the nation.

Send your ideas and information to Sage, 3904 Cerrito, Oakland, CA 94511. Send photos of your representative species to Karen Coulter, POB 242, Concrete, WA 98237. Please send all the info you can by January 1. Send money too!

—Buck Young

Alliance for a Paving Moratorium's Message to EF!

Your response to the Journal's coverage (8-90 & 11-90) of Fossil Fuels Action's initiatives — EcoDemocracy, EcoStroika, Revolution for Conservation, and a National Paving Moratorium — has been encouraging. The pattern of response to our positions on energy and technology has told us two things: it is the grassroots, non-Washington, DC environmentalists who are open to restructuring society; and a moratorium on new roads and parking lots is the best route for Fossil Fuels Action (and others, we anticipate) to pursue restructuring and to protect wildlife.

Therefore we are forming the Alliance for a Paving Moratorium. Putting our other interests on the back burner, Fossil Fuels Action will intensify the moratorium petition process, respond to pleas for help from around the country regarding new roads, and take advantage of the successful effort to get the paving moratorium idea out — such as by Fossil Fuels Action representative Raul Riutor in Argentina, and California Greens demonstrating against the Oil War by demanding a paving moratorium among other policy changes. (On national and state forests, non-paved roads used for logging and roads that fragment sensitive habitats would be prohibited; existing roads would be evaluated for closure.)

For an example of the ongoing problem of road-building, consider North Carolina. Despite global warming and the Persian Gulf crisis, North Carolina plans to spend \$9.2 billion for road-building in the next few years, so that 95% of the population can have a 4-lane highway within 10 miles. This is at a time when NC has cut social services spending, has one of the worst infant mortality rates in the nation, and is near the bottom nationally in SAT scores. The Triangle Network for Transportation is leading the fight, with supporters such as Greens, the Student Environmental Action Coalition, Center for Reflection on the Second Law, and Alliance for a Paving Moratorium.

We already have indications that "conservative" activists and leaders are of a mind to consider halting ever-more roads and parking lots. Their reasons include fighting higher taxes brought on by "growth" and protecting historic sites from being paved over. Mainstream environmental groups have also given us indications that a moratorium on roads is timely. Some will need time to see the logic in halting roads for the sake of wildlife and water. Jacques Cousteau told us he could not support the moratorium at this time. But we have among the hundreds of petition signatures those of key staffers at Sierra Club, Worldwatch Institute, and great individuals such as John Robbins, author of *Diet for a New America*.

Among the organizations supporting a National Paving Moratorium are Earth Island Institute, Rainforest Action Network, Bioregional Congress, Earth First! Journal, and many groups in the Student Environmental Action Coalition. Members of the new Alliance include Virginians for Wilderness, Center for Reflection on the Second Law, Preserve Appalachian Wilderness, and Urban Ecology of Berkeley, which will fight for the moratorium through its worldwide Ecocity network.

Members of the Alliance, whether groups or individuals, circulate the paving moratorium petitions, fight for local moratoriums, and promote the concept nationally and internationally. More active members will provide input on roads, their effects and alternatives, so that the Alliance's resources and data are available on request. Organizing the campaign will include planning and fundraising for active Alliance members. Fossil Fuels Action has retained Mark Jacobson for the Alliance's grant requests from foundations. Mark was Director of Development for First Nations Financial Project, a nonprofit group for American Indians.

The Alliance has the benefit of a range of Advisors. Bob Mueller, Virginia Earth First! contact, serves as science advisor for the Alliance; on rainforest issues, Lon Maxfield of Jivan Institute in Seattle; for population expertise, Virginia Abernethy, editor of *Popu-*

lation and Environment. Editing, art and poetry will come from singer Bill Van Doren.

"Killing Roads," the EF! Biodiversity Project's road primer, is a valued resource for the paving moratorium campaign. The groundwork of that excellent tabloid earlier this year for the Journal means that EF!'s and Fossil Fuels Action's activities were meant to dovetail.

Gaia Communications, West Hollywood, CA, will handle a public information campaign to assure maximum media exposure. This may be the only environment-only PR firm established.

The Alliance needs you, no matter where you are, to help bring about the first moratorium — more than likely a local one. Please send us any relevant information and spare funds you may have. Help get this campaign off the ground; let's "hit the pavement running." After all, roads have been the key to the rape of the Earth — you almost can't destroy the planet without 'em. To put Earth first and return to ecodemocracy — equal rights for all species — and to encourage the reversal of our oil use patterns as we begin remaking communities now in decay, support a national moratorium on new roads and parking lots. It's the least we can do as the world's worst polluter and biggest consumer, and it's probably the simplest measure we as a people can undertake to forge a livable, equitable future.

—Jan Lundberg, Executive Director, Alliance for a Paving Moratorium, POB 8558, Fredericksburg, VA 22404; 703-371-0222; fax 703-371-0646

Animal Rights Activist Jailed

Henry Hutto, a West Coast activist, has been imprisoned and kept in solitary confinement since October for refusing to cooperate with a U.S. grand jury.

Among other things, the grand jury is investigating a 1987 fire that destroyed an animal experimentation building at University of California, Davis. Under the laws governing grand jury operations, a witness can be imprisoned if he or she refuses to testify after being offered immunity from prosecution. Hutto traveled from his Eugene, OR, home to appear before the Sacramento jury, but refused to answer the panel's questions. He was then jailed, and could remain in prison until the end of the grand jury's term, scheduled for the end of the year.

Hutto's imprisonment follows the two-day incarceration of Sacramento activist Debra Ann Young, who refused to cooperate with the grand jury in August.

The grand jury has been harassing animal rights activists, searching for information about the Animal Liberation Front and ALF actions.

A Henry Hutto Support Fund has been started to cover his legal and other expenses. Send donations (marked HHSF) to: National Foundation for Animal Law, 926 J St, Suite 813, Sacramento, CA 95814. For more information, call (916) 441-7232.

Montana's 1991 Legislature: Change in the Winds?

November's elections were a great disappointment to the timber industry in western Montana. Three incumbent state legislators with business ties to the timber industry were unseated by newcomers and a fourth timber ally failed to get elected in his initial try for the legislature. Three of the four are former officers of the Montana Logging Association.

Environmentalists in Montana believe the change in the make-up of the 1991 legislature will improve chances for passage of a state forest practices act, which the timber industry has successfully fought against in years past. Unlike such states as California, Montana still has no state-level law governing forest practices.

A poll conducted by the *Missoulian* also contained a few surprises. It shows a lot of sympathy for the views of Earth First!, but not its tactics, in the 1991 legislature. When the *Missoulian* posed the question "Which describes your view of the environmental group Earth First!?", members of the legislature responded as follows:

48% of the House and 36% of the Senate responded "I sympathize with some of its views, but am skeptical about its practice."

18% of the House and 30% of the Senate responded "I have little or no sympathy for its views."

23% of the House and 22% of the Senate responded "I strongly oppose it."

1% of the House and 2% of the Senate responded "I admire it."

10% of the House and 10% of the Senate either refused to answer or offered an answer other than the choices presented.

The 11/10/90 *Missoulian* attributed the following quotes to Montana legislators:

Rep. Ben Cohen, D-Whitefish: expressed "a strong admiration for the moral commitment" of Earth First! "But I'm dead-set against tree spiking or the sabotaging of equipment."

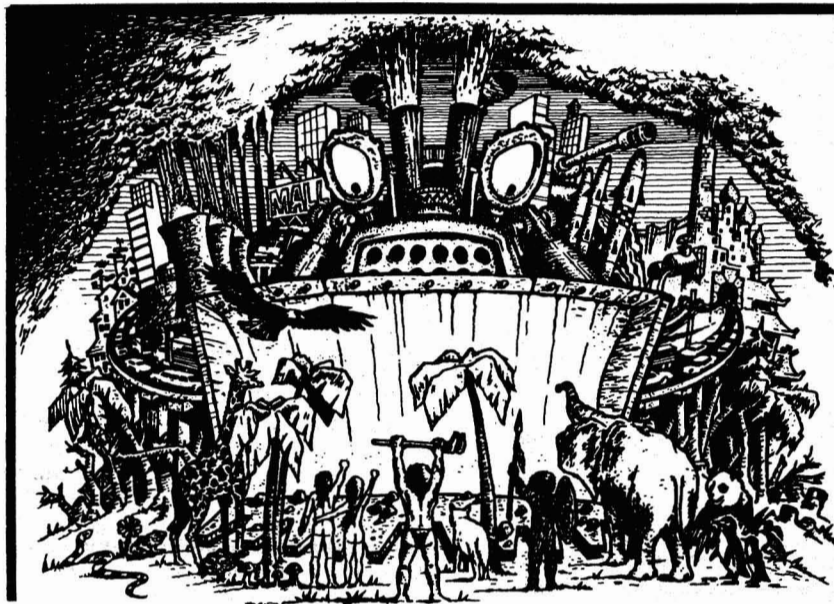
Rep. Hal Harper, D-Helena: "We've got to have someone out in front, on the cutting edge."

Rep. Jim Southworth, D-Billings: "They are a little screwy, but they have done some good in bringing issues before the public."

Sen. Bill Farrell, R-Missoula: "Sorry, folks. Communists used guerillas in Vietnam against me. They may have been right, but I didn't like it."

Montana and other Northwest activists see the near-upset of US Senator Mark Hatfield and the ousting of US Representative Denny Smith in Oregon, and the legislative remake in Montana, as an indication that the political tide is shifting away from the traditional resource export based colonialization of the Northwest.

—Keith Hammer



Whaling Creeps Back

The following is condensed from an article by Sea Shepherd Atlantic Director Benjamin White Jr. in the Autumn 1990 Sea Shepherd Log. To receive the Log, donate to Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, Box 7000-S, Redondo Beach, CA 90277.

Having returned from the International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting in Holland, and the Bellerive Symposium on Whales and Dolphins in Captivity in Geneva, it is time to report briefly on those meetings and on our activities.

The IWC appears to be inexorably sliding toward the resumption of commercial whaling in the near future — maybe next year. Evidence showing a reasonably high number of Minke Whales in both the Northern and Southern seas has Norway, Iceland, and of course, Japan slaving for a chance to clean the rust off their harpoons. Whale lovers worldwide must remind leaders that the initial moratorium on commercial whaling was based on political and ethical reasons, not just the "science" of numbers.

One focus needs to be on St. Vincent and St. Lucia who are voting with the whalers. Telling those countries' chambers of commerce that you have decided against bringing your 800 member family reunion to their island because of their anachronistic policies on whaling could make a difference. The Japanese are not the only ones who can wield economic clout.

The only really good news from IWC is the gradual extension of their management responsibilities to include (for the first time) small cetaceans. Faced with evidence of the annual slaughter of up to 500,000 small whales, dolphins, and porpoises worldwide, the commission backed the United Nations resolution condemning drift nets, criticized Japan for their wholesale destruction of Dall's Porpoises, and directed the scientific committee to assemble population statistics on these animals.

Held two days later, the Bellerive Symposium generally engendered a greater sense of hope for the future. For the first time, representatives of 30 organizations from eight countries met to plan strategy and establish information banks to combat the

entertainment and hotel industries' imprisonment of dolphins for the bermuda short wearing, camera toting crowds.

The best idea of the conference came from Dr. Paul Spong of Orca Lab on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada. He suggested we insist that Sea World — owned by Anheuser-Busch — release Corky. This 23 year old Orca has had seven babies, which have all died, and is now slowing declining in captivity. His plan is to release Corky to her own family with a movie camera on her back (with dissolving collar and radar beacon for recovery) to show what life with a free Orca pod is like. I will work with Dr. Spong to make this dream a reality. By focusing on one individual, we can make tangible the arguments against captivity. If Anheuser-Busch resists, it may be time to boycott their beer. Corky, this Bud's for you.

While the status of dolphin captures in the United States is now in limbo — with none being taken at this time — National Marine Fisheries Service has begun a reevaluation of their permit system, and the Navy must complete an environmental impact statement (EIS) before any more dolphins can be taken from the Gulf. The NMFS has been harshly criticized for their poor response to the die-off of over 300 dolphins in the Gulf of Mexico. Although the die-off prompted NMFS to request a voluntary suspension of the collection of dolphins (in lieu of a moratorium), they have yet to analyze any of the tissue samples for disease or toxics and now know little more about the die-off than they did when it began.

In response to NMFS's permit review and request for public input, Sea Shepherd Conservation Society has demanded that the law protecting dolphins — the Marine Mammal Protection Act — be upheld. Additionally, since August 1989 we have taken the following direct actions:

1) Disrupted the illegal capture of a mother and baby dolphin by Gulf World Inc. near Panama City and effected their release. This prompted NMFS to file charges against three of us for harassment of dolphins! The hearing has been held but no judgement rendered.

International News

2) Prevented the capture of six dolphins, for the Baltimore Aquarium, in Charlotte Harbor, Florida by veteran collectors Jay Sweeney and Harvey Hamilton. The event catalyzed local opposition to dolphin collecting, enlisted Congressman Porter Goss and Florida Governor Bob Martinez, and led to closure of all Florida aquatic preserves, such as Charlotte Harbor, to dolphin collecting.

3) Cut the nets at Hawk's Cay Marina in Duck Key, Florida to release the one remaining dolphin destined for Baltimore. This occurred after Jay Sweeney completely galvanized the state of Florida against captures by grabbing two dolphins from Tampa Bay and illegally transporting them to the Keys. After 80 days of force feeding through a tube, one of the dolphins finally died. The remaining dolphin unfortunately did not leave the enclosure. Though the nets were cut, it was suffering from a common victim's syndrome, a crushed spirit.

4) Dropped 330' of chain link fence holding ten dolphins at the private Bahamas resort at Treasure Island, Abaco. Harvey Hamilton had caught eight of these for his export business after being shut down in Florida. At last report, five dolphins left for good, five remained. The action has caused the Government of Bahamas to seriously reconsider its opening of Bahamian waters to his business.

Sea Shepherd's efforts have been stunningly successful. Not only those who conducted midnight missions, and those who documented our efforts, but those who have swamped state and federal offices with letters and phone calls, have been responsible for a sea change in the thinking of the American people. We now have a good chance of closing the dirty business.

Now for the usual grovelling: we are broke. If you want this work to continue, please help. We have almost no administration costs, no overhead and no employees; but travel, boats, lawyers and wire cutters cost money.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Volunteer. Send donations: *Sea Shepherd, c/o Ben White, 12213 Avery Rd, Fairfax, VA 22033 (or Sea Shepherd address above)

Insist that the regulatory agency responsible for marine creatures do its job: *NMFS, Office of Protected Species, 1335 E.W. Highway, Room 7234, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Tell nations considering supporting whaling not to do so:

*St. Vincent Mission to the United Nations, 801 2nd Ave, 21st Floor, New York, NY 10017;

*St. Lucia Mission to the UN, 820 2nd Ave, Suite 900-E, New York 10017

Pracownia na Rzecz Wszystkich Istot - Stacja Edukacji Ekologicznej Promotes Deep Ecology

ed. note: The Polish group for All Beings - Station of Ecological Education "is a group of people who have accepted Deep Ecology," working "to save the wild places of Poland." The following describes one of the Workshop's efforts:

Bielsko-Biala is the only Polish town with mountain forest (about 2800 hectares) in its boundaries. For years this forest has been logged and mismanaged. Protests, petitions, direct actions and negotiations with local authorities, organised by activists of the Workshop for All Beings, led province authorities to stop all further logger there.

A commission has been established to complete a report on the future of the Wapienica Valley area. Members of the Workshop are represented on the commission. It may be possible to exclude this area from State Forests management (which means logging and selling timber) and to create a landscape forest park supported and maintained by public funds. The area has primeval, natural beech forest, and trout still live in the streams.

If this project succeeds, it will be an example for neighbouring forest areas and will prove that intensive logging is not the only kind of land management possible in the sick Beskid forests. Wapienica is an especially good area for this experiment because of its location near the town (public control), and in such a direction from it that pollution-carrying winds do not penetrate. It could become a vivid demonstration of a shift to the new ecological paradigm.

—Andrzej Janusz Korbel, Pracownia na Rzecz Wszystkich Istot, ul. Magi 21/3, 43-300 Bielsko-Biala, POLAND

Polish Ecologists Blockade Dam Construction

Polish ecologists blockaded a road in the Pieniny Mountains in July in an attempt to stop construction of a dam on the Dunajec River. The "first action of this type in Poland," the blockade was organized by members of the Anarchist Federation and the Freedom and Peace Movement. Joining them in front of trucks were people from a variety of other groups, including the Federation of Greens and the Franciscan Ecological Movement.

Construction of the dam began in 1976. It has been called "a monument to the stupidity of the communists"; but, "after the collapse of communism nothing changed,"

continued on page 18



DIKE FOR DIKE explained — this was a mystery photo when we ran it in the September issue of *EF!*, but we've since received the full story (see below). Polish ecologists blockaded a road in the Pieniny Mountains in July in an attempt to stop construction of a dam on the Dunajec River, the first action of this type in Poland.

International News . . .

continued from page 17

The Anarchist Federation points out. The demonstrators were repeatedly told that they were too late, because stopping construction and recultivating the fields laid waste for the project would cost more than completing the dam.

They replied that putting economic considerations first is the thinking of technocrats, whether communist or Solidarity. The dam will destroy the National Park in the Pieniny Mountains, wipe out several endemic plants, and perhaps also break a layer of soft limestone beneath the site. Arguments that the dam is needed for energy, drinking water, and flood control are without foundation. The proposed hydropower station will yield only 97 MW of electricity, 0.003% of total production in Poland; the bay that the dam will create will be polluted, since all local rivers are contaminated; and flood control could be achieved through less harmful projects.

Direct action was a positive experience for the Polish ecologists. "We spent a very fine week in the mountains, in tents at the river, near the pub with beer." No violence occurred. (The demonstrators allowed all vehicles except those involved in construction to pass in order to maintain the good will of local people and tourists.) Most importantly, the press covered the demonstration and discussed the reason for it.

The Polish ecologists held a second blockade to stop the dam in August. They planned to go next to Warsaw to demonstrate against the development of nuclear energy in Poland and, in particular, against construction of the first nuclear power plant, Zarnowiec (see photo in November issue of *EF!*). On September 4 Poland decided to abandon its nuclear program, at least for the next ten years. Work at Zarnowiec has stopped. (Whether the government's announcement came before or after the planned demonstration, *EF!* has not heard.)

Polish ecologists hope that engaging in actions will help their movement grow. They also hope that, even if they do not manage to stop the dam, their blockades will show the government that each time it undertakes a project that will harm people and nature it will meet resistance. The "authorities won't be able to stay indifferent," they maintain.

Drug Enforcement Agency Defoliates Huallaga Valley

Drug Enforcement Agency statistics say that 70% of the cocaine produced in South America comes from the Rio Huallaga Basin. Peru's Rio Huallaga is one of the Amazon Basin's richest areas in plant species, partly due to its climatic history. During glaciations, when water is concentrated at the poles, the high rainfall areas of the Amazon Basin diminish in size. The Rio Huallaga is one of the areas that is always wet, and consequently it has produced fantastic plant speciation. One bio-geographer estimates that the Amazon Basin has been above water continuously for 220 million years — far longer than most places in the world. (The Madagascrine Plate is an ancient plate that now includes the African islands of Seychelles, Mauritius and Madagascar in the Indian Ocean. That land has been above water for 350 million years and is the oldest above water land on the planet.)

The Amazon Basin — by virtue of heavy rainfall, lack of inundation, and a continuous growing season — has been like a vast laboratory for animal and plant speciation. The Rio Huallaga is the epicenter of this

process, and has one of the most intense concentrations of variegated species and genetic material on the planet.

The Rio Huallaga Basin should be made into a vast nature reserve, but the US government would prefer to defoliate it. The DEA proposes that a chemical called Spike be sprayed into the air over the valley to kill coca bushes. This is essentially like burning down a forest to kill the ants. There may be a lot of coca down there, but it is floristically and faunistically one of the five or six richest areas on the planet, and is inhabited by dozens of tribes with many distinct language groups.

The US State Department won't be sympathetic to endangered plants, so we must remind them that Peru is being pushed into the arms of *Sendaro Luminoso* — an allegedly Maoist guerrilla group that rivals Pol Pot for its ruthlessness in dealing with enemies — by a combination of bad Peruvian economic policies and bad US policies toward the *campesinos*, the poor people who grow the coca. The poor see *Sendaro* as their only hope. It's a repeat of a sad story played over and over throughout the Third World.

FUNDS NEEDED TO SAVE PNG & SOLOMON ISLANDS RAINFOREST

Preamble

The rainforests are the womb of life, home to more than half of Earth's species of plants and animals. Satellite photos reveal that at current rates of destruction, less than 20 years remain before the rainforests are utterly annihilated.

Whereas we have known for years that we are losing many species that would provide us with foods, medicines and industrial products, only recently have scientists begun to realise that the rainforests are vital organs of this living planet and that we are basically dismantling the thermostat regulating the composition of the atmosphere and the stability of the climate.

Unsustainable industrial logging is one of the main culprits, and consequently, more than 400 Rainforest Action Groups have been trying to slow the consumption of meranti, teak, mahogany and other rainforest timbers in the "developed" world. Wherever these forests are being destroyed or damaged, indigenous peoples are losing their ways of life and their very lives.

Duncan Poore, Professor of Forestry from the University of London, was commissioned by the ITTO (International Tropical Timber Organisation) to conduct a study of tropical forestry. He concluded that less than 1/8 of 1% of forestry carried out in the tropics could be considered sustainable — all the rest was damaging or degrading the forests. As the 1/8 of 1% he identified was based on definitions of sustainability developed in Queensland, Australia, and as the Qld foresters "cooked the books" to come up with their claims, this conclusion has been attacked. We conclude that there is not a single example anywhere in the world of sustainable logging of a tropical forest.

PACIFIC ECO-FORESTRY PROJECT

Earlier this year, the 3 members of Rainforest Information Center went to Papua New Guinea (PNG) and the Solomon Islands for 3 months to do an ecological audit of a small portable sawmill, the Wokabout, to see if it could be a viable alternative to large scale industrial logging by the multinationals. We concluded that with the right management plan and training it is indeed a viable alternative. Presently, although more than 300 Wokabouts are in use in PNG, much needless destruction is taking place because of the absence of suitable guidelines and models.

Austria recently became the first country in the world to ban ALL tropical timber

imports from unsustainable sources. The struggle for the tropical forests will revolve around whether "sustainability" is a reality or mere rhetoric. In PNG we have the chance to set a standard of sustainability.

In many cases in PNG and the Solomons, a community will sign over timber rights to industrial loggers unless the timber is perceived to have some other value for them. We need \$120,000 for urgent interventions where imminent destruction of the rainforests can only be prevented by providing the landowning communities with Wokabout Sawmills that enable them to carefully log a small part of their forests. Though the immediate financial returns are not as great as what the logging companies offer, many communities require only SOME return from their forests in order to spurn the companies. More than half of this \$120,000 has already been raised.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

We need \$60,000 for 3 Wokabout sawmills and a small second-hand boat, with which we can save 54,000 hectares (Ha) of the last of the coastal rainforest in Morobe Province from destruction by PNG Forest Products Ltd. We can do this by providing the Zia tribe with the Wokabouts and a management plan (one each for the villages of Salwarra, Popoi and Sapu). Each sawmill will mainly cut timber left after clearing for gardens and plantations. After visiting more than 20 existing Wokabout sawmill sites, we are convinced that sustainable logging is possible on perhaps a 50 year rotation requiring just 150 Ha (3 Ha/year) per mill. The boat will take the timber to Lae for export.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

We need \$45,000 for three Wokabout sawmills.

Presently about ten commercial logging companies operate in the Solomon Islands and others are seeking entry.

On the island of Choiseul in the Western Province, a Korean logging company, Eagon Forestry Co. Ltd, recently obtained logging concessions for areas in the south. Choiseul is covered in lush tropical rainforest, most of it still pristine. The island supports small coastline communities which depend upon the sea and forest for their survival. One village has signed over timber rights to Eagon and this operation has already devastated the community by relocating the village to a small offshore island.

The company is aggressively negotiating further contracts on the island. It intends to expand its operation wherever it can obtain timber rights from landowners, and to build roads across wilderness areas on the island.

Royalty payments for the logs extracted are \$2.50 per cubic metre compared to \$350 per cubic metre for timber produced by a Wokabout.

Serious outbreaks of malaria have followed the heavy machinery; disturbance creates puddles of stagnant water, in which mosquitoes breed. Water supplies have been polluted by machinery upstream.

The RIC audit team held meetings in

eight villages and found that although they had not yet signed, all felt the need to develop their communities and were considering Eagon's offers. All agreed that a Wokabout sawmill would secure their forests from the logging company and empower them to manage their own resources.

On the island of Vella Lavella, another Korean company, Hyundai Co. Ltd, is negotiating with villages for timber concessions. An almost identical situation pertains.

RIC is confident that three Wokabouts strategically placed in this region would not only protect the forests of the villages that received them, but would result in a moratorium on all new contracts in the Western Solomons as communities realised that an alternative development option was emerging. The Wokabouts would be owned by Soltrust and in possession of the villages as long as they adhered to the Ecoforestry Management Plan.

Wokabouts require no roads or heavy machinery, usually the most damaging part of logging in the tropics. Four men carry the mill to the log and the planks are carried out.

The Ecological Trading Co. from the United Kingdom has agreed to buy all the timber produced under our guidelines, for about 25% above what could be obtained by selling it anywhere else. ETC will monitor the timber with our brand on it to be sure it actually has come from a sustainable source.

The way we're saving this forest (for about \$1/Ha) is revolutionary. It is a model of how the rainforests must be saved — by empowering the people who have always lived in them and cared for them to continue to do so.

In much of the Pacific, customary land ownership means the fate of the forests is in the hands of local indigenous communities rather than governments. The people are anxious for development and money and get sucked into selling their timber off to the logging companies.

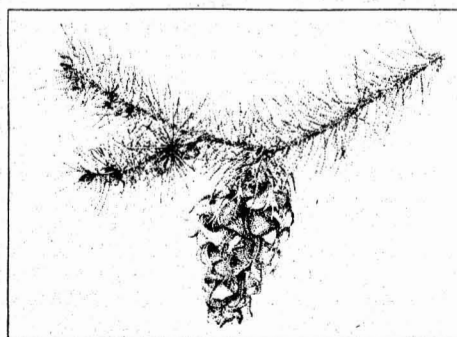
I've just returned to Australia after 4 months of rainforest roadshows and workshops where I raised about \$15,000 for rainforest conservation. I have committed the \$15,000 to this project which I believe will lead to the first truly sustainably produced tropical timber in the world.

The Australian Council of Churches has granted us \$45,000, so the PNG sites are now secured. We still need \$45,000 for the Solomons and about \$15,000 to get our crew over there to install the mills and teach the sustainable methods. Please help.

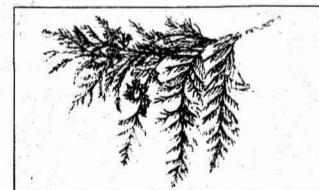
A 40 page report is available covering our evaluation of the 25 Wokabouts we visited in 1990, and the elements of our Ecoforestry Management Plan. (Each community will have its own Ecoforestry Management Plan tailored to forest type, social conditions etc.) For a copy, and to contribute funds, write
Rainforest Information Centre
POB 368, Lismore
New South Wales 2480 Australia
—John Seed

Northwest Artist Peggy Sue McRae

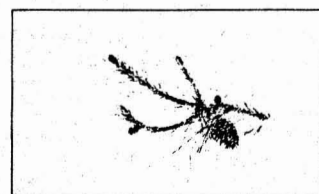
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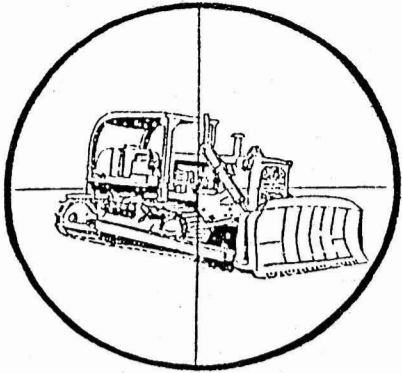


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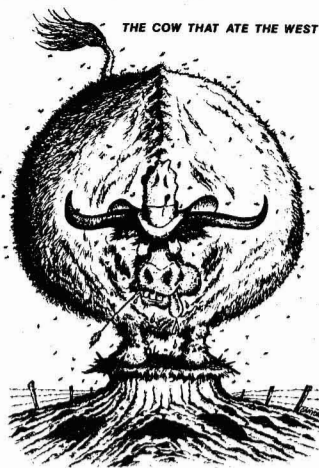
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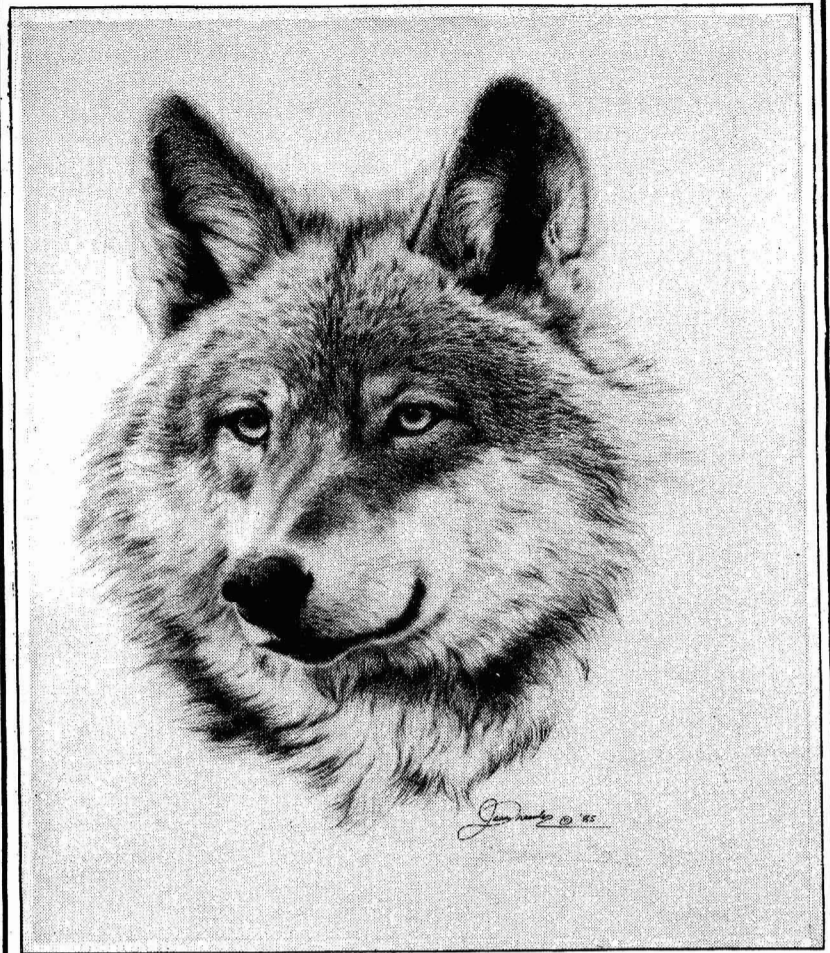
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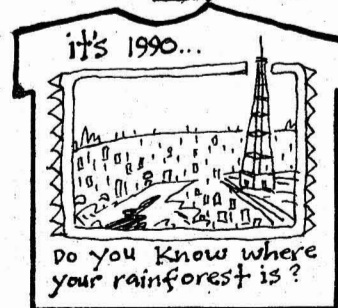
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First! Directory

The Earth First! Directory lists the contact points for the international Earth First! movement. It is divided into four sections: 1) National EF! offices in the United States; 2) International contacts; 3) Active EF! Chapters or Groups; and 4) Contact persons where there is as yet no active EF! group. If you are interested in becoming active with the Earth First! movement, reach the folks listed for your area.

Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal is an independent entity within the international Earth First! movement, and is not the newsletter of the Earth First! movement. It does, however, provide a forum for Earth First!ers around the world. This directory is provided as a service to independent EF! groups. If you would like to be listed as a contact or as a group, PLEASE contact Bob Kaspar (PO Box 14691, Madison, WI 53714 (608)241-9426). Please send address changes or corrections to him also. If you do not have a phone number listed, please send it to him. Bob acts as coordinator for local EF! groups for the EF! movement.

LOCAL NEWSLETTERS: Addresses marked with a "*" produce either an Earth First! newsletter or regular mailings for their area or issue. Contact them directly to receive their newsletter or otherwise be on their mailing list.

NATIONAL EF!

EF! ALASKA TASK FORCE
POB 410612 San Francisco, CA 94141
(415) 824-3841

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Boulder, CO 80307-3132

EF! DIRECT ACTION FUND
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(415)376-7329

EF! ECO-VIDEOGRAPHE
POB 2182 Berkeley, CA 94702
(415)601-5933

EARTH FIRST! FOUNDATION
POB 1683 Corvallis, OR 97339

EF! GENETIC ALERT
Andy Caffrey
POB 2182 Berkeley, CA 94702

EF! GRIZZLY BEAR TASK FORCE *
POB 6151 Bozeman, MT 59715
(406)587-3356

The GreenFire Project
Roger Featherstone Box DB
Blisbee, AZ 85603 (602)624-3196

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(406) 728-5733

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MB Nearing POB 344
Kalspell, MT 59903

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Bay Area Earth First! POB 83
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EF! RANCHING TASK FORCE
POB 5784 Tucson, AZ 85703
(602)578-3173

EF! WOLF ACTION NETWORK *
Tom Skeele POB 6733 Bozeman, MT 59771
(406)585-9607

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NESS)
Jamie Sayen RFD 1, Box 530
N. Stratford, NH 03590 (603)636-2952

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Melbourne EF! GPO Box 1738Q
Melbourne, 3001 Victoria Australia

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(604)688-SEAL

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Cheryl Bashaw CU Box 7893
Flagstaff, AZ 86011 (602)523-3909

Phoenix EF! POB 8795 Phoenix, AZ 85066
Mike or Terri (602)276-2849

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(916)894-7362

Central Valley EF!
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(916)753-3239

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POB 784 Springville, CA 93265
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LOS ANGELES EARTH FIRST!
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Betty Ball (707)468-1660

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Michael Robinson POB 12243
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Wilderness Defense!
POB 460101 Smoky Hill Station
Aurora, CO 80046-0101

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Becky Elder & Woody Elliott
POB 861 Manitou Springs, CO 80829
(719)685-4257

Huerfano Valley EF! POB 663
Redwing, CO 81066

CONNECTICUT EF!
Trap Rock EF! POB 3856 Amity Station
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(904)371-8166

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Mike Schoelen POB 20582
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Honolulu, HI 96848

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POB 90, Glen Carbon IL 62034
(618)692-3246

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722 Westwinds Dr. #3
Iowa City, IA 52246 (319)354-6674

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Gary Lawless Gulf of Maine Books
61 Main St. Brunswick, ME 04011
(207)729-5083

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Chesapeake EF! Ron Huber POB 184
Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732
(301)855-2975

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(413)625-8279

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North Stratford, NH 03590

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(218)829-6917

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Rose Ritter (314)773-4708
John Wallace (618)939-3697

Big River EF! CURRENT
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Orin Langelie (314)257-2437

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Northern NM EF!
Ginger Quinn—Roadrunner Recyclers
POB 1834 Taos, NM 87571
(505)758-5550

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Schenectady, NY 12308
(518)374-6592

Long Island EF!
PO Box 812, Huntington, NY 11743
(516)424-6499

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Oberlin, OH 44074
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Portland, OR 97213 (503)284-5849

Southern Willamette EF!
POB 10384 Eugene, OR 97440
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PENNSYLVANIA EF!
ALLEMONG BIOREGION EF!
Allemon Wilderness Group
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EF! Out There POB 1214
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POB 10147 Olympia, WA 98502

Okanogan Highlands EF!
POB 361 Republic, WA 99166

Olympic Peninsula EF!
The Dancing Nudi Branches
POB 1813 Port Townsend, WA 98368

Seattle EF!/Washington EF! *
George Draffan
POB 95316 Seattle, WA 98145

Shuksan EF!
Tony Van Gessel
POB 773, Bellingham, WA 98227

WILD ROCKIES EF! *
POB 7891 Missoula, MT 59807

Yellowstone EF!
Randall Restless Box 6151
Bozeman, MT 59715 (406)587-3356

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Athens, GA 30602

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TEXAS
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Nikki McDonald POB 670719
Dallas, TX 75367 (214)739-1248

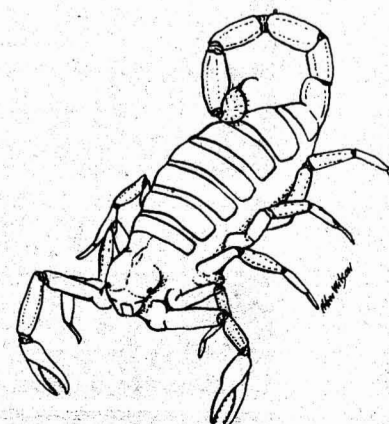
WEST VIRGINIA
Vince Packard POB 65 Myra, WV 25544

USUAL DISGUSTING PLEA FOR MONEY

The Earth First! movement runs on your financial support. We don't need as much as other groups since we are grassroots, volunteer, decentralized and have low overhead. Moreover, you get to select where your hard-earned money goes. Don't send your contributions to this newspaper, send them directly to one of these hard working groups:

- *Earth First! Foundation, POB 1683 Corvallis, OR 97339 (contributions to the Foundation are tax-deductible)
- *EF! Alaska Task Force, POB 410612, San Francisco, CA 94141
- *Arizona Earth First!, POB 41652, Tucson, AZ 85717
- *Bay Area Earth First!, POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516
- *EF! Biodiversity Project, POB 3132, Boulder, CO 80307-3132 (Contributions to the EF! Foundation earmarked for the Biodiversity Project are tax-deductible.)
- *EF! Ocean-Dolphin Task Force POB 77062 San Francisco, CA 94107-7062
- *Colorado Earth First!, Box 1166, Boulder, CO 80306
- *Everglades Earth First!, POB 557735, Miami, FL 33255
- *Florida Earth First!, POB 13864, Gainesville, FL 32604
- *Ranching Task Force, POB 5784, Tucson, AZ 85703
- *Humboldt County Earth First!, POB 34, Garberville, CA 95440
- *Lakes Area EF!, POB 202, Brainerd, MN 56401
- *Los Angeles Earth First!, POB 4381, North Hollywood, CA 91607
- *Midwest Headwaters Earth First!, POB 14691, Madison, WI 53714
- *PAW (Preserve Appalachian Wilderness), RFD 1, Box 530 N. Stratford, NH 03590
- *Stumptown Earth First!, POB 13765, Portland, OR 97213
- *Santa Cruz Earth First!, POB 344, Santa Cruz, CA 95061
- *Southern Willamette Earth First!, POB 10384, Eugene, OR 97440
- *Virginians for Wilderness, Route 1, Box 250, Staunton, VA 24401
- *Washington Earth First!, POB 95316, Seattle, WA 98145
- *Wild Rockies Earth First!, POB 7891, Missoula, MT 59807
- *Wolf Action Network, POB 6733 Bozeman, MT 59771
- *Yellowstone Earth First!, Box 6151, Bozeman, MT 59715

This fundraising appeal is placed as a service to the Earth First! movement. THANK YOU for your support!



EARTH FIRST! BULLETINS

1991 ROUND RIVER RENDEZVOUS. Barry Auskern reports that a site has been located for next year's Rendezvous, in Vermont's Green Mountain National Forest. The dates will be August 5-11 (to avoid the rainy black-fly season).

Some EFlers expressed an interest in hiking to next year's RRR site. The location is accessible from the Long Trail near Bread Loaf Mountain (3835'). A spur trail, the Clark Brook Trail, takes hikers 3 miles to the gathering site. Interested hikers are referred to the *Guide Book of the Long Trail*.

A number of us felt that last year's RRR Committee was obliged to spend too much time and energy getting people to cough up their \$20 to help cover Rendezvous costs. Accordingly, we are asking people to mail us ahead of time a check for \$20 (made payable to "1991 Round River Rendezvous"). Upon receipt of the check and a self-addressed, stamped return envelope, we will send you a map of the area with driving directions. The map will be ready sometime this spring. Checks should be sent to 1991 Round River Rendezvous, POB 653, Greenfield, MA 01302.

CECELIA OSTROW TOUR. Cecelia Ostrow will bring her program of music and commentary, *Healing the Earth: Finding Hope in an Age of Environmental Destruction*, to California and the Southwest this winter. If you would like Cecelia to present this show in your town, please contact her at POB 775, White Salmon, WA 98672, (509)-493-3998.

Her tentative schedule is

- Jan. 11 Garberville, CA
- 12 Heartwood Institute, Garberville
- 13 Laytonville, CA
- 17 Ukiah, CA
- 18 Sonoma State Univ., Cotati, CA
- 19 Santa Cruz, CA
- 20 La Pena, Berkeley, CA
- 22 Stanford University
- 23 Esalen Institute, Big Sur, CA
- 25 Prescott, AZ
- 26 Flagstaff, AZ
- 27 Tucson, AZ
- Feb. 1 Santa Fe, NM
- 2 Albuquerque, NM
- 7 Davis, CA
- 15 Arcata, CA



DO YOU KNOW A LAWYER WHO CARES ABOUT NATURAL DIVERSITY? The EFl Biodiversity Project and grassroots activists often need the assistance of local attorneys in their defense of imperiled species and ecosystems. If you know an attorney in Ohio, New Hampshire, Georgia, Montana, Colorado, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, New Mexico, or Washington, DC, who would be willing to provide free legal assistance (*pro bono* services) to protect rare and endangered species, please refer her or him to the EFl Biodiversity Project or send us her or his name and address and we will promptly forward information about the Project and its efforts in the aforementioned states.

—Jasper Carlton, EFl Biodiversity Project, POB 3132, Boulder, CO 80307

ECOLOGICAL PROGRAMS IN NEW YORK CITY. Programs to be sponsored this winter by the Learning Alliance include:

Humans' View of Animals: Animal Rights and Ecological Questions: The ethical questions that surround the animal rights movement will be examined by animal rights activists, environmental activists, and scientists. Jan. 18, 6:30-8:30pm at the New York Urban Coalition, 99 Hudson Street. Sliding scale fee: \$7-15.

To register, contact the Learning Alliance, 494 Broadway, New York, NY 10012 (212-226-7171).

ACTION AGAINST NUCLEAR WEAPONS. On 5 January 1991, activists from around the world will gather at the Nevada Test Site to deliver a message to the Bush Administration: NO VETO of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. The action is scheduled for 10:30am on Rt 95, Mercury, Nevada. Transportation from Las Vegas will be provided; but requests should be made as early as possible. Please call Greenpeace and/or American Peace Test at 702-386-9834 for local contacts, nonviolence training information, and other details.

AUSTRALIAN ROUND RIVER RENDEZVOUS. Earth First! will hold a Wilderness Festival—Forever Wild, January 5-8, at Walwa, Upper Murray, Victoria. It will include a council of all beings, dance circle, workshops, sweatlodge, and planning for actions. Contacts: Canopy (03) 354-7972 and CAM at FOE (03) 482-1509.

ENVIRO-VOICE AVAILABLE Peg Millett (of FBI fame) would like to get out and about as a troubadour for Mother Earth. She has lots of enthusiasm, has been around EFl for awhile, and has a crystalline voice and message. For singing/speaking engagements, please write to: Peg Millett, POB 1525, Prescott, AZ 86302. Fee is negotiable.

THE COMPUTER ATE IT. Apologies to all you observant readers who noticed the absence of EFl Bulletins from the last issue, and to those depending on this page to get a message out. The page was completed and ready to go, but never made the leap from electrons to paper. —DT

OVERGRAZING SLIDE SHOW

"The Eating of the West" graphically displays the devastation of Western public lands at the hands (and hooves) of the livestock industry. The show consists of over 100 high-quality slides from National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, and BLM lands which portray the shocking magnitude of the problems caused by grazing. The slide show comes with a written script and is rented at cost, \$10. Free copies of a 48-page tabloid on grazing are also available. Please include with your order the name and phone number of a contact person, and the date you need the show along with alternate dates. Orders must include street address for UPS delivery. "The Eating of the West" was funded by donations to Lynn Jacobs and the Earth First! Foundation.

ORDER SLIDE SHOW DIRECT FROM:

Ranching Task Force
PO Box 41652
Tucson, AZ 85717

BIODIVERSITY BUMPERSTICKERS

Only \$2 each, postpaid. Additional contributions will help us build a needed species and ecosystem defense fund.

Earth First! Biodiversity Project
PO Box 4207
Parkersburg, WV 26104-4207

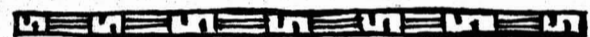
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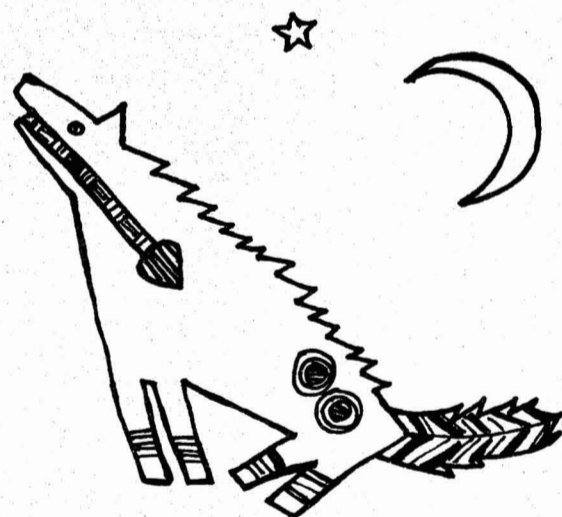
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North America's Biggest Estuary Under Siege

by Ron Huber, Chesapeake Earth First!

Known to the Algonquins, descendants of the eastern trekking tribes who "discovered" it, as *Khya-ta-spiyak* (Great Oyster Bay), Chesapeake Bay is the water mother of the mid-Atlantic region of North America.

From her mouth at the Virginia Capes, her body lies athwart Virginia and Maryland. Her fingers reach to the four directions: north through Pennsylvania to upstate New York, west to the tip of the Maryland panhandle, south through Virginia and West Virginia, and east into Delaware. Her drainage is bounded on the north by the Catskills and the Mohawk and Hudson Valleys; to the west by the Allegheny Mountains and the Ohio River Valley; south by Albemarle Sound, the Roanoke River and the Dismal Swamp; and east by the Delaware, Maryland and Virginia coastal bays.

Thirty-five rivers empty directly into the Bay, which itself is largely the drowned lower body of the Susquehanna River: the Susquehanna, Gunpowder, Middle, Back, West, Patapsco, Magothy, Severn, South, West, Patuxent, Potomac, Elk, Sassafras, Chester, Wye, Miles, Tred Avon, Choptank, Little Choptank, Honga, Transquaking, Nanticoke, Wicomico, Annemessex and Pocomoke rivers in Maryland; while in Virginia, the Little Wicomico, Plankatank, Rappahannock, York, Poquoson, Back, James, and Lynnhaven rivers feed directly into her.

In addition, dozens of creeks, many of them, like the rivers, named for vanished Algonquin tribes, drain into the Chesapeake: Nassawango, Occohanock, Nandua, Pungoteague, Onancock, Chesconessex, Messongo and others, all serve as freshwater outlets and spawning places.

Origins

Like the Buddha or Shirley Maclaine, the Chesapeake has had many previous lives. Each time an ice age ends, the melting ice causes the Atlantic to rise and spill out of its basin. It slowly covers the continental shelf, and climbs up the coastal plain (in general, everything east of the foothills of the Appalachian and Allegheny mountains).

Then, after the passing of a few tens of thousands of years, a new ice age commences. The oceans give back their waters to the icecaps. The coastal plain reappears, freshly invigorated with layers of sediment and the corpses of billions of sea plants and animals left behind during the retreat.

The Chesapeake remains, an outpost of the Atlantic on the coastal plain: neither totally salty, nor completely fresh. This occurs over and over again, and will continue, so long as the present configuration of continents exists. We are, in fact, overdue for an end to our current interglacial period.

Anatomy

The circulatory system of the Bay, that force which gives her such abundance of life, is based on the ceaseless interplay between the ocean and the watershed. The rivers run to the Bay even as the Atlantic seeks to fill the Bay with his salty self. The ocean rushes in with his tides; the great rivers of the Bay — the Susquehanna, Patuxent, Potomac, James — and other smaller rivers, gush forth about 60,000 cubic feet of fresh water per second in opposition.

Delaware Defenders

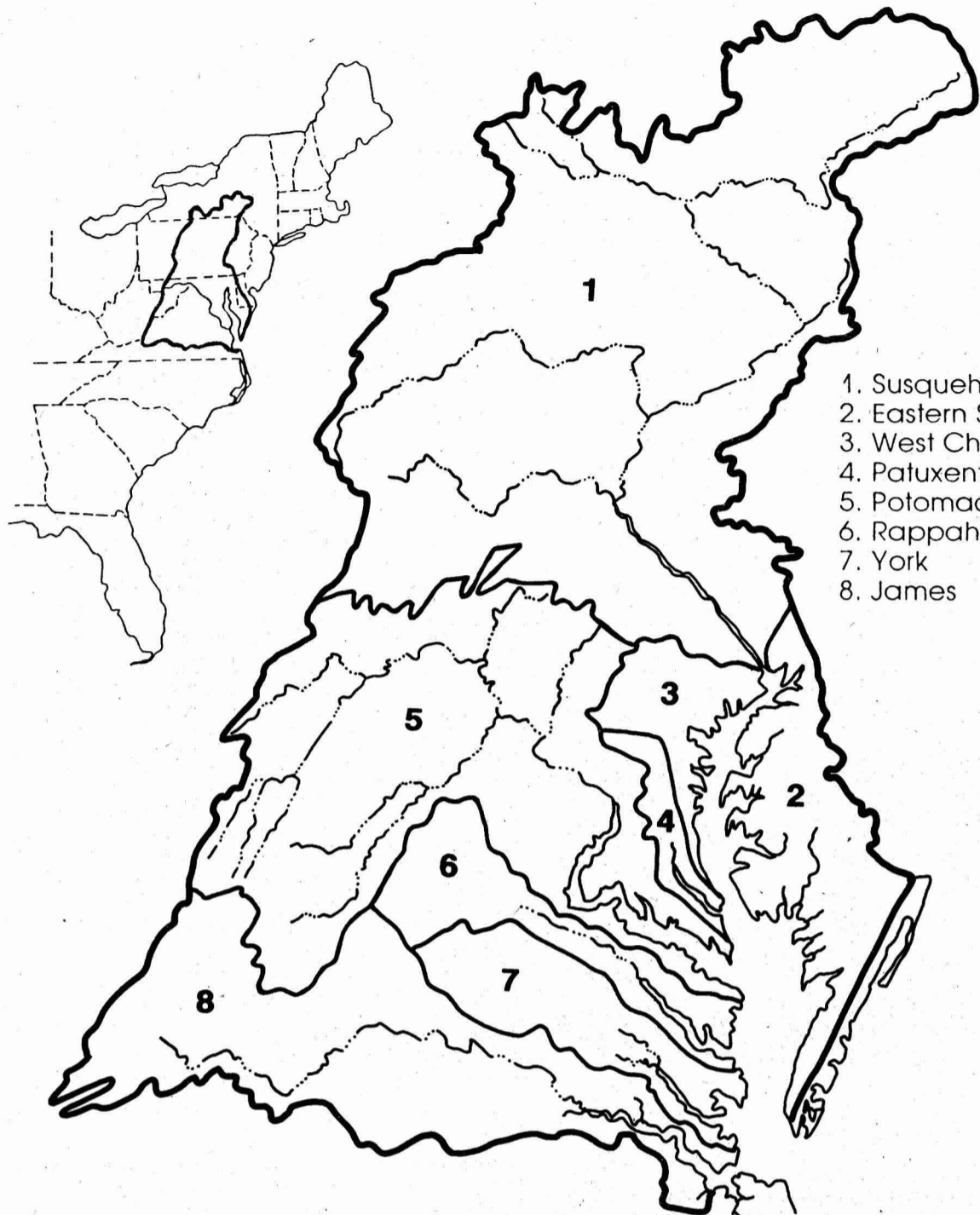
Denounce Department Dithering

Environmental activists have told Delaware government officials to quit dithering around with endless "studies" and get cracking on cleaning up polluted inland bays. Most of the pollutants entering Delaware Bay and the smaller bays in that state come from uncontrolled agri-chemicals, chicken shit (Delaware is a major poultry farming state), and failing septic systems.

Seven million gallons of "treated" sewage and 26 million gallons of agriculturally "used" groundwater are dumped each day into Delaware's three shallow estuaries — Rehobeth Bay, Indian River Bay, and Little Assowoman Bay. The once-clear waters are now turbid. (These three bays are far south of Delaware Bay, which defines the northeastern edge of Delaware. Rehobeth and Indian River Bays empty into the Atlantic through Indian River Inlet; and Little Assowoman Bay feeds into Assowoman Bay, which empties into the Atlantic.)

"I want to be able to look down and see my toes in the water again," Patricia

The Chesapeake Bay drainage basin



1. Susquehanna
2. Eastern Shore
3. West Chesapeake
4. Patuxent
5. Potomac
6. Rappahannock
7. York
8. James

This unceasing struggle can end in one of two ways: the Bay grows shallower and shallower as siltation — now greatly accelerated by humans — fills it to the point where the Susquehanna reclaims its old channel all the way to the Bay's mouth; or the ice caps melt and the Bay drowns in pure saltwater, vanishing beneath the waves of the Atlantic.

Another factor creating diversity in Chesapeake habitat is the Earth's very rotation. The centrifugal spin known as the Coriolis effect forces the heavier salt water to the eastern side of the Bay. This, in combination with freshwater output from the western shore's rivers, creates complex undercurrents and pockets of fresh and salty water within the Bay.

Inhabitants

The wide variation in salinity and depth (from 170 feet deep in parts of the drowned Susquehanna to mere inches in tributaries

and marshes in the Bay) resulting from this interplay has created a home for all manner of life, from diatoms to the great whales visiting her mouth. The enormous quantities of nutrients coming down the rivers makes possible the world's largest communities of oysters and clams — in water salty enough for them, but not salty enough for most of their natural predators. (Humans are another story.)

Great schools of herring, bluefish, shad, Striped Bass and perch migrate in and out of the Bay on their annual journeys. Blue Crabs march south to the Bay's mouth every fall, only to trek north again each spring. Elegant jellies — Sea Walnuts, Sea Nettles, Moon Jellyfish — pulse about the central and northern bay, feasting on zooplankton and fish and crab larvae. Eels, herring, catfish, spot, croakers, weakfish, cobia, puffers, flounder, and many others thrive beneath the waves.

Mallards, Wood Ducks, Canvasbacks, Canada Geese, Snow Geese, Whistling Swans, all fly in great flocks from the north to winter in the rich marshes of the Eastern Shore, amid eagles, River Otters, Muskrats, Beavers, Red Foxes and an occasional secretive Bobcat.

None of these creatures could survive without the diverse plant life of the Bay. Diatoms, dinoflagellates and single-celled blue-green algae absorb sunlight and exhale oxygen as they are devoured by tiny copepods, who in turn offer themselves up to young perch, shad, herring and bass. Submerged Sea Lettuce, Wild Celery, milfoil, coontail, eelgrass and Water Chestnut provide safe havens and food for small fish, freshly moulted crabs, hatchlings, snails and others.

The great marshes, freshwater, brackish and saltwater, that edge much of the Bay and her tributaries are home to wild rice, water lilies, pickerelweed, cattails, cordgrass, bulrushes and rosemallows. Here is food and shelter for ducks, geese, songbirds, mammals, fish, crabs and others — even in decay, for then the nutrient essence flows back into the waters to feed the one-celled beings once more.

Inhabitants part 2: the Humans

Stone-age humans reached the area during the last ice age, before the present Bay even existed. Hunter/fisher/gatherers, they were nomadic, following herds of mastodons that roamed over what was then a great grassland.

As this most recent ice age came to an end, the glaciers retreated and the ocean's waters rose. The humans were pushed back across the continental shelf, along with the other terrestrial species capable of migrating. Then the Bay appeared as the rising waters inundated the lower reaches of the Susquehanna River. Forests replaced grasslands. Deer and other smaller mammals began filling the newly available niches.

The humans made smaller spearheads, and in the brackish waters of the Bay, discovered oysters and other saltwater and estuarine creatures. With abundant food, population rose and life became increasingly sedentary. Permanent settlements were created near the Bay and its tributaries, trade networks were established with humans across the continent, and inventions from elsewhere appeared: pottery, the bow and arrow, corn and bean agriculture. Tobacco farming began.

To protect their now-important agricultural turf, fortified villages and alliances were created. Some tribes, such as the Susquehannocks, preferred to retain the old ways of hunting and gathering (occasionally raiding the agricultural Indians for tobacco, corn, slaves and beans).

Perhaps 3000 years had passed since the Bay had reached its current size. An equilibrium of sorts had been reached. Then came the Europeans, who, with a combination of brute force, exploitation of tribal differences, and the introduction of exotic diseases, effectively wiped out the native people in a half century. By the 18th century, little remained of the Algonquin nations but their names, appended to the rivers of the area: Patuxent, Potomac, Rappahannock, Transquaking, Patapsco, Nanticoke, many others.

—Ron Huber, Chesapeake EFl

Bayocide

When the Europeans, in the form of Captain John Smith and his crew, first entered the Bay in 1608, there was little sign of human impact: some oyster shell mounds, a few small villages with tobacco, corn and bean plots. Tall forests pressed to the edges of deep clear water and reedy marshes. In his diary, Smith described the Bay as possessing "an abundance of fish ... sturgeon, grampus, porpoise, seals, stingrays whose tails are very dangerous, brits, mullets, white salmon, trouts, soles, plaice, herring, conyfish, rockfish, eels, lampreys, catfish, shad, perch of three sorts, crabs, shrimps, crevices, oysters, cockles and mussels."

The surrounding forests, he reported as "extremely thick of small woods as well as trees, and much frequented with wolves, bears, deer and other wild beasts. The streams were crystal clear and full of fish."

More and more Europeans arrived. The Algonquin were killed or driven away. The Europeans pressed inward. Forests that covered the Bay's shorelines and river watershed were destroyed to provide space for tobacco fields, the Algonquin contribution to western man's agriculture.

Poorly planned fields eroded, sending their naked topsoils pouring into streams, choking water plants and tiny invertebrates, and sticking to fish eggs with deadly effect. The large mammals — Buffalo, Elk, Black Bear, the large cats — were exterminated or driven out of the Bay's watershed.

Fishermen tore into the vast schools of herring, shad, Striped Bass, bluefish and perch. Often their catch would be so large, it would take several days to empty the nets. Skipjacks and other craft scraped away oysters and clams from the bottom. Freshwater mussels were literally *mined* from streams by the ton, their shells used to make buttons. Commercial hunters decimated ducks and geese entire flocks at a time to feed the growing cities of Baltimore, Norfolk and Washington DC, using floating cannons filled with small shot as the unsuspecting birds floated on the Bay and tidal rivers.

Then industrial revolution happened. The cities, heretofore sending only their sewage and garbage into the water, now began to dump a panoply of deadly chemicals into the water.

The mad frenzy of exploitation, biocide and pollution continued through the 20th century. Drift-netters killed roe-laden female Striped Bass by the thousands as the schools tried to enter their spawning grounds. An occasional "insignificant" leak sent radioactive material into the watershed.

Belatedly, scientists and fishermen began to complain. The submerged grasses and other underwater plants had almost disappeared, spelling doom for the many creatures that used them for food and shelter. Crabs had dangerous levels of lead, mercury, cadmium and other poisons in their flesh. Dead zones, areas of little or no dissolved oxygen, grew in the lower depths of the Bay, creating a deadly barrier to migrating crabs and fish.

Something had to give....

Protecting the Bay

In 1983, after a 5 year study by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the states of Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia, and the District of Columbia (Washington DC), a commitment was made to restore the health and biodiversity of the Chesapeake. A plan, the Chesapeake Restoration And Protection Plan (CRAPP), was released.

Appropriately, CRAPP's first priority was reducing sewage, or "nutrients," pouring into the Bay's watershed. These "nutrients" come primarily from human sewage plants, and foster the overgrowth of single-celled algae, which kill the submerged grasses through light starvation. The algae, upon decomposition, use up available dissolved oxygen, lowering the water's ability to support fish. "Nutrients" also pour into the Bay watershed from "non-point" sources: lawn and farm fertilizers, chicken and cow shit from dairy and poultry farms.

A second goal of CRAPP was to identify and reduce poisonous chemical waste dumping in the Bay and its watershed. Again, farms and lawns were seen as "nonpoint sources" and industrial plants and sewage treatment plants as "point" sources.

Third on the CRAPP list is "living resources." The goal was to restore and protect the living inhabitants and their habitats, through control of fishing, hunting, oyster and clam dredging, and crab trapping, and by protecting marshes and other wetlands from developers and farmers.

While laudable, the plan was advisory, not mandatory, hence had little effect on the

health of the Bay.

Then, in 1984, Maryland passed the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Law. Over much opposition from developers, limits were placed on development for all land within 1000 feet of high tide on all shorelines in the Bay region. The law required every county or jurisdiction to enforce the protection of this important habitat zone. Of course, there were already many developments within the critical area.

The critical area was regulated as three zones: the Intensely Developed Area (IDA), the Limited Development Area (LDA), and the Resource Conservation Area. IDAs are commercial and residential areas. LDAs are farmlands, small towns and fishing villages. RCAs are areas predominated by wildlife.

One weakness of the Critical Area Law was that each county or independent town could interpret the law to suit local developers and other economic interests. In 1987, however, the governors of Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania, the mayor of Washington DC, and representatives of the EPA and Chesapeake Bay Commission signed the Chesapeake Bay Agreement, committing themselves to restoring the Bay. They would submit a report by 1989 on their progress in fulfilling their promises, largely the CRAPP directives. The Maryland delegation promised to monitor local jurisdictions' adherence to the Critical Area Law.

The Critical Areas Law has been somewhat effective in protecting the Bay's remaining undeveloped shorelines. It is still up to local citizens' groups to keep an eye on developers to be sure no illegal infringement on shoreline habitat takes place. Several successful lawsuits have prevented encroachments.

WHAT TO DO: Activists should watch for public hearing notices on shoreline lands and read county and town newspapers, which report on these developments more often than the big city press. Go to the hearings. Speak out for biodiversity and habitat. Lack of opposition at these meetings leads to destruction of precious wild homes. If nobody opposes, developments proceed.

Keep abreast of new regulations and studies. Call CRIS, the Chesapeake Regional Information Service 1-800-662-2747. This 24 hour a day recording gives listings of upcoming meetings of Chesapeake environmental organizations, Bay news, and a list of free publications on the Chesapeake.

Chesapeake Earth First! is hatching its own plans to protect the Bay, its larger ecosystem, and its inhabitants. Contact Chesapeake EF! at 301-855-2975 or POB 184, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732. We need people with a fierce desire to protect and restore the Bay ecosystems. We also need guidebooks to endangered species, depth finders, boats large and small, and money for fuel, phone, and mailing. The Bay waits....

THREATS to the BAY LOGGING

Logging of the Blue Ridge Mountains may seem at first glance to have little to do with the distant Chesapeake Bay. Nonetheless, the impacts on the Bay are serious.

One of the most damaging effects of deforestation is siltation. More than 3 million tons of silt flow into the Bay each year from its drainage, whose headwaters rise in the Allegheny Mountains across a wide swath of Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland and New York.

Logging causes the release of silt into streams by removing the living "skin" of plants, fungi and decaying matter, baring fragile soils and subsoils which erode away when rained upon. Erosion from a forest ordinarily averages 50 tons of sediments per square mile per year. After clearcutting, the amount can rise to 100,000 tons/sq mile/yr!

Though most of this sediment is sand, settling within a few miles of the cut-over area, much of it is finer clay silts that travel all the way to tidal waters. There, they settle on aquatic vegetation, interfering with photosynthesis. The fine silts also stick to fish eggs and abrade the sensitive gills of newly hatched fish, decreasing the viability of both, as well as harming the planktonic organisms in the Bay and the tidal reaches of its tributaries.

As a result of this relocation of the soils of the highlands into the Bay, the Chesapeake is now about half the depth it once was. Eventually, the Bay will fill entirely with eroded sediment and cease to be an estuary. This is a natural event, but human impacts such as clearcutting have greatly speeded up the process.

DRIFTNETS

Despite the fragility of the fish's comeback after a five year moratorium on com-

mercial and "sport" fishing, Maryland has approved a commercial netting season on female Striped Bass (rockfish) as they enter their spawning areas this winter. The netting season will go from January 2 to 31.

Last year's Striper spawn was large, but fry survival levels were extremely low, a fact that has puzzled scientists but is being ignored by policy-makers. Like salmon and other migratory fish, Striped Bass return from the ocean to the river of their hatch to spawn.

Commercial fishermen go so far as to use icebreakers to penetrate rockfish spawning areas in winter, and set their nets under the ice! This occurs around the mouths of the Sassafras, Chester, Susquehanna, Elk, Gunpowder and Northeast Rivers, in the northern reaches of the Bay, where the females congregate.

Some biologists, who prefer to remain anonymous, felt the commercial fishery should not be opened at all. This year's month-long sportfishing season for Striped Bass had to be cut short by two weeks, due to the threat of overfishing.

What To Do: Pressure the Maryland DNR to halt spawning time netting of rockfish. Tell them the slight comeback made by the Striped Bass will be undone if the spawning females are killed.

*Dr. Torrey C. Brown, Secretary, MD Dept of Natural Resources, Tawes State Office Bldg, Annapolis, MD 21401; 301-974-3041.

Volunteer time, money or materials to Chesapeake Earth First! Ideas are sought on creative ways to prevent or bollix up the drift-netting this winter. Have a spare boat or spare time or change? Contact Chesapeake EF!, POB 184, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732; 301-855-2975.

TERRAPIN TRAPPING

Because of a Catch 22-like disparity between New York and Maryland regulations about legal size limits for possession of Diamondback Terrapins, it is now illegal to

sell Diamondbacks caught in Maryland waters to New York markets! This will save thousands of terrapins from untimely deaths at the hands of soup makers and other terrapin-eating humans.

Maryland law requires that the plastron, or bottom shell, of the terrapin must exceed 6 inches in length. New York law prohibits sale of terrapins with a top shell length greater than 7 inches.

To the good fortune of Diamondback Terrapins, the bottom shell is typically 88% as long as the top shell. Thus, terrapins large enough to be kept by Maryland watermen are too large to be sold in New York!

New York is the main market for terrapins. Volunteers from the New York Turtle and Tortoise Society have been patrolling New York seafood markets and reporting violations to the New York Department of Environmental Conservation, whose agents have been actively enforcing the law.

This should contribute greatly to the terrapin's survival rate. Unfortunately, the species is also suffering grievous losses in Maryland to brackish water crab traps, which drown thousands of terrapins each year. Attracted by the bait and the captured crabs, the terrapins enter the traps. Like crabs, they are unable to escape, but unlike crabs, they drown if not removed within 3 hours.

The solution is to ban use of crab traps in tidal rivers and streams. Efforts by a University of Pennsylvania researcher to design TEDs (terrapin excluder devices) for crab traps have so far been unsuccessful. Commercial crabbers are prohibited by law from crabbing outside the main Bay itself. Private crabbers should cease, or at least content themselves with crablines. Catching Blue Crabs (another dwindling species), is less destructive when baited strings and dipnets are used instead of traps.

What To Do: Contact Dr. Torrey Brown of MD DNR (address above). Tell him to ban crab traps in tidal creeks and rivers.

On the Shelf

by Ron Huber

The presently submerged eastern part of North America — the Eastern Continental Shelf — is an important part of the continent's ecosystem.

During every ice age, the ocean's waters withdraw into the North American Basin, laying bare many thousands of square miles of land. Rich in deposited nutrients, the Shelf then becomes home to a wide diversity of terrestrial plants, animals, fungi and microbes.

When the ice caps melt and the Atlantic spills out of its basin, marine life recolonizes the freshly submerged Shelf. The drowned terrestrial inhabitants form a nutrient base for marine organisms. This process repeats indefinitely, as long as the ice ages continue to come and go.

While submerged, the Shelf is home to whales and dolphins, turtles, cod, tuna, sharks, marlin, swordfish, mackerel, many others. Some are solitary; others travel in packs or great schools, ranging up and down the Shelf with the turning of the seasons, much as the migratory birds overhead.

Kelp and other algae forests wave about, offering food and shelter. Squid, octopi, crustaceans, mollusks ... a sedentary community of millions thrives, innocent of the dry part of the continent, except for the wash of

nutrients flooding out with the rivers.

The water winds, or currents, carry plankton and the taste of distant waters to migratory and non-migratory creatures alike.

As with every ecosystem, humans are exploiting and killing its residents. The population of many Shelf inhabitants is shrinking: Atlantic Cod and Summer Flounder are in imminent danger of disappearing; Bluefish, Red Drum and Weakfish are also in trouble. A Delaware charter boat captain has reported large numbers of dead sea turtles out on the Shelf, mostly Kemp's Ridley, an Endangered Species. He believes they are being killed by dragger net fishing boats operating off the Delaware coast. Other sea turtles are choking to death on floating disposable plastic bait bags, tossed overboard by sportfishers, which look and apparently taste somewhat like jellyfish, a favorite turtle food.

Outrage over the orgy of destruction being visited upon the great fish schools off American coasts, and interest in possible oil, gas, and mineral deposits on the Shelf led to the passage, in the 1970s, of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act. This law established an Economic Exclusion Zone (EEZ) extending 200 miles out from US shorelines, within which no foreign fishing

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THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OF THE AMERICAS.
The west coast shelf is too small to be seen at this scale.

PRESERVE ADIRONDACK WILDERNESS

by Jason Kahn (geology), Gary Bennett (flora), Anne Peterman (fauna), Jim Mays (Park history), Andrew Molloy (regulations), Sage (acreage, vision), Tom Carney (restoration), Ellen Weinstock (global perspective), Gary Burnham (compilation & editing)

INTRODUCTION

New York's Adirondack Park contains some of the most extensive wilderness in the eastern United States. Yet its reputation as the largest park in the lower 48 rises out of a basic misunderstanding of how the Park has evolved and how it is administered today. Six million acres are encompassed by the Blue Line boundary of the Park, but barely 1/6 of this land comes under the full protection of the State of New York as Wilderness — land to be kept "forever wild" and not managed for resources. Other public land designations are less rigorously protected. Categories such as "Primitive," "Wild River," and "Wild Forest" allow some form of intrusion or management. About 3.7 million acres lie in private hands and much of the public land is cut up by these private inholdings, by major roads, and by resort developments.

Although attempts have been made to restrict use and development of private lands through zoning regulations, plenty of loopholes exist to permit large-scale resort and tourist developments. Often the zoning authority's actions seem to harass and annoy the small landholder while allowing the major real estate developers, such as Patten Corporation and Gleneagles, free rein to despoil at will. Development had already reached such a pitch by 1988 that widespread sewage contamination forced the closing of some public beaches in the southern end of the Park.

In many ways, the Adirondacks provide a bitter illustration of recreation and tourism colliding with wilderness habitat. For every battery of condos and ski chalets built, uncounted tons of sewage run off into the "Wild Rivers." Traffic jams on the Northway (Rt.87) during the peak tourist season pump smog out over "Wild Forest" valleys. Float planes and powerboats buzz the big lakes, and slob hunters fill the forests with the sound of indiscriminate gunfire. (In the early bear season of 1988, 6 people were killed by "accidental" gunshots — hopefully all slob-hunters themselves.)

Even with all these problems, the "Dacks" still provide some of the most pristine forests in the East: a prime place to begin planning a truly viable Wilderness Preserve.

NATURAL HISTORY

The Adirondack Mountains are the remains of a series of mountain-building events that began nearly 2 billion years ago. They contain some of the oldest rock in North America. These mountains once reached as high as the Himalayas, but after eons of erosion and the scouring of many glacial periods, the Adirondacks are now a scattered mix of uplands and peaks that run between 2000 and 5000 feet; the highest peak is Mt. Marcy in the east-central Adirondacks with a summit of 5344 feet. These moderate heights in combination with the prevailing cool climate and rocky soils produce fine examples of alpine ecosystems, complete with tundra plant species, arctic grasses, mosses, liverworts, and lichens.

With the retreat of the Wisconsin Ice Sheet, about 11,000 years ago, the peculiar topography of the Adirondacks was laid bare. Thousands of small streams and rivers crisscross the land; upland valleys cradle swamps

and bogs; high, bald peaks dot the landscape.

With the breakdown of the rock into soils and the concurrent warming of the region, a White Spruce taiga forest developed. As warming continued, the White Spruce gave way to Balsam Fir, White Pine, and Eastern Hemlock. Later climatic variations left the Adirondacks with an immense variety of forest types — including boreal forest, boreal bog, sub-alpine forest, and northern hardwoods. Some are declining remnants of an earlier climatic period; some are thriving communities with species recently adapted to a slightly changed context. This variety gives the Adirondacks special significance as a region of transition between the more northerly, cold-adapted forests and the warmer, lowland forest types.

The original forest inhabitants after the last glacial retreat included Moose, Lynx, Wolverine, Cougar, Gray Wolf, Woodland Caribou, and Indiana Bat. All these species were extirpated by 1900. Indigenous species that still survive but are threatened by habitat loss and human encroachment include the Southern Bog Lemming, Woodland Vole, Southern Red-backed Vole, Southern Flying Squirrel, Pygmy Shrew, Star-nosed Mole, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, and Landlocked Salmon.

The Iroquois called this land *Hodonsauneega*, or "land of the people of the long house," and hunted and traveled throughout. The Mohawks also used the Adirondacks frequently. However, there is no evidence of permanent year-round inhabitation, and the effects of these nations on the balance of the ecosystem were no more marked than those of any other big predator.

UNNATURAL HISTORY

The arrival of the Europeans brought the greatest cataclysm to the Adirondacks since the last ice age. By the late 1700s the Adirondack area was viewed as a vast wasteland to be liquidated as rapidly as possible. Intensive logging began in the early 1800s. By 1820 the last native trout was pulled from

the lakes; by 1822 the last wolf was killed. By 1850 much of the Adirondacks region was in truth a wasteland.

Two decades later, calls to preserve the Adirondacks began in earnest. In 1870 Verplanck Colvin returned from a climb of Mt. Seward with a vision of a forest preserve that would keep the land "forever wild." In 1872 fears about timber depredation, drought, and threats to New York's water supply led to the convening of a commission to study the possibility of creating a public park out of the territories encompassed by Lewis, Essex, Clinton, Franklin, St. Lawrence, Herkimer, and Hamilton Counties. Finally, after a series of large land acquisitions by the State, New York amended to the constitution Article VII, section 7, which reads in part:

The lands of the State now owned or hereafter acquired, constituting the Forest Preserve as now fixed by law, shall be forever kept as wild forest land. They shall not be leased, sold or exchanged, or be taken by any corporation, public or private, nor shall the timber thereon be sold, removed or destroyed.

PAW PROPOSAL

Preserve Adirondack Wilderness (PAW) now calls upon the State of New York to fulfill the responsibilities set forth in its constitution. First and foremost of the responsibilities is to bring an immediate and absolute halt to all private and public development on lands encompassed by the borders of Adirondack Park. Second is to begin an acquisition process that will amass enough land to sustain all the natural ecosystems found in the Park prior to human despoliation. Third is to commence wilderness recovery efforts throughout the Park, entailing road closures, dam and building dismantlement, and, in especially damaged places, revegetation with native species. Fourth is to conduct habitat suitability studies and reintroduce all extirpated species into appropriate habitats.

Shelf . . .

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fleets or other "resource extractors" would be permitted.

The idea looked good. Then, under pressure from the Departments of State and Defense, and the politically well-connected California tuna industry, a mammoth loophole, big enough to let any number of foreign fishing boats through, was created. Section 102 of the Magnuson Act reads: "The sovereign rights and exclusive fishery management authority asserted by the United States under section 101 over fish do not include, and may not be construed to extend to, highly migratory species of fish."

The superficial rationale for this exemption was to allow management of internationally traveling schools of fish by an international body. The United Nations Law of the Sea Treaty includes swordfish, marlin, salmon, sharks and tuna under the classification of "highly migratory species."

Then, through the wizardry of fishing industry lobbyists, a compromise was struck: the definition of "highly migratory species" in the Magnuson Act was narrowed considerably, to "species of tuna." On the surface, this looked as though it would protect the other migratory species: foreign fleets would capture only tuna, leaving the other fish

under the benign jurisdiction of various state and federal fishery management agencies.

Wrong. There has been a sharp decline in the populations of the great migratory fish, for an all-too-simple reason: Atlantic tuna are captured with "longlines," long trotlines with hundreds of baited hooks. Sharks, swordfish, sailfish, and marlin, which occupy the same waters of the Shelf as the tuna, find the baited hooks just as appealing as tuna do.

The tuna fishers are supposed to release any billed fish, swordfish or sharks caught, but according to Ken Hinman, executive director of the National Coalition for Marine Conservation, at least two-thirds are dead upon release and many of the rest are believed to die shortly thereafter. Also, the lucrative market in shark fins and swordfish flesh makes adherence to the rules doubtful at best. The end result has been continued slaughter of the aforementioned, without any legal means of stopping it.

The real reasons for deregulating tuna were more sanguinary: tit for tat protection of the US distant water Pacific tuna fleet ("Let me catch your fish and I'll let you catch mine"), and the chance for the Defense Department to bring electronic surveillance equipment close to the shores of Pacific

A VISION FOR THE ADIRONDACKS IN THE 21st CENTURY

"Here was a land with thousands of mountains and hills, thousands of lakes and beaver ponds, thousands of miles of rivers and streams and a half million acres of wetlands.... More than thirty rivers radiated from near the region's center to all points of the compass, dropping more than a thousand feet in their serpentine courses, replete with innumerable waterfalls, flumes and gorges.... Wildlife was abundant. A large beaver population had, since ancient times, been building dams on tributary streams, creating ponds and sunlit clearings the length and breadth of the wilderness ... moose, bear, marten, fisher, otter and other animals found ideal habitat there. The mountain lion and wolves were part of the scene. All manner of bird-life, including eagles, hawks, owls, herons, loons, and ducks were common. The crystal streams were alive with trout, and deep cold lakes had lake trout and whitefish. Salmon were common in the larger lakes and rivers." (Paul Schaefer, from *Defending the Wilderness*, pp.11-12)

This is a description by Paul Schaefer (one of the most heroic figures in the fight for Adirondack wilderness) of the landscape as seen by the British Army in the late 1700s. Maps of the period warned them away from this impenetrable tract of dense forests, mountains, swamps, and rivers.

Today, armies of developers, tourists, gravel miners and lumber companies have all but defeated the rugged wilderness of the Adirondacks. PAW envisions a day when maps will once again contain the warning: "This country by reason of Mountains Swamps and Drowned Lands is impassable and uninhabited." It may take generations, but a steady withdrawal of the human hand from this unique region must begin now if the native biodiversity is to be restored.

For the Mountain Lion, a million acres of fragmented forest, marched over by thousands of hunters and tourists every year, is

continued on next page

nations in "tuna boats." As a result, the US government is adamant that foreign tuna fleets will operate with impunity in US territorial waters.

In 1987, the Atlantic coastal states developed a plan to protect the severely overexploited Atlantic Swordfish. The plan would have suspended swordfishing during part of the year and limited tuna longlining to daylight hours during that period (swordfish prefer to eat at night).

Before the closure dates gained final approval, the Japan Tuna Association sued, saying their fishing rights were being curtailed in violation of the Magnuson Act. The states were forced to back down and the restrictions were not put in place. "Incidental" killing of Atlantic Swordfish continues, making a collapse in the species' population likely.

The Magnuson Act is currently up for review and renewal by Congress. To prevent the loss of the Shelf's migratory species, substantial changes need to be made. The tuna exemption needs to be removed, by deleting section 102 of the Act, and by removing the words "of tuna" from the definition of highly migratory species in subsection 3(14) of the Act.

This would control the fishing of the dwindling Bluefin Tuna schools, and end the killing of swordfish, sharks and marlin by an unregulated industry. Currently, the only tuna regulatory authority is ICCAT, the International Commission for Conservation of Atlantic Tunas. This toothless organization can only encourage voluntary compliance with quotas and responsible fishing methods, and has failed to reverse the Bluefin Tuna decline.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Call or write your congresspersons. Tell them to remove the tuna exemption. Make it sound like they'll personally profit by this in some way. It never hurts to appeal to a politician's self interest.

*senators, US Senate, Washington, DC 20510; 202-224-3121

*representative, House of Representatives, DC 20515; 225-3121

Contact Chesapeake EF! or the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. Contribute time or money. Get off your duff and on the Shelf!

*Sea Shepherd Atlantic Director Ben White, 12213 Avery Rd, Fairfax, VA 22033
*Chesapeake EF!, POB 184, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732; 301-855-2975

—Ron Huber, Chesapeake EF!



PRELIMINARY WILDERNESS PROPOSAL

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not enough. The patchwork of scenic vistas, shaken by the roar of RVs and aircraft, will never sustain the Gray Wolf. As long as Black Bears are shot or shunted from place to place because they frighten campers; as long as the Lynx are run down by cars; as long as the Moose die slow, miserable deaths from brainworm so that hunters can be assured of an over-abundance of deer; as long as second homes and tourist condos insult the land, there can be no true wilderness in the Adirondacks.

Without the big predators, the free-ranging, fragile populations of cats and canids, the evolutionary dance is a mere limp and shuffle. In a hundred years we could see this dance in full swing again ... if we begin now to let Nature heal the wounds we have inflicted upon the land. Nature must be allowed to take over the management of the place, for the humans have run the establishment into the ground.

UNESCO, through its Man and the Biosphere Programme, recently designated the Lake Champlain Valley and the Adirondacks a Biosphere Reserve. This places the Adirondacks among 276 such reserves in 71 countries. Unfortunately, the Champlain-Adirondack Reserve, like most of those in other countries, is little more than a paper park: The lands within are not adequately protected, and all manner of exploitation proceeds apace.

Nothing less than the entire six and a half million acres of distinct geographical features known to the world community as the Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere Reserve will satisfy Nature's evolutionary requirements. Humans must retreat to the fringes of this beautiful wilderness. Those who wish to penetrate it must do so without the aid of motors or roads, without firearms or steel traps or any equipment designed to treat the land as a resource pit.

In over a hundred years of struggle to preserve Adirondack wilderness, the common thread has been human self-interest. No matter how enlightened or well-intentioned the advocates have seemed, they have always accepted the presupposition that wilderness must serve some human need. Even the unadulterated nature-lover may be guilty of this attitude. He or she sees beauty in the mountains and so must have easy access to them ... more and wider trails ... roads and parking lots. Always at the fore-

front of the battle against the resource extractors, loose coalitions of sportsmen, hunters, hiking clubs, and wealthy recreationists have unwittingly defined their arguments in terms that make the condo mogul salivate.

PAW will — as of now — open a new era in the fight for Adirondack wilderness. From here on, the requirements of natural diversity and evolutionary integrity must take absolute precedence over human needs, and to the exclusion of our exploitive desires. Paradoxically, this is in our own best interest, too, for only in his way can we serve the ultimate human need of reintegrating ourselves into the biological web of Nature.

Upgrading State Lands to Wilderness

If we accept the premise that the State of New York has proven to be the most responsible land holder in the Adirondacks, and that the constitutional protection of Wilderness is the best assurance that these lands will remain wild, then it follows that the best course open to wilderness proponents is to support an aggressive land acquisition policy by the State. Prior to this, however, we must be assured that all state held land will be protected in perpetuity. As mentioned above, the State's most pressing responsibility is to halt development in the Park, and presently most state lands in the Park — including those designated Wild Forest and Primitive — are open to some forms of exploitation.

We propose, then, that all state land be upgraded to the designation of Wilderness Area, and be accorded all the protection that designation carries, such as the dismantling of roads and the prohibiting of motorized vehicles from the land and waterways in those areas. We further propose that all Wilderness Areas (WAs) be surrounded by a six mile conservation easement zone in which motorized traffic is prohibited. Access to the WAs will be by foot and non-motorized water craft only. All permanent structures within the WAs will be dismantled and trails maintained only by hand tools.

The State now owns roughly 2.5 million acres in the Adirondacks. If all this is designated as Wilderness, and substantial efforts are made to restore the natural habitat potential in those areas that have been less rigorously protected in the past, it will go a long way toward establishing a beachhead from which native biodiversity can begin making a comeback.

Land Acquisition

The second phase in reestablishing Big Wilderness in the Adirondacks will be a well-funded land acquisition effort. The historical pattern of land acquisition has followed the rather polite "willing buyer, willing seller" course, concentrating on those areas that are a) most aesthetically stimulating, b) most nearly pristine, and c) most appropriate to the needs of a tourist industry (e.g., accessibility to the public is a consideration). Given the last two decades of voracious development by the private sector, this pattern is obviously flawed.

Private land in imminent danger of despoliation should be acquired immediately, by condemnation or eminent domain if necessary. This should include timber company holdings and other lands now under some form of economic exploitation. Recognizing that almost all landscapes, including those exploited in the past, can eventually restore themselves to a wild character, the state should acquire even apparent wastelands in order to remove them from the developers and to provide a buffer to the more intact wild areas.

Acquisition of all private inholdings intruding on state lands should be a priority. A detailed survey of these inholdings should be undertaken and made available to the public as soon as possible.

Also of primary concern is the consolidation of existing Wilderness Areas. Large private landholdings (most held by timber companies) separate significant tracts of Wilderness, effectively cutting off the range of migrating species. By acquiring these gaps we can begin reestablishing the pre-European-contact levels of biodiversity.

In the south-central Adirondacks, acquiring a mere 40,000 acres north of the town of Speculator would consolidate three Wilderness Areas. These private lands lie between the West Canada Lakes WA, Siamese Ponds WA, and Silver Lake WA. Acquiring another 20,000 acres west of the town of Indian Lake would add the Blue Ridge WA to the consolidation. The Wilderness Area that would result from these modest acquisitions would total over 800,000 acres. This would be the largest unbroken designated Wilderness east of the Mississippi. Upgrading the surrounding forest preserve lands to Wilderness could enlarge it to over 1 million acres.

In the north-central Adirondacks, acquiring 400,000 acres would join two of the

Park's largest existing WAs: the Five Ponds and the High Peaks, creating a single WA of approximately 1 1/4 million acres. Part of this acquisition has already been proposed by the Governor's Commission on the Adirondacks to form the "Oswegatchie Great Wilderness" (see pp.52-3 of *The Adirondacks in the 21st Century*).

In the east, roughly 300,000 acres separate the High Peaks from the Hoffman Notch, Siamese Ponds, and Blue Ridge WAs. These lands should be acquired. So should the patchwork of private lands totaling 115,000 acres in the west that fragment the Five Ponds, Ha De Ron Dah, Pepperbox, Blue Ridge, and West Canada Lakes WAs.

This first series of land acquisitions will total some 875,000 acres. Coupled with the existing WAs and the upgraded forest preserve lands, these acquisitions would allow us to protect, under the "Forever Wild" clause in our state constitution, an area of 3,375,000 acres, most of it contiguous.

Many of these areas have been developed, logged, bulldozed or otherwise polluted, but we need to think in long terms. Allowed a few generations of peace, Nature in these areas will restore a level of natural biodiversity not seen here in centuries. In a hundred years, the proverbial squirrel may travel the miles between the St. Regis River and Great Sacandaga Lake without touching the ground.

Obviously, this huge tract of Wilderness will encompass many hamlets and towns. Several major highways run through the proposed new Wilderness, as well as thousands of miles of county roads, secondary roads, fire and logging roads, and jeep trails. These intrusions conflict with the requirements of Wilderness. However, Rome wasn't dismantled in a day and some form of legal variance could be applied in the short term to allow continued access to those areas of settlement. At the same time, an aggressive policy of road closure and resettlement should be pursued, beginning with the less vital access routes serving the small, isolated communities.

We are not in the business of human accommodation, yet we recognize the hardships that increasing Wilderness will present to people who live in the Adirondacks. The State should use every means available to propagate a spirit of cooperation among the year-round residents. Habitat restoration, environmental research and monitoring, and ongoing environmental education programs would provide total employment for residents of good faith for several generations to come.

To strengthen this second phase of the proposal for Big Wilderness in the Adirondacks, we propose the largest acquisition of all, yet one that will impact relatively few human settlements. The area encompasses the entire northern borderlands of the Park and runs from the Oswegatchie River in the northwest to the town of Dannemora in the northeast. Though sparsely populated, this northern crescent is held almost entirely in private hands, with the exception of a few scattered tracts of forest preserve land. The acquisition totals 1.2 million acres.

The first and second phases of this proposal result in the following approximate acreage totals:

Existing designated Wilderness Areas (as of 1990):
High Peaks — 197,215 acres
Five Ponds — 101,171
Pepperbox — 14,625
West Canada Lakes — 156,735
Silver Lake — 100,000
Siamese Ponds — 112,604
Ha-De-Ron-Dah — 26,528
Pigeon Lake — 50,100
Blue Ridge — 45,736
Pharaoh Lake — 45,884
Hoffman Notch — 36,231
TOTAL EXISTING WILDERNESS — 880,000
STATE LANDS UPGRADED TO WILDERNESS — 1,500,000
WA consolidation purchases:
north-central — 400,000
east-central — 300,000
west-central — 115,000
southern — 60,000
TOTAL CONSOLIDATION PURCHASES — 875,000
NORTHERN CRESCENT ACQUISITION — 1,200,000
TOTAL WILDERNESS — 4,455,000

THE TURTLE ISLAND CONNECTION

We know that the evolution of biodiversity is the sum of many processes playing out over vast stretches of time and land. We know that these processes may be dis-

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Saving Bogs, Logs and Polliwogs

Tips on Stopping Developments in Wetlands Now that the Corpse Has Decided Not To Do So

The US Army Corps of Engineers ["the Corpse"] recently wimped out and reclassified millions of acres of non-tidal wetlands across the United States, exempting them from federal protection. The destructive change came about as a result of well organized opposition by developers, bankers, and state and county officials.

In 1985, a provision was enacted as part of the federal agricultural program to stop farmers from filling or draining wetlands on their property. The "swampbuster" provision denied farmers agricultural subsidies on lands they drained. It did not apply to wetlands drained and farmed before 1985, unless the land was flooded 15 days per year or more. In recent years farmers have drained millions of acres of wetlands with ditches and drainage canals to create pastures and crop fields.

In 1989, the Corps of Engineers wetlands definitions were widened to include "hydric" wetlands — those converted by farming, yet still retaining the soil type that existed before farmers drained them. Developers and politicians up to the Congressional level spoke out angrily. This is confiscation, they roared, a violation of democratic principles and the freedom to deforest, demarsh or otherwise use their land. Sob stories were circulated: the hapless aged retirees made homeless because they couldn't build a home on their acquired farmland, the landfill operator who had to serve time for unwittingly destroying wetlands.... Congressman Roy Dyson and his election opponent tried to outdo each other in castigating wetlands preservation laws. (Dyson is a democrat from MD's 1st district. Happily, he lost his seat to a supposedly environmentally conscious Republican, Charles Gilchrist.)

Under fire from those interests, the Corps and the EPA have agreed to cease

regulating "prior converted wetlands," those converted before 23 December 1985, leaving around 60,000,000 acres of hydric soiled farmland in this country wide open for development. The Corps is also proposing to weaken federal regulation of wetlands by issuing "General Permits" giving automatic federal acquiescence to any wetlands filling of 10 acres or less. This will be particularly disastrous in Eastern states with abundant wetlands and inadequate wetland protection laws.

In Maryland, the Corpse's 10 acre rule will likely result in the state's nontidal wetlands being nibbled to death rather than gulped down in big bites! In Virginia, the State Water Control Board will have ruling powers over 10 acre or smaller wetlands destruction requests. In Pennsylvania, several plans are under consideration, including a plan by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, and a law proposed in the state legislature.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Use maps, guidebooks, public hearing data, and other sources of wetlands information and go visit your local wetlands. Learn their sounds, scents and sights. Search for Endangered Species. (An Endangered reed protects some Maryland wetlands.) Watch for construction projects that might send silt or contaminants into them. Remember, species populations change with the passing of the seasons, so visit them year-round.

Go to the public hearings. They're listed in your county or town paper, rarely the big dailies. Vocal opposition can be incredibly effective at the town and county levels. If nobody opposes the destruction of your local marshes and swamps, why then they'll just go out there and kill 'em....

Get on the mailing lists of the federal, state and county environmental bodies. The Corps will send you, free and in a timely manner, notices of applications to fill or otherwise destroy wetlands (those they still have jurisdiction over). Specify the geographic area, state, particular watershed, etc. or you'll be inundated with notices. Also

contact the EPA to be included on pertinent mailing lists. Write them at the following addresses:

- US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE:
*Division of Endangered Species & Habitat Conservation, 1000 N. Glebe Rd, Room 500, Arlington, VA 22201
*Region 1 Office, Lloyd Bldg, Suite 1692, 500 N. E. Multnomah St., Portland, OR 97232
*Region 2 Office, POB 1306, 500 Gold Ave. S.W., Albuquerque, NM 87103
*Region 3 Office, Federal Bldg, Fort Snelling, Twin Cities, MN 55111
*Region 4 Office, Richard B. Russell Federal Bldg, 75 Spring St. S.W., Suite 1276, Atlanta, GA 30303
*Region 5 Office, One Gateway Center, Suite 700, Newton Corner, MA 02158
*Region 6 Office, POB 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225
*Region 7 Office, 1011 East Tudor Rd, Anchorage, AK 99503.
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS:
*Lower Mississippi Valley Division, POB 80, Vicksburg, MS 39180
*Missouri River Division (CEMRD-CO-O), POB 103, Downtown Station, Omaha, NE 68101
*New England Division, Regulatory Branch, 424 Trapelo Rd, Waltham, MA 02254
*North Atlantic Division (CENAD-CO-OP), 90 Church St., New York, NY 10007
*North Central Division (CENCD-CO-MO), 536 S Clark St., Chicago, IL 60605
*North Pacific Division, POB 2870, Portland, OR 97208
*Ohio River Division (ORDCO-OF), POB 1159, Cincinnati, OH 45201
*Pacific Ocean Division (CEPOD-CO-O), Regulatory Branch, Bldg 230, Fort Shafter, Honolulu, HI 96858
*South Atlantic Division (CESAD-CO-O), 77 Forsyth St. S.W., Atlanta, GA 30303
*South Pacific Division (CESPD-CO), 630 Sansome St., Room 1218, San Francisco, CA 94111
*Southwestern Division (CESWD-CO-R), 1114 Commerce St., Dallas, TX 75242

CHARTING THE COURSE TO EXTINCTION

by Keith Hammer, Biodiversity Project Northern Rockies Coordinator

Public Review Period

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has released its draft revised Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan for public review. The draft revises the original 1982 Recovery Plan for Grizzly Bear in the lower 48 states, which were listed as Threatened with extinction in 1975. The current revision is the first step in FWS attempts to remove the protections of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for Grizzly Bear surviving near Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks. As this article will show, if the Grizzly is to survive in the lower 48, the public must rise up in opposition to the new Plan.

Copies of the draft revised Recovery Plan may be obtained from FWS Grizzly Bear Recovery Coordinator Chris Servheen at NS 312 University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812 or by calling 406-329-3223. Written comments on the Plan will be accepted until 3 February 1991 at the same address. Please speak up for the Great Bear.

Background

Historically, Grizzly Bear in the conterminous 48 states ranged from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean and from central Mexico to northern Canada. Today, this magnificent creature has been reduced to less than 1% of its former numbers and range and is formally confirmed to exist in only five fragments of its former range, in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Washington. It is suspected to still exist in two other fragments in Idaho/Montana and Colorado (see maps).

With passage of the Endangered Species Act in 1973, and listing of the lower 48 Grizzly Bear as "threatened" under the ESA in 1975, some hope was gained for reversing the bear's plummet toward extinction. The forces that pushed the bear toward extinction during the settling of the West, however, have not subsided. While outright extermination of Grizzly Bears has been reduced, bears still die every year at the end of a rifle barrel in the name of protecting livestock or the assumed human right to occupy bear habitat. Each year more Grizzly Bear habitat is roaded, subdivided, drilled, cut down, or otherwise rendered useless for the Grizzly Bear.

Today the seven remaining fragments of the bear's habitat are considered separate ecosystems by the Fish and Wildlife Service, the primary federal agency charged by Congress with the duty to protect and restore Threatened and Endangered Species and their habitats to the degree that they no longer need the protections of the ESA. However, the seven ecosystems are relatively small and are isolated from one another. As would be expected, they are located in and around either National Parks, Wilderness Areas, or roadless areas, which have afforded the bear its last vestiges of relatively secure habitat. Given that further fragmentation of the remaining habitat occurs on a daily basis, it is unlikely—particularly if the protections of the ESA are removed—that the Grizzly Bear in the lower 48 will be able to survive unless former habitat is again made available to the bear, especially in critical areas which would reconnect the seven fragments.

Recovery: How Much Is Enough?

The Endangered Species Act requires that the FWS write a recovery plan for each species it lists as Threatened or Endangered. The purpose of a recovery plan is to describe a program, with distinct and measurable steps, by which the status of the species and its habitat can be improved to the point that it no longer needs the protection of the ESA.

Given seven fragments of a former ecosystem, the revised Recovery Plan makes no attempt to reestablish linkages between these fragments and simply accepts them as seven separate "island" ecosystems. In order to address the adverse effects of genetic inbreeding in the smaller populations, the Plan proposes to augment them with the introduction of "outside" bears brought in from healthier populations.

The revised Plan avoids discussion of how large a land area is necessary for the Grizzly Bear to perpetuate itself indefinitely without the artificial introduction of new genetic stock, and instead deals with the seven ecosystems as though they are just so many zoos. The plan also avoids discussion about the degree and reliability of natural genetic exchange in populations bordering Canada, and about the security of the populations in Canada.

The new Plan calls for each of the seven populations to be "delisted" (removed from the Threatened and Endangered list) indi-

vidually as that population is shown to meet its population recovery targets (discussed below). This is the same piecemeal approach to management that put the bear in this predicament in the first place.

Studies and computer simulations done with the support of the Grizzly Bear Recovery Coordinator readily show that the recovery targets set for the smaller subpopulations (70-90 bears) are "far short of the number ... necessary to maintain evolutionarily significant quantities of genetic variation [and] are ... likely to be lower than that of the generally accepted minimum number ... necessary to avoid serious loss of genetic variation in the short-term ... Thus ... individuals will lose genetic variation at a rate likely to decrease their expected longevity." (Allendorf et. al. 1990)

These studies also show that "even fairly large subpopulations, such as the 200 or so bears in Yellowstone National Park ... are vulnerable to harmful effects of loss of genetic variation," and conclude that a single isolated population must number on the order of 1670-2000 bears before it can maintain adequate genetic variation in the long-term. Given the Plan's optimistic estimate that up to 1000 bears still exist in the seven remaining ecosystem fragments, and its proposal that only 1300 bears would constitute the sum recovery of all "island" subpopulations, the long-term outlook for genetic diversity within the lower 48 bear populations looks grim. Even more alarming is the Plan's failure to propose recovery of habitat adequate to support a genetically secure population of Grizzly Bear.

Using the mean of average area requirements for individual Grizzly Bears reported by Shaffer (1978), 33 square miles per bear, and Allendorf's estimates of the minimum size of an isolated population necessary to avoid a loss in genetic variation, 1670-2000, the minimum size of an "island" ecosystem should be about 35-42 million acres. To put this in perspective, consider the size of the seven fragment ecosystems discussed in the Plan.

Yellowstone National Park is about 2.2 million acres in size and the Yellowstone Ecosystem about 6 million acres (GYCC, 1987). Glacier NP is about 1 million acres in size and the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem about 5.5 million acres (MDFWP, 1986). According to the revised Plan, the

Selkirk Ecosystem (includes Canadian habitat) and the Cabinet/Yaak Ecosystem (does not include Canadian habitat) each contain about 1.3 million acres. If the Plan were to assign a similar "minimum" acreage to the North Cascades, Bitterroot, and San Juan ecosystems, the total for the seven ecosystems would be about 18 million acres, or about half of the minimum required for a single island ecosystem.

Another optimistic and unproven assumption of the Plan is that four of the ecosystem fragments allow for adequate genetic exchange with neighboring Canadian bears and that those Canadian bears are secure in their existence. Canadian bear biologists paint an equally grim picture for the long-term survival chances of Grizzly Bears north of the border, where there is no law similar in scope and protection to the state-side ESA.

The approach taken in the revised Recovery Plan simply does not constitute recovery at all. The draft itself states "it is unlikely that a population dependent on regular placement of bears from outside areas could ever be considered recovered under the mandate of the Act because the survival of such small populations would be directly dependent on ongoing human actions." (p.23)

Population augmentation is now being attempted in the Cabinet/Yaak Ecosystem of Montana and Idaho. Genetic augmentation is being proposed for the Yellowstone Ecosystem. Even though the Selkirk Ecosystem includes habitats in Washington, Idaho, and British Columbia, it is likely of insufficient size to avoid the need for genetic augmentation (Allendorf et. al.). While the revised Plan does not set population recovery targets for the North Cascades, Bitterroot, and San Juan "further evaluation areas," it is likely they would be assigned recovery targets on the order of the 70-90 bears assigned to the Cabinet/Yaak and Selkirk Ecosystems, and would also likely require genetic augmentation. (Allendorf et. al.)

In the case of the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem (NCDE), which includes and surrounds Glacier National Park and the Bob Marshall Wilderness, the revised Plan simply does not address genetics and assigns a recovery target of 440 bears. Reading the Plan leads one to the conclusion that recovery will never be accomplished in at least 6 of

ADIRONDACK WILDERNESS . . .

torted when truncated by artificial boundaries. Even large wild areas, when isolated in a developed landscape, will suffer habitat degradation. Global pollution, climate change, human pressure on the edges of wild areas ... all contribute to a general trend toward the exhaustion of genetic variability in a closed ecosystem. The Adirondacks Bioregion is particularly vulnerable because it is, in many senses, an island, surrounded by concentrated human settlement and industrialism.*

At the same time, the Adirondacks offer the possibility of providing a vital—if not the vital—keystone in our efforts to restore viable wilderness in the eastern United States. With their immense variety of forest types and attendant wildlife species, the Adirondacks stand at the junction of many crosscurrents of genetic variability. Here a northern spruce-fir forest type meets what is essentially an Appalachian hardwood forest. This is one of the southernmost areas where the Lynx and the Wolverine could encounter southern hardwood species and still feel at home. In the end, only by protecting the widest variety of native habitats can we save a natural area against the anthropogenic stresses assailing the planet today.

With this in mind, the next phase in restoring big wilderness in the Adirondacks (and making sure it remains viable), will be to establish a series of extensions and wilderness corridors to provide secure migration routes for both free-ranging species and the more sedentary species which may soon be placed under stress due to climatic shifts or other global pressures. We will identify the possibilities for wilderness corridors only in the most general terms here.

We propose that the forest preserve be expanded on its western boundary to include the entire Tug Hill Plateau region. From there wilderness corridors should be restored to connect with undeveloped areas in west-central New York's Finger Lakes district.

In the north, the Park boundaries should be extended to the Canadian border, thus protecting much of the St. Lawrence Valley. Corridors should be opened to the

Provincial Parks in the southern Canadian forests such as Algonquin, Papineau, Rouge-Matawin, and Laurentides.

Corridors to the east can be opened to connect the Adirondack Bioregion with Vermont's Green Mountains, New Hampshire's White Mountains, and Maine's North Woods. This particular extension of wilderness illustrates the importance of the Adirondacks to any proposal for Big Wilderness in the East. If the forests of northern New England are to be reconnected to the network of wild areas in the Southern Appalachians, they can only do so through the Adirondack Bioregion. The impenetrably dense industrial development in southern New England and New York City effectively chokes off for now any hope of secure wilderness running through those areas.

Consequently, the most difficult extension for the Adirondack Bioregion itself, and also the most logical, is the connection to the Catskill Forest Preserve. Some way must be found to provide a significant corridor linking these two regions—perhaps a large greenway running parallel to the Hudson River or along the ridges that overlook the Hudson Valley.

THE GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Almost a century ago the people of New York established the Adirondack Park and Preserve with the vision that it would protect their forests and waters for the use and enjoyment of future generations. They sought to create a refuge that would preserve "a place of transcendent wilderness beauty where man could live, work, and walk in peace and harmony with nature" thereby addressing the highest concerns of the day. Yet as we approach the 21st century, we must view the Adirondacks in a dramatically different context. Our very lives may depend on it.

The context within which we must view the future of the Adirondacks is characterized by our rapid destruction of the global environment. The rate of destruction is so great that the evolution of most large vertebrates, which have adapted to change gently and slowly over time, is grinding to a halt.

Scientists predict that one-third to one-half of all species (plants, animals, fungi, etc.) extant in the 20th century will be extinct within the next twenty years. The accumulation of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere threatens to completely alter the world's climate. Some have called this *the end of Nature*, Nature as we have always known it and depended on it to be. Acid rain falls on the land and water with no respect to boundaries of nation or state. The world's oceans are dying, releasing less oxygen into the atmosphere. The other major source of oxygen, as well as of genetic diversity, the world's tropical rainforests, are being cut and burned at a rate of over 200,000 square kilometers a year (50% greater than thought as recently as a few years ago). Moreover, due to large-scale clearcutting of old-growth and climax forests in the temperate zones, the Adirondacks are now one of the last significant stands of temperate hardwood forest in the world.

These threats are now widely recognized in this country, and Americans call repeatedly for other nations to end the ravaging of their forests. Yet, over the last 200 years, we have destroyed nearly 95% of our own forests. We can no longer in good conscience balk at the prospect of saving what remains of our once great stands of wilderness and what has regrown since the cutting of the 18th and 19th centuries. None of the usual excuses of economic hardship holds water anymore; it is hypocrisy when the richest country in the world pressures the poorest to do what we still refuse to contemplate....

If we continue to allow unchecked economic development (despoliation) in the Adirondacks, if we continue to lay the burden of ecological preservation at someone else's feet (not in my backyard), then our fate as a species is sealed. We will sink toward the blackness of extinction, still hacking away at the web of life to which we are bound.

AN EXERCISE IN HUMILITY

One final proposal should be added to any plan for the Adirondacks. In light of the

global importance of saving biodiversity in the Adirondacks, we urge that the State designate human exclusion zones in very major ecosystem in the region. This is much more than a symbolic gesture of humility and good will, for many areas in the Adirondacks have suffered tremendous impacts from human intrusions. The fragile alpine zones of the High Peaks, for instance, have seen far too many lug soles and it would be of great value to set them aside to recover for generations ... if not forever.

These human exclusion zones should encompass thousands of acres, where humans are prohibited to go, under pain of severe penalty.** No scientific research, no management projects, no spiritual retreats should be allowed there.

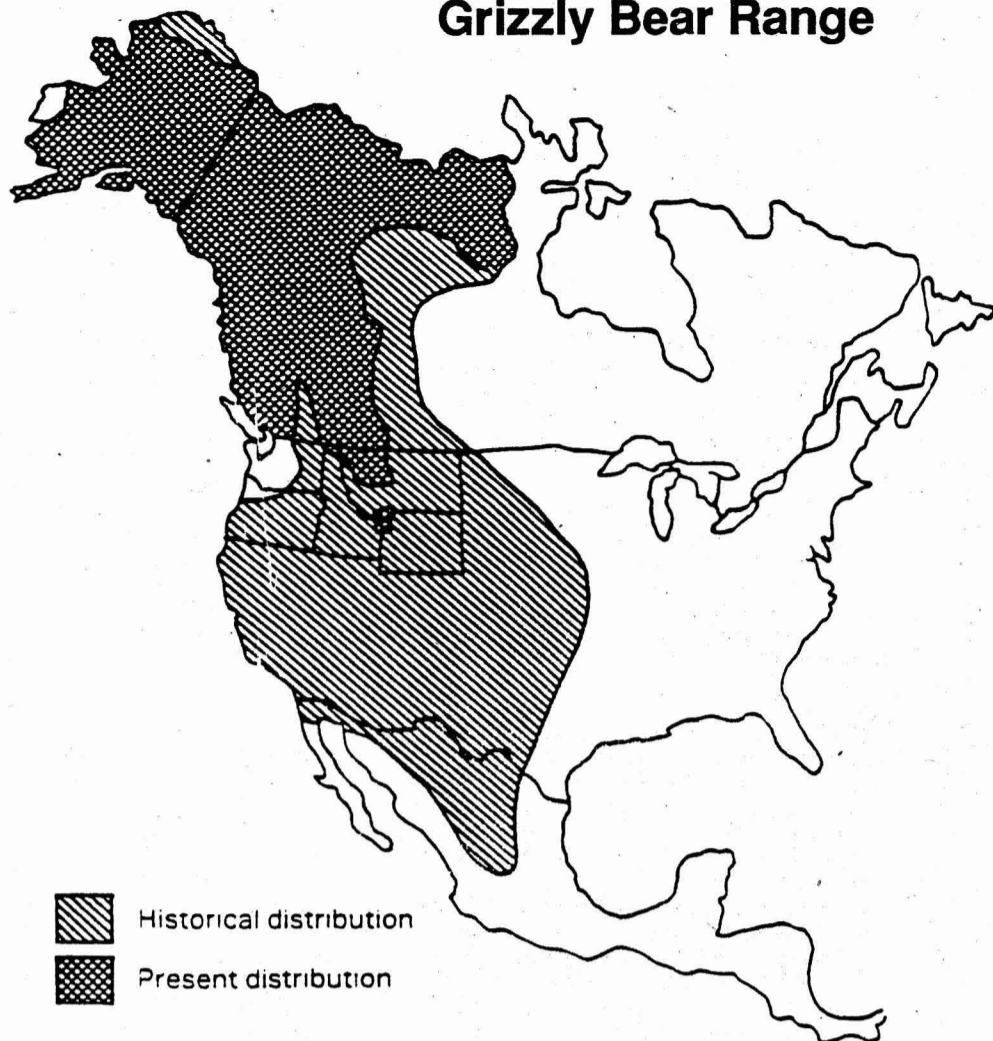
Many other cultures have set aside such taboo lands and perhaps now we can appreciate their wisdom. Ours is the first (and last) culture determined to tread on every square foot of the globe as if to flaunt our dominion over it; and ours is the culture that destroys every natural landscape we invade, from the Himalayas, to the Antarctic, even to the surface of the moon. Somewhere, we must learn to draw a line and foster the restraint not to step over it.



PAW invites input toward refining this Wilderness proposal. Even more, it invites assistance in its campaign to restore wildness to the Adirondacks. Contact Gary Burnham, Preserve Adirondack Wilderness, 24-54 33rd St, Astoria, NY 11102 (718-726-4587) for more information.

*The geology, location, and climate of the Adirondacks Bioregion make it exceptionally vulnerable to acid deposition. A recent study concluded that the Adirondacks are more severely affected by acid rain than any other region in the country.

**Penalties might include 5-10 years mandatory labor "cleaning up" toxic waste dumps, picking up and recycling trash, replanting denuded areas, dismantling structures, and other habitat restoration chores—the same types of penance that should be assigned to violators of other environmental laws.

Grizzly Bear Range



 Historical distribution
 Present distribution

the 7 ecosystems because of the need for genetic augmentation due to inadequate habitat area and population goals. As will be discussed below, recovery in the NCDE is also unlikely because of continued bear mortality, habitat destruction, and the setting of population targets and recovery zones at the lowest estimate of the number of bears and the habitat they occupied soon after the bear's listing in 1975.

Recovery Targets by Ecosystem

The 1982 Recovery Plan set recovery targets for all 7 ecosystems except the San Juan Mountains in Colorado. The revised Recovery Plan withdraws recovery targets for the North Cascades and Bitterroot Ecosystems and delegates them to a "further evaluation" category, to which the San Juan Ecosystem is added. According to the revised Recovery Plan Summary, "These areas will be examined as to the suitability of the habitat and space available for recovery of a viable grizzly population. If the existing habitat or space is not suitable, then the area will be eliminated from consideration for recovery."

The remaining four ecosystems are assigned recovery targets based on a monitoring system intended to demonstrate that certain numbers of bears exist, are adequately distributed throughout the ecosystem, and are subject to no more than "acceptable" levels of mortality. The monitoring system relies upon reported sightings of female Grizzly Bears with either cubs of the year or young. (Typically, a female Grizzly will bear young every three years, weaning the young prior to her next litter.)

By a rather elaborate chain of assumptions concerning the proportion of female and adult bears within bear populations, and the proportion sighted versus those remaining undetected, the revised Plan arrives at a bottom-line of each female sighted with cubs of the year (FWC) representing 20 bears in the total population. Sightings of females with young (FWY) are used to document the distribution of family units throughout subdivisions of the ecosystem called Bear Management Units (BMUs). Based on this methodology, the revised Recovery Plan lists the following recovery targets:

- Selkirk: 4 FWC (running 6 year average)
- 4 of 7 BMUs occupied by FWY (running 6 year sum)
- known mortality not to exceed 3/yr (running 6 year average)
- Cabinet/Yaak: 4 FWC (6 year average)
- 18 of 21 BMUs occupied by FWY (6 year sum)
- known mortality not to exceed 3/yr (6 year average)
- NCDE: 10 FWC inside Glacier National Park (GNP) and 12 FWC outside GNP (6 year average)
- 20 of 23 BMUs occupied by FWY (6 year sum)
- known mortality not to exceed 14 total or 6 females/yr (6 year average)
- Yellowstone: 15 FWC (6 year average)
- 15 of 18 BMUs occupied by FWY (3 year

sum) known mortality not to exceed 7 total or 2 adult females/yr (6 year average) (For the Yellowstone Ecosystem only, no two unoccupied BMUs may be adjacent to each other.)

I will discuss use of the proposed monitoring technique below. This numbers game, however, should not become the focus of the debate, for it is secure habitat that is the key to Grizzly Bear survival, and its continued destruction that will lead to the bear's extinction.

Suffice it to say that if the monitoring system proposed in the revised Recovery Plan were submitted as a high school science project, it would receive a big, red "F". Even the FWS Grizzly Bear Recovery Coordinator says, "We have no credible way to estimate the total population with any reasonable confidence." (3/2/89 *Missoulian*)

Recovery, Status Quo, or Extinction?

Despite this lack of confidence in estimating Grizzly populations, it is useful to compare estimates made around the time the bear was listed as Threatened in 1975 with both current estimates and the revised Plan targets. When this is done, it becomes apparent that 1975 and 1980 population estimates are being used as recovery targets for the Yellowstone and NCDE populations, respectively. Indeed, the 440 bear recovery target being proposed for the NCDE is the lowest estimate of the 1980 population!

Interestingly, the past six years of monitoring of the Yellowstone population show that the recovery target for females with cubs has already been met and exceeded by one. Even more interesting are the circumstances surrounding the establishment of the NCDE goal. According to the FWS Grizzly Recovery Coordinator, the number of females with cubs for 1987, 27, and 1988, 25, did not meet the then tentative target of 30. After the 1989 monitoring brought the 3 year average up to only 29, the revised Plan assigned a target reduced from 30 to 22.

In essence, the revised Recovery Plan assigns recovery targets and recovery zones that represent the status of the bear populations and its range at the time it was listed as Threatened with extinction. To call this program a "recovery" plan is absurd. It does not chart a course to recovery, or for that matter even to maintaining the status quo of 1975, given that habitat destruction which was driving the species toward extinction then continues today. In fact, the revised Plan simply charts the same course toward extinction that was recognized prior to the Grizzly Bear's listing as Threatened.

Current Attempts to Delist Grizzly Populations

While consistently denying that any formal proposal to delist the NCDE or Yellowstone populations of Grizzly Bears exists, the FWS and the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) have repeatedly voiced

their support for delisting the NCDE population soon, with the Yellowstone population to follow. The call for delisting the NCDE population began with the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (MDFWP, formerly Fish and Game) in the mid 1980s.

The MDFWP released an environmental impact statement (EIS) on the northwest Montana Grizzly Bear in 1986 which essentially repeated the calculations of Grizzly numbers performed for the NCDE in 1980 and used in the 1982 Recovery Plan. The 1980 calculations resulted in estimated population numbers ranging from 440 to 680 bears. The 1986 MDFWP EIS set its bottom-line estimate at 549 bears, only 11 short of the 1980 mean calculation of 560 bears used as the recovery target in the 1982 Recovery Plan.

MDFWP's call for delisting the NCDE Grizzly Bear was soon echoed by Frank Dunkle, former Montana Fish and Game director appointed as director of the FWS by then President Reagan. Dunkle, also a former Montana state senator and lobbyist for the Montana Mining Association, not surprisingly made his first call for delisting the NCDE Grizzly at a meeting of the Montana Overthrust Energy Foundation in Great Falls, near where oil and gas exploration and develop-

ment have been delayed on federal land due to concerns for the survival of Grizzlies occupying the area.

Dunkle resigned as FWS director in 1989 after the General Accounting Office discovered that his administration had "substantively changed scientific evidence presented by the [Spotted Owl] study team's status report" and reversed the report's conclusion to read that logging of ancient forests in the Pacific Northwest was not threatening the continued existence of the Spotted Owl. The move to delist the NCDE Grizzly Bear, however, continues under the administration of Secretary of Interior Manuel Lujan.

Two FWS biologists working under the Lujan administration have stated, in sworn testimony, that they were instructed to conclude that construction of telescopes on Mt. Graham would not jeopardize the continued existence of the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel in this last vestige of its habitat in spite of convincing scientific evidence and a prior draft FWS biological opinion to the contrary. Similarly, it appears that the FWS first concluded that it will delist the NCDE and Yellowstone Grizzly Bears and has now set out to establish delisting targets and criteria that can be satisfied by recent monitoring data or increased efforts to observe more bears.

The 1982 Recovery Plan, despite its own flaws, at least required that 3 ecosystems meet their respective recovery criteria before delisting could occur. Faced with its outright acknowledgement that all but 2 of the 7 ecosystems are likely to never be eligible for delisting, the revised Recovery Plan calls for delisting populations one at a time, keeping the path clear for the predetermined delisting of the NCDE and Yellowstone populations.

The Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee

At the forefront of the push to delist the NCDE Grizzly Bear stands the IGBC. Formed in 1983, the IGBC was intended to facilitate cooperation among the various agencies involved in bear management. Instead, it has become a many headed serpent driven by career interests and bent on demonstrating, through a wizardry of paperwork, the illusion of Grizzly Bear recovery.

The IGBC was created by a memorandum of understanding by the governors of Idaho, Montana, Washington, and Wyoming, the assistant secretary of Agriculture, and two assistant secretaries of the Department of Interior. It is composed of representatives of the fish and game departments of Idaho, Montana, Washington, and Wyoming, three regional foresters, the regional director of the National Park Service, the FWS regional director, and a state director of the Bureau of Land Management. Ex officio members include representatives of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Salish/Kootenai and Blackfoot tribes, and wildlife managers from Alberta and British Columbia.

Many field biologists and researchers resent the IGBC because they feel it has

replaced the voice of the on-the-ground professional with representation by bureaucrats who often know very little about bear management and biology. Many feel that sound biology has been replaced with politics and a "super committee laundering service."

The current chair of the IGBC is Lorraine Mintzmyer, Regional Director of the Rocky Mountain Region of the National Park Service. Soon after assuming her 2 year term as chair, Mintzmyer proclaimed "I certainly hope to have that [delisting of the NCDE grizzly bear] accomplished by the time I leave office." (1/14/90 *Daily Inter Lake*)

The Real Issue: Habitat

The numbers game is circular. While proponents of delisting have developed elaborate numerical schemes intended to demonstrate that the lower 48 now has more bears than just a short while ago, one look at the original and revised Recovery Plans indicates we are lucky if we have as many bears now as we had when they were listed as Threatened in the lower 48 in 1975. The most obvious omission from either Recovery Plan is a habitat trend analysis.

Anyone even remotely acquainted with the management of Grizzly Bear habitat knows what such an analysis would likely show: a continued downward trend in the ability of what little habitat remains occupied by Grizzlies to support those bears. An analysis conducted by the Flathead National Forest concerning the effects of its Forest Plan on Grizzly Bear is startling: "Implementation of the Forest Plan would result in ... decreased [Grizzly] production potential for 31% of the forest ... scheduled timber harvest accounts for 91% of the area having decreased potential." (FS Briefing Paper)

The Flathead NF is 90% occupied Grizzly Bear habitat and contains more Grizzly habitat in the NCDE than the other four National Forests there. It contains twice that of Glacier National Park. Despite being majority land manager and having admitted the damage its timber program will do to its bear habitat, the Flathead received a "no-jeopardy" biological opinion from the FWS on its Forest Plan.

Similarly, the Grizzly Bear Recovery Coordinator and the IGBC continue to push for delisting of the NCDE Grizzly Bear despite documentation of a declining population of Grizzly Bear in the Mission Mountain portion of the NCDE (Claar et al. 1986). This is incredible, given that the Recovery Coordinator was involved in the research that documents the decline! The decline is attributed to "increased roading and timber cutting, illegal hunting, an increase in part-year and permanent housing, agricultural activity and increased recreational use in sensitive areas." (6/6/90 *Missoulian*) Says Recovery Coordinator Servheen, "The Missions used to be known as one of the best areas in the country to see grizzly bears. Now it's hard to find anyone who has hiked there the last couple years who's seen hide nor hair of a grizzly." (Ibid)

The situation elsewhere in the NCDE doesn't look much better. A development corridor complete with Burlington Northern train tracks and US Highway 2 lies between Glacier NP and the Great Bear and Bob Marshall Wilderness Areas. It cuts through the entire width of the NCDE. Due to the ineffective cleanup of grain spilled during a multitude of train derailments along this corridor, a mortality sink has developed in the heart of the NCDE. Two Grizzly Bears were struck and killed by trains as they visited the area to feed on spilled corn in 1989. In 1990, four female Grizzlies were killed by trains under similar circumstances and a fifth, a male, was killed by a train in an area away from the grain spills.*

An interagency investigation concluded that 14-16 different Grizzly Bears have become habituated to the spilled corn and the human activity near it, making it very likely that their days are numbered as well. Commenting on this state of affairs, MDFWP spokesman Mike Aderhold said "The weak area in delisting grizzlies is that their habitat is still not secure." (10/23/90 *Daily Inter Lake*)

Such circumstances are not confined to the NCDE, however. A recent surge in Grizzly mortality in the Yellowstone Ecosystem prompted the news headline, "Expert: Bear Deaths Reverse Recovery Trend." (undated *Daily Inter Lake*) Heavy bear mortality in Alberta has led Canadian Grizzly researcher Steve Herrero to warn, "Don't count on Alberta saving grizzly bears for America. It's likely to be the other way around." (11/16/89 *Missoulian*)

It is obvious that true recovery of the Grizzly Bear requires an increase in the population

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The Yellowstone Refuse Company

by Scott Herring

To state that Yellowstone National Park has problems is like announcing, in solemn tones, that water is usually wet. Yellowstone is threatened in such spectacular ways: by reckless development outside its boundaries, by a Park Service that never rests long between periods of slaughtering animal species (they've nearly finished with Grizzly Bears; Bison are next), by automotive visitation. The geyser basins are menaced from both within and without, by geothermal exploration and by tourists who scratch their names on the algae-coated runoff channels and annually pitch tons of coinage into the hot springs (Morning Glory Pool may be worth thousands of dollars). These abuses have been well publicized, yet there are other abuses, obnoxious ones, that go almost unnoticed, because they have been carefully hidden.

In the summer of 1990, a Phoenix couple, Arthur and Priscilla Picard, were walking their dogs at Soldier's Pit, a "restricted area" ten miles from Madison Junction on the West Entrance Road. Soldier's Pit was, in fact, a dump, reached by a small road with a locked gate at its entrance; here sat a pair of wrecked cars used by rangers in law enforcement drills, the remains of winter-killed animals that died in inconvenient places, a puddle of tar deposited by a maintenance crew ten years earlier... The dogs got into the tar, the Picards got incensed, the incident made headlines in the *Denver Post* (the Picards accused the Park Service of improperly handling toxic waste, even calling for a Congressional investigation), and the rangers promised to clean up Soldier's Pit.

A trivial incident, really, even comical — or so it seemed. In reality, the Picards could not have known the magnitude of the problem they had stumbled upon. The Yellowstone dumps, supposedly closed during the late 1960s to break the Grizzlies of their garbage addiction, still exist; and they don't just contain food any longer.

The dump at Mammoth Hot Springs, for example, makes Soldier's Pit look like the minor transgression that it was. If you'd like to see it, leave the North Entrance Road at the Mammoth residential area; behind the grammar school is a service road that winds tortuously down into the lower Gardner River canyon. At the bottom, with Mt. Everts towering above, you will be treated to one of Yellowstone's standard spectacular views — and then you reach the dump, spectacular in its own way. Not counting an unlovely Park Service storage yard, lined by chain-link fence, the dump is the size of a football field. Its contents are worth listing: ancient fire extinguishers, a toilet, rusted gasoline storage tanks, a worn-out culvert trap of the sort used to relocate troublesome bears, sheets of mangled aluminum siding, construction debris, and yes, even a kitchen sink, all tossed into the sagebrush. Note how well hidden this piece of real estate is; it is invisible until you've actually entered it.

There are similar sights near Old Faithful. At the end of a maze of service roads lies the area's sewage settlement ponds. On a busy summer day, when the wind blows right, these ponds and a neighboring treatment plant send their aroma drifting across the valley. The fence that contains the settlement ponds also contains several collections of junk, a heap of rusted bear-proof trash cans here, a pile of useless plumbing fixtures there. In one spot stands a mound of rubbish such as Andy Warhol might have designed, consisting of, among other things, furniture, appliances, a power mower, hubcaps, old road signs, bed springs and frames... and a bathroom sink. It is reminiscent of nothing so much as the front yard of a welfare family residing in Muskogee.

But perhaps most impressive, in terms of size, is a graded area hidden behind a stand of Lodgepole Pines on the road between Bridge Bay and the Lake Hotel. When you enter it, you first see another Park Service storage yard, larger than the one at Mammoth. Surrounded by electric fence, it contains the usual detritus associated with National Parks (culvert traps, portable out-houses, etc.), as well as a mountain of old tires and a lake of mud. So far, not so bad — then your curiosity is piqued by a ridge to the west, farther from the Grand Loop Road, a ridge plainly created by bulldozers. You climb to the top, and your breath is taken away. Here is another Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, a vast pit gouged into the earth by heavy equipment. At the bottom lie chunks of concrete and asphalt and other construction debris. This, plainly, is a landfill.

I could go on. While driving toward

Grant Village, just before the first buildings become visible, one passes a service road; follow this road and you will come upon another large pit dug into a hillside, this one serving no apparent purpose at all (not the only pointless grade in the Grant Village area). In the residential area at Canyon Village, behind the softball field and as far from the roads as possible, there is a similar hillside, half of it bulldozed away to provide a flat space — for heaps of gravel, slabs of asphalt, rusted oil drums, and other garbage.

And so on. If you peek behind the scenes at any of the Park's developed areas, you are sure to see something hideous.

One of the two employee cafeterias at Old Faithful is tucked behind the Lodge. Approaching it one day last July, I was stopped by a surprising sight: the kitchen

door was open, and a heap of garbage had spilled. The hotel company is usually careful about that sort of thing — but then, tourists rarely get so lost that they end up back there.

A local chipmunk, one who had set up housekeeping behind an electrical panel, dashed across my path and grabbed a broken tortilla chip. Somewhat offended (we've gotten rid of the garbage bears, I thought; we don't need any garbage chipmunks), I chased him off. He hid behind a bicycle, expertly keeping it between the two of us. Then he jogged out, grabbed a piece of banana, and returned to his hiding place behind the spokes. I threw up my hands and went to dinner.

In time, he became the fattest chipmunk I have ever seen, lumbering to and fro, never having to search farther than ten feet

for his next meal. He became the source of a running joke. "You know," a friend pointed out, "he's obviously garbage habituated. It's a matter of time before he mauls somebody."

"Yeah," I chimed in, "the rangers probably oughta trap him, put on a radio collar, helicopter him into a Chipmunk Management Area."

But it isn't funny. The garbage bears are mostly gone now, either driven deep into the backcountry or gunned down by the Park Service, yet Old Faithful still hosts many garbage-habituated animals. The local Yellow-bellied Marmots have, in recent years, been emerging from their winter dens under the boardwalks without their hair. No one is certain why this is happening, but it seems a good bet that a diet of marshmallows and

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Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan . . .

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lation from what it was when listed in 1975. An increase in the number of bears to levels that will not necessitate genetic augmentation requires an increase in the amount of secure habitat available to bears. The revised Recovery Plan, however, draws a line around the individual ecosystems and calls the area within each boundary a "recovery zone." These lines basically reflect the areas within which bears were known to occur in 1975. The revised Plan has dismissed altogether use of the term "occupied habitat."

While the Plan allows for adjustment in the recovery zones to be made on the basis of new information, it is obvious that the recovery zone lines are based primarily on political considerations, not the principles of conservation and wildlife biology. The ESA requires the conservation of the ecosystems upon which Threatened and Endangered species depend, not just the areas in which they will be allowed to live out their final days.

Life and Death Without the ESA

The revised Recovery Plan lists two conditions that must be met before the Grizzly Bear can be delisted in a given ecosystem: 1) the recovery targets for that ecosystem must be met, and 2) adequate regulatory mechanisms must be established to assure continued viable populations and adequate habitat after delisting. The revised Plan includes data demonstrating that the recovery targets for NCDE and Yellowstone Ecosystems have in most ways been met. The Plan calls for the formulation of a Conservation Strategy for each ecosystem to demonstrate that adequate regulatory mechanisms are in place.

A second draft Conservation Strategy for the NCDE has already been written and reviewed internally by the IGBC. Obviously, the dominos for delisting in the NCDE are being lined up. After the revised Plan is finalized, the draft Conservation Strategy will be released for public review, then finalized, and the dominos will begin to fall.

A review of the first draft Conservation Strategy reveals that there is no real substance to the proposed regulatory mechanisms. The most compelling example concerns the consultation process outlined for the review of development projects that may adversely affect the Grizzly Bear or its habitat.

Under the ESA, the FWS has the authority to essentially veto any project that would jeopardize the continued existence of a Threatened or Endangered Species. Under the Conservation Strategy, the MDFWP would be substituted for the FWS. The first draft states "Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks will not have the authority to prevent another agency from approving an action regardless of effects on grizzly bears or their habitat." (p.56) Enough said.

The revised Plan Summary states "Habitat and population management after delisting would be essentially the same as when the population was listed." Don't believe it for a minute! Since the first call for delisting the NCDE Grizzly Bear went out in 1986, the Forest Service and FWS have both recommended that restrictions on the use of motor vehicles in NCDE Grizzly habitat be relaxed because the bear in the NCDE is "doing well" and is "recovered"! Who and what law is to stop the rapid decay in bear management if the ESA no longer applies?

Not NEPA

The revised Plan states, "The recovery plan is not a 'decision document' as defined by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). It does not allocate resources on public lands." (p.19) This is an obvious attempt by the FWS to circumvent the more stringent requirements of NEPA in the areas

of public involvement and environmental analyses.

Clearly, the Recovery Plan allocates a very important public resource, the Grizzly Bear and its habitat, on public lands and establishes a program of "steps necessary to bring about the recovery of the species in the lower 48 states." (p.19) It also sets forth the conditions under which the bear will continue to be afforded the protections of the ESA. As such, the Recovery Plan represents a major federal action which stands to have significant effects upon the environment. An EIS, and its attendant public involvement and scientific analyses, should be required for the Recovery Plan.

SUMMARY

The revised Recovery Plan violates the basic principles of conservation biology. It proposes recovery targets and recovery zones that it and the scientific literature acknowledge will likely result in the need for genetic augmentation, with the subsequent realization that such populations can likely never be deemed "recovered." Rather than set recovery zone boundaries to allow for adequate population sizes and genetic interchange between subpopulations, the Plan limits itself to parameters similar to those existing in 1975, conditions under which the Grizzly Bear was listed as Threatened with extinction!

The Plan proposes a population monitoring system that assumes 20 bears exist for each one actually counted, has no reasonable level of statistical confidence, and is as dependent upon the observer and the effort spent on observing as it is on the actual presence of bears. The system tells us where and to what degree people are entering bear habitat, not how many Grizzlies remain or how they are actually distributed. Entrusting America's Grizzly Bears to such a system is like entrusting one's life savings to a bookie who says "Any time you doubt I still have all your money, I'll show you a dollar for every twenty you gave me."

In short, the revised Recovery Plan attempts to provide a political solution to a biological problem. Rather than ruffle any feathers with a proposal to truly recover habitat lost to the bear, the Plan proposes to make do with what they've got, which is a course charted to extinction.

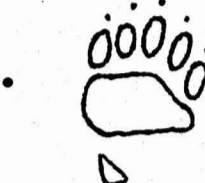
WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. Write to Grizzly Bear Coordinator Chris Servheen (address at beginning of article) by 3 February 1991. Do not underestimate the political momentum behind efforts to delist the Grizzly Bear. Your help is absolutely essential! Here are some comments to consider:

"Insist that the Recovery Plan propose the recovery of enough former bear habitat to enable the population to perpetuate itself without loss in genetic variation. Recovery of an area 3 times the 14 million acres included in the revised Recovery Plan's "recovery zones" may be necessary to meet the minimum ecosystem size — 35-42 million acres. Habitat recovery areas should be established to reconnect the 7 subpopulations of Grizzly Bears remaining in the lower 48 states to allow genetic exchange between populations and to increase the effective size of the ecosystem fragments.

"Insist that the North Cascades, Bitterroot, and San Juan "further evaluation areas" be included in the habitat recovery scenario outlined above, not dismissed because they may individually be too small to sustain "island" populations of Grizzlies.

"Insist that the revised Recovery Plan include a comprehensive habitat trend analysis of lower 48 Grizzly Bear populations and adjacent populations in Canada. This



would also help address if and to what degree the US can depend on Canada for genetic exchange among border bear populations.

"Insist that "habitat is where it's at" and that the Recovery Plan shift its focus from bogus and unreliable population monitoring schemes to the recovery and preservation of bear habitat. Specifically object to the use of recovery targets and recovery zones that reflect the status of the bear and its habitat in 1975-1980.

"Insist — in light of the vast amount of habitat in need of recovery, the ongoing destruction of currently occupied bear habitat, and continued human-caused bear mortality — that all efforts to delist any subpopulation in the lower 48 states be stopped. Insist that the Recovery Plan allow delisting to occur only after all subpopulations are truly recovered according to the above criteria.

"Insist that the Recovery Plan be considered a NEPA document and be accompanied by an EIS and its attendant scientific analyses and full public involvement.

"Insist that the IGBC either be dissolved or its management-level members replaced by competent and active Grizzly Bear biologists.

2. Send copies of your letter to Lorraine Mintzmyer (IGBC Chair, NPS, POB 25287, Denver, CO 80225-0287) and John Turner (FWS Director, Interior Bldg, 18th & C Sts NW, Washington, DC 20240).

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*ed. note: If BN can't be forced to clean up this grain, perhaps some activists ought to pick up their shovels and head for the spills. The task could prove quite joyful, as the spilled corn ferments.—JD

WHY I AM A MISANTHROPE

by Christopher Manes

If there has been one, wearisome leitmotif among the peevish critics of Earth First! over the past decade, it is the reproach that radical environmentalism is a misanthropic, antihuman, insensitive enterprise. Industry apologists lugubriously deplore how EF! wilderness proposals will cost people jobs and impede the glorious march of economic progress. A perplexed Murray Bookchin, philosopher and unintelligible grouch, frets over the fact that eco-radicals worry about "lower life forms" when the obvious apex of evolution, Murray Bookchin, has the right and duty to renovate nature according to his liking. In a recent article in *Outside*, Alston Chase, nothing if not consistent, demonstrated once again his well-honed ignorance of the environmental movement by claiming Earth First!'s biocentrism has alienated activists. And now, alas, even some among the ranks of Earth First! are unhappy with radical environmentalism's misanthropic image and want to revamp it.

I for one am proud to be a misanthrope. Asked by friends why, I generally retort, in Thoreauvian fashion, "why aren't you one?" Given humanity's 10,000 year record of massacres, wars, ecocide, extinctions, holocausts, lethal dogmas, race hatred, casual slaughters, venality, corruption and coercion, it seems to me the burden of proof is on those who see something redeeming about this newfangled hominid. Nevertheless, in these latter days of ecological crisis, misanthropy has become an intellectual issue worthy of discussion. Therefore, I want to give my reasons for being a misanthrope.

First, I assume that the millennia-old environmental crisis is driven by the dubious ethics and ideologies of societies like ours, that phantasmagoria of misbegotten beliefs euphemistically called civilization, which justifies and promotes the destruction of nature. In the industrial age, foremost among these creeds is humanism. It is the poison chalice at our society's lips. The institutions that have seized control of our ecology tell us that their policies against wild nature are making a better world for humans. This is a lie, of course; but easily flattered and eagerly self-interested, most people around the world accept the deceit as the highest endorsement.

Warwick Fox has stated that Deep Ecology has the "negative task" of exposing the unfounded, anthropocentric claims that rationalize humanity's abuse of the natural world. This is an important, indeed central, task of any attempt to liberate nature from human dominance. For me, misanthropy serves that purpose. By attacking human arrogance, by mocking the giddy declarations of humanists about the "wondrous mind of Man," by pointing out the scientific fact that *Homo sapiens* is less important to the biosphere than mycorrhizal fungus, misanthropy

Refuse . . .

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Twinkies has something to do with it. On a summer night, one can watch Coyotes skulk around the parking areas, lapping up spilled ice cream. And the garbage Coyotes have been attacking people.

If you leave the developments, you can put the garbage animals behind you, but you won't get away from the dumps. You can't drive for ten minutes on any road without seeing a break in the trees with a sign that says "SERVICE ROAD"; many of these conceal more rubbish. Soldier's Pit was an example.

The spectacular and well-reported abuses that threaten Yellowstone are not the only problem. Wherever mechanized humanity has touched it, the Park is a mess. The dumps exist for various reasons, not the least being the \$50,000 it can cost to clean up just one. They must go, however; to see acres of land inside the Park chewed up to make space for wreckage is intolerable. Perhaps it would help if more people knew the dumps existed. It seems unlikely that they would exist at all had they not been so well hidden.

As for the garbage animals, they will be with us for as long as two and a half million motorized tourists continue to inflict their presence on Yellowstone.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Superintendent Barbee; remind him that in many places his park is filthy. Mention your favorite Yellowstone gripe: the Bison slaughter, the continued existence of the Fishing Bridge campground, foot-dragging on Gray Wolf reintroduction ... the dumps.

*Supt. Robert Barbee, Yellowstone NP, WY 82190

thropy undertakes, Coyotelike, to bring back some balance and ecological humility to our self-infatuated species. Humility often requires a little flagellation, the times require humility, and such is the effect of misanthropy.

I'm aware, of course, that our society doesn't represent all humanity. But the fact is most of the world now mimics our dissolute ways. Only truly primal cultures like the Mbuti and Penan have any claim to ecological wisdom, and these are usually frowned upon by humanists as backward, brutish and bereft of the light of social progress. By necessity I speak to my woeful fellow citizens, and in that context, misanthropy is common sense.

Second, misanthropy strikes a chord. People are tired of hearing about humankind's marvelous achievements and of what Thoreau calls "man-worship." I've talked to hundreds of people over the last year and audiences light up when I point out that there isn't one scrap of evidence that *Homo sapiens* is superior or special or even more interesting than, say, lichen. Some people, mired in ancient insecurities, don't like being likened to lichen, but most, especially the young, find the idea invigorating. It has the added advantage of being true.

Third, seeking real solutions to the environmental crisis necessitates challenging dogmas near and dear to the hearts of humanists, namely economic and population growth. A radical environmental movement that doesn't confront these issues belies its name. Someone has to declare the obvious need to decrease human population, demedicalize society, remove cultural artifacts such as dams, expand wilderness, protect and reintroduce species even at the cost of jobs.

Predictably, it hasn't been humanists. Although none of us has the solution to the biological meltdown our planet is undergoing, Earth First!'s role has always been to expand the universe of thinkable thoughts, to introduce an environmental discourse beyond innocuous clichés about recycling, energy conservation, and appropriate technology. To do so one runs the risk of saying something stupid, of offending people, even nice people who probably have enough problems as it is. It opens one up to charges of hypocrisy by ideologues, as if the universe were really interested in my moral status. But that's a risk that misanthropes must take if our culture is ever to be transfigured into some less lethal form. History suggests it probably won't, but thank humanists for that, not misanthropes, not us happy, happy few.

Finally, I see misanthropy in the grand tradition of Heraclitus, Diogenes, Swift, Thoreau, and Abbey — thinkers whose disdain for human narcissism intimated a richer, nobler, humbler way of life. Paradoxically, when human concerns are put first, humans suffer in the end through ecological decline. In contrast, by putting the Earth first, by emphasizing the nonhuman, we have the prospect of creating a society with the optimum amount of real freedom and dignity possible for *Homo sapiens* in this contingent world of ours, this world of limitations.

Misanthropy is a recognition that there are limits to human existence — that humans bumble and cheat, are self-deluded mammals, power hungry and erring by inclination, and therefore should not presume to disturb the fearful beauty of this planet. There are more remarkable things in heaven and Earth than are dreamt of in humanist philosophy.

I imagine the first real philosopher lived in Sumeria, that foolhardy empire that began the doomed parade of civilization. Looking out of his stuffy, urban flat, he saw serfs working in the fields, slaves building extravagant monuments to some boorish king, bronze-helmeted warriors selling plunder in the crowded streets to greedy merchants, shrewd priests in white robes eyeing the wives of the faithful while proclaiming the splendors of Ur. What utter nonsense, he must have said, shaking his head. He went out and told people to go back to their nomadic way of life. He was probably laughed at or hanged, and Sumeria slowly slipped into the desert sands.

That man, I assure you, was misanthrope.

Christopher Manes has been writing provocative essays for the journal almost since its beginning, but he is best known now for his highly acclaimed book *Green Rage*.



"La paix"

C Honoré Daumier, 1871

cosmological views of *Homo sapiens* and helium

Trillions

The right to breed and consume without restriction is not universally accepted among human cultures. In most societies sophisticated ways evolved that kept populations to sustainable sizes, and left space for the rest of nature. Other human societies that ignored local ecosystem constraints either perished or moved out to take over the lands of other peoples. The latter practice was typical of Greek and Roman cultures, which engaged in endless wars and struggles to expand their territories, instead of limiting population/consumption. Today, acceptance of the "basic right" to breed and consume without restriction is still deep in our psyche, so that many people are horrified at the cries of ecologists and environmentalists who claim we must reduce our consumption/population or perish.

Humanity already consumes close to half the food available for all animal life on the planet each year.* At present, the human population is increasing by about 2 per cent per annum, close to 100 million more people every year. Human consumption of energy and other resources, with its concomitant destruction and pollution of air, water and soil, is increasing even faster. If these rates of increase were to continue, human population would double by 2030 and energy/resource use would at least triple. Some demographers continue the figures, estimating 20 billion people some time in the 2080s.

This scenario will not happen. It cannot happen. There simply is not enough air, water and soil to feed, cloth, house and transport all these people with such energy expensive patterns of living. Unless we reduce our consumption of resources and our population, we will destroy the global ecosystem and ourselves within an evolutionary blink of an eye. The demise of the human species is a pathetic indictment of the science that has given us the ability to live so far beyond our means.

There is, however, a way we can have large human populations, even trillions of humans; the solution is to spread ourselves out through time. If we can shrink our population and consumption, working toward halving our size and consumption every generation or so, retreating from fragile ecosystems and letting nature's healing ways take control, within ten generations our population would be back to the level where it was for the vast majority of human history, less than 10 million.

At that level, 50 million people would live and die each century; 5 billion, the current human population, every 10,000 years. Assuming we weren't wiped out by a meteoric climate change, or by some other acquisitive species, the human population could conceivably continue for millions of years.

The average life for a mammal species is about 5 million years. As *Homo sapiens* is less than 200,000 years old, we could expect to survive another 4.8 million years. In those 4.8 million years, some 2400 billion [2.4 trillion] people could live. If we were to prove intelligent enough to not blow our-

selves up for four million years, we might even be able to continue until the sun burns up all its hydrogen and expands out as a red giant swallowing up the inner planets, now expected in about 5 billion years. In that time millions of billions of humans could live and die; trillions of people, celebrating the Earth and leaving space for the rest of nature to blossom and wither away in its own time. Surely going for endurance rather than one short spurt is an argument that every committed humanitarian should take up with gusto.

—Patrick Anderson, Rainforest Information Centre & Greenpeace

*ed. note: More specifically, scientists say we consume, divert, or waste 40% of global net terrestrial photosynthetic productivity.

Think Galactically, Act Terrestrially

Affinities and loyalties are at the basis of all communities. For our species, these cohesive forces have produced societies of great endurance and beauty. Beyond organic life, patterns of affinity can be found from the sub-atomic to the macro forces of the universe. We can align ourselves with the patterns of our own galaxy by reflecting on the marvelous affinity of helium.

Helium (He) is the second most common element in the universe, and is classified as one of the noble gases. It will only form loose associations with other elements, defined more by proximity than anything more enduring. For instance, it can be made to permeate a block of steel but refuses to form chemical bonds with other elements. Helium isn't interested in chemistry or biology. It is difficult to make He become a liquid, and impossible to get it to take on a crystalline state (become solid).

When cooled to within a fraction of a degree of absolute zero (minus 273 degrees Celsius, the temperature at which the vibration of atoms against each other ceases), helium will reluctantly form a liquid. Left to its own devices, though, it is likely to crawl away or flow across a table.

Strangely, if liquid helium is contained in a vessel it will rotate slowly, one oblique revolution in 24 hours. When this was first observed, it appeared to contradict the law of the conservation of energy, the Newtonian law that states that an object will stay stationary until acted upon by another force. But helium was staying stationary to something. Its alliance was not to this Earth, or the solar system, but to the galaxy. Liquid helium aligns itself with the axis of our galaxy, staying stationary in relation to that axis even when held in a vessel on the Earth which is spinning on its own axis and revolving around the sun, one of the 100 billion stars of the Milky Way Galaxy.

Broadening our loyalties, connecting with the great patterns of the universe, we dance again among the stars with helium and the inherent order of our galaxy.

—Patrick Anderson

An Open Letter to Earth First!ers

from Bill Devall

Arne Naess recently reminded me that the environmental movement has a thousand fronts. It is a dynamic, growing and vital movement. I am also reminded of a saying by American Indians: Never criticize a person unless you have walked in her moccasins.

Healthy reevaluation is useful, however. Schisms may be healthy for the movement. When Dave Brower was constrained by the Sierra Club in the late 1960s over the issue of globalizing the environmental movement, he formed a new group, Friends of the Earth.

In 1990 several activist social movements are discussing the wisdom of pursuing broader agendas. ACT UP (AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power) in San Francisco, for example, has recently been paralyzed by differences between two factions in this self-proclaimed "radical" group. One faction wants to pursue a broad social agenda of fighting racism, sexism and homophobia. The other action faction wants to deal specifically with AIDS, attempting to secure better treatment for AIDS victims and pressuring public agencies for more rapid testing of promising drugs.

ACT UP also is divided over group process. One faction wants to use the consensus process; the other wants to make decisions by two-thirds majority.

Such process and substance issues are found in many Earth First! gatherings. As a teacher of critical reasoning I suggest it might help to distinguish different aspects of the broader environmental movement. I suggest a distinction between vanguard ecology movements and radical movements.

I like the word "radical". I consider myself a radical ecologist in the original sense of the word, getting back to the roots, to a sense of place. However, "radical" as used by some Earth First!ers has a very different meaning — a conventional meaning, as in such slogans as "smash the state" and "take radical action."

To distinguish between current meanings of radical ecology and vanguard ecology, I find useful the concepts of deep time, intent, and sense of place.

Deep time refers to long time frames. Recognizing deep time, we can think of our actions in terms of billions of years, as in the four billion years scientists suggest life has been evolving on Earth; or in millions of years, as in the sixty-five million years since the last major extinction episode on Earth, at the end of the age of dinosaurs; or in thousands of years, as in the ten thousand years since the rise of agriculture and civilization. Usually, however, we think of our impacts in terms of centuries or decades, at most, while our personal plans are made weekly or hourly. The consequences of our actions interpenetrate across time, yet activists often seem caught up in the next action without placing that action in the context of deeper time frames.

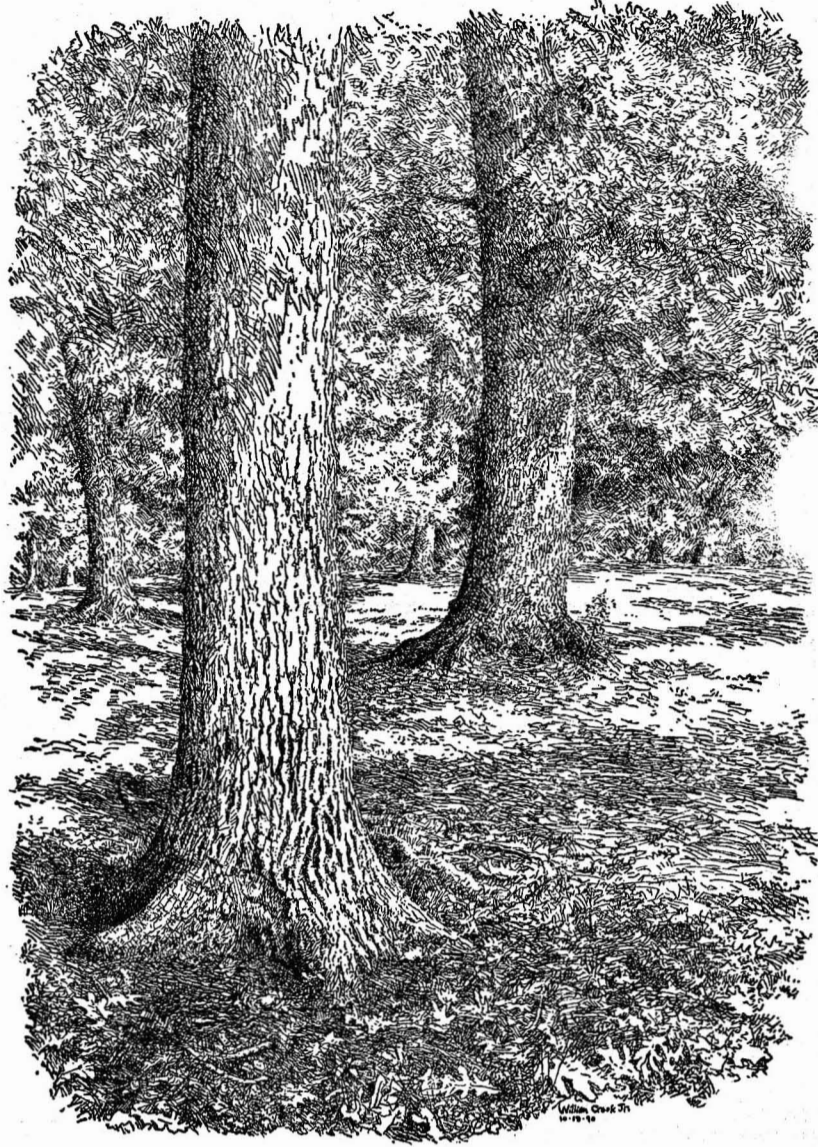
Intent to me has to do with spiritual awakening and clarity of purpose. If our intent is to stop a logger from cutting down a tree, then the action may seem senseless to the logger, or to any observer, unless we place that intent in a larger context: We may try to show that our aim is to help protect evolutionary processes for deep time, for thousands of years, by attempting to prevent death by chainsaw of this particular tree.

If our intent is spiritual awareness of that which is beyond scientific understanding, then the act of protesting is a manifestation of our inner work. Exploring political action in the context of our search for meaning brings participants into a relationship with death as well as life.

Cecelia Ostrow in her musical performances and essays describes how she came to the realization of egoless action, of being a healer in a world of pain, when she worked with dying patients. "My experiences with dying people are helping me to transmute my despair as I consider what is happening to the Earth. Death seems to be a changing point along a much wider road of the soul than I had been able to believe in before. Surely it is not something to be feared.... But what could 'death as transformation' mean for a species, or an ecosystem, or a planet?"

Sense of place means both sense of the place within which we dwell, as in our bioregion or watershed, and sense of the well being of the place that is a part of me as my broad and deep Self. Without a sense of place, political action is based on abstract ideology or on the desire for power over somebody rather than power within one's broad and deep Self. Without sense of place, energy is scattered.

During Redwood Summer in Northern



California I felt that some participants had no sense of place. They had come to "help the redwoods" but were bringing ideology inappropriate to the action. Some of the activists were speaking a different language than that which we have developed over the past quarter century to refer to the Klamath-Siskiyou Bioregion.

With the above concepts in mind, I will attempt a tentative distinction between vanguard ecology and radical ecology.

Vanguard ecology agrees with the slogan of the European Greens — we are neither left nor right, we are in front. Old leftist slogans as well as rightist doctrines of "free markets" and "deregulation" are outmoded in the face of the environmental crisis.

Vanguard ecology is visionary rather than destructive, proactive rather than reactive, positive rather than negative. It unifies spiritual awakening and the new science espoused by Fritjof Capra, Brian Swimme and the chaos theorists. It is concerned with deep questions rather than merely tactical political questions.

Vanguard ecology presents alternatives to the status quo, asks people to take risks, and is concerned both with personal growth into psychological maturity and with the health of the planet. Vanguard ecology is multi-cultural, based on ecocentric philosophy, non-sexist and grounded in experience rather than only in abstract ideology.

Radical ecology tends to rely on old anarchist and leftist analyses of social class relationships. While radical ecologists are critical of corporations and industrialism, they seldom espouse ecocentric philosophy. Judi Bari, for example, who is attempting to unify some segment of timber workers and progressive environmentalists, seems unaware of all the post-Marxist literature which suggests that the allies of environmentalists will not be employees in the "rust industries" such as steel and automobiles, nor in the extractive industries such as mining, ranching, and logging.

Workers in these industries are steeped in the ideology of paternalistic capitalism. They have sold themselves to the natural resources state which Christopher Manes so brilliantly describes in his book *Green Rage*. Vanguard environmentalists don't have the money to ransom these workers from their jobs and don't have a culture that appeals to them.

In Humboldt County, California, for example, timber workers stereotype Earth First!ers as hippies, welfare recipients and drug users. The culture clash between workers and environmentalists is well documented in the literature of 1980s social activism.

A new culture of Earth caring will be much different from the "working class culture" which dominates old style leftist litera-

ture. The new culture, as Fritjof Capra suggests in *The Turning Point*, is a healing one. Instead of taking from the land, participants in the new culture give themselves to the land. Some extractive industry workers may be converted to the new culture but most probably will not.

The allies of vanguard environmentalists are found among the "new classes" of urbanites and workers in white collar jobs, communications, education and service industries. It is unrealistic to expect any revolutionary alliance between highly educated environmentalists and most people in the traditional working class.

Blue collar workers violently opposed college students protesting the war in Vietnam. Blue collar workers saw the Vietnam War as an economic opportunity, and they stereotyped anti-war protesters as un-American elitists. Timber workers and their wives protesting against Redwood Summer activists in 1990 used the same slogans as blue collar workers in counter protests in the 1960s — America: love it or leave it.

Several examples of vanguard ecology will illustrate directions the movement may take during the 1990s.

The Nuclear Guardianship Project for the responsible care of nuclear wastes, initiated by Joanne Macy and others, encourages both individual spiritual development and work based on scientific information about nuclear waste. It is founded on the premise that the US government has no clear concept of what nuclear waste really is. "The lack of realism evident in government and corporate planning stems from an outmoded and inadequate epistemology or way of thinking."

In the guardianship project, people will make pilgrimages to nuclear waste sites as "sacred sites." Some people may devote their whole lives to the job of guardian. Nuclear guardians will assume responsibilities based on their training in technical and scientific aspects of nuclear waste containment and their willingness to expose themselves to the hazards of nuclear wastes. (This project does not represent an approval of nuclear power or bombs. To the contrary, it serves both to remind us of the folly of nuclear technology and to see that the waste is not further spread throughout the biosphere. The waste will be encapsulated above ground where it can be monitored. See Joanne Macy's article in *EF!*, 8-89.)

The world endangered ecosystem mapping project (WILD, Wilderness Is the Last Dream), initiated by Western Canada Wilderness Committee (WCWC), gives a global perspective to the wilderness conservation movement. WCWC plans to map all the endangered ecosystems of the Earth, using sophisticated data from NASA and other sources to identify specific threats to these

ecosystems. After identifying the specific agencies and corporations that threaten these ecosystems, strategies can be developed to stop them. (See WILD conference report in 8-90 issue.)

Rainforest Action Network (RAN) has targeted the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to stop these agencies from funding projects that destroy tropical rainforests (see full page ad in *New York Times*, 10-15-90). RAN, the Rainforest Information Centre, and Sahabat Alam Malaysia (Friends of the Earth Malaysia) along with numerous other Third World NGOs (non-governmental organizations) — all of which are part of the World Rainforest Movement — are pressuring the World Bank to amend its charter to require protection of ecosystems and native peoples with any loan provided by the Bank. (Similar campaigns are targeting the Inter-American Development Bank, African Development Bank, and Asian Development Bank.)

The Sacred Lands Project, coordinated by Roberta and Jim Swan, is a five year effort to identify threatened sacred areas, mobilize awareness of the threats, and develop an international political agenda to protect sacred spaces. A symposium held at Mesa Verde National Park in September 1990 investigated how recognition of the sacred values of place enables people to live in harmony with nature.

At the conclusion of the symposium, participants endorsed a statement drafted by Hopi elders that the "Four Corners" area of the American Southwest is a world spiritual refuge and that uranium and coal mining should cease until humans develop ecology — earth wisdom. An international Sacred Lands Project conference will be held in Washington, DC, in 1992.

The Ecostery Project, developed by Alan Drengson, revives an ancient social form — the monastery — and links it to contemporary ecological reserves. The project will promote creation of ecosteries all over North America to act as catalysts in the cultural change toward ecologically wise practices.

Alan Drengson is the editor of *The Trumpeter* and one of the major voices of deep ecology in North America. He suggests that ecosteries will be cared for by guardians, caretakers, and ecomonks [ed. rhetorical question: *Can eco-guerrillas be eco-monks?*] who help others learn the ways of nature. Nonviolence, multi-culturalism, and deep ecology are the "ultimate norms" of the ecostery movement.

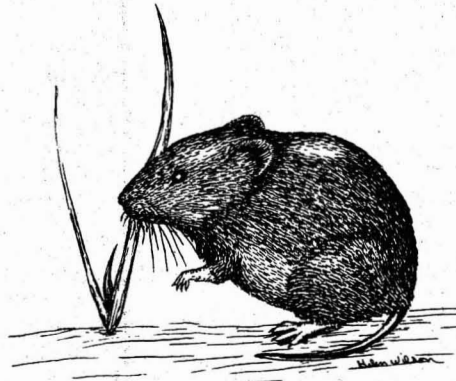
All these projects are multifaceted, positive, creative, and based on principles of deep ecology. All unite the day to day needs of people with spiritual growth and biospheric protection. These projects may help transform culture without overt political opposition to the natural resources state and its forces of domination and political repression.

The natural resources state is using police powers to inhibit Earth First! activities and many kinds of political demonstrations. Unless we realize this and expose the lies and disinformation campaigns of the various industries and US government agencies, the tactics favored by many EF! activists during the past decade will be ineffective. Now is the time for change.

How does the Earth First! movement fit into the changing face of vanguard ecology? Let the participants decide.

For information on the movements mentioned above write the following:

*Ecostery Foundation, Alan Drengson, PO Box 5853, Station B, Victoria, BC Canada V8R 6S8
*Sacred Lands Project, Institute for the Study of Natural Systems, POB 637, Mill Valley, CA 94942
*Western Canada Wilderness Committee, 20 Water St, Vancouver, BC Canada V6B 1A4
*Rainforest Action Network, 301 Broadway, San Francisco, CA 94133
*Rainforest Information Centre, PO Box 368, Lismore, NSW 2480, AUSTRALIA
*Sahabat Alam Malaysia, Chee Yoke Ling, 43 Salween Rd, 10050 Pulau Penang, MALAYSIA
*Cecelia Ostrow, POB 775, White Salmon, WA 98672



A WHEEL FOR TOXIC MAN

by Daniel Dancer

It looked like Iwo Jima. Lethal yellow had decimated most of the coconut palms and their toothpick like trunks pierced the sky giving the area the ambience of a war zone. But at least there were no tourists — the reason I had driven so far from the crowded beaches of Cancun. I turned off the rutted road onto an overgrown track. My rental car scraped the center as I edged along toward the ocean and entered the vine choked desolation of a small abandoned coconut ranch. I parked in the shade under a cluster of Malaysian palms, a variety immune to the lethal yellowing disease that has devastated so many Mexican beaches. After finding an old cistern with a foot or so of rainwater I decided to call the place home for a few days. Hot and dusty, I headed to the beach for a swim. Not a soul as far as I could see in either direction — this was perfect! Relieved that there were still places like this left on the Caribbean, I closed my eyes in silent appreciation.

Miles of Plastic

After a few moments of bliss I noticed the plastic. Tons of it. Miles and miles of it in strewn thickly along the shore. I walked up the beach in distress; there was no end to it. My first reaction was to leave and head north back toward Cancun. Although full of tourists, at least those beaches were relatively clean. I had a difficult choice there in the late afternoon sun on my violated idyllic beach. What would it be — tourists or garbage?

I had come to Mexico on a mission for Lighthawk, "the wings of conservation." As an aerial photographer I would help map two of the newest and largest biosphere reserves in Central America — Calakmul and Sian Ka'an. I had a few days to kill before the Cesna arrived and had decided to explore Sian Ka'an, a place I had assumed would be wild and clean. I should have known better. After all it was Mexico, a country notorious for casual methods of garbage "disposal." This attitude, combined with strong Caribbean currents that wash ocean dumped trash onto the shorelines, had polluted the beach. It would be easy to react to the repulsion I was feeling by returning to Cancun (whose beaches are groomed and cleaned by Mexicans earning minimum wage) and thus escape into the illusion that "all is ok with the Earth." But then, the wilderness value of this place did seem to be intact so perhaps I had found it for a reason.

I opted for the garbage and moments later nearly tripped over a dolphin skull half buried in the sand. Now this was a find. To one who cherishes the perfect architectural grace of an animal skull as one of nature's highest artforms, this was a real gift. I had collected many skulls from peregrinations through wild domains but not the dolphin. In the luck of this find, I knew I had made the right choice ... and that I had work to do.

Partly a way to transform feelings of environmental despair and partly in the simple belief that art, prayer and ritual can make a difference, I had sometimes created on-site healing sculptures and left them to the elements. It was time for another. A kind of spontaneous Earth art, these works have been a way of appealing to the higher powers for healing. They have been a way of connecting with the wild sacred heart of an endangered piece of the planet and asking forgiveness for the mindless abuse that had happened there.

The Healing Wheel

I came upon a half coiled piece of anchor rope that suggested a design. I would build a healing circle, a medicine wheel. To Native Americans, the medicine wheel was a way of connecting with the cosmos, a place of prayer and ritual — in a sense, their church. They divided the wheel in quarters, each section representing one of the four directions, and designated by a color, an element and an aspect. White was north, yellow east, red south and black west. In my wheel, the colors of the four directions would be formed from the multi-hued garbage — symbolic of these toxic times and our separation from nature. In essence, the wheel would be a prayer to end the gross consumption of our throw away society.

On a raised piece of beach, I made a hoop with the rope and gathered coconuts that had washed up on the shore to divide the circle into four quarters. I found an old bucket and laundry basket and began gathering my color. White and yellow were everywhere in styrofoam, oil and detergent containers, six pack rings, nylon netting, old toys, urine samples, you name it. These items quickly filled their respective north and east sections. Black and red were not ubiquitous but by sunset I had enough. More than once, while collecting this waste, I felt

my legs and arms burning from foreign substances that spilled upon my skin. I went to the sea's edge and wiped off oil, clorox and who knows what else. I thought of how we are all 90% salt water and felt bodily a concept that until then had been mostly intellectual — the Gaia principle. We and the Earth are one body. There is no separation.

I unrolled my bag beside the shaft of a dead palm near the wheel. As I settled down for the night my eyes naturally followed the narrow trunk's procession heavenward into that refreshing magnificent thicket of stars that always greets one, in remote areas, like an old friend. Arrowlike, it pointed to the Pleiades. Dead center above me, I stared at this nebula which figures strongly in dolphin mythology and picked out 5 stars not normally visible. I thought of the many thousands of miles of driftnets that were strip mining our oceans at that moment and needlessly ending the lives of dolphins. Certainly this beach, and perhaps my wheel, contained garbage tossed from boats involved in this horrific "fishing." I fell asleep and dreamt of powerful teams of dolphins towing nets full of garbage to entrap greedy fishing vessels.

I completed the wheel by sunrise the next morning. In a weird, apocalyptic sort of way, I thought it beautiful. Facing west, at the circle's edge, was a sun baked starfish shot full of bullet holes. The dolphin skull lay on the east-west meridian facing the ocean and the morning sun. Two red flags on a bamboo pole, the old tattered marker for some fisherman's diving site perhaps, flew at the eastern point in front of the dolphin. On top of the pole, presiding over the healing wheel, was the smiling plastic head of a baby doll, representing our newest generation, the inheritors of our success or failure in healing

Biophilia And A Generation Of Change

by Neil S. Andre

I was not surprised to read in the November 1989 edition of *Earth First!* an article by Leslie Lyon purporting that revolution can begin with the young. This concept has a long history. When things are going wrong in society, we tend to place the burden on our children whom we assume will be more educated and aware than the current generation. Though there is sometimes truth in this, placing our hope on our children to make sweeping changes needed to save the Earth is an "iffy" proposition at best, for several reasons.

First, if you consider the age group the author is discussing, and assume that these children will become activists by age 21, we have another 10 years of environmental degradation before the young revolutionaries are ready to take over. Even if we can wait 10 years, it is doubtful that all the children we address now will help foment a revolution upon achieving majority age. This is especially true if the workshops are not done on a regular ongoing basis, which is normally necessary to instill a concept in a child's psyche.

Second, the premise rests on the assumption that our next generation will be more educated and ecologically aware than our current one. With the emerging facts showing that education of youngsters is actually declining in the United States, one must question how this new generation will meet the multiplicity of Earth threatening challenges it will face. More and more high school graduates are coming out of school ill prepared to write and read, much less take on the challenges our deteriorating environment demands. This assertion is supported by the fact that more and more large corporations are providing evening remedial education for their workers to at least assure they can read and write. Moreover, subjects like reading and writing are taught on a regular basis, whereas caring for the Earth is not.

Third, even if our education system were adequate to properly educate our young (except for the poor and disenfranchised), including in the area of taking care of the Earth, we might not benefit much. I believe, from experience, that education is not enough to cause the overwhelming change in the behavior, actions, and values of *Homo sapiens* necessary to bring about this revolution.

Education is definitely necessary, for one cannot contemplate how to create change if one doesn't realize change is needed; but, alone, it is not enough. Education, which was seen as a cure-all for societal ills at one time, has shown itself over and over not to be the sole answer. Doctors know the consequences of addictive drugs, yet we hear of doctors who succumb to drug addiction. Smokers like myself know about the

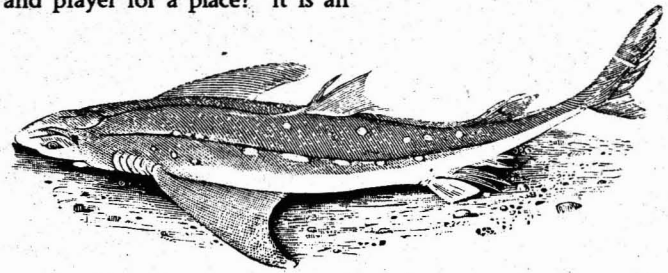
the toxic planet we have wrought. The vigorous green shoots of a sprouting coconut rose hopefully from the wheel's center representing the rebirth of our reverence for nature and capability to restore the ecosystems we have nearly destroyed.

The various kinds of plastic crap that colored the wheel seemed to sum up industrial society. All our addictions were present — vanity, oil, gluttony, and power over nature, to name a few. Some items stood out with particular irony, like Baygon bug killer, Tropical Trade Winds air freshener and Natural Brilliance hair conditioner.

Where The Sky Is Born

Sporadically, I circled the medicine wheel focusing the energy of my intent in an appeal to the higher powers of Earth and humankind. It is time for us to clean up our act. We need help — quickly please! In my own awkward fashion, I felt akin to the ghost dancers at the end of the 19th century who danced a secret dance in a desperate attempt to rid the land of the white man's disease — to dream back the buffalo and sing back the swan. And who knows, perhaps it would have worked had the leaders of that movement not all been exterminated by our government armies.

Who can gauge the cumulative effect of such healing works left to the elements in blessing and prayer for a place? It is an



harmful effects of smoking, yet millions of us continue to smoke. Knowing something and acting upon it are entirely different.

Ms. Kirkwood, director of three day care centers, says, "a child's basic beliefs, phobias, behavioral patterns and values are developed during its formative years — well before fourth and fifth grade." This is not to say that children (or adults) cannot change their attitudes and beliefs at a later age; but the older a person is, the more difficult such change is. Further complicating this situation, if a child is subject to a workshop or two on the state of the world, and then goes home where parents debunk this information, unless the presenter has a strong relationship with the child, it will continue to identify with the values of the parent(s).

Are we then destined to having generation after generation commit the same selfish abuse of the Earth until even our own species becomes extinct? With many scientists like Jacques Cousteau saying we are on a collision course with annihilation, it seems a distinct possibility that things have gone too far for us to turn back the clock. To do so would take almost immediate action on a global scale, with everyone working cooperatively to save the planet. Even that might not be enough.

Despite this gloomy outlook, I see a glimmer of hope. Using education positively as a beginning, we can move from educating children and adults to arousing in them a sense of biophilia. *Biophilia* (originally coined by renowned biologist E.O. Wilson) is, according to Edward C. Wolfe, a lot like falling in love. If we can actually begin a process that teaches our species to fall in love with nature, there is hope. When people are aroused, and when they genuinely love something, they act to protect it. Rather than shock our children with what is happening in the world, we need to provide them with activities to promote a strong feeling of biophilia. Whereas shock techniques generally desensitize a person against such horror or force them to block out the tragic data psychologically (something *Homo sapiens* are masters at), biophilia arouses a person's feeling of love to the point where they can hardly help but act.

In my work with indigent children for 18 years I have stressed biophilia and it is beginning to show. Our group, Dolphin Defenders, recycles (thereby, according to Coalition for the Environment figures, in just 6 months saving the equivalent in energy of 100 gallons of gas, not counting bottles); gives two yearly awards to adults who support the Earth; passed out over 400 flyers calling for a tuna boycott until the dolphin kill ends; adopted a Mexican Wolf for \$100; plants trees to slow global warming; turned down an opportunity to buy an aquarium and have live fish, in order to spend the money directly on helping ani-

ancient way of art, a form of eco-shamanism and a way of relating to the sacred that is blossoming anew from the hearts of frustrated tree huggers like myself. I recall the words of Sister Merriam, "We must not only ask what we can do to change the world but ask as well what we can do to bless it. In this combination of reverence and action, real change can occur." Her words hold a key in passing through these difficult times.

I took a few final photographs of the wheel at sunrise the next morning. Lazy squalls traced their contents over the sea as the steadily blowing tradewinds carried them inland toward me. As if in answer to my efforts a small, bold rainbow descended from the sky, northward up Cancun way, the only one I would see during my three weeks in Mexico. White, air, wisdom — the Native American properties of the north renewed my hope. Later that day I learned the translation of the Mayan word, *Sian Ka'an*. It meant, *where the sky is born*.

Daniel Dancer is a photo-journalist and artist who works with environmental groups such as the Ancient Forest Rescue Expedition and Interspecies Communication. He is presently preparing *Sacred Ground — Sacred Sky*, a book about the role of Earth art and sacred ground in planetary restoration.

mals; paid for their own Audubon Adventures education series and helped pay for another classroom, and so on. Dolphin Defenders has received many letters of commendation from recognized ecological groups and individuals, including Bob Yourko of Missouri Earth First!, St. Louis Mayor Schomhel (for one of our cleanups), Missouri State Senator Wayne Goode, US Representative William Clay, and US Senator John Danforth (R-MO). These commendations show what biophilia can accomplish with both children and adults. When the children receive commendations, which I frame for their Dolphin Room, they work even harder. Adults who have seen these children in action save recyclables for us. The group established a wildlife habitat on a donated acre of undeveloped land. The children like going to our habitat to observe the wildlife. It is now an official Backyard Wildlife Habitat listed with the National Wildlife Federation.

I use no lectures whatsoever. I teach by playing games related to the concept I wish to teach, and then follow it with a comment or with questions. If the games are fun the children seldom forget what I taught them. The walls are decorated with posters and commendations. I give the children lifetime membership cards (with an animal on the back), as I do with adults who help us, and register them in our membership book. I give them Dolphin Defender letterhead, take pictures of their projects for them to keep, have them choose animal names to call each other, and have a science table with things like Opossum teeth, a Red Fox tail, feathers, and other animal remnants we find. The group voted to walk anywhere 5 miles or under in order to save fossil fuels. The group meets every Friday after school, and often talks me into extra meetings.

How do I reward the group to further instill this sense of biophilia? To a great degree, the experiences themselves are rewarding. Still it helps to reward behavior we wish to encourage (as long as we understand the difference between a bribe and a reward). The most exciting rewards I have found for the children are pictures of animals from magazines. They hang them on their walls at home. They want to be close to nature, which is difficult in the inner city; pictures help fill the void.

In conclusion, you can try to radicalize children with shock and dismay for a future revolution, or you can help instill children (and other adults) with sense of biophilia that will arouse within them a passion to protect nature. I will remain with biophilia because I have seen the tremendous results it can achieve.

A Strained Relationship

Ecology has been called a subversive science by ecologists for some time because an ecological perspective necessarily undermines the atomistic paradigm of dominant science and the "science" of domination. Living from the perspective of ecology, making it a basis for action, has been the goal of Earth First! since its inception. It now seems the FBI has decided ecology and its proponents are indeed subversive and worthy of the sort of official attention once visited on the American Indian Movement, Black Panthers and SDS.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has a long history of trying to stomp out movements opposing various forms of exploitation and domination essential to the existing social order. From the Palmer raids after World War I down to the sabotage, disinformation, intimidation, framing, jailing and even murder in the 1960s and 1970s, the FBI has not hesitated to use any means to check the effectiveness of such movements.

The effectiveness of EF! is not the only reason the FBI is after us. Like all bureaucracies the FBI must constantly seek to justify their wretched existence. To do so they must identify or create threats to law and order that serve in turn to justify their continued funding. The decline of the Soviet Union as an enemy no doubt has them in a real panic, as it does defense contractors.

Make no mistake: the FBI is obsessive and has enormous resources at its disposal. They have a long history of illegal activity. They have a great deal of experience at exploiting any weakness. They are not to be reasoned with or won over. They are part of the machine. Like a big bulldozer, they may not be very bright or articulate but they can run you over dead. Whatever they learn from any of us they can and will use to hurt us. They are unprincipled. It is a mistake to consider them just misguided bozos, or to confuse them with the local yokels often encountered during civil disobedience and other actions.

Even a group as decentralized as EF! can be victimized; witness current happenings in Arizona, Montana and northern California. It is important that EF!ers learn how to deal with this threat to our work in a way that allows us to continue that work and not waste resources or become excessively paranoid.

How the FBI and some of their state counterparts work

1) Harassment and intimidation by making threats of arrest, job loss, violence; by visiting employers, relatives and friends; offering bribes, etc.

2) Consuming movement resources of time and money by charging people groundlessly with various crimes. Even if charges are dropped or acquittals result, the people spend an enormous amount of time and money defending themselves.

3) Infiltrating groups and framing or setting people up for serious criminal charges, often involving conspiracy. In many cases conspiracy to commit misdemeanors is a felony. A bust often results in bad press, and can take people out of circulation for a long time awaiting trial. A felony arrest means the court can run your life while you wait for trial.

4) Disinformation, both personal and political. Derailing, dividing and disrupting the movement by spreading rumors, taking advantage of personal problems, encouraging antagonism where political differences exist, planting false information, encouraging illegal activity, issuing false public statements in the group's name — all these are standard tactics.

Essential to achieving these ends is the use of infiltrators, either agents or informers. Agents are professionals, doing it because they like stomping on people or for ideological reasons (both usually the result of too severe toilet training). Informers are amateurs, often doing it for reasons of personal revenge, or a way to overcome a sense of powerlessness and unimportance, or because the FBI has something on them. Both are equally sleazy but the former are usually more dangerous because they are more capable, have more experience and will enjoy greater credibility with courts if charges are brought. The former also have control over greater resources, including sophisticated hardware, and may be part of broad based repressive campaigns involving other police agencies and government departments (the IRS, for example). Often agents and informers work together and frequently are wired for sound, video or both.

How to spot these bipedal scum sucking toadies

1. Get to know the people you work with; where they come from both politically and historically. Check out peoples stories. Ask questions. Be suspicious of contradictions. Often agents are new to the area, though informers may be local. What groups have they worked with and for how long? Who are their friends and family? The cover of agents and informers is rarely so grand as to include a large supporting cast. The real families and friends of agents are kept separate from their work, though this may not be the case with informers. Sometimes informers may have a lengthy movement history, but not usually.

2. Confront people who are consistently disruptive either politically or personally. Is their disruptiveness just lack of respect for others in the group or is it deliberate? Agents and informers will exploit political disagreements, and use sexual and emotional attachments or problems to create discord, divisiveness, and mistrust. Fomenting factionalism is a particularly effective tactic. Gaining the confidence of individuals through romantic liaisons is also frequently used. Spreading rumors, including accusing others of being informers, is another tactic.

3. Agents and informers will encourage violence or other illegal activity, doing so in a way that gets others to take the initiative, and involve as many people as possible in incriminating activity and communications. Infiltrators often evidence a single minded agenda in this direction, forever suggesting such activities and trying to get people to agree. They also attempt to get close to and involve leaders and spokespeople, who if busted would "send a message" to the movement and public.

4. Where infiltrators are setting people up for a bust utilizing recording devices, several things may tip you off. There are many kinds of bugs, some hardwired to the phone, some that people carry which either broadcast or are tied to a recorder on the person, and home taps. Home taps are not legal in bedrooms or bathrooms, but they may be so sensitive as to make any portion of a house or office amenable to recording.

When infiltrators are wired for sound there are several tell-tale indicators. Keep in mind, though, that an amateur may be such an amateur that these do not appear.

Infiltrators will try to control the conversation, getting it back to the subjects they are interested in, e.g., monkeywrenching. Conversation control may be very subtle. Infiltrators will try to make it sound like you agree to certain activities by eliciting responses from you that sound like an expression of agreement but may simply be an acknowledgement. Agent: "We oughta take out Glen Canyon dam, huh?" True Blue EF!er: "Yeah, it'd be nice to see that dam gone." Or maybe you just grunt something that sounds like you agree. The agent buys dynamite; you're busted for conspiracy. Infiltrators will also interrupt you if you make comments that may separate you from illegal activity. EF!er: "I'd like to see that dam go, but it would be wrong to blow it up, a clear violation of the United States Code and many state laws as well." The agent will interrupt you after the first phrase.

Another agents' technique used to incriminate in recorded conversations is to

make it appear that you are the leader; e.g., the agent says "tell me what to do." Infiltrators often talk in a way that makes the entire conversation sound incriminating, even if you don't say anything incriminating yourself. They will also make references to things going on silently between you so as to have a record on tape. "Gee, thanks for these here swell spikes, which I will put to good use. Do you know what time it is?" Agents will also make reference to conversations or actions from the past, which are not on tape and may not have been incriminating, in a manner that sounds incriminating. You had a previous discussion of a newspaper article about monkeywrenching in another part of the country. The infiltrator says: "Remember our discussion about trashing dozers ...?"

Infiltrators may range from charming, smooth and expert manipulators to pathetic puppies you feel sorry for. They may be informed and articulate or seem to be attracted to the movement simply because of their feelings. In any case, they can and do make use of even the most ordinary information. By knowing us they can manipulate us. By knowing us they can go elsewhere and involve others easily by demonstrating how well connected they are with us.

What we can do about infiltrators and police action generally

1. Be aware of their techniques and check out any suspected persons. Until that is done exclude them from sensitive activities and meetings. Some would say you should monkeywrench only with people you've known since kindergarten, and when you can account for their time in between then and now.

2. Be aware that ordinary law breaking — from speeding to possession of small quantities of drugs, firearms under certain circumstances, large nails, etc. — may be used in an extraordinary manner against you.

3. Assume that in any large public meeting, and even some smaller gatherings and certainly at rendezvous, many police are present.

4. When threats have been made

LEGAL OBSERVERS

Who's Watching Does Make a Difference!

A trend I have noticed at better-run demonstrations and actions recently is the presence of "Legal Observers."

Legal observers are volunteers, usually lawyers by profession, who agree to attend a demonstration or other action and observe what goes on, without participating. Any lawyer can perform this function, and should do so on a volunteer basis.

Such legal observers arrive before the action begins, and wear name tags or other "badges" identifying them and their role in the proceedings. They typically go up to the police and/or other potential adversaries in advance and say something like: "Hello. My name is (so and so) and I'm here as a legal observer today." They then exchange business cards or other identification with the potential opposition.

From then on, all they do is stand and

against you and tensions are high, people should not travel alone, trusted comrades should know of arrival and departure times, etc. If you receive threats or are assaulted, report it to the police and keep your own records. The cops won't protect you, but if things worsen and you are victimized by timber companies, hired thugs, crazies or the cops themselves, you will be able to show a pattern of incompetence and malfeasance on their part.

5. Develop patterns of interaction, both political and personal, based on honesty, openness and mutual respect. This undermines the ability of police to spread rumors and foment factionalism.

6. Develop good security habits without becoming paranoid. Notice the people around you. Minimize written documents and keep them organized and safe. Keep cars, houses and offices locked. Cultivate large predators as close friends.

7. Establish a support network of people who can help if a crisis develops and who can do unto the authorities some of what they do unto us, e.g., sue them, subpoena them, make them feel some heat. Press contacts are also important — to help expose the Richard Nixons and Henry Kissingers of the environment. Most of the media swallows the packaged news bites of the political-economic establishment (of which they are a part), but many reporters and some editors will use good alternative information if provided with it in a timely fashion.

Remember, having justice on our side is not enough. We have to be smart and good at what we do. No amount of smartness and goodness can totally protect us. The very nature of the political process exposes those of us who challenge the biocidal system to the nature rapists and their hirelings. But we can minimize our exposure without sacrificing principles.

For more information on the FBI, see Brian Glick, *War At Home*; and Ward Churchill and Jim Vander Wall, *Agents of Repression and Cointelpro Papers* (all from South End Press).

watch. They do not participate in the action, nor do they interfere. They don't advise the participants on what course to take; they remain passive, but alert.

For those involved in the action, the presence of such observers is invaluable. If anyone's rights are violated in any way, these observers can make well-informed and reliable eye-witnesses. While photographers are often the first to be attacked or disabled in such situations, these observers cannot reasonably be removed or interfered with. And in the presence of such observers, the rights of demonstrators are much less likely to be violated. (It is less tempting to beat up demonstrators if their lawyers are watching.)

Whenever you plan to participate in an action of any kind, be sure in advance that legal observers will be present. Make this a top priority — it is a precaution that you can't afford not to take!

—Margaret Hays Young

10 THINGS REAL ENVIRONMENTALISTS ALREADY DO TO SAVE THE EARTH (and have for 20 years)

1) PRACTISE SAFE SEX: Real environmentalists recognize that one overriding issue persists in destroying planet Earth: the human horde! So, real enviros consciously refrain from spawning babies. Condoms are cool; tube tying is hip; do it today before something doth slip. REAL environmentalists DON'T HAVE KIDS!

2) SHUN PUBLIC EDUCATION: Environmentalists who have already slipped, and given birth, avoid sending their children through the public education process. The government is actively involved in mass brain washing via the public school systems of America. The goal of public education is to insure that the masses are indoctrinated into the American Dream — consumerism. REAL enviros who slipped educate their kid(s) [heaven forbid!] at home!

3) LEARN THE LAW: The most powerful green tool we have is English Common Law. Real enviros don't play golf; they read the law. For decades, enviros have found that the most effective methodology for disrupting the destruction of ecosystems is via clev-

erly timed, well planned lawsuits. Want to halt a proposed dam? File a NEPA suit! Got a favorite species looking at extinction's ugly face? Invoke the Endangered Species Act's Section 7 regulations. It's easy and fun! Law libraries are quiet, air conditioned, and full of simple tactics to beat the juggernaut at its own game.

4) REBEL AGAINST CONSUMERISM: Overpopulation and consumerism are the two-headed beasts! Little children grow up to be big consumers. It's the American Way! It's taught to them from the moment they first turn on the TV (see #5). Real enviros refuse to play the game of "buy or die." The first step (after getting your tubes tied) toward saving the Earth is to relearn to live simply. The best things in life really are free, and available for all life forms to enjoy. Drop out of the game for a few weeks. Boycott malls. Know what'll happen? Nothing! You'll simply have more time on your hands (which you can spend with your offspring which you accidentally had and are now responsible for educating; see #1 & 2).

5. DESTROY THE TV: After having their tubes tied, real environmentalists bash their tubes! The advertising syndicates exist to coerce you — via messages to the subconscious mind — into consuming (see #4). TV shows are carefully designed to lure you into the next commercial. To fight the conspiracy of consumerism through thought control, drill a hole in the top of your TV, fill it with potting soil and grow a vegetable in the now useful device!

6. HEAD FOR THE HILLS: Real enviros know cities for what they are — centers of commerce. Cities exist only to make consumer goods more accessible to the masses (see #4). Real enviros avoid cities. But what about "culture," you ask? Culture is the stuff that grows between your toes when you forget to change your socks. Real life, the throbbing endless pulse of biota, can be found by anyone, at any time, in the Big Outside. So, get your friends and head for the hills — on foot!

7. CANCEL ALL MAGAZINE AND
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THE CONQUEST OF PARADISE: Christopher Columbus and the Columbian Legacy, by Kirkpatrick Sale; Alfred A. Knopf, 201 E 15th, New York City 10022; \$24.95 hardback; 370pp.

Ours is a sordid history. As our paternalistic forebears settled the "New World" (actually every bit as old as the "Old"; they were united as Laurasia until 65 million years ago), they ravaged the native peoples of North, Central, and South America. This is common knowledge. What is not common knowledge is that the Americas were "discovered" (as they had been many times before by Europeans, not to mention the native peoples who had lived there for over 10,000 years) and settled by shiftless, avaricious, ruthless, petty, greedy, and even lubberly sea captains and followers; and more importantly, that these men did not only decimate native peoples, they so ravaged populations of native flora and fauna as to forever alter the biological composition of the lands of the Western Hemisphere.

Thus spake Kirkpatrick Sale, albeit in much finer prose. Sale, a widely acclaimed author and bioregionalist, aims with this scholarly yet enthralling book to deflate the Columbian myth before it balloons even further out of proportion in 1992 — the quincentennial of Columbus's putative discovery of America. Sale's aim is true.

The Conquest of Paradise will further establish Sale's reputation in the growing field of ecological history. Though he provides minutiae on the voyages of Cristobal Colon (who would have stared aghast if ever called "Christopher Columbus"), offering more detail than the lay person needs, he does not lose sight of the big picture. He describes the effects of exotic plants, animals, pathogens and diseases brought by Europeans to the Americas. He contrasts the benign forms of food production (e.g., the *comucos* system of the Taino people of the Bahamas, a system akin to permaculture) employed by native peoples, with the ecologically ruinous forms practised by Europeans.

Sale's case against the European invaders is nigh on irrefutable. Perhaps more contentious, however, is his support for the *Indians as the first ecologists* hypothesis. Writers have challenged this popular idea in the pages of *EF!* Journal before; here suffice it to say that evidence can be adduced against this notion as well as for it (e.g., bones beneath Buffalo jumps, fossils of extinct mammals). Sale perhaps too facetiously dismisses the overkill hypothesis: Notwithstanding Sale's claim to the contrary, the suspicion that the late Pleistocene extinctions of megafauna in North and South America were at least partly anthropogenic (possibly caused by human over-hunting in combination with changing climate) seems to have considerable credence in the scientific community. Nonetheless, Sale argues convincingly, and many of us will remain comfortable with the *Indians as ecologists* hypothesis even if exceptions can be cited.

10 Things . . .

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NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTIONS: Having hundreds of pounds of reading material delivered to your door, only to be read then discarded, is decadent and anti-Earth. Tell *Vanity Fair* that you'll be happy to read their worthless crap in the cool confines of the library from now on. Ditto for *Sierra*, *Audubon*, et. al. (That's assuming you have not followed the mandate of #6 yet. You won't have time to read monthly publications once you move to the Big Outside; you'll be too busy having fun!)

8. WALK: Sell your car and ride a bicycle. Better yet, walk (much easier after following directive #6). Cars are smelly, ugly, ecosystem-destroying devices invented for one reason: so you can get to the shopping center faster! They also allow you to carry more consumer items home per trip (see #4). Look around next time you ride in an automobile. Notice how stupid the people in cars next to you appear as they whiz by? You look stupid, too.

As we approach the culmination of a period of undeniable overkill, *The Conquest of Paradise* comes as a truly timely book. As many wise people have warned, a people that forgets its history is doomed to repeat its past mistakes. If ours is an educable citizenry (doubtful after the last elections), perhaps this excellent revisionist work will be read by millions, thus precluding an entirely inappropriate celebration of the beginning of the killing of the Americas.

Reviewed by John Davis.

THE VILLAGE OF BLUE STONE, by Stephen Trimble; 1990; MacMillan Publishing Group, 64pp. \$13.95.

As *The Village of Blue Stone* tells us, there's something about ancient Indian ruins that can even make a cowboy forget his cows. Stephen Trimble introduces his fictional account of life in an Anasazi village with a tale of two pioneer good old boys who stumble on one of the great cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde.

Trimble goes on to describe a year in the life of the Anasazi, a Navajo name which means "someone's ancestors." Located north of the San Juan River in New Mexico, the author's imaginary Village of Blue Stone is named for the lovely turquoise jewelry found in many pueblos. This jewelry, as well as the tools, architecture, dress, and pottery of the day, are painstakingly recreated by illustrators Jennifer Owings Dewey and Deborah Reade.

The year begins with the winter solstice: December 21, 1100. Sun Watcher, the village priest, uses shadows cast by special windows to mark the day the Sun enters its Winter House. This day, like many others, includes the religious ceremonies so important to the Anasazi.

During the long nights that follow, story-tellers relate the creation story. The first three worlds are destroyed, until the Fourth, or Yellow-White World, is created. The evil people of the other worlds have supposedly been destroyed, leaving only those with good hearts to populate this world.

After a winter of weaving, tool-making, and story-telling, the villagers plant crops of corn, squash and beans. The cultivation of corn was vital to the Anasazi and the basis of much of their religion. A character with the colorful moniker of Turquoise Boy plants and nurtures his corn with a devotion modern people reserve for babies.

Another delightfully named villager, Frog Woman, demonstrates pottery-making techniques in detail. It's a slow process in the absence of niceties like potter's wheels. The clay, brought over great distances, must be rolled into coils and built up one coil at a time. The finished product, painted with a yucca brush and fired over juniper coals, is a work of art capable of surviving the ages.

Summer brings treks to neighboring villages, and ceremonies to summon rain. One of the ceremonies, the raiding of eagle nests, betrays the dark side found in most

9. SUBVERT ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS: Real enviros understand that mainstream "environmental" groups reinforce the juggernaut of consumerism by advocating a policy of conservation of natural resources. This anthropocentric ideology, revolving around the concept of "stewardship," still views Nature as a commodity. Such a view simply seeks to retard the rate of destruction, not halt it. Typical priorities for these stewards are recycling (see #7), using biodegradable diapers (see #1), and keeping toxic waste out of their backyards (see #4). Real enviros only join these groups in order to have themselves elected to the boards of directors (by proxy vote; see #3), from whence they can begin subverting the groups' wimpy agendas. Turn on, tune in, and take over!

10. TAKE ACTION: Real enviros would already have quit reading by now and gotten busy. Do something!

—Pete Jones, Pell City, AL

religions. Each spring, the young men of the village capture every young eagle and hawk they find, to be used later in the Corn Dance. In the grim finale of the Dance, the clan leaders smother the birds in hopes that the birds' spirits will carry prayers to the Cloud People.

The author, a paleontologist, passes no judgments on this or any other customs he describes. Like any good scientist, he reconstructs the lives of ancient peoples without exposing them to the harsh glare of modern values.

Despite the villagers' insult to the kind of deity Earth Firsters might worship, they enjoy a bountiful harvest. The harvest is supplemented by hunting, which features its own sacred customs. The hunter, Sun Journeying, asks permission of the deer before he kills it. After breathing in its last "breath of life," he leaves a piece of flesh for Mother Earth.

Other village customs are depicted during the fall, including marriage, burial customs, and initiation rites. Winter comes again, bringing the cold and snow of the Colorado Plateau uplands. In the last incident of the story, the village priest trains a younger man in the ways of Sun Watching, and the cycle begins again.

The book concludes with a floor plan of the village, a family chronology, and an afterword about the work of archaeologists. Trimble makes the point that the plundering of artifacts has cost historians valuable information. I remember one much publicized Utah raid on the collection of Cal Black, the late unlamented inspiration for Bishop Love of Abbey fame.

The author puts his tale into perspective when he relates the discovery of the pot made by Frog Woman. He also discusses the possible reasons why the Anasazi deserted their cities and villages.

Despite their apparent harmony with Nature, the Anasazi usually moved because they'd exhausted local resources. Periodic droughts, and the scarcity of trees for fires and building, often drove them elsewhere. Irreverent animal lover that I am, I can't help but theorize that they were overrun by the mice those smothered eagles would have eaten.

The author provides a list of Anasazi ruins in Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico. He also gives information on joining an excavation and visiting modern-day pueblos and ceremonies.

Although *The Village of Blue Stone* has the look and design of a children's book, I believe it would also interest most adults. Its simple style and numerous illustrations make it suitable for history lovers of all ages, especially those not satisfied with the sketchy Native American history taught in schools.

Reviewed by Leslie Lyon.

ECO-WARRIORS: Understanding the Radical Environmental Movement, by Rik Scarce, 1990; Noble Press, 213 W. Institute Place, Suite 508, Chicago, IL 60610; 291 pages, \$11.95 paperback.

Reading this book is a little like attending a Round River Rendezvous without any prior knowledge of Earth First!. You talk to lots of colorful strangers who describe lots of exciting events, but you can't be sure how much that you've heard is true and just what its significance might be.

The next in a rising tide of closely related books, *Eco-warriors* is a wide-ranging overview of radical environmental and animal rights activism. It briefly covers the philosophical underpinnings and then reports a pile of anecdotal stories about actions of all sorts — banner hangings, road blockades, tree spikings, ship sinkings.

Its breadth is impressive. I learned a few new tales from the early days of *EF!*, more details on a Sea Shepherd action, and a lot of ALF history.

Unfortunately, that breadth also brings some significant weaknesses. Scarce created a new concept to tie things together — people fighting against the "Eco-Wall" built by society "to keep out the alien force of nature both without and within us" — and it doesn't really work. Animal rights and environmental actions are casually lumped together, with the result that Draize testing is equated with clearcutting and lab animal liberations share the stage with tree-sitting actions. Civil disobedience purists are jumbled with hardcore monkeywrenchers, and while the differences are noted in passing ("Gandhi Meets the Luddites") they are never really explored or explained.

Also, dealing with a large number of sources creates a fact-checker's nightmare, and this book has a lot of little errors: names misspelled or misidentified, dates wrong, events muddled. Seeing these in coverage of events and people I know hurts my confidence in the rest.

The obvious comparison is to Christopher Manes's *Green Rage*, and *Eco-warriors* comes up short. Scarce covers more ground but Manes has more depth, more passion,

and a more fluid style. Someone looking for lots of anecdotes might prefer Scarce's book, but for "Understanding the radical environmental movement" I'd recommend Manes.

Reviewed by Dale Turner.

THE KINGDOM, by Douglas Chadwick, photographs by Art Wolfe; 1990; Sierra Club Books, San Francisco; \$45 hardcover; 197pp. **MONARCH OF DEADMAN BAY: The Life and Death of a Kodiak Bear,** by Roger A. Caras; 1990; University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln; \$7.95 paperback; 185pp.

Here are two arrivals in the nature section of the popular book front: *Monarch of Deadman Bay*, by Roger Caras, a paperback re-issue of a book published over 20 years ago, and a new book with pictures, *The Kingdom*, by Douglas Chadwick with photographs by Art Wolfe.

These two books fall into categories that represent a big hunk of what passes for nature writing — stories about animals and large-format picture books. Like it or not, many more people buy these publications than, say, *Green Rage* or *Deep Ecology*. A large number of environmentally conscious humans were introduced to wilderness issues by reading these types of books. The best of these volumes — and these two are good examples — convey a lot of information and a sense of the natural world.

This is not to say that I have settled with any certainty the relative merits of these classifications of wildlife literature. In fact, I'm just now doing my own picture book. Last week I finished drafting the text for one of these big suckers, which Ed Abbey was to write but can't because he's dead. It is, quite frankly, a bit difficult to take this sort of work seriously. Because who will read it? With the exception of the writings of friends, I've never read one of these things in my life.

So it is with empathy and trepidation I turn to *The Kingdom*, and this book is as solid an effort as any in the picture book business. Only works produced by a single photographer living in a single intimate landscape tend to take the genre further. Wolfe's wildlife photos are superb and Chadwick's text goes far beyond the usual requirements of picture book writing. He is one of the most broadly based of natural history writers working today, having traveled the world and observed widely, backing up what he saw with solid research, and at his best when he is not squandering his talents on National Geographic-type journalism. In *The Kingdom*, Chadwick paints an impressionistic portrait of North American wildlife with images collected from his life and work in wild parts of Montana, the Sierra Madre, Newfoundland and elsewhere on this continent. It is often difficult to get a flow going in these sometimes shaky marriages of writer-photographer egos, and this book suffers from a large editorial oversight in putting the "Photographer's Introduction" up front; it gives the book a clumsy beginning from which recovery time is several fine chapters. The publishers should omit such editorial notes with the trade paperback and allow the photos to speak for themselves.

Longtime readers of this journal will understand that the arm of the Monkey Wrench Gang is long and that it is better to get even than mad. Roger Caras has made a lot of money off writing and talking about animals — all kinds of fame and fortune. He is a regular commentator on ABC's "Good-morning America." Years back I happened to be watching when he delivered what I thought was a rather bland critique of the plight of Yellowstone's Grizzlies. His editorial sonorous ponderings were voiced over footage of wild Grizzlies in Yellowstone walking around Sulphur Mountain. No one else had ever seen these wild Grizzlies; I was alone when I shot that footage. That was my film. Those swine at ABC had stolen my rare bear footage and had broadcast it nationwide without even giving me a credit, let alone the \$25 a foot they owe me to this day. Roger Caras helped those dirtbags rip me off.

With this in mind, I move on to the second book in this review. *The Monarch of Deadman Bay*, by Roger Caras, is the story of a Kodiak Bear from his cub years, the killing of his sister by another Grizzly, and on to his days as the largest land carnivore in the world, weighing over 1500 pounds — a weight, incidentally, seldom approached today by Brown Bears on Kodiak Island because virtually every male bear is poached or otherwise made into a rug before it reaches even ten years of age in this, one of the most intensely over-hunted and managed of all Grizzly Bear ecosystems. Monarch meets his fate while defenseless after being tranquilized by a biologist. For the most part, the story is told from the viewpoint of the bear, with lots of natural history along the way. Certain technical comments are a tad obsolete, and there's an excess of Grizzly violence, but, by and large, this book stands up today as well as it did 21 years ago. In view of Mr. Caras cheating me out of my Grizzly footage, I wish I could find more ways to put

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An Eco-freak's Top Twenty Movies

by Daniel Conner

You're a dedicated eco-warrior, and your work never ends. It keeps piling up, one damn thing after another, right? You need a vacation, or at least a rest. Go to a movie.

A movie? Surely I jest, you say. Haven't I checked out the mall lately? Garbage. One moron movie after another. Rambo or Rocky or Friday the umpteenth. Makes you wonder about the prospects for our species ...

Fear not, help has arrived. Borrow your aunt's VCR and rent any of the following films (they've all been released on videotape, but some may be hard to find). All highlight an ecological theme of some sort. Where animals are featured, their own unique characteristics are emphasized. They interact with humans as equal members of a biotic community, not as clowns or intelligent slaves (too bad, Flipper, Benji, Gentle Ben ...). Nice background scenery isn't enough to qualify a film for my eco-movie list — otherwise, I'd give top marks to the *The Sound of Music*.

I've left out documentaries and have included only commercial US theater releases. Trust me: these movies will refresh your spirit or inspire you to action. No stinkers on this list. Enjoy.

1. *Never Cry Wolf* (USA, 1983; directed by Carroll Ballard) Based on the Farley Mowat book. A wildlife ecologist spends a few seasons in the Arctic trying to figure out whether wolf predation is the cause of a decline in the Canadian Caribou herds. Beautiful scenery, understated but lyrical dialogue, intelligent presentation of important issues.

For profundity of message, for beauty of cinematography, for the quality of Mark Isham's electronic score, this film is number one in my book. Don't miss the scene where Tyler plays his bassoon and the wolves answer. (And don't miss the irony of the main character in a Disney-financed production eating mice!)

2. *Dersu Uzala* (USSR/Japan, 1975; directed by Akira Kurosawa) In turn-of-the-century Russia, the leader of a survey party befriends a native Siberian hunter, learning from him the ways of the taiga. In the poignantly tragic finale, Dersu the hunter believes that Kanga, the spirit of the forest, has turned against him. He has no choice but to adapt to urban life.

Long on atmosphere, short on drama, this film is nevertheless astonishing evidence of Soviet environmental consciousness in the Brezhnev era.

3. *The Bear (L'Ours)* (France, 1988; directed by Jean-Jacques Annaud) John Muir once wrote, "If a war of races should occur between the wild beasts and Lord Man, I would be tempted to sympathize with the bears." This movie illustrates Muir's sentiment perfectly, and be warned: your own loyalties will be severely tested.

In 1885 British Columbia a Grizzly cub loses its mother in a rockslide. It teams up with a giant adult male who has been wounded by hunters, and together they fight off dogs, riflemen, and a Mountain Lion. It sounds like a Disneyfied Benji story, but it works. Don't be bothered by a few questionable details here and there (adult male Grizzlies either ignore or attack unattended cubs). This is drama, not documentary. These bears have authentic personalities and the confrontation between the hunter and the adult bear is terrifying.

You'll like the cub's encounter with an amanita mushroom. A magnificent film and a breakthrough in presenting a bear hunt from the animal's point of view. Bart (and his trainer Doug Seus) are the real stars of the film. The musical score includes a sentimental but imaginative use of a Tchaikovsky melody, even stretching the tune to generate bird-calls. Filmed in the Tyrolean Alps. The director also made another good eco-film, *Quest for Fire* (1981).

4. *Koyaanisqatsi* (US, 1983; directed by Godfrey Reggio) Non-narrative sequence of visual images, using natural and man-made

vistas in odd and eerie juxtapositions. The cumulative effect leaves you with a powerful sense of the organic connectedness of things. Its panoramic beauty, its hallucinatory detail in slow-motion and time-lapse photography, make this film a memorable experience. Note how the technological artifacts take on monstrous yet visually beautiful identities of their own.

It's the best visual dramatization I know that something is terribly wrong with our way of life. Some people like the visuals but consider the movie's message a bit too obvious: the Grand Canyon is prettier than Manhattan. Obvious or not, the point needs to be driven home.

Hypnotic but ultimately annoying score by Philip Glass. The title is Hopi for "life out of balance." The sequel *Powaqqatsi* (1988) is much inferior, though Glass's score is better.

5. *The Emerald Forest* (UK, 1985; directed by John Boorman) A gentle Amazon tribe abducts the son of a dam engineer. After ten years of searching, the father finds the boy (played by the director's son), grown up and thoroughly integrated into tribal life. Together the boy and his father rescue the women of the tribe who have been kidnapped to become prostitutes.

The conclusion may be a bit hokey, and unnecessarily violent. But if you're like me, you'll be jumping up and down on your seat when Croakus pistoffus brings down the wrath of the rain god on an Amazon dam.

6. *The Last Wave* (Australia, 1977; directed by Peter Weir) An urbane young lawyer gets sucked into the Dreamtime when he defends aborigines accused of murder. Enticed by aboriginal mysteries, he finds his own destiny written on the walls of secret chambers below modern Sydney. Nature rebels, as prophesied in aboriginal myth, with giant hailstones, petroleum rains, and a gigantic ocean wave.

It sounds muddled, but it works! This supernatural thriller grows more and more visionary as it progresses toward its apocalyptic conclusion. It's one of the most prophetic films ever made, and good acting and pacing save it from being merely laughable. It's much better than a more recent imitation, *Where the Green Ants Dream* (see below).

7. *The Gods Must Be Crazy* (Botswana, 1981; directed by Jamie Uys) A Bushman encounters civilization for the first time in the form of a Coke bottle dropped from a plane. He embarks on a quest to rid his tribe of its evil influence, teaming up along the way with a pretty school teacher and a bumbling biologist. Together they thwart bloodthirsty terrorists.

A charming allegory, and genuinely funny. You'll almost be convinced that rhinoceroses go out of their way to trample out unauthorized campfires. Treat the sometimes clumsy stereotypes and sight gags as slapstick and let the warm good-heartedness of this film win you over. And don't deny yourself this treat on the prevalent but mistaken belief that it comes from South Africa.

8. *The Gods Must Be Crazy II* (Botswana, 1988; Jamie Uys) In the sequel, the little Bushman rescues his children from poachers who have inadvertently abducted them. On his quest he crosses paths with an attractive American lawyer and still another bumbling biologist, as well as two antagonistic soldiers. Every bit as good as the original, though of course not as fresh. (By the way, is it true that hyenas never attack anything taller than themselves?) [ed. note: No. *The hyena family includes 4 species — the Spotted, Brown, and Striped Hyenas, and the Aardwolf. Spotted Hyenas, which are native to southern Africa but have been exterminated from parts of their range, cooperatively hunt zebras and other large mammals. Brown Hyenas and Aardwolves both survive in southern Africa in reduced numbers. The former eat mostly carrion. The latter eat termites. Striped Hyenas, which are CITES listed, inhabit northern and eastern Africa and southwestern Asia and are mainly scavengers.]*

9. *Bambi* (US, 1942; directed by Walt Disney) What can I say? You're reading the words of 46 year old lawyer who's reduced to tears at every screening of *Bambi*. Yes, it's sappy and sentimental; yes, it anthropomorphizes animals into cutesy-poo caricatures. And its over-romanticized depiction of the North American forest won't survive close scrutiny. (A forest with no predators but humans? Come on.)

On the other hand, what child (or adult, for that matter) can leave the theater after seeing *Bambi* without entertaining a few wistful ecocentric thoughts? Uncle Walt earned a minor niche in the deep ecology Valhalla with this one. Watch also *The Old Mill* (1937), one of Disney's best shorts and the first animated feature to portray animals in naturalistic situations.

10. *Aguirre, the Wrath of God* (West Germany, 1972; directed by Werner Herzog) A power-crazed conquistador seizes control of part of Pizarro's 1560 expedition in search of South American gold, and leads the party to its death in the Amazon jungles. Mad Aguirre, alone in the vastness of the Amazon Basin, winds up king of a tribe of river monkeys. Illustrates well Andrew Schmoekler's thesis that craving for power lies at the root of most of the ills we face.

11. *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home* (US, 1986; directed by Leonard Nimoy) An alien probe delivers a message that's perceived by humans as life-threatening electromagnetism. "There are other forms of intelligence on Earth," Spock admonishes Doctor McCoy. "Only human arrogance would assume the message was meant for man."

In fact, the message is aimed at Humpback Whales, extinct for centuries. To save the planet, the crew of the *Enterprise* must find a pair somewhere....

What a delight to see the old *Enterprise* gang take a vacation from serious star-hopping and apply their wit and light-years of experience to saving the whales! This film, with great fanfare and enthusiastic reception, was shown in the Soviet Union shortly after its release.

12. *Wolfen* (US, 1981; directed by Michael Wadleigh) Evolved super wolves invisibly stalk New York City after dark, preying on weak and diseased humans. They're smart, and they're pissed. "They are our brothers," says an Indian questioned by a cop who is investigating gruesome deaths. "No," says another Indian. "They are other Nations." Scary as hell.

Visionary and surreal like "The Last Wave." Superb cinematography that gives you a predator's-eye view of the hunt. Skip this movie if you're not the right-brained type who likes to go slumming through a horror story once in a while. But if you need an antidote to the bittersweet taste of "Never Cry Wolf," try this.

13. *The Milagro Beanfield War* (US, 1988; directed by Robert Redford) Based on the novel by John Nichols. A populist anti-development revolution in New Mexico in which no one gets killed — not even the male chauvinist pig. Bulldozers and development signs get trashed, and stakes get pulled up by *el brazo Onofre*, a legendary severed arm.

You know it's been a fun monkeywrenching party when old Amarante's pig comes back to life!

14. *Gorillas in the Mist* (US, 1988; directed by Michael Apted) The dramatized story of Dian Fossey, her fight for the Mountain Gorillas, and her still unsolved murder. Well-acted, stunning photography and Gorilla close-ups, and reasonably faithful to the real story.

The depiction of Dian gradually growing unhinged at the depredations of poachers and the murder of Digit, her favorite alpha male, is chilling.

15. *Soylent Green* (US, 1973; directed by Richard Fleischer) Based on the science fiction novel *Make Room! Make Room!* by Harry Harrison. Grim vision of Manhattan in 2022, when human population has far exceeded Earth's capacity to sustain it.

The food staple of the title is a mixture of soy and lentil beans. Although nourishing, it's so tasteless that people kill for a jar of strawberry jam. In the movie (though not the book), the lead character, a cop, discovers a closely-guarded government secret: the mystery ingredient of soylent green. (You can probably figure out for yourself how the foodstuff is fortified with extra protein.)

16. *When the Whales Came* (UK, 1989; directed by Clive Rees) A charming and visually striking allegory of the intertwined fates of beasts and humans. In an isolated English fishing community on the eve of World War I, two children befriend a deaf old hermit who carves likenesses of seabirds.

Gradually, you realize that one of the island communities lies under a curse because its inhabitants slaughtered a pod of beached Narwhals seventy years earlier. Lo, the Narwhals return and the villagers get a chance to redeem the curse. To some, the ending will be unbelievable, but this film is best seen as a medieval morality fable, like Bergman's *Virgin Spring*.

17. *Fitzcarraldo* (West Germany, 1982; Werner Herzog) An eccentric tale of a turn-of-the-century Brazilian entrepreneur who forces a steamboat up an unexplored tributary of the Amazon to capture a shipping route for the rubber trade. With the help of a mysterious tribe of Indians, he hauls the boat over a mountain. His ultimate goal is to build an opera house in the middle of the Amazon rainforest.

The scene where the opera-mad Irishman woos unseen but hostile Indians with a phonograph recording of Caruso, in counterpoint with their drumming, is unforgettable. It's poignant how willingly the Indians participate in their own enslavement and the destruction of their land. Although perhaps not the director's intent, this is a fine study of the kind of monomania that leads to the destruction of nature. The steamship is, of course, a metaphor for civilization.

18. *Where the Green Ants Dream* (West Germany, 1984; Werner Herzog) A film inferior to this director's two entries above, but with a more obvious environmental theme. In this story, a clan of Australian Aborigines takes on a giant corporation searching for uranium on their sacred ground. They blockade bulldozers and then take their case to a high court, where they lose. Along the way they convert the chief geologist to their way of thinking and commandeer a transport plane into the Dreamtime.

A visually beautiful but slow-moving indictment of industrial civilization that doesn't quite come off.

19. *Antarctica* (Japan, 1983; directed by Koreyoshi Kurahara) Based on a true story of a team of sled dogs left to overwinter in Antarctica during the winter of 1958, when a Japanese scientific expedition packed up and went home. Despite superb cinematography and a fine electronic score by Vangelis, this survival story ultimately fails to convince. We gain sympathy for the dogs, but don't really learn from them.

20. *The Journey of Natty Gann* (US, 1985; directed by Jeremy Kagan) This story of a Depression-era girl's cross-country quest to find her father is flawed by a few strained plot twists and a too-predictable conclusion. But it has all the right themes for a children's movie: a 12 year old girl's love for her father, adaptability, courage and persistence in the face of hardship.

I include it here because of the touching partnership of Nattie and a wolf — a real partnership of equals, not a master-slave situation. Watch the lumberjack scenes. If we still did it this way, the ancient forests of the Pacific Northwest might not be so critically endangered.

Dan Conner is a lawyer who works for the Great Bear Foundation. A shorter version of his article appeared in *Sierra*.

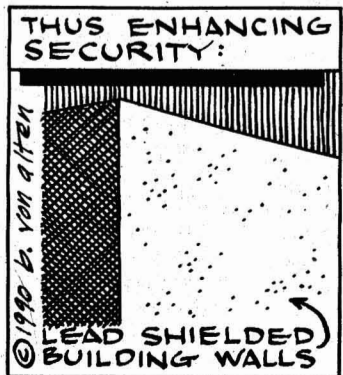
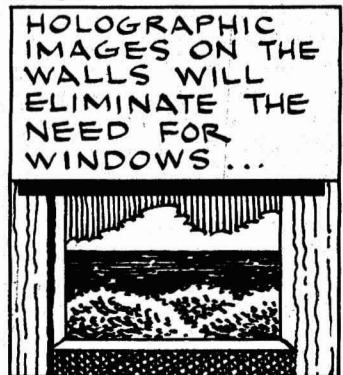
Book Reviews . . .

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down his book. But, in fact, the reason this little story has been around so long is because it's well-told. A more doctrinaire biocentrist might find deeper bio-deficiencies. Meanwhile, this little book is likely to find even more readers as Doug Seus — animal trainer and Earth First! supporter — soon plans to make it into a feature film.

Reviewed by Doug Peacock, November 1990, on route to the Penecate Lava and a visit to say "hi" to old Ed!

MODERNE MAN



All the Wilderness a Stage?

by Scott Herring; copyright 1990 by the author

Walter Huston: *It'll take another week to break down the mine, put the mountain back in shape.*
Humphrey Bogart (baffled): *Do what to the mountain?*

Huston: *Make her appear like she was before we came.*

Bogart: *I don't get it.*

Huston: *We've wounded this mountain; it's our duty to close the wounds. It's the least we can do to show our gratitude for all the wealth she's given us.*

—*The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*

It happens in every TV cop show eventually. Just before the final commercial break, the villain hops into a car and flees, closely pursued by Jim Rockford/Rick Hunter/TJ Hooker; their route leads down a road carved into a southern California hillside, one promising a 200 foot drop for any vehicle that jumps the guard rail. Although the action moves too fast for us to study it, that hillside is covered by chaparral, the surprisingly lush, sometimes impenetrable shrubbery that surrounds Los Angeles; it is home to Coyotes, Mountain Lions, Diamondback Rattlesnakes, owls, hawks, and the innumerable smaller species they eat. Most Angelenos see it as a vast collection of weeds.

The villain fails to negotiate a turn, and over the side he goes. The car remains airborne for a second or two, then slams into the ground and bounces to the bottom, uprooting bushes, gouging the earth, killing any living thing in its way. When the battered car comes to a halt, the gas tank explodes. Cut to a commercial. In the land of make-believe, the villain is, conveniently, dead by his own hand, victim of bad driving. In the real world, dozens of wild plants, insects, reptiles, and small mammals are dead in earnest.

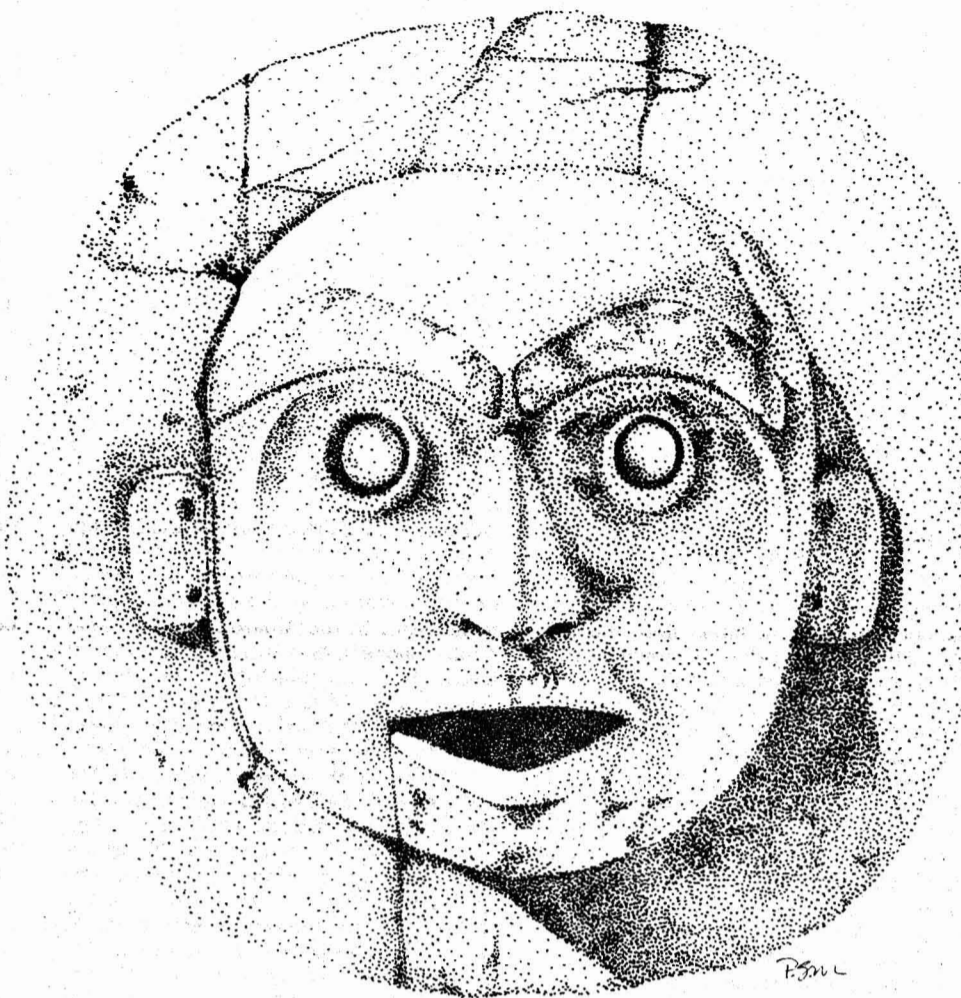
Our entertainment is filled with such acts of violence against the Earth and its "lower" life forms. But lest you think that I have chosen too petty (and generic) a sample, let me provide a few from the world of film, with its enormous budgets and far greater scope for directorial creativity.

Look closely at any of the Mad Max films, especially *The Road Warrior*, in which the Australian Outback is treated as an enormous vacant lot, upon which cars are crashed and sets dynamited with impunity. Look closely at *Heaven's Gate*, paying particular attention to the terrifically violent battle at the end. *Heaven's Gate* was filmed in wild areas of northern Montana, principally Glacier National National Park. Director Michael Cimino's efforts to capture what he called "the poetry of America" became so destructive that the Park superintendent refused to renew his permits to film. Look closely at any war movie depicting battles fought after the invention of artillery. Consider *Apocalypse Now*. Midway through the film, Robert Duvall's character calls in an air strike against some recalcitrant Viet Cong mortar teams. We see the fighter-bombers wheel in to drop their load of napalm, then we see a swath of tropical forest several hundred yards long — *real* forest; the movie was filmed in the Philippines — burst into flame.

But the worst havoc does not occur in the course of producing such negligible entertainment; it is inflicted in the name of Art. In the late 1960s, when Claes Oldenburg was designing and building 50 foot tall clothespins and such, certain sculptors who shared his taste for the colossal dreamed up Earth Art, hoping to become the 20th century heirs to the Native American Mound Builders. Of the few grandiose schemes that got off the drawing board, the most famous is *Spiral Jetty*, which juts out into the Great Salt Lake like a watch spring made of rocks and sand, 300 feet wide. It clearly owes something to the Great Serpent Mound in Ohio, though it is far, far uglier.

The Earth Art movement never came to much, but it left a legacy. Michael Heizer, who helped launch the movement, is now using earth-moving machinery on his ranch in Garden Valley, Nevada, to erect an assemblage of sculptures so vast that he calls the first completed phase *Complex One/City*. In the desert near Flagstaff, "artist" James Turrell is "creating" an enormous crater, for reasons known only to him, with graders and bulldozers.

Nor are the multimedia and perform-



Kwakiutl Moon Mask

by Peggy Sue McRae

ance artists to be outdone. Every few months, one hears of someone hanging a ten-mile-long curtain or wallpapering an island. As part of a work she entitled *Triptych for the Return*, one Susan Bergman used an airplane to drop 500 pounds of dead fish into Lake Michigan, a body of water carrying a sufficient load of dead fish already. She did so because she "liked the way they caught the light" (the quote is from the April 1988 *National Lampoon*; its editors judged the story absurd enough for inclusion in their "True Facts" section).

Saving the worst for last, Mount Rushmore is a prime example of unbridled destruction to fulfill some aesthetic urge. Once a mountain, now it is a gigantic gimmick, a dime store symbol of patriotism grown monstrous.

It can be argued, of course, that the damage caused is minor; a hundred earth artists and irresponsible film crews could never equal the work of one strip mine. Assuming that no slash-and-burn farmers have moved in (a dubious assumption), that piece of Philippine jungle that Francis Ford Coppola blew up to make *Apocalypse Now* should be nearing recovery (the film is over a decade old). As for Earth Art, not even a structure as monumental as *Spiral Jetty* is immune to revenge; the expanding Great Salt Lake will soon knock the stuffing out of the thing (the artist, Robert Smithson, is, thankfully, dead, so maybe no one will object). But the argument doesn't hold for Mt. Rushmore sculpture, nor for its Confederacy equivalent, a 90-foot-high bas-relief of Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, and Stonewall Jackson, carved into a cliff near Atlanta. In both cases, a mountain has been permanently defaced. And we ought to ask ourselves, should anyone have the right to tear open the Earth, uproot plants, and kill solely for the amusement of movie-goers and the spurious edification of art lovers?

Earth artists also tend to cite precedent; they claim that the pre-Columbian residents of this continent, with their petroglyphs and burial mounds, were their artistic forebears. They thus imply that their work is part of an ancient tradition and that they have the same reverence for the land as Native American artists had. But your average earth artist ain't no Indian. He (they seem, almost exclusively, to be men) lives in a culture that exists not in a state of balance with the wilderness, but in a state of war; no matter what reverence he may feign, his attitude is entirely different, and his technology makes him far more powerful than any Mound Builder. "A pile of dirt 30 feet in diameter could have been accomplished at any time in the past. A pile of earth 3000 feet in diameter could only be constructed today with large earth-moving equipment," Michael Heizer told *Smithsonian* (4-86). He believes this machine-made expansion in scope redefines

his work as a modern version of an ancient art.

Earth Art can only justify itself by referring to the pernicious argument that nature needs improvement, that one's experience of a landscape can be heightened by inserting something big and artificial into it. It's an argument characteristic of the Industrial Age, first cousin to the claim that Lake Powell is an improvement over Glen Canyon because it provides space for water skiers.

What is really shocking about all this, though, is that no one seems to notice. Indeed, mainstream environmentalists will probably regard this essay as trivial in the extreme. Consider this: *Apocalypse Now* was released when I was in high school. The day after she had seen it, a Filipino friend of mine told a small group of us that the movie had disturbed her. Prominent among those trees that Coppola had bombed were coconut palms. The coconut, she explained, is a linchpin of the always-anemic Philippine economy, and she didn't like to see an entire acre of them blown up to amuse American consumers. Our response? We laughed. It took me ten years to see what she had seen.

Whether he means to or not, anyone

Greenfire Road Show

"What do we want?"
"Wilderness!"
"When do we want it?"
"Now!"

So ends another Greenfire show in the Deep South, to a standing ovation.

Frankly, I'm amazed at the reception. It ain't easy to rouse college students around here. But this crowd is clamoring for more, appears verged to leave the hall with a new sense of what "wilderness" means to them and their fellow species. From the action at the trinkets table, one expects that little green fists will soon be popping up in new and unusual places throughout Birmingham. Several copies of *Ecodefense* are purchased. Many people request "Rednecks for Wilderness" bumperstickers.

While this isn't the first time Roger Featherstone has presented his traveling wilderness revival to Alabamians, the mood in the air tonight is more conducive to the spirit of the event than last trip. For whatever reasons, even if that confounded Earth Day has something to do with it, it's a reassuring sight. To see an auditorium full of jiggling bodies clapping as Featherstone SINGS! is certainly something of a welcome culture shock. Thanks to Scotty Johnson and his hot-wired Ovation six string, what transpires succeeds as a genuine musical rout. Momma Earth should be proud.

Did I say "wilderness revival?" Damned

who brutalizes wilderness in order to create art also brutalizes his audience. Our TVs show us commercials for 4-wheel drive trucks; we grow accustomed to watching machines leave the pavement and crush everything in their path. Our movies show us imitation wars, and we get used to seeing landscapes abused so badly that the wars might as well be real. A man drives a bulldozer around the desert and calls the resulting devastation Art; an absurd act of violence becomes respectable. And when the devastation turns into a national shrine, as with Mount Rushmore, it becomes next to impossible to see that anything is wrong. One can never be certain just what effect this art has, but it's a safe bet that it numbs us, making us less likely to care about or even notice the destruction around us. Destructive art further indoctrinates us into a society that regards the wilderness as a supply dump for industry.

This sounds farfetched, but there is an analogue. For most of our nation's history, the average white person considered blacks to be less than human (many still do). Their prejudice was confirmed by US law: for purposes of taxation and apportionment, the Constitution defined slaves as three-fifths of a human; and after the Civil War, Jim Crow made blacks second or third class citizens and kept them that way for most of a century. Meanwhile, our entertainers, from the minstrel troupes of the 1840s to the Amos and Andy radio shows and beyond, concurred with the general opinion that blacks were laughably subhuman. They did so because their audiences found it funny, not as propaganda; still, it strengthened the status quo.

Today, it is the wilderness and creatures living in it that have no rights under the law. Those of us who want to see all wilderness protected are the new abolitionists. It's not easy to think of ways to remove the destructive forms of Earth Art from our culture. A letter-writing campaign might be useful against the more offensive of the off-road vehicle ads on TV. Those who produce the commercials try to make them as inoffensive as possible. Perhaps boycotting movies callously depicting scenes of environmental destruction would help, especially if boycotters picketed outside.

There is one response, though, that all of us can and should make: Whenever we see the land abused for entertainment or artistic purposes, we need to realize that a crime has been committed. If we fail to do this, we slip more deeply into the trance that our mass media exists to generate. If we succeed, the trance is replaced by anger. And if enough of us get angry, perhaps people like Michael Heizer will no longer be regarded as artists. Perhaps they will be seen for what they are, destroyers of wild places, just like all the other Visigoths who operate bulldozers in the desert.

right! Old Featherstone has put it all together this time: the images on the big slide screen, the railing at the senseless destruction of natural diversity, the reassuring sounds of Scotty's tunes. This blend of ire and agony on behalf of a disappearing Earth smashes home with a vengeance.

So what if Earth First! is sliding through the revolving door of factionalism and social eco-woo-woo? The fight for an enhanced and expanded Wilderness System in America transcends all the bullshit. This seems to be the bottom line for Featherstone. It's "do what it takes or get off the bus" time for all wanna-be eco-activists. Greenfire screams at our sensibilities: cut the jive and get on with the real work! Call yourself whatever you want. Wear an Earth First! t-shirt if that's your bag. But work for rebuilding wilderness NOW! It's make it or break it time for Wild America!

Featherstone says this may be his last incarnation as an EF! road show. Maybe that's just as well. Maybe it's time for moving on; time to reappear out of the ashes with appropriate aplomb. If those jacked-up college kids have any say in the matter, maybe there will still be some wilderness left this time next century. Greenfire will have contributed to that.

—Hawg Wild, Redneck for Alabama Wilderness

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WHO IS MORE NATIVE NOW?

Morning, and the hawk-sharp eyes of a Southeast Asian tribal woman cut through the urban jungle's barrage of untranslatable data to the gleaming hunks of industrial waste — aluminum she will trade for currency at "Neighborhood Recycling" in the parking lot of a large but inoperative supermarket.

Little chicana girls play on the mortuary steps in the afternoon sun. Black teenagers laugh and dance to a funky beat at home on the streets.

Near the Bay Area Rapid Transit station on otherwise blank wall is emblazoned with "Boycott Coors" and the fierce face of an Aztec warrior in black spray paint. Here (where there were once evergreen oak groves but no cave paintings), as elsewhere, the "authorities," like the cops that cruise Sanborn Park, bullhorn blaring, enforcing the sign that says, "Closed dusk to dawn" (as darkness begins to settle in), would like to weed out graffiti messages. They don't know yet that they are the weeds and the new natives are slowly beginning to grow.

Kirk Lumpkin
Oakland

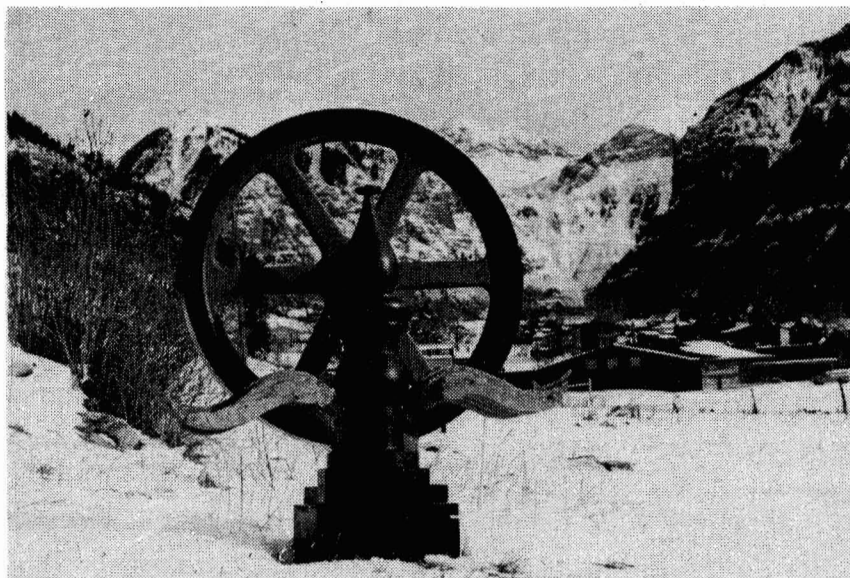
UNDER AN INCANDESCENT SKY

On the platform at Loyola, waiting for a late train the world curves away in rectangular fluorescent panes, flat light riding the curve of the rails past the red light, changing in the intersection below

The west is burning. Two towns evacuated, the administration may soon abandon its controversial "let burn" policy. Floods in Iceland. Mudslides in China. Droughts in Sudan (while the driest summer in fifty years reigns over the Midwest).

And eight miles from Grand Canyon National Park, they still long to sink their empty shaft into the Mother, peddling their smug junkie's rationale along with their poison: uranium for a wilderness of lights, the billion globes and tubes of Chicago's dark delusion flushed with power.

Stephen Wing
Evanston



THE RAVENS

Their voices fall like corks popping out of gusting clouds
They dive and play with boisterous wind
Roll onto their backs for a second of suspense
And roll back to look down on the eagle

Their beaks wedge like ebony
Against the southward leading sky
They eat what has to be eaten
And keep a giant profile

Broad black feathers realize strong wings
For traveling the coast and feasting the eyes
Up and down where the horizon is heaven's summit
Feathers as wide and stiff
As cat tails in the wetlands I used to know

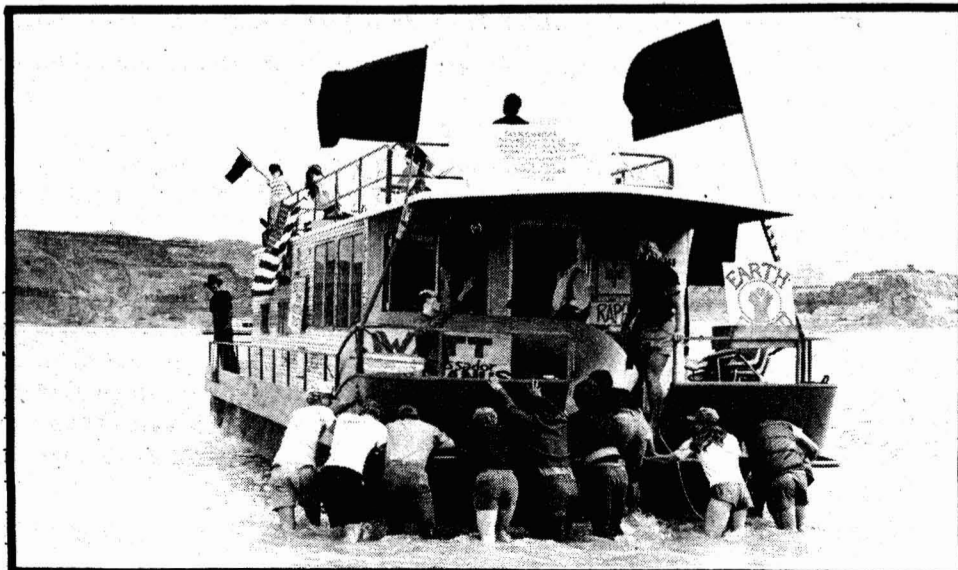
Jenny Hoegler
Villa Park



ROADSIDE

Between pavement and barbwire
Between cows and cars
Narrow strip
No cattle graze
tall grasses
short grasses
sage yucca
other plants whose names
I do not know
Roots deep
tenacious
Tough survivors
I kneel and give thanks

Michael Adams
Eldorado Springs



NOTICE TO EARTH FIRST! BOOKSTORE CUSTOMERS

With the ending of the Earth First! Journal, I will be reacquiring the Earth First! Bookstore and renaming it "Dave Foreman's Wilderness Bookshelf." A catalog for mail order booksales under that name will be sent out two or three times a year. It will offer for sale:

- Books offered by the EF! Bookstore in the Nov. 90 issue of the Earth First! Journal.
- Books published by Ned Ludd Books (see our ad).
- USGS Maps (Potential Native Vegetation, etc.) previously advertised in the EF! Journal.
- Politically incorrect bumperstickers like Malthus Was Right, American Wilderness: Love It Or Leave It Alone (with the American Flag), Rednecks for Wilderness, etc.
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— Dave Foreman

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Intro by Ed Abbey

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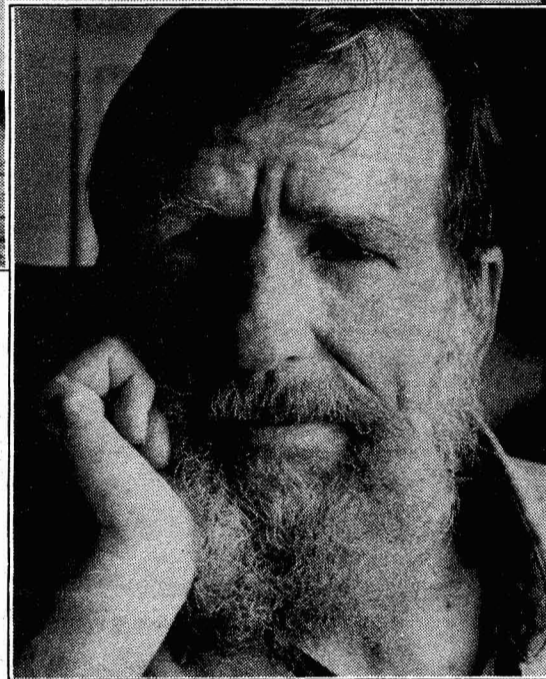
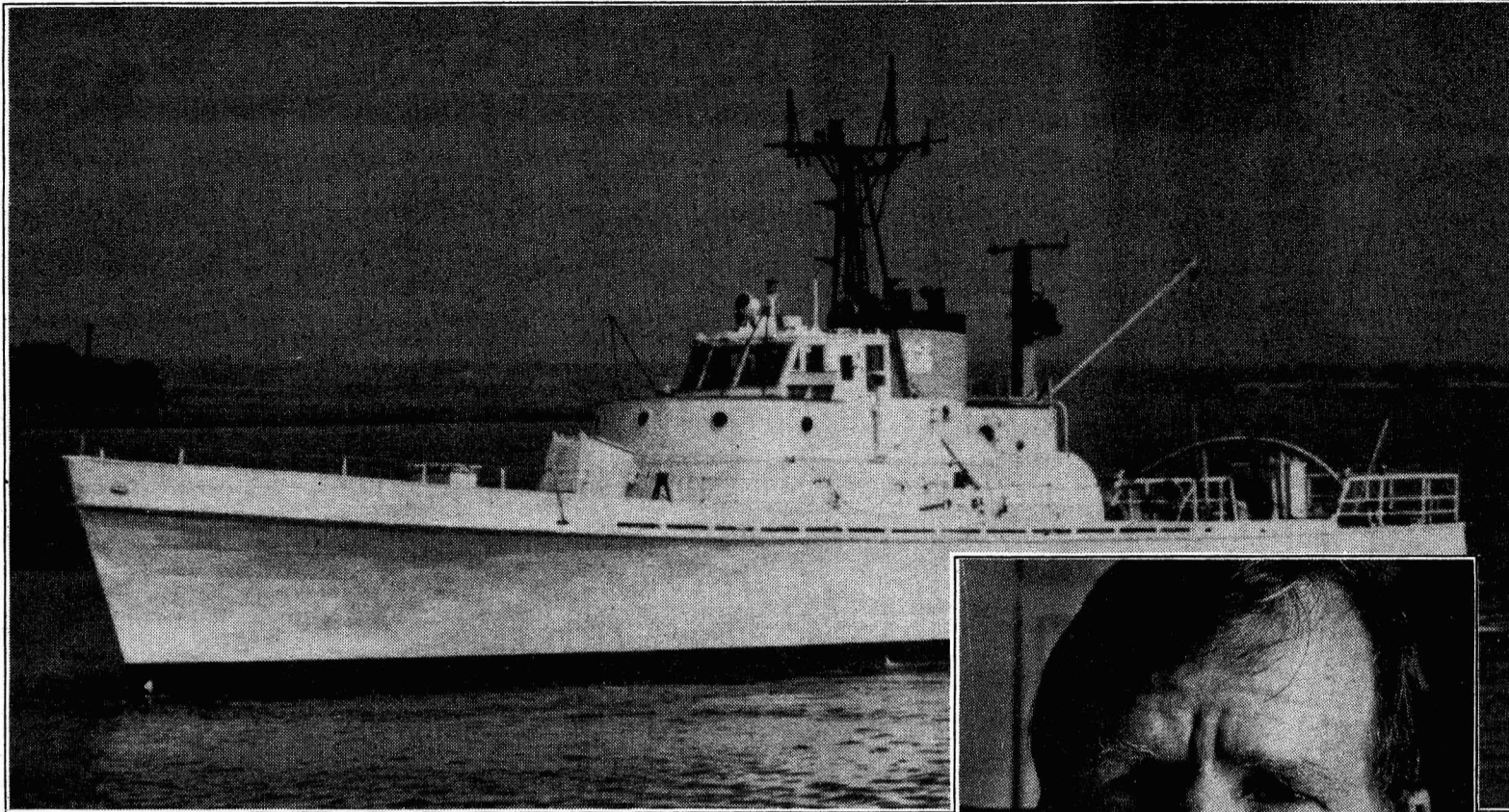
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The latest addition to the Eco-Navy is the Marine Ecological Patrol Vessel the *Edward Abbey*.

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The *Edward Abbey* is a recently retired U.S. Coast Guard coastal patrol boat and drug interception vessel. The ship is a ninety-five foot, one hundred and six ton vessel built in 1955. Her twin Detroit engines were installed new in 1978 and overhauled by the U.S. Government in 1988. Each engine is rated at 1325 horsepower which gives the ship a top speed in excess of twenty-five knots.

Edward Abbey, photo by Jack W. Dykings. Above, the conservation patrol vessel, CV Edward Abbey.

Sea Shepherd will utilize the ship in on-going battles against whalers, sealers, dolphin slayers, drift netters, sea turtle killers, polluters, tropical hardwood cargo vessels and other enemies of the planet and her oceans.

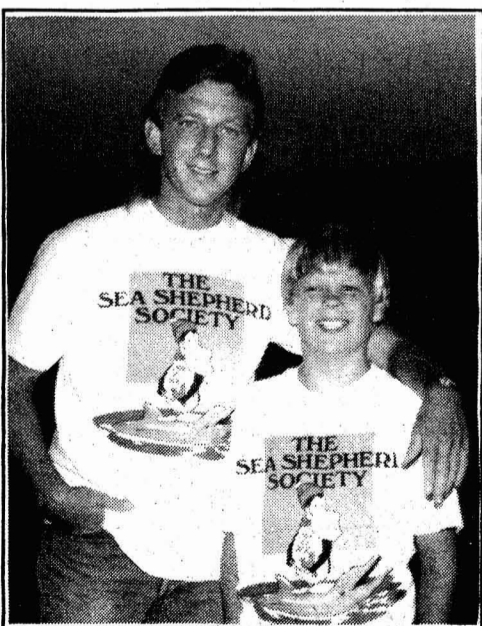
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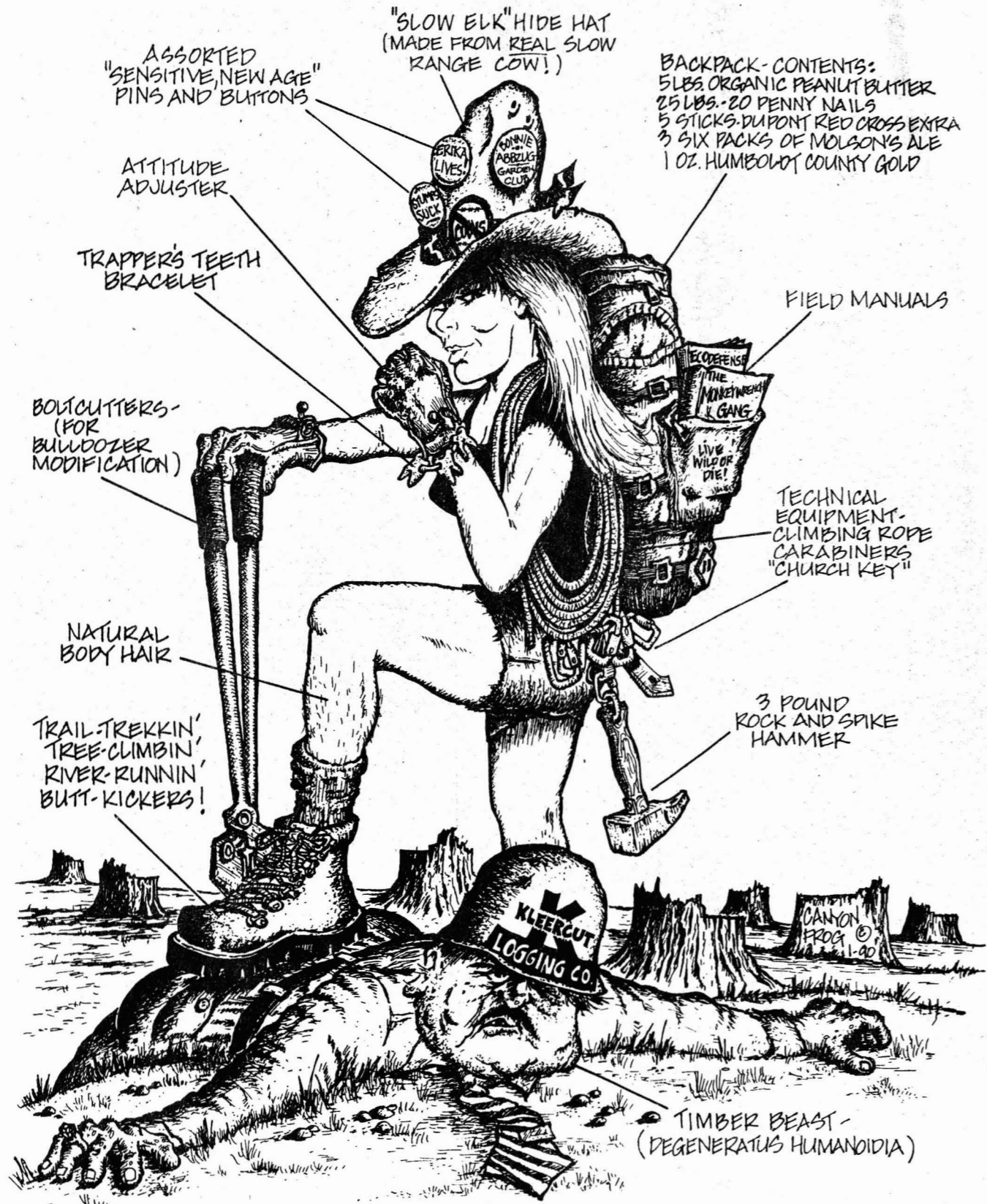
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