

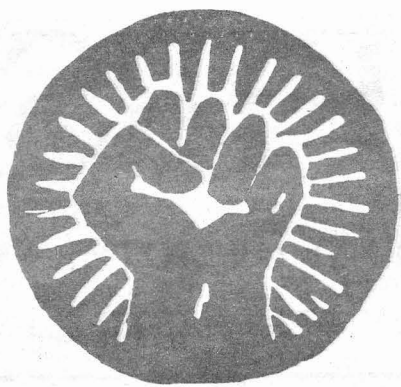


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Suggested citation: Beneville, Craig, et al., eds., *Earth First! Journal* 15, no. 6 (21 June 1995). Republished by the Environment & Society Portal, Multimedia Library. <http://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/7005>

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EARTH FIRST! TACKLES TROPHY HUNTING

UNDERCOVER

ACTIVIST INFILTRATES HUNT OPERATION

BY MIKE MEASE FOR BEAR WATCH

Killing for fun is a sickness or a disease. Subsistence hunting is a way of life. Killing is never an easy thing to do, but with the proper respect for the cycle of life, hunting can work. The meat will feed you, the hide will clothe you and the spirit will guide you.

I'm a hunter from Montana and if luck is with me, I am blessed with a deer to help feed myself and my extended family through the winter. However, hunting has taken a new meaning for me as of late. Having recently gone undercover on a black bear hunt on Vancouver Island in British Columbia, I discovered the ugly truths about trophy hunting.

Big Game Hunting

The hunt was sold by an American-owned company named Zarco Wildlife Inc. Zarco owns the hunting rights to one-third of Vancouver Island. This gives them the legal right to bring in as many foreign hunters as they can to kill two black bears each. In the eyes of the trophy hunters these bears have one value: to be mounted or made into rugs. The idea of feeding themselves or their families never enters the picture.

My guide was David Fyfe. He is the head guide and front man in Canada for Zarco Wildlife. When I arrived in Port McNeill, BC for my undercover mission, I learned that a hunter from Texas had already killed one of his bears (bear hunters are allowed two kills). We hopped in Fyfe's truck and headed off to the target range to test my shooting ability. This was the only hunter safety test I had to pass to use the weapon they were loaning me. One shot, one bulls-eye and I was approved with honors. So off we went to the wild world of logging roads and clearcuts to kill black bears.

In the biggest clearcut of the day, less than an hour into the "hunt" (a truck ride down logging roads), we came across a large black bear less than 50 yards from us. I jumped out and started video-taping the bear. Fyfe told me this was a trophy bear and I had to shoot it. He told me this knowing he had forgotten to give me my license and hunting tag. He said, "Go ahead and shoot the bear. We'll leave it here, go and get your tag and come back for the bear later." He then piled jackets on the hood of his truck to set the gun on so the 50-yard shot was as easy as possible. I figured the only way to convince him I was legitimate was to play along but be nervous with "buck fever." I began to shake and breathe heavily. I fired a shot five feet above the bear's head. Now, in all my years

Photo by Cathy/CHAOS



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BY CRAIG BENEVILLE

It was May 23, the Tuesday following the British Columbia Rendezvous. We were in a used car lot, and we were utterly confounded. Neither pair of boltcutters was even leaving much of a mark, much less cutting through the hardened steel padlock.

The padlock in question locked a grate leading to a hatch which provided entry to the interior of the tallest flagpole in the world, a 282.7-foot monster twenty miles east of Vancouver. If we could gain access to the flagpole, we would hang a huge banner to spotlight British Columbia's rampant trophy hunting. From the flagpole, the banner would be in clear view of the offices of the Environment Ministry, the provincial government agency in charge of game management.

So there we were on that fine morning, all set for an action and nowhere to go since our boltcutters were useless. It was time to pack it in; go home and watch a hockey match, eh.

Then fate struck.

The yardman of the car lot ambled out our way. "Did you lose the key?"

he asked.

"Uh, yeah," we replied, feverishly working the thirty-six inch handles of the bolt cutters, still attempting to remove the lock.

"I thought the receptionist gave you the key last week," he asked hesitantly.

Dumb silence on our part.

"Well, I've got a key," he offered.

"Don't make sense cutting that lock for nothing."

We stood back, amazed. The yard man had obviously mistaken us for the crew that periodically replaces the pole's huge Canadian flag, which often tatters in the high winds at the top of the pole.

The yard man unlocked the grate, all the while becoming increasingly suspicious, then bent down and unlocked the hatch as well. "Where is the flag? ... Who did you say you represented?" he demanded, suddenly realizing that something definitely wasn't quite right.

But it was too late. Mick and I were inside the flagpole, and Kris quickly slapped a new padlock into place. Suddenly everything was going well.

MEXICAN SPOTTED OWL VICTORY

Judge Strikes Blow Against Congressional Assault on the ESA!

BY DAVID HOGAN

The news came on May 30. After three years of delays, the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has issued a final rule designating 4.6 million acres of Southwestern forest lands as critical habitat for the Mexican spotted owl. Approximately 2.3 million acres are protected in New Mexico, with the remaining protected acreage found in Arizona, southern Colorado and Utah. The action was not the result of any agency concern for the status of this old-growth dependent species. Instead, critical habitat designation was the result of five years of near continuous two-by-four upside-the-head-type litigation, first to get the species listed as threatened, and then to "encourage" designation of critical habitat. If the FWS had their way, this magical critter would never have seen Endangered Species Act protection. Some paltry "conservation agreement" would have been signed long ago by Fish and Wildlife Service and Forest Service cronies, dooming the species to voluntary, feel good, paper protection while the discordant sound of big trees falling swelled in the background.

Background

Since being listed as threatened in 1992, continuous litigation and Fish and Wildlife Service deceit and delay have paved the way for Mr. Owl's wild ride down the path of "resource" protection politics. When the FWS listed the owl, they claimed that critical habitat designation was unnecessary due to the potential for conservation agreements with the Forest Service which would protect the last Southwestern old growth. The Endangered Species Act doesn't allow this kind of noodling, however. The Act requires critical habitat to be designated in all cases except where such a designation increases the likelihood that some yahoo will be able to find a protected species (through critical habitat maps) and wipe it out. So in early January, 1994, a whole gaggle of Southwestern enviros, led by the

Southwest Center for Biological Diversity, sued the FWS for failing to proceed with critical habitat designation.

Enter Arizona's Governor Fife Symington. Soon after the lawsuit was filed, the Governor sought to intervene in the case, calling the lawsuit "malicious to our citizens," and stating that, "The current cooperation of extremist environmental groups and allied judges on the federal bench has been both a practical and constitutional failure." US District Judge Carl Muecke quietly denied the Governor's intervention attempt, citing the State's lack of standing in Federal lands issues.

Fish and Wildlife Service Plans to Violate Order

In June of 1994, Judge Muecke ruled that, yes indeed, the Fish and Wildlife Service had broken the law by not designating critical habitat for the owl. But judges prefer to see cases settled out of court, so Muecke ordered the enviros and the FWS to work out a timeline regarding when critical habitat would be proposed and finalized, and get back to him in September, 1994. The fact that negotiations didn't get very far surprised no one. On the one hand, the enviros demanded habitat protection "yesterday," while on the other the FWS kept whining about how many years they needed to comply with the Judge's order. In motions filed with the court in September, the FWS asked that critical habitat not be required until December 1, 1995. Despite taking actions seemingly in compliance with the Judge's order, the FWS continued to plot against ever designating critical habitat.

This plot saw the light of day, however, when documents appeared which clearly showed the FWS planned to propose critical habitat, and then withdraw the proposal after creating a "conservation agreement" with the Southwestern Region of the Forest Service. In the documents, Steve Spangle, Fish and Wildlife Service's Southwestern Regional Endangered Species Listing Coordinator, stated, "Can con-

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EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

PO Box 1415 • EUGENE, OREGON 97440 • (503) 741-9191



SURVEY SEZ . . .

The results of last issue's "Reinventing the Journal" survey are in. It seems we are a mostly overeducated group of highly opinionated cow haters. We have included some of the quotes from the responses below.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Seventy-six responses (just over three and one-third percent of the *Journal's* subscribers) were diligently and patiently tabulated by this *Journal* lackey. Fifty-one of the respondents are male and 25 female. The majority of respondents are 31-40 years old. A surprising 14% are over 51 and only 5% are 16-20.

We live in all sorts of habitats, with the majority settled in the urban jungle. One respondent lives on a boat and another in jail.

Just over half of the poll respondents have earned a bachelor's degree or higher and make over \$11,000 a year. Eight percent have a Ph.D., and over 6% earn an annual income over \$40,000. (Dang, what I could do with that kinda money.)

We are not big breeders; only 15 of the respondents have children.

ENVIRONMENTALISM

Boy oh boy do we read. Almost every respondent receives at least three periodicals besides the *EF! Journal*, the most overlap being with *Wild Earth*, "Well, I look at the pictures in it" and *Sierra*. Many people are members of other groups: 25% belong to the Sierra Club, 15% to Sea Shepherd, and 29% to local grassroots organizations. Thirteen percent rightly believe that all corporate environmentalism sucks, and five people have recently canceled their memberships to Audubon and the Sierra Club.

Impressively, 78% of the respondents have been to an environmental action but only 25% belong to a local Earth First! group. A large number noted that no EF! group exists in their area. Seventy percent have never been arrested at a demonstration, while 31% are willing when the time and circumstances dictate its necessity. Twelve percent say they will lose their jobs if they are arrested, and eight percent boldly said, "never again."

JOURNALISM

To all you would-be editors out there: Remember, the *Journal* staff are primarily editors, not writers. They edit articles that other people submit. So to all you people with the great ideas for articles—write 'em.

Most everyone agrees the *Journal* staff is doing excellent work: "Ya'll do such a great job." Only one person believed their dog could do better, and no one thought the staff was performing abysmally. Forty percent understand the staff is underpaid and overworked.

We are an easy bunch to please, with 20% liking absolutely everything in the *Journal*. The favored articles are

those covering actions, eco-political analysis, investigative reporting and, yes, monkeywrenching tips. Twenty-one percent admitted backbiting and infighting entertained them, while 13% say it is their least favorite part of the *Journal*. A smattering disliked the bad language and others dislike rambling self-congratulatory articles: "more debate and less posturing."

On to monkeywrenching: 54% believe that *Ned Ludd* is very reasonable with his suggestions: "We wouldn't want to publish every trick we think of, now would we?" Twenty-four feel it does not help them enough. Two people raised serious concerns about the efficiency and safety of some of the suggestions.

Finally we get to the heated cow/content question. Although most readers agree that the content of the *Journal* is just right: "I hate cows and respect the right of everyone else to hate them too." Nine percent feel the content is too restrictive, and 5% feel it's too open, "I think cows are terrible in all respects but I eat an occasional meal from the range."

A quarter of the respondents think the *Journal* is too insidy while 46% agree that its just right. Almost everyone agrees that the articles are both depressing and empowering. Thirteen of us are confused: "What's a Freddy?"

SUMMARY

Everyone at the *Journal* was surprised and flattered at the overwhelmingly positive response to the survey, "I like it all—it's my bible." I was shocked at how many people opened up and wrote long and personal answers to the questions. One was even beautifully decorated with stickers and colored pens. There are an awful lot of isolated readers out there who are getting much of their strength from the *Journal* and the articles you submit. People want to read more about monkeywrenching, eco-philosophy and eco-politics. They want to know how to fight the corporate beast, who to write, and how to get involved. Readers crave more photographs, artwork, facts, biographies, inspiration and "beer ads?" They want less New Age, shorter letters to the editors, less Politically Correct bull, and they want the paper to stay in newspaper form.

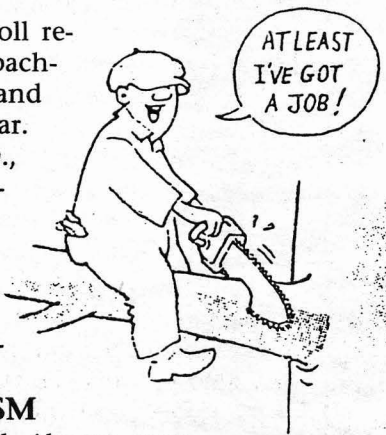
Thanks to everyone who responded. You've given this wandering activist an entertaining look at the readership of the *Journal*. The staff takes this survey quite seriously and will continue listening to its readers, so keep sending in your suggestions and submitting articles [*ed. note: with photos or graphics*]. And never forget, as one reader summed it up, "conformity sucks."

Just a few housekeeping items:

Rod Coronado's sentencing date has been moved to July 27. For more information contact the Rod Coronado Support Committee at 2530 Berryessa Rd. #820, San Jose, CA 95132, (602) 795-2527.

The *Journal* is in need of another PC (386 or better?), a scanner, plane tickets to New Zealand, and, of course, other donations as well.

—KRIS MAENZ



Earth First!

Litha

June 21, 1995

Vol. XV, No. VI

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Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or clearly printed. Send a SASE if you would like them returned. If you want confirmation of receipt of a submission, please request it. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via EcoNet. Art and photographs (prints are best, negatives are good, slides are fair) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested.

All submissions are edited for length and clarity. If an article is significantly edited, we will make a reasonable effort to contact the author prior to publication.

ISSN 1055-8411 *Earth First! Journal* is indexed in the Alternative Press Index. The *Earth First! Journal* is recorded on microfilm by University Microfilms, Inc.

All correspondence regarding subscriptions, merchandise orders, donations, letters to the editor, articles, photos, graphics, etc., should be directed to:

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SCHEDULE

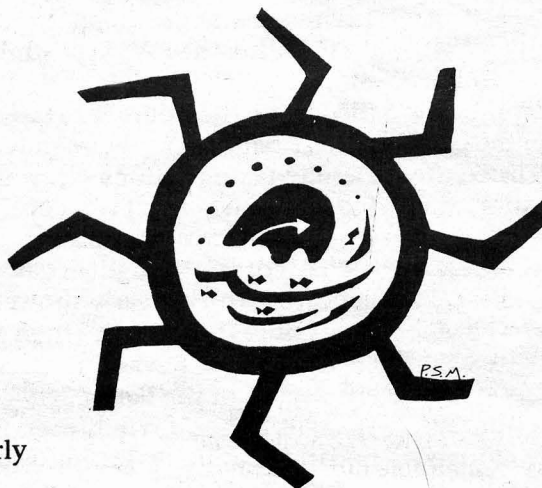
The *Earth First! Journal* is published 8 times a year on the solstices, equinoxes, and cross-quarter days: November 1, December 21 (Winter Solstice), February 2, March 21 (Vernal Equinox), May 1, June 21 (Summer Solstice), August 1, and September 21 (Autumnal Equinox). One-year subscriptions in the U.S. via third class mail are \$25. First class delivery is \$35. Outside the USA, surface delivery is \$35 and airmail is \$45. Corporate and law enforcement rate is \$45.

Deadline for the next issue is:

JULY 17

Litha by Peggy Sue McRae

Litha is the celebration of Summer Solstice. The Earth now reaches the midpoint in her greater cycle around the Sun. Summer Solstice is the longest day of the year. As the Sun reaches it's apex above the horizon the Earth once more begins to turn toward darkness. Full blossoms drop from swelling fruit. The season of abundance is born. In this time between planting and harvest we water and weed, with faith in the reliability and timing of Mother nature. Full summer sun gleams on the mountains and dances across streams. Crickets celebrate the season with song. Bears ramble through the woods searching for honey. Salmon begin their journey upriver from the sea. Bears, Eagles and Bees eagerly anticipate the Salmon's return.



FOREST HEALTH: The Only Crisis is Deforestation

BY JUSTIN TIME AND THE MYSTERY RIDERS WORKSHOP

The Big Lie

In 1940, Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace wrote, "In a democracy, individual understanding of problems and an aroused public opinion are essential to constructive action. It is my considered judgment that, in the Northwest, true understanding of the forest problems and the development of an aroused public opinion have been delayed mainly by the hired men of the forest industries who have been adroit in issuing misleading propaganda. Actually, the purpose is to justify, with some kind of rationalization, cutting practices dictated by conventional and short-term investment and dividend considerations. These and not good forest practice based on public interest, are the determining considerations."

Fifty years later, industry's propaganda was breaking down. We had the spotted owl on the cover of *Time* magazine, "Ancient Forest" was a household term and George Bush wanted to be known as "the environmental President." Then, in 1992, we got a court injunction against most old-growth logging. Next, Al Gore got elected and shortly thereafter brought his running mate to Portland for a Presidential "Forest Summit."

So, you'd think I'd be writing these days about the end of ancient forest logging and a burgeoning forest renaissance with species recovery across the landscape. Wrong! Now, we have hundreds of new old-growth timber sales in the Northwest's ancient forests, a "salvage" rider that allows for massive logging without laws, and a concerted attack, funded by resource extraction industries, aimed at rolling back the protections of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Indeed, we are witnessing the greatest environmental rollback ever. What happened? What went wrong?

How Wrong Did Things Go?

As you read this, six-foot diameter trees are falling in Oregon's Umpqua River drainage and in Mt. St. Helen's National Monument—part of the Deal of Shame "goodwill" release of sales by the spotted owl plaintiffs. And then there's the matter of the never-ending death dance with the defeated Democrats which led to the Deal and continues unabated today—witness the Montana Wilderness Association's (MWA) endorsement of Rep. Pat Williams' latest Orwellian-titled stump creation bill—the "Forest Ecosystem Stewardship Demonstration Act of 1995."

Some of us feel the whole sorry debacle boils down to how the nationals and some regionals zipped when they should have zagged at the 1993 Timber Summit. There were a number of factors involved. Interest in schmoozing Clinton and the Democrats, and wanting a new president to look good and not expose past sins in front of the sinners were the overriding motivations behind the whole thing.

Furthermore, catering to foundation monetary support caused the movement to become "Pew"-sillanamous—taking big oil foundation money and then pulling their punches, giving up injunctions, "releasing" timber sales from injunction and the like. Of course, this all backfired badly, and the image was created, which persists to this day, that

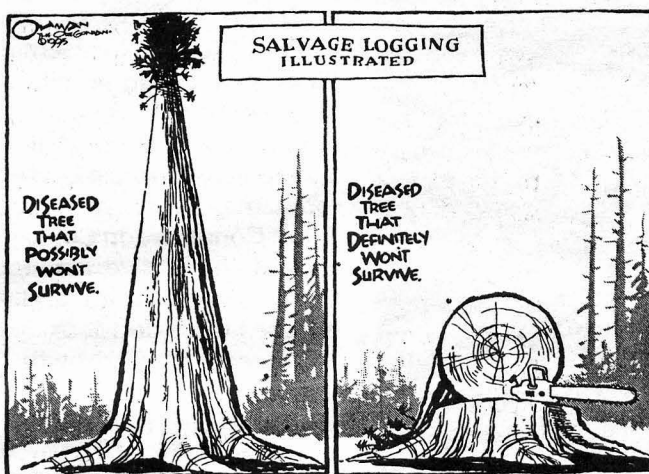
extractors were the oppressed rather than the oppressors. The sympathy was directed to the children of the loggers, instead of the current and future children of this planet.

Luckily, the urban liberal wimps who have dominated environmentalism are becoming more irrelevant. The self-inflicted vacuum in the forest movement from the summit forward has been filled by increasingly militant fish folks, organic farmers, progressive companies and rural communities worried about their water.

Salvaging the Movement?

Given that we all know the wretched history, the question that matters now is: Can we break the pernicious impact of foundation money and the desire of some "activists" to schmooze Clinton and be "players" at the expense of native ecosystems?

The "Forest Health" lie—the "we-gotta-destroy-the-forest-to-save-it" bullshit—seems to be producing the first major cracks in the collaboration cartel. Though some groups like MWA and that greenwashing corporation known as the Wilderness Society (TWS) are hopeless, it appears that this big lie is even too much for some of the usual pliable suspects.



The horrid Gorton/Hatfield "salvage" rider on the rescission bill has stiffened resistance, even inside the Beltway. The heretofore ineffective Western Ancient Forest Campaign (WAFAC) appropriately dubbed the rider the "Logging Without Laws" bill. The major nationals began phone-banking around the country. Grassroots activists responded with over 20,000 calls, faxes and even chunks of wood sent to the White House.

Apparently, you-can-call-me Al Gore got into a shouting match with Bubba over the rider and then Clinton came out with a veto promise citing the logging provisions as one of his reasons. Of course, some of us worry that Bubba will carry through on his other promise made in Billings on May 31. There he promised to conveniently forget about the rider and sign it anyway if the education funding cuts are deleted from the bill.

Every Silver Lining has a Cloud

Even though Al enlightened Bubba, what came next is of great concern. Al stated in a May 11 press release, "Increasing salvage logging... and improving forest health are goals we share with Congress. In fact, we have already put in motion reforms to speed timber salvage without compromising environmen-

tal standards... The timber salvage provision (in the bill) should be taken out and we should move forward to expedite timber salvage in a responsible manner."

That darling of the nationals, Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas, then threw gasoline on the fire declaring, "a desired state of forest health is a condition where biotic and abiotic influences do not threaten resource management objectives now or in the future." Heaven forbid! Can you believe it? Forest health has nothing to do with the viability of species, only the viability of "management."

Incorporating "abiotic influences" is literally redefining ecosystems to include the people who are trashing them. Using this Clinton approach, effective law enforcement would be defined as including the support and cooperation of criminals along with the victims—perhaps 911 operators would suggest trying robber-homeowner partnerships and round tables as a good place to start when break-ins are reported.

After reading Al and Jack's putrid quotes and smelling another compromise, the Mystery Riders started quizzing the nationals and regionals on whether or not they planned on going along with the administration's embrace of the "forest health" lie in exchange for the promised veto. The answers seem promising.

How to Really "Arouse Public Opinion"

Perhaps the best indicator of a shift away from accommodation was the inaugural civil disobedience of the Oregon Natural Resources Council's Andy Kerr at Sen. Hatfield's office. Mike Roselle's left his current adopted bioregion and went to Portland to join Kerr at the protest, which garnered wonderful publicity focused on the intent of the rider.

One can hope that Kerr's action will create a case of paddy-wagon envy among the three-piece suit crowd. The 3000 acres of cut planned in the critical Ten Mile Creek watershed on the Siuslaw National Forest ought to be enough to bring the DC desk jockeys out for a little front-line R & R. Sugarloaf? Cove/Mallard? Copper Butte? There's plenty to choose from, folks.

In addition to ONRC and WAFAC seeming to develop a harder line, another hopeful sign is that Brock Evans of National Audubon has weighed in, saying, "I've never heard anybody ever 'embrace the salvage lie;' read our alerts, read our phone bank messages... No, damn it, we, all of us here, hate that salvage stuff. We're going to fight it to the death."

It's now or...

There you have it. A half-century after Henry Wallace first called the lie, it boils down to a litmus test for the nationals. "Fighting it to the death" will mean setting Al and Bubba straight. It means setting MWA, TWS, Williams and their ilk straight on their ill-advised measures. It means setting the oil company foundations straight, even at the risk of losing funding. And, it means continuing to hold the administration's feet to the fire, assuring the veto. Veto or no veto, there's still a lot of trees and species going down out here in stumpland, so, ultimately, it means standing shoulder to shoulder on the front lines as the timber-industrial complex mounts its last great buffalo hunt on the forest life support systems of our endangered planet.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors,

I am writing on behalf of the nearly 15,000 members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America To formally condemn the advocacy of criminal vandalism that recently appeared in the "Dear Ned Ludd" column of your publication.

In urging your readers to damage golf course irrigation systems, Mr. Ludd does more than just incite a crime. He also supports crippling one of the most effective waste water treatment processes available—thereby potentially increasing pollution.

Environmentalists are often pleased to learn that many of today's golf courses are irrigated with effluent water. This partially treated waste water would oth-

erwise be dumped back into lakes or rivers. Independent research shows that golf courses make excellent "spray fields" for effluent because the turf grass tends to filter out the remaining waste products (which typically include bacteria like *E. coli*, salts, and heavy metals like cadmium and zinc). In short, the water that leaves the course is cleaner than the water that went on. There is no way to visually identify an effluent irrigation system, so any reader who attempts to follow Mr. Ludd's advice is potentially contributing to pollution.

We, the members of GCSAA, take our responsibility to the environment very seriously. We invite you to learn more about the responsible turf grass management practices employed by golf course

superintendents nationwide.

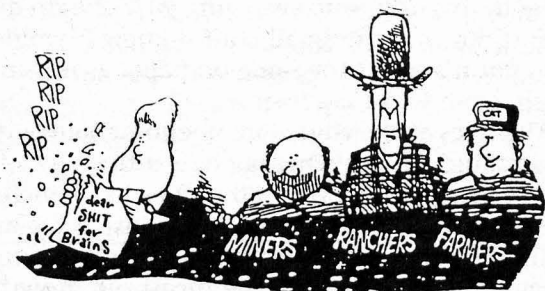
Sincerely,

—GARY T. GRIGG, PRESIDENT
GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Mr. Ludd responds:

I think Mr. Grigg is full of effluent himself.

Are you ready for an upbeat letter? Many thanks to the seventeen activists that were jailed—and originally charged with felonies—in 1990 for the American Express action that followed the first EF! activist conference in Boulder, CO. Many thanks to those who got away and supported the effort. Many thanks to all of you who have helped to put pressure on American Ex-



press to do the right thing.

Because of all of us, and not because of any other substantial reason, we stopped American Express from building an enormous ski resort in the heart of wolf and griz recovery habitat.

Sincerely,

—MIKE STABLER

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A THOUSAND YEARS OF EVOLUTION BECOME FIELD NOTES

BY PHIL NANAS

The Power SH Timber Sale, Mt. St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, Gifford Pinchot National Forest May 5, 1995

The Forest Service told me they had begun logging these units. I'd come here to photograph old-growth logging under Clinton's new forest plan. I was looking for big stumps, soil damage, and, after all this rain, the inevitable erosion. The rain and sleet were coming down hard, and I was sinking over the tops of my boots in the mud of the yet-to-be graveled road. I passed a log-loader and discovered a water truck stuck in the mud of the road where a culvert should've been. When I saw the machinery my heart sank. I thought I knew what was ahead.

I proceeded up the hill and approached an older man in a red felt old-timers cap. He was the road contractor. As he fiddled with a couple of greasy wrenches he said, "I can't figure it out. They punch the road in here for a lousy 15 or so log trucks worth of trees." He looked at the logger's tape measure hanging from my hip and asked where I was going. I told him I was going up the old road to look at the timber sale. He was surprised to learn that there was an older road that paralleled this new road just 150 feet away ending in the same place. Later, I realized how screwed up it was that the road builders knew nothing about the existing roads and hadn't even looked at a map of the area they were roading.

When I got to the top of the hill I rejoiced. The Forest Service had lied again but for once in our favor. Some of the smaller units by the highway had indeed been logged, but here they had only bulldozed a road through the adjacent tree farm. It wasn't logged yet! I could hear the dozer churning and grinding on the soon-to-be-road just behind me. Anticipating the descent into this pristine forest where I wouldn't be able to hear the dozer, I took my camera from my pack and snapped a couple of pictures. I knew these magnificent beauties would not last much longer.

The unit was situated along the top end of a gently rounded ridge at an elevation of 2750 feet. Across the valley, the majestic and glistening Mt. St. Helens rose from a mosaic of different aged plantations. The silvicultural prescription had stated that the trees in this unit were averaging 40 inches in diameter. Counting the small stuff, I knew it would be big. But it's never the same on paper as it is in the flesh, or should I say fiber.

The trees at the edge were phenomenally large—big, fat old growth! One big tree at the edge of the unit measured just over 80 inches in diameter. A gorgeous snag right next to it was just as big and a prime nesting sight. I started down the perimeter flagging. It was some of the nicest old growth I'd seen in the western Cascades. Within 100 yards, the forest drained me of my angst and drew me in away from the surrounding young tree farms. I saw a twin tree with a fallen tree wedged between. I couldn't believe my eyes. Bright blue "take" paint on both trees. I ran over in astonishment. They were 74 and 76 inches in diameter. Six-footers! The fallen tree wedged between them was over four feet in diameter. Incredibly beautiful; a virgin old-growth undisturbed forest... except for the paint. As I ate lunch

I thought of our (the Native Forest Council's) lawsuit and how we must amend our complaint to include this sale. It was actually still standing. We had to think of something.

A little background on the lawsuit is in order here.

During the last round of litigation, the Northwest forest plan was challenged on the ground that it did not allow for the recovery of the declining population of the northern spotted owl. At the behest of the administration, prior to a ruling on the legality of the plan, eleven of the thirteen environmental plaintiffs agreed to offer-up some old-growth timber sales as an appeasement, and to thwart the threat of a sufficiency rider that would exempt all logging from environmental laws. Later, by agreement, the injunction that had halted the logging for the duration of the court proceedings was lifted. The plaintiff

groups included The Wilderness Society, Oregon Natural Resources Council, Audubon Society, Sierra Club, Western Ancient Forest Campaign, Pacific Rivers Council, Headwaters, Klamath Forest Alliance, and Northcoast Environmental Center. Only the Forest Conservation Council and the Native Forest Council stood strong and opposed these decisions.

The released old-growth sales were termed the "Deal of Shame" sales by activists distressed by the decision. As we worked through the courts, hoping for another injunction, these and other timber sales in owl habitat were being offered. At that time, I started monitoring all the "owl sales," thinking all I had to do was delay them, for the courts would surely find the Clinton For-

est Plan illegal. I was wrong. There was no new injunction. Just new logging.

In the interim, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Forest Service offered 37 timber sales in owl habitat. After we successfully protested two of the BLM sales for riparian buffer violations, the BLM postponed three more, presumably to rework them and make them comply with Clinton's plan. In November, at the Native Forest Network Conference, I felt victorious as I spoke of these and another nine Forest Service sales that were postponed due to grave violations of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Just five months later, in April, these sales were already re-offered, though nothing was reworked. I guess the Forest Service thought no one was watching since the "environmentalists" had offered up these sales. We had no choice but to sue. The suit now involves 12 Forest Service timber sales on the Gifford Pinchot, Willamette, Umpqua, and Siskiyou National Forests. Ten of the twelve sales violate NEPA. Furthermore, all of the sales violate the Endangered Species Act by not adequately considering the baseline and cumulative impacts of past and foreseeable future clearcutting on other federal, state, and private lands. Six of the sales on the Gifford Pinchot NF were within 35 miles of documented gray wolf sightings and even a grizzly bear sighting. These critters are federally listed as endangered, not just threatened like the spotted owl. While the USFS had done umpteen surveys for owls, they had failed to do any field reconnaissance and determined that there wasn't a population that would be adversely effected in the area. If you don't look, you don't find.

This particular sale, Power SH in the Mt. St. Helens National Monument, is a perfect example of how if

the Forest Service jumps through the NEPA hoops with regards to Clinton's Plan, the old-growth timber sales that would have been illegal under the old designations of Habitat Conservation Area and Critical Habitat Unit become perfectly legal. Thus, we were forced to drop it from our lawsuit, and its doom is now imminent.

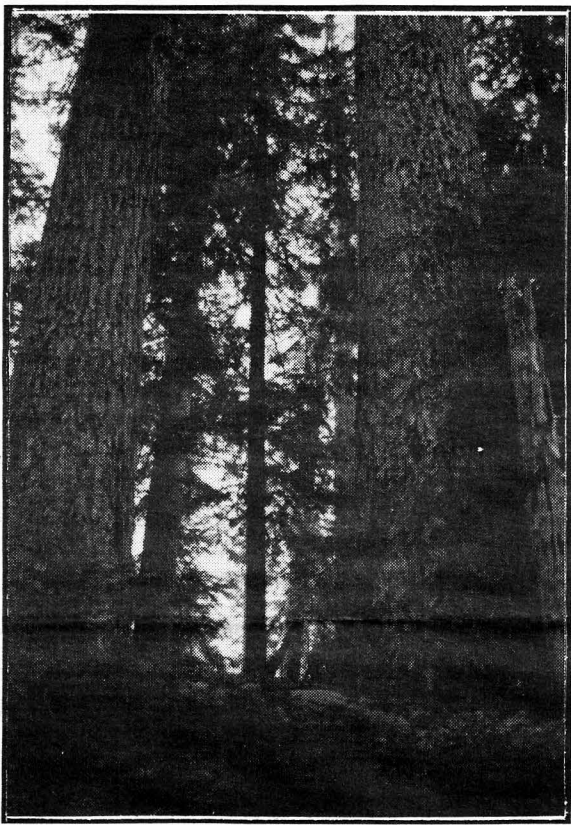
Somehow, this intact virgin old-growth stand had survived a thousand years of threats, including relentless weather, lightning, wildfire and even the blast of mighty Mt. St. Helens herself. Furthermore, the areas on all sides had been extensively logged, yet these magnificent giants still stood!

The immensity of these trees and calming peace they created reassured me. We may have dropped this stand from the lawsuit, but it would save itself. I imagined media events, photo-opportunities, and showing the public through TV these giants that were to be logged. I dreamed of the tree sits and how great the twins would be for a platform with a backdrop of Mt. St. Helens. With the power of these trees and a little public awareness, we could save this place.

On May 11, I came to unit #8 of the Power SH timber sale in the Mt. St. Helens National Volcanic monument with a film crew to capture the "before" footage in case we needed "before and after" shots if this unit was cut. We were starting a series on old-growth logging under Clinton's forest plan and this was a perfect example of exactly what is wrong with the plan. If these seven-and-a-half-foot diameter trees were to become stumps they would have Clinton's name on them. And there are other "environmentalists" who deserve their signatures on them as well!

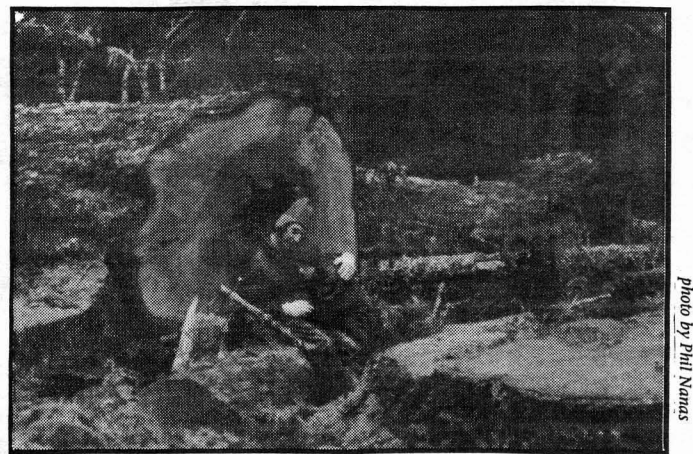
Upon arrival, we admired the large trees at the edge of unit #8. Big, tall and fat, with full crowns stretching over the view of the volcano. After a few steps in to measure the 80-inch diameter trees, we saw it: A blue slash on a horizontal tree with the glow of wet saw dust steaming in the sun. The stump, with its glistening blue paint, was still oozing its life-force. At first, only denial. "Just the logs felled to clear the road." Somehow I really thought this stand was powerful enough to remain standing. How wrong I was. Not only was there a road cut, but the giant pair of Douglas firs was gone. Only stumps.

I looked upon the shattered debris. The torn and shredded boughs, the jagged, twisted and split crests of the stumps. I couldn't believe my eyes. The whole unit had been dropped even though the soggy road won't permit skidding or hauling for many weeks. A thousand years of evolution one day, quarterly corporate profits the next.



The Twins—before

photo by Phil Nanas



Finding comfort in the ruin. The Twins—after.

photo by Phil Nanas

In retrospect, I must address a few issues. To those who would call themselves "environmentalists" yet offer a sale like this, I hope you are reading this. As a movement we all make decisions based on the information we have, our feelings, and the strategies we employ. We are sometimes wrong and only need to look at our failures to see that. But when making decisions, we should use the best available data. If we don't know, we should ask, or better yet, go look for ourselves. Mike Axline, an attorney for several of the compromising plaintiff groups, recently defended their judgment. He claimed there

continued on next page

Sugarloaf Saga Continues

BY MIKE LUNT

Cool spring rains cleanse the slopes of the primeval Kangaroo roadless area in the Siskiyou National Forest of southwest Oregon. Salamanders slowly squirm about their mating rituals in clear pools, and black bear cubs romp playfully about the steep forested slopes of Grayback Mountain. All is not well here in this last untouched high elevation ancient forest.

Blue painted rings encircle gigantic Douglas fir and mighty ponderosa pines. The US Forest Service, under tremendous pressure from timber extractive interests, awarded the roadless and wild Sugarloaf timber sale to the Boise Cascade corporation last August in one of the most controversial forest rip-offs in recent years.

By now, many forest activists are aware of the blatant misinformation campaign waged by the Siskiyou NF surrounding the Sugarloaf sale. The Forest Service and Department of Agriculture repeatedly disseminated false assertions that the silvicultural prescription for the Sugarloaf sale would be one of "forest health." Higher ups in the administration, however, were caught with their pants down when last summer a highly recognized independent forester determined that the Sugarloaf sale is nothing more than a giant old growth forest extraction project. So what else is new?

Sugarloaf is part of the 27,000 acre Kangaroo Roadless area, that serves as a critical wildlife migration corridor for many species. The Kangaroo is some of the only functioning ancient forest habitat in much of the Applegate/Illinois river areas. Many native species are becoming drastically scarce in the heavily roaded surrounding lands. Hunting and poaching from vehicles, and an endless sea of clearcuts have rendered these lands poor habitat for bears, martens, fishers, wolverines, spotted owls, goshawks and many other road sensitive, wilderness dependent species.

Now that Sugarloaf has been awarded to Boise Cascade, it is time for activists to focus their attention on this evil corporate megalith. Sugarloaf is one of several roadless timber sales Boise Cascade has slated to cut. In fact, Boise Cascade was the single largest purchaser of federal timber (mostly old growth) in the Pacific Northwest for the last three years. Besides being a major culprit of habitat destruction, Boise Cascade has the worst record of "willful" worker health and safety violations in the industry, and according to the Council on Economic Priorities, was charged with 350 OSHA violations since 1988. Boise

Cascade has also been involved in some of the worst union busting in the industry, hiring scab labor, and provoking violence against strikers. Boise Cascade is a leading contributor to several powerful timber industry political action committees. Those PAC's spent over \$2.9 million dollars establishing pro-corporate candidates over the last five years. Boise's intense lobbying efforts have been directed toward opposing mandated recycling laws in Idaho, and weakening Oregon's regulation of pulp mill emissions.

A nationwide boycott against Boise Cascade is underway. Organizers of the boycott hope to pressure Boise to stop the logging of native and roadless forests, and to emphasize their already established poplar tree farms and recycling programs.

There is a high likelihood that Boise Cascade will attempt to cut Sugarloaf sometime this summer. Activists are urged to visit this magnificent threatened tract of wilderness before Boise Cascade chainsaws render those steep, rugged wilderness slopes just another corporate sacrifice. Come to the Siskiyou's.

What you can do:

Make your way to southwest Oregon and visit the west slope of Grayback mountain. Prepare for direct action. For more information, call the Sugarloaf Defense Team at (503) 592-3386. Or write to POB 2093, Cave Junction, OR 97523.

Boycott Boise Cascade: Call Boise's toll free share holder service and tell them how you feel about wild lands destruction for cardboard, (800) 544-6473. Boycott Boise's Reliable Office Products. Other Boise brand names to boycott are: Cascade and Oxford paper; Associated, Cascade and Frederick-Sherry office supplies; Noyo, Vinyl, Bond and Wevelite building supplies; Specialty Paper-board, Duropak and Schumaker containers.

Boise's single largest shareholder is State Farm Insurance. Tell State Farm why you are discontinuing your policy with them.

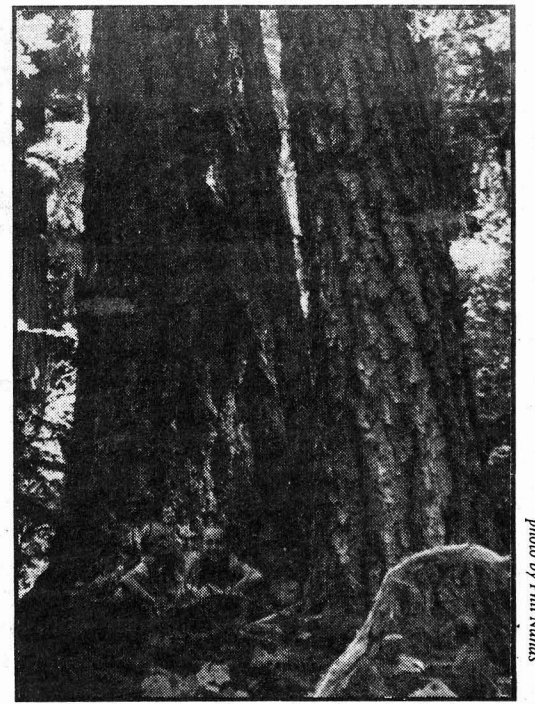


photo by Phil Nanas

Fat old growth in Sugarloaf sale unit.

ANOTHER LONG SUMMER IN COVE/MALLARD

BY THE COVE/MALLARD COALITION

In 1992 you heard about the incredible wildness of the Salmon/Selway Ecosystem. You also heard of the 145 miles of road and 200 40-acre clearcuts that the Forest Service wanted to build in the Cove-Mallard area, as well as the armed and camouflaged government agents that came to harass us for our non-violent civil-disobedience protests, and the dozens of arrests at the beginning of construction of the Noble (Ignoble) road. Can you remember the three arrests for "mooning a federal agent"?

In 1993 you heard about the incredible wildness of this place again, and the purchase of 20 acres of private land within the Cove/Mallard area. Scores of non-violent protesters were arrested on the infamous Noble Road which slashed the roadless area in half when completed. The disrespect of local timber workers turned to violence, and Little Mallard Creek filled with silt from roadbuilding.

In 1994 there was a temporary halt to the work plan while the courts considered legal arguments. The Idaho Sporting Congress filed arguments concerning wildlife and water quality issues within the Cove/Mallard, and the Pacific Rivers Council filed a broad-based suit concerning the Forest Service role in the Salmon recovery that included the Cove/Mallard. [See "Whine and Cheese: The 'Wilderness' Society Chokes in Idaho" *Eostar*, 1995 *EF!*] for the full story.]

In the beginning of this year the crews came back to cut the units on the Noble Road left to them by the court system. We set up a mid-winter direct-

action camp. Two people were arrested in a non-violent protest against this cutting, and charged with felonies under the Idaho "Earth First! Law." This unconstitutional law makes it a felony to protest Idaho logging practices. The charges were quickly dropped.

A two year old wolverine was incidentally killed by a trapper at the end of Noble road this winter. This is a blatant example of how this road has already caused increased access to the wilderness, and increased threats to wildlife. The Biodiversity Legal Foundation has recently filed suit to force the US Fish and Wildlife Service to list this species as endangered, immediately. This lawsuit represents another possible reprieve for the Cove/Mallard.

The Idaho Sporting Congress is preparing a lawsuit to stop the cutting, based upon the failure of the Forest Service to meet mitigation requirements of previous lawsuits. Also, the Gray Wolf Committee, Sinapu, Predator Project and others are in court to preserve the endangered status of naturally occurring gray wolves, which may affect the wolves observed in the Cove/Mallard.

The saws and road building equipment have been silent since mid-March due to weather and road conditions, as well as the beginning of elk-calving season. About 60 hard-core activists attended a Memorial Day Strategy session to organize this summer's protest. Seeds of Peace is on hand once again to supply physical and moral sustenance, as well as to conduct non-violence training classes.

We have every reason to believe the crews will

move in any day to begin the construction of the Jack Creek Sale road system. The contract has been awarded to the same company that built the Noble Road and they are anxious to start when the weather permits. However, the Jack Creek road is only one of about a dozen assaults that the Contract on America is making this year on the Greater Salmon/Selway Ecosystem. We need your help!

Please come to the wilds of Idaho to do what you can. Come prepared for rain and cold. We will be concentrating our efforts on non-violent civil-disobedience protests and documenting failures of the Forest Service to meet their own rules and regulation. Directions and information can be obtained by contacting the Cove/Mallard Coalition, POB 8968, Moscow, ID 83843, phone (208) 882-9755; or the Cove/Mallard Coalition, 127 East Main St., Missoula, MT 59802, (406) 543-2929.

Update

On June 16 construction was begun on yet another road into the Cove/Mallard area, for the Jack Timber Sale. More forest will soon be devoured in the mis-titled Noble Timber Sale as well. Cove/Mallard needs your help. If you cannot afford your mind and body, your material and financial support will be invaluable. Send equipment and gear donations to the above address. Monetary contributions can be sent to the above address or to the Last Wilderness Defense Fund, PO Box 9970, Moscow, ID 83843.

A Thousand Years of Evolution...

continued from previous page

was no old growth in the offered sales. Either these groups never read the Environmental Assessments or the Old-Growth Assessments for the watersheds, or they are just outright lying. It's obvious they never took a look at these sales. This is unconscio-

nable. I can only wonder if these "environmentalists" ever walk in the undisturbed woods.

In the end, Judge Ashmanskas of the Federal Court in Portland ruled against us. We were not given a preliminary injunction to hold off the logging

until the full trial on July 21. As of June 1st logging could have begun, but to the best of our knowledge has not. A base camp is now being initiated in the Gifford Pinchot by activists who want to educate the public about what is going on in the national forests. Topics will include forest ecology, nonviolence training, technical skills, etc. It's critical these last virgin stands

get all the help possible [For more information see the announcement on page 34]. The time to take responsibility for OUR public lands is now!

Phil Nanas is on the staff of the Native Forest Council. NFC's goal is to end all resource extraction and destruction of public lands.

Nevada Mine Threatens Rare Cutthroat Trout

BY THE MORIAH DEFENSE FUND

The Ely Ranger District of the Humboldt National Forest has received an application for a permit to mine garnet in Nevada's beautiful Hampton Creek Canyon. The site is adjacent to the Mt. Moriah Wilderness Area, just north of Great Basin National Park in eastern Nevada.

The proposed Hampton Creek garnet mine is cause for great concern. The Hampton Creek Canyon drainage, in the Snake Mountain Range of the Great Basin, contains a perennial stream home to the rare native Bonneville cutthroat trout (classified by the US Fish & Wildlife Service as a candidate for "Threatened" status). Congress explicitly recognized the importance of this trout population when they designated the Mt. Moriah Wilderness Area in 1989. Now the entire trout population will be at risk from sedimentation, toxic spills, water depletion, and lethal temperature increases.

The flora and fauna of the Moriah are extremely diverse. As one moves up in elevation, the canyon vegetation changes from sagebrush communities at the lower end to pinyon and juniper, then mountain mahogany, aspen and fir, and ultimately to Engelmann spruce and bristlecone pine at treeline.

The wilderness value of the Moriah area is apparent by the presence of large mammals such as mountain lion, pronghorn, bighorn sheep and elk. Numerous nesting birds find their home in the canyons including flammulated owls, golden eagles, peregrine falcons, three-toed woodpeckers and approximately 200 other species of birds. There are canyons with perennial streams filled with trout and even some with endangered Bonneville cutthroat trout.

Forest Service archeological studies found that Hampton Creek Canyon was occupied by native people. For thousands of years, the Great Basin and Snake Range have been occupied by native cultures, such as the Fremont and the Shoshone. Historical and cultural resource sites are located within the claim area of the proposed garnet mine.

The proposed garnet mine is just outside the Mt. Moriah Wilderness. The miners (Bill Taylor and Doug Fleury) have approximately 35 claims of 20 acres each, about half of which are *within* the wilderness area.

The Forest Service issued a "scoping" notice for the mine as required by the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), but the notice failed to properly inform the public about the likely scale or duration of the proposed mine. The Forest Service must "rescope" this project to accurately notify a wider segment of the public about the mining proposal and obtain more public involvement in the process.

The Plan of Operations states that in the first year they will surface mine a 400 by 400-foot area recovering garnet with concurrent reclamation. In fact, the miners plan to create a 15-acre by 80-foot deep open-pit five acres at a time. Since the original scoping document was released last fall, the Plan of Operations has changed several times and the Forest Service does not have a final plan in hand.

Not only is mining at Hampton Creek biologically a bad idea, but it is also unnecessary. The almandine garnet found at this site is a poor quality garnet

used primarily for sandblasting and other sand related products. In other words the Hampton Creek garnet deposit is just high grade sand! It cannot be treated as a valuable mineral under the 1872 Mining Law. Rather, it must be treated as a common variety or "saleable" mineral. What does this mean? It means the miners cannot stake a mining claim for abrasive garnet. It means that the Forest Service must make the implausible finding that a puny sand mine serves the public interest better than protection of biological and cultural resources, even if it means that the Bonneville trout goes extinct.

The miners claim they will concurrently reclaim the site as they operate. They originally stated in the Plan of Operations that the garnet would be separated from 90 to 95 percent of the material at the site and shipped to their mill site

via pipe line. This would allow for the processed material not containing garnet to be back-filled to reclaim the area. Now the miners are planning to ship 100 percent of the material to the mill site for processing. Are they planning to truck all the material not containing garnet back up the road to reclaim the site at their own expense?

Take Action Now! Write, call and visit the USFS and urge action on the following issues:

- The Humboldt National Forest and their lawyers must recognize that almandine

garnet is a saleable mineral, not covered under the 1872 mining law. (The miners have an exclusive agreement and are financially tied to a Portland, Oregon company that sells only sandblasting products.)

- A new scoping document is needed to reflect the true plan of operations. Included in the scoping document should be full reclamation; information regarding sensitive, threatened and endangered species; historical and cultural resources; and a "no action" alternative.

- Hold the miners accountable for all non-permitted activities at the proposed mine site including illegal occupation and development of the existing cabin; ground disturbance in and outside of the roadless and wilderness areas; fuel storage; trash dumping; and locating a pit toilet next to a stream.

Ask to be put on the mailing list for the Danielle Garnet Mine so that you can participate and comment on the project. Contact District Ranger Jerry Green at the Ely Ranger District, Humboldt National Forest, 350 8th Street East, Ely, NV 89301, (702) 289-3031, fax (702) 289-2132, e-mail: /S=J.GREEN/OU1=R04F09A@mhs-fswa.attmail.com

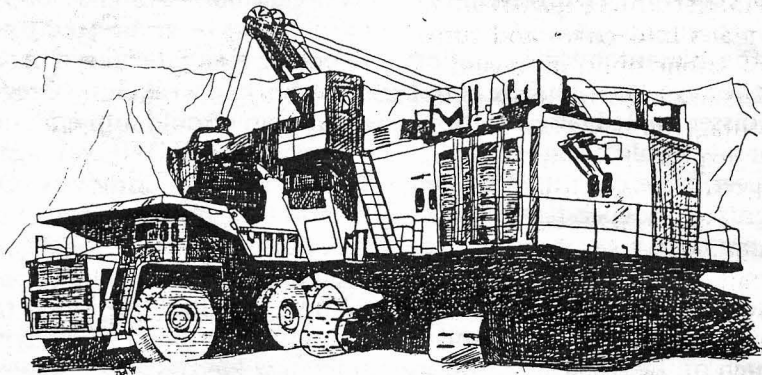
Contact the following people immediately to stop this ridiculous mine:

Chief Jack Ward Thomas, USFS, PO Box 96090, Washington DC 20090-6090, (202) 205-1661, fax (202) 205-1765

Dale Bosworth, Regional Forester, USFS Intermountain Region, 324 25th Street Ogden, UT 84401, (801) 625-5606, fax (801) 625-5359, e-mail: /S=D.BOSWORTH/OU1=R04A@mhs-fswa.attmail.com

Jim Nelson, Forest Supervisor, Toiyabe-Humboldt NF, 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV 89431, (702) 331-6444, fax (702) 355-5399, e-mail: /S=J.NELSON/OU1=R04F09A@mhs-fswa.attmail.com

For more conservation information contact the Moriah Defense Fund, PO Box 499, Spanish Fork, UT 84660.



"Option 9" for the Sierra Nevada Released, and It

BY TODD SHUMAN

Right now the US Forest Service has the opportunity to save the last old growth in the Sierra Nevada, but claims that such a move would increase the risk of fire, despite considerable scientific testimony to the contrary. The Pacific Southwest Regional Office of the Forest Service has released a document that explores seven alternatives for managing the ten National Forests that compose most of the Sierra Nevada range. One alternative, named Alternative E in the document, would prohibit most logging within the last remaining unprotected old-growth forest in the Sierra Nevada. Timber volumes produced under this alternative would shrink to 114 million board feet per year. But the Forest Service looks with disfavor on this environmentally-friendly plan, and prefers a management system that would lend a hand to the timber industry.

Alternative E would promote large, contiguous blocks of late successional forest and protect many roadless areas. Riparian corridors would receive enhanced protection (no harvest zones, heavy equipment exclusion zones, etc.), and critical spotted owl nesting and foraging habitat would continue to receive stringent interim protections. As stands develop old-growth charac-

teristics, they would be absorbed into the unmanaged reserve network. The Forest Service convened a team of scientists who concluded that the only alternative capable of maintaining fisher and marten populations is one that sets aside large blocks of old-growth habitat. They deemed Alternative E the most likely to produce more of the habitat favored by California spotted owls.

The Forest Service attacks Alternative E as likely to promote severe, catastrophic stand-replacement fires in the Sierra Nevada. The consequences of such fires for wildlife habitat, according to the Forest Service, are comparable to the effects of vast clearcutting. Fire, in short, is the Forest Service's trump card. Alternative E may sound good, but if we create those reserves and leave them alone, they will just burn down, leaving all the sensitive critters with no homes!

In analyzing fire risks, the Forest Service makes no distinction between old growth and younger, closed canopy forests which grow up after a clearcut. Yet, according to scientists, there is all the difference in the world. Dr. Jared Verner, fire ecologist, says "unlogged old-growth forest, even if it has what appears to be considerable surface and ladder fuels, will retain moisture better and be less fire-prone than might appear at first glance." The team of scientists who wrote the 1992 California

Spotted Owl (CASPO) report which led to protection of California spotted owl habitat noted that old growth stands "are less flammable under most conditions, because the dense canopies maintain higher relative humidities within the stands and reduce heating and drying of surface fuels by solar radiation and wind."

The same scientists found that large blocks of old growth, such as those in parks, wilderness, and roadless areas, pose a relatively minor fire threat when the forest stands remain unmanaged: "A study of lightning fires and spotted owl territories in Yosemite National Park showed that owls can and do exist with extensive fires of varying intensities where forest structure has been affected relatively little by human activities." The supposedly catastrophic fires in Yosemite "were primarily low to moderate in intensity, with only occasional torched areas" allowing for the maintenance of California spotted owl nesting and foraging habitat.

In marked contrast, younger, closed canopy forests are much more vulnerable to fire. For instance, the CASPO team notes that "young trees of any species in the Sierra Nevada are more susceptible to direct mortality from fire than older trees ... and young trees have low crowns which are easily ignited by relatively low surface fire intensities ... Additionally, dense even-aged

ROAD WARS—AUSTRALIA STYLE

BY REBECCA LIGHTBOURNE

Tripods, treesits, lockdowns and concrete installations: tactics formerly reserved for defending forests have recently given a new grassroots, militant face to the Australian anti-roads movement. We are joining with grassroots planetary action tribes in Europe and across the planet, to kill the car culture.

At the Berlin Climate Convention, the Australian government displayed its miserable lack of commitment to curb emission controls and tackle global warming. Fortunately, amongst the urban apathy there is a new, vibrant flame opposing the car culture. The battle is against the construction of the M2 tollway in Sydney.

Six to fourteen lanes wide, this outdated concrete pollution maker will plough through 22 kilometers of precious remnant urban bushland and quiet leafy suburbs. Abi Group, a Japanese consortium who hope to make millions by charging a toll, are building the tollway. Perhaps the most evil aspect of the contract is that it stipulates no other form of public transportation be allowed in a large feeder area for the next 45 years. We don't want to wait 45 years for a train. Lawyers think it may be illegal even to charge a toll and form such a monopoly, but this has yet to be tested in court.

After eight years of vigorous lobbying and writing to stop the freeway, local residents grew weary and resigned to the inevitable onslaught of the industrial machine. Despite official inquiry findings that the tollway is unjustified on environmental, economic and social grounds, those in power decided to go ahead with it. The result of all the careful submissions from activists was only cosmetic changes to the route of the road. It seemed impossible to frame the debate on whether we should be building an infrastructure for cars at all. This is because the government department responsible for determining whether the

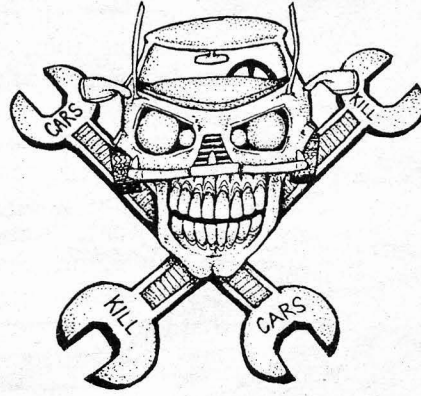
road should be built is the same department that depends on roadbuilding for its continued existence.

In early January, the ribbon was cut and construction began. Nobody really expected what happened next. The preconstruction report said the chances of direct action were low. The company was obviously not informed about the massive flowering of the British and European grassroots, action-oriented antiroads movement. The movement throws expansive road building plans into chaos and turns the tide of public opinion towards a sane understanding that more roads only encourage more cars.

Nobody expected a few seasoned forest activists to lend their experience on how to actually stop the greedy vandals. When the first trees began to fall, Gus and his brother Cal locked on. They were determined to defend the trees, wildlife and creeks they had played amongst as children. Brent lent his experience of tree rigging, treesitting and numerous other skills. Soon local residents, university students and an assortment of action ratbags joined forces to form Freeway Busters. Our catchcry is "We won't stop til they do." To date there have been 99 arrests, with more expected.

As the bulldozers push toward the proposed tollway, we are fighting for the bushland tree by tree. On April 26, the bell tolled for Devlins Creek, a green gem surrounded by suburbs, with 30 to 40 meter high old growth trees, parrots, possums, endangered sugargliders, and frogs. This was some of the last unconcreted land of the Darug people. These aboriginal owners had a claim pending in the Land and Environment Court claiming the area is a site of aboriginal significance fifty to one hundred thousand years old. There is plenty of evidence for this: scarred trees dating to before the invasion of the British, a rock shelter and many stone cairns. The magistrate gave archeologists two days to

fell the sacred scarred trees so that they could be preserved in a museum. The archeological sites were destroyed by chainsaws and bulldozers before they could be fully studied. So much for the spirit of reconciliation between blacks and whites that is supposed to be permeating Australian political and social processes.



The morning after the court reached its pathetic verdict, bulldozers moved in. They were greeted by 150 local residents engaged in what was for most their first dose of empowering eco-action. Dressed for a day at the office, they swarmed onto the construction site. With briefcases on their laps, they sat in front of the dozer chanting "turn it off, turn it off!" Finally the driver did, and police moved in to arrest a good portion of them. I heard a cop say into his radio, "there aren't many earth children here." Good to see the earth adults get motivated. Some of these people were parents of 15 tree sitters perched in the old eucalypts further back from the front line. As they were dragged off to the police van, younger children in their school uniforms played the last post on their trumpets. Twelve-year-old Alana cried on national television and told Australia how sad she was that she would never be able to play at Devlins Creek again.

It took two days and hundreds of

police hours to remove all the tree sitters. For the first time we used lockboxes in trees, which slowed removal even more. It was immensely moving to see middle class Australians sticking their necks out for a change. We earned ourselves another day of blanket media coverage.

Many of those arrested have been charged with intimidation for denying a worker access to his tools or means by which to do his legal work, and sued by the road building company for 2,000 Australian dollars. This is the first mass use of the intimidation charge against environmental defenders, but we are not intimidated. We will fight the charges tooth and nail.

Legal challenges, the essential counterpart to direct action, are in process and our lawyers inform us that there is good reason to believe the tollway may yet be stopped. We may bring Goliath to its knees. The new State Premier, Bob Carr, has told the media that our protests are "not futile" and support is pouring in from many quarters. Even if we lose this one and the road is eventually opened, no one will ever try to build another tollway in Sydney without considering the disruption of the Freeway Busters.

The battle to stop the M2 is only part of new focused efforts to kill the car culture and demand livable, sustainable cities. A recent Reclaim the Streets Festival, where 150 cyclists jammed the Sydney city streets for a morning, was just an entree to the much larger Critical Mass bike rally which occurs on the last Friday of every month.

A Transport Action Pack is almost finished and a roadshow to get the other Australian cities turned on is in the making. A video filled with clips of the direct action movement here will also be available soon.

For more information contact ASEED-Australia at 94 Liverpool St., Sydney, Australia 2000, phone (6) (2) 261-3181, fax (61) (2) 264-6092, e-mail: cdeere@paktok.peg.apc.org

Doesn't Look Good for the California Spotted Owl ...

stands are susceptible to crown fire because of high crown density."

The Forest Service is using the threat of fire to denigrate Alternative E despite the above evidence. Meanwhile, the Forest Service dramatically *underestimates* the fire risk inherent in the other alternatives which involve clearcutting, plantations, high-grade logging (i.e. logging of only the big old trees), roading, slashing, and thinning. Dr. Verner notes that "Plantations are notoriously fire sensitive, and opening up the forest tends to dry it out and make it more sensitive, and fire prone." Buttrussing this view, the CASPO states: "In managed forests, natural fuel accumulations may be augmented by additional dead material added when timber is harvested and debris is left in the forest ... the overall stand will become more susceptible to fire at lower intensities."

The Forest Service prefers Alternative C which would divide every slope into three zones, designating timber management goals for each third of the slope, with the lowest third to receive minimal harvest while the upper two thirds would be heavily logged. Alternative C would produce 416 million board feet a year from the Sierra. In the lower third, fuel break construction, fire access roading, and fire/insect/disease salvage would proceed. In the middle third, heavy selective logging, patch cuts, and some clearcutting would

be used to open the forest. On the top third, intensive logging, clearcutting, small patch logging, and bulldozing would all combine to convert the forest into a shaded fuel break.

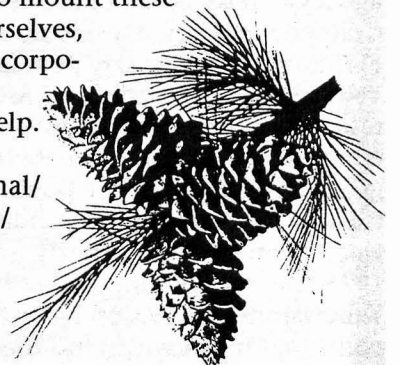
Alternative C ignores the risk of fire associated with roadbuilding and silviculture. The impacts of desiccation and increased winds created by opened canopies are not explored either. The actual risks and limited effectiveness of specific fuels management measures are never reviewed.

Over 85 percent of the forested land base on the Sierra National Forests has already been logged over, yet the Forest Service and the timber industry still want that last unprotected old-growth—most of which can be found in the remote, inaccessible, unroaded areas of Lassen, Plumas and Tahoe National Forests. What do we get in return? Biodestruction and marginal economic return.

The economy of the Sierra Nevada no longer depends on timber. Timber-related jobs account for only one percent of total employment region-wide. Income from logging on the National Forests accounts for less than one percent of total county revenue. Tourism and recreation, which depend heavily upon healthy forest ecosystems, currently drive the Sierran economy. Furthermore, sixty percent of California's drinking water comes from the Sierras. So why risk the ecological degradation that will result from all those logged

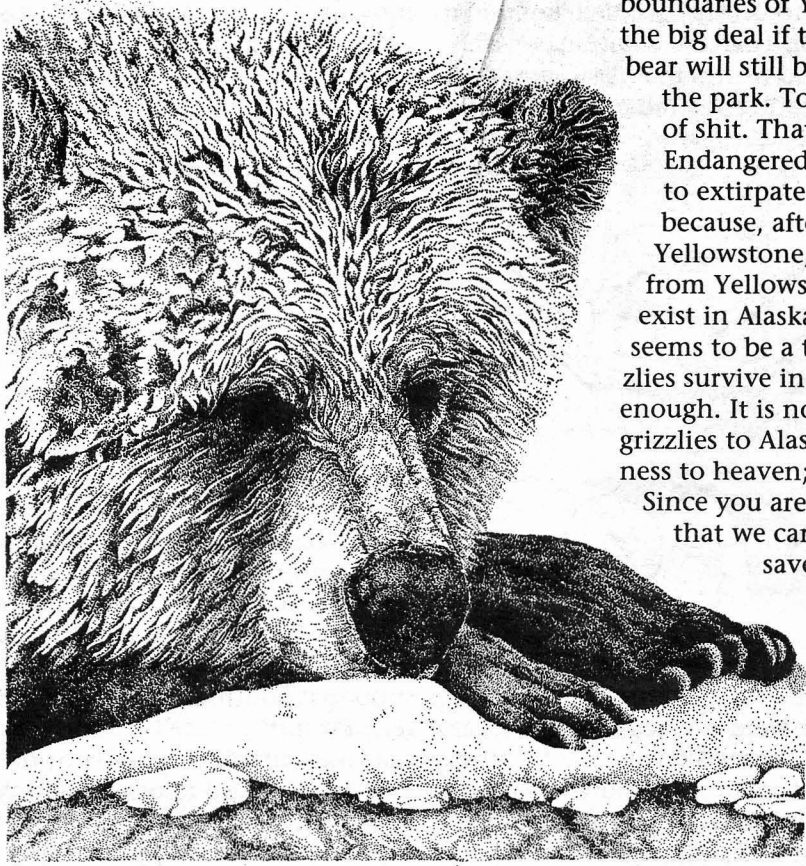
steep slopes? The long term, economic cost-benefit ratio clearly argues for the ecological and economic sanity of Alternative E.

To take action on this issue, write the Forest Service. Send letters to Janice Gauthier, EIS Team Leader, 2999 Fulton Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821. Phone (916) 979-2020 if you want to get your own copy of the DEIS, formally titled "Managing California Spotted Owl Habitat in the Sierra Nevada National Forests of California, An Ecosystem Approach." Send a copy of our comments to your federal representatives. Find a lawyer and consider suing the Forest Service over this plan. After watching The Wilderness Society and the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund screw over wilderness the last few years, I am more convinced than ever that we have to mount these kind of lawsuits ourselves, without relying on corporate environmental organizations for help. Pray (and organize) against Congressional/Presidential salvage/sufficiency legislation. That junk will render any of your comments moot.



The (Great) Bear Truth

BY DANIEL REMINGTON



Once upon a time in a nasty kingdom far away, there grew a great abundance of grizzly bear agencies, committees, review boards, recovery plans, surveys and studies. The bear was worshipped as a holy fundraiser. However, not all was well with the bear in the kingdom. The bear was vanishing. All of the grizzly bear agencies, committees, review boards, recovery experts and other nasty kingdom poobahs invoked the sacred "Magic Species Act." This "Magic Act" was supposed to save the Great Bear from disappearing forever. It failed. A great cry arose from the nasty kingdom.

In 1975, the grizzly bear was designated as a "threatened" species by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act. After the grizzly was so designated, the FWS was mandated by law to formulate a grizzly bear recovery plan. This plan was supposed to prevent the bear from disappearing in the lower 48 states and ultimately lead to the bear's recovery from being a "threatened" species. It has failed.

Twenty years have passed since the grizzly was designated threatened, and no significant improvement in the bear's status in the lower 48 states has been seen. In fact, it has lost a large amount of its supposedly protected habitat to logging, mining, and other forms of development and the number of grizzly bears has steadily decreased. The Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan required that special recovery areas be set aside and managed with the needs of the grizzly bear as the number one priority. These recovery areas were, in effect, a kind of grizzly bear sanctuary, or at least they were supposed to be. In reality, the recovery areas have become no more than wishful thinking, expressed as lines drawn on some maps—the impotent fantasies of endless government committees.

Can the nasty kingdom, I mean the government, be relied upon to protect the few bears left in these recovery areas? Late in 1994, the Inter-agency Grizzly Bear Committee met in Lakewood, Colorado and voted unanimously to petition the FWS to *delist* the grizzly population in the Yellowstone Recovery Area! After 35 years of research and millions of dollars spent, there is no concrete population estimate for the Yellowstone grizzly. The Yellowstone population is small and isolated, and the habitat conditions are much worse than when the grizzly was first listed in 1975. Yet, are we supposed to believe that the Yellowstone population has recovered to the point that it can withstand the full onslaught of man's encroachment and be delisted? Some might argue that since the bulk of the

Yellowstone Recovery Area is situated within the boundaries of Yellowstone National Park, what's the big deal if the bear is delisted? The grizzly bear will still be protected within the confines of the park. To be perfectly blunt, that is a crock of shit. That argument just further dilutes the Endangered Species Act. First, it becomes okay to extirpate the grizzly in the lower 48 states because, after all, they are protected in Yellowstone, then when the grizzlies disappear from Yellowstone it will be okay because they exist in Alaska. To quote Aldo Leopold, "there seems to be a tacit assumption that if the grizzlies survive in Canada and Alaska, that is good enough. It is not good enough for me. Relegating grizzlies to Alaska is about like relegating happiness to heaven; one may never get there."

Since you are reading the *EF! Journal* you know that we cannot rely upon the government to save the grizzly. What about the various environmental groups? Can they save the griz? The Wilderness Society, along with a coalition of other groups, has sponsored an "Alternative Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan." It is a good plan. The plan was prepared by Mark Shaffer, and he knows that grizzly bear science is an iffy thing. In

preparing the plan, the "iffy factor," of what constitutes a recovered population of grizzly bears, is taken into account. If a mistake is made in the Alternative Plan, it favors the bears. The "A Plan," as I call it, is a document that bodes well for the future of the grizzly. However, there is one problem—the sponsors of the A Plan. It is highly doubtful if The Wilderness Society (TWS) and the coalition have the wherewithal and gumption to forcefully back up the A Plan. In recent months, The Wilderness Society has dropped the ball in Idaho (Dropped the ball? Hell, they gave the damn ball away! [See "Whine and Cheese, The Wilderness Society Chokes in Idaho" in the last issue of the *Journal*.]) It would seem at this point in time foolhardy to rely upon TWS to save the Great Bear.

What about the other groups? The Great Bear Foundation seems to have its heart in the right place. I have been a member of this organization for only a few months and right now my gut reaction tells me they are trying to do the right thing (if anyone out there has any information about the Great Bear Foundation, good or bad, please send it to me). The Grizzly Project, working out of British Columbia, is the finest organization working on behalf of grizzlies. The only problem with the Grizzly Project is that they have their hands full just trying to protect grizzlies in Canada. There is one other group concerned with the grizzly, Wild Forever. This group is a collaborative effort by some of the big names in corporate greenhood; the Sierra Club, the Audubon Society and the TWS are among the organizations that make up this group. Adam Ruben, who heads up this collaborative effort, is devoting a considerable amount of his time and talent towards providing solid information. It remains to be seen what sort of force Wild Forever can be on behalf of the grizzly in view of its sponsors.

So, where does that leave us? More importantly, where does it leave the bears? Unless a concentrated force of public opinion and action is mustered to protect the grizzlies, it most likely leaves them with a habitat that is shrinking everyday and a population that becomes smaller, not larger, every spring.

So, what's the big deal about the grizzly bears anyway? All they do is munch on a back country hiker every year or so in either Glacier or Yellowstone National Park. If you believe as I do, that grizzlies should be protected at all costs simply because they exist, then there doesn't have to be a reason. But if you insist upon having a reason, then how's this? The grizzly is an

"indicator species." If you see a grizzly bear in an ecosystem, you can be damn sure that ecosystem is healthy. The Great Bear indicates that all the various webs of relationship in a particular ecosystem are functioning properly. Or as John McPhee put it in his book, *Coming Into the Country*: "The sight of the grizzly bear stirred me like nothing else the country could contain. What mattered was not so much the bear himself as what the bear implied. He was the predominate thing in that country and for him to be in it at all meant that there had to be more country like it in every direction and more of the same country all around that. He implied a world. He was an affirmation to the rest of the earth that his kind of place was extant." Enough said!

What can we do to protect the Great Bear? How can we make sure that this awe-inspiring creature will continue to inhabit the lower 48 states? The answer is simple. We must act to save the bear ourselves. We do our own research, we formulate our own recovery plans, we howl when the bear's habitat is encroached upon, we fight. In a manner of speaking, some of us are already doing this. We support the idea of large wilderness areas, we protest building useless roads into roadless areas. We support legislation such as the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act. We encourage the idea of linking corridors between wilderness areas. We fight. The most important idea to remember is grizzlies require large amounts of pristine land in order to survive. We protect the grizzly by protecting its home, its habitat. We protect the grizzly by relying upon our own research to guide us in making decisions that affect the future of the bear. We must silence the chainsaws and block the bulldozers. We must fight and fight.

When you read the current literature on the grizzly (and there are mountains of stuff), it begins to strike you that there really isn't a lot of concrete information on the grizzly bear. Oh sure, we think we know that the grizzly eats this and that and sleeps here and there, but only sometimes and not always. We are sure the grizzly bear does this, but it's unpredictable. Mr. Jones, famous bear researcher, contradicts Mr. Smith, famous bear researcher. In fact, bear biology sounds a lot like human psychology (I am not a fan of psychology, but we won't get into that here). It has become evident to me that in order to effectively counter the arguments made by government researchers and other associated lackeys, we must conduct our own research relying upon the truth to be our simple, but all encompassing, guideline.

Right now, as you are reading this article, there exists a place where ensuring a "viable population of grizzly bears is a key step toward saving the grizzly in the lower 48 states." This place is the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Area located on the border of Montana and Idaho. However, there is a catch. No one seems to know if there are any grizzly bears in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. The government doesn't know. The Wilderness Society doesn't know. The Sierra Club doesn't know. The government says, "the present grizzly bear population for the Bitterroot ecosystem is unknown." The Wilderness Society says, "It is unclear whether or not the grizzly bear still exists in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Area." The Sierra Club says ... well, who cares what the Sierra Club says? The government's position on a "possible" Bitterroot grizzly bear population is somewhat surprising in light of the number of surveys and studies they have funded in the area. The government states in the Bitterroot chapter of the Revised Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan, "There is no research data on present or historical grizzly bear populations or habitat use in the Bitterroot Grizzly Bear Evaluation Area." I guess the government has about as much faith in its research as I do—not much! The various government agencies charged with grizzly bear recovery have no plans

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SPIRIT BEAR THREATENED BY LOGGING

BY THE GREAT BEAR FOUNDATION

Princess Royal and Swindle Islands, off the coast of British Columbia, are home to a very rare bear—the Spirit Bear. This rare creature is a remarkable white North American black bear which thrives in the isolation of the islands' lush green temperate rainforest. The Spirit Bear, also called the Kermode black bear, is believed to be the result of a unique gene combination. These are not albino bears, but are fully pigmented. On Princess Royal Island approximately one in ten black bears is a Spirit Bear. While there are a few white bears on the adjacent mainland, the island is where their habitat is most suitable and their population most dense. Probably no more than a hundred Spirit Bears exist today, making them the rarest coloration of bears in the world!



Only 100 white "spirit" bears live along the central coast of British Columbia. Their habitat is threatened by—you guessed it—logging.

Photo by Charles Russell

The native Tsimshian Kitasoo people tell the legend of Raven's guarantee to Moksgm'ol—the Spirit Bear. Raven, the creator, pledged that Moksgm'ol would always be protected to remind us of a time when the Earth's great glaciers covered the landscape. In reality though, these bears and their island are not protected at all.

Hunting of bears is currently legal on Princess Royal Island. Black but not white bears can be killed. Since black bears can have white cubs, it is essential to protect each and every bear—black and white—in this small, isolated population of bears. This is necessary to insure the survival of the unique Spirit Bear.

The greatest threat to the Spirit Bear is logging. The BC government has already divided the island into tracts and begun issuing permits to logging companies. On the northern end of the island, destructive clearcut logging has already begun. Logging the area will destroy the pristine old growth forest. It will silt the salmon streams, now rich with the spawning salmon which are the mainstay for not only the bears, but for the black wolves, eagles, orcas, harbor seals, mink and other spectacular wildlife of the area.

The Great Bear Foundation (GBF) has moved into action in response to this course of destruction. GBF is working closely with the BC-based Valhalla Wilderness Society and the Kitasoo people to pressure BC to preserve what is left of Princess Royal and Swindle Islands and the surrounding mainland as the heart of a 750,000 acre Spirit Bear Wilderness Park.

ESTABLISHING THE SPIRIT BEAR WILDERNESS PARK

The Spirit Bear Wilderness Park would be North America's first sanctuary for black bear (*Ursus americanus*). The creation of this refuge would protect one of the continent's most fascinating animals and some of the world's finest

remaining temperate rainforest. Thousands of plant and animal species depend on this ecosystem for their survival. Princess Royal and Swindle Islands would be the final link of a two-million acre wilderness that extends from the Coastal Range divide at Tweedsmuir Provincial Park to the coast mountain Kitlope Valley, and on to the Pacific Coast at the Khutze-Green Inlets of the mainland and Princess Royal and Swindle Islands.

The BC Provincial government is studying a different park proposal for the bear. They are considering a park that is less than 1/10 of the area included in the Spirit Bear Wilderness Park Proposal supported by GBF, Canadian and American bear biologists, naturalists, conservationists, and the Tsimshian Kitasoo people. The BC proposal would surrender 90 percent of the proposed sanctuary to immediate industrial logging, mining and hunting and leave the white bears defenseless against dramatic loss of habitat, poaching and trophy hunting for their rare white coats.

The GBF is heading a campaign to develop pressure on the BC Government to set aside the 750,000 acre Spirit Bear Wilderness Park. GBF is sponsoring a variety of grassroots efforts to heighten public awareness of the Spirit Bear and the Wilderness Park Proposal.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

The most important and effective action you can take at this point is to write personal letters to Premier Harcourt and Elizabeth Cull, Minister of Environment, of the BC government. Personal letters from the US and Europe are the most effective, much more so than a form letter. Tell them that you have become aware of the plight of the Spirit Bear and you support the Spirit Bear Wilderness Park proposal. Let them know that you are in favor of the 300,000 hectare sanctuary (roughly one-third the size of Yellowstone National Park) to preserve the Kermode bear and its world-class wild ecosystem.

Involve your friends in the Spirit Bear initiative. Help us to help the bears by informing your friends and family about the threats to the Spirit Bear and the wilderness park proposal. Encourage them to write letters to the BC government.

Please write Premier Harcourt and Hon. Elizabeth Cull at the Parliament Buildings, Victoria, BC, V8V 1X4, Canada.

For more information write the Great Bear Foundation at PO Box 1289, Bozeman, MT, USA, 59771-1289, phone (406) 586-5533, fax (406) 586-6103, e-mail: greatbears@aol.com.

The (Great) Bear Truth cont.,

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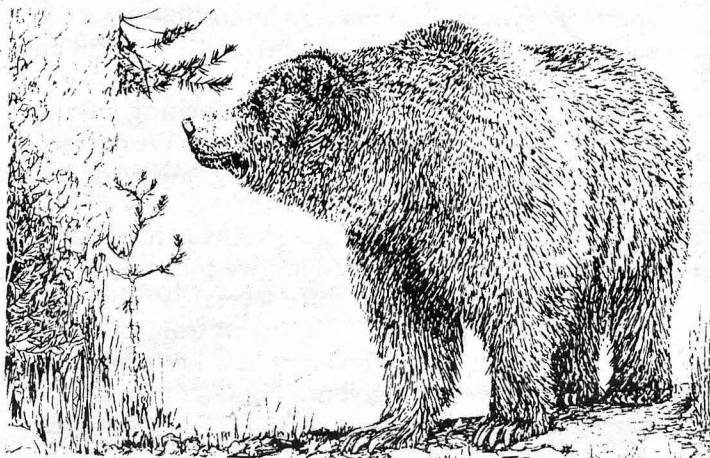
to rectify the lack of knowledge about the Bitterroot Range grizzly. Tom Puchlerz, the National Grizzly Bear Habitat Coordinator for the Forest Circus explains, "There are no plans to undertake any further surveys (of the Bitterroot) ... although additional survey work would be nice ... the conclusion of the USFWS and other involved agencies is that no further surveys are needed."

Basically, the government is declaring a population status survey complete when in all reality the job has not even been started. At any rate, there is most certainly an inadequate base of knowledge from which to judge whether or not a resident population of grizzly bears exists in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Area. Such a lack of fundamental information needs to be corrected before any governmental agency or environmental group makes any management plans or decisions which involve the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Area or its surrounding environs. The importance of definitively resolving the status of the Bitterroot grizzly bear cannot be overstated. If we don't resolve the question of its status, one possible result could be the unleashing of chainsaws on the surrounding wilderness areas. Then, if grizzlies are found to inhabit the area, it would be too late to effectively protect their home from further damage.

I hope to resolve the question of the status of the Bitterroot Range grizzly. I have already begun to collect observations from various people who think they may have spotted grizzly in, or near, the wilderness area. Some

people might think that publicizing the presence of grizzly bears in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Area could cause the bears harm. I disagree with this view. To paraphrase John Muir, "an unknown bear will suffer the fate of an unknown bear." We must know if the grizzly exists in the Selway-Bitterroot before we can sound the alarm and effectively organize for its protection.

The Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Area in Montana and Idaho is part of the largest, most remote roadless area in the lower 48 states. Its 1.3 million plus acres contain rough mountain areas with alternating deep canyons and high barren peaks. Broken ridges and peaks alternate with lush, dark forest that's been repeatedly burned by natural fires. Elevations range from 1,600 feet on the Selway River to over 10,000 feet atop Trapper Peak.



The Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness forms the core of the Bitterroot Grizzly Bear Recovery Area and it is one of only six places in the lower 48 where the Great Bear is thought to survive. Biologists have concluded that the Selway has good grizzly bear habitat. They are just not sure if it has any grizzlies?!? *The Bitterroot Ecosystem (BE) Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan* states, "Currently, there is no research data on present or historical grizzly bear populations and habitat use in this area. Ongoing research activities should include the verification of grizzlies in the BE ... There is no biological information on grizzly populations in the BE."

Search for the Great Bear is working to provide this missing information. We are planning a preliminary exploration of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness for signs of the Great Bear in September of 1995 with a major eight month search to follow in 1996. *Search for the Great Bear*, in addition to researching the current status of the grizzly in the Selway-Bitterroot, is working on a comprehensive history of the griz in the BE. We are also working to stop threats to the Great Bear by supporting efforts to preserve wilderness habitat using principles of conservation biology (including linking corridors for long term genetic exchange).

Please join us in our efforts! You can make a difference. Take action for the long-term survival of the Great Bear. To join the *Search for the Great Bear*, or for more information please contact Daniel Remington at PO Box 96, Pablo, MT 59855-0096.

TREADING WATER AND LOSING GROUND IN AUSTIN

BY CEDAR AND NEAL

If only it weren't for that damn EF! activist conference, central Texas Earth First!ers might have had a blissful spring of denial, lounging the day away in unhealthy ozone-depletion enhanced sun and drinking the night away in our favorite pubs. But since the conference, we have been infected with an ornery revolutionary spirit that has kept us busy with a long string of actions and projects.

In the Eostar Journal, we told you about the flare up in our ongoing conflict with the multinational corporation Freeport-McMoRan that occurred immediately following the conference. Since then, we have continued our campaign against Freeport and have stayed busy on several other fronts.

In Austin, Freeport's partially complete, 4,000-acre luxury housing development is polluting one of our most sensitive watersheds. The latest Environmental Protection Agency figures again list Freeport as the nation's number one polluter of air, water, and land. In West Papua New Guinea, they are colluding with the brutal Indonesian government in a massive copper and gold mining project that is displacing the indigenous peoples and all the creatures that live there.

Charade of Homes

We were presented with an irresistible opportunity to confront Freeport-McMoRan's development at their spring marketing event, the "Parade of Homes." Since Freeport can keep its Austin development alive only by selling a huge amount of "their property" in the immediate future, and since they are widely known in Austin as an archenemy of the environment, they have had to resort to almost Disneyesque marketing. This is not exaggeration. They actually patterned the Parade of Homes on a Wizard of Oz theme, complete with streets paved with gold (Freeport, after all, owns the world's largest gold mine). The event consisted of three weekends during which the great unwashed could tour the luxury homes for the nominal fee of seven dollars.

Freeport's flair for the dramatic inspired local EF!ers to come up with equally absurd means of protest. Two themes dominated our first weekend of protest. The first was our "Parade of Blockheads." This entailed carving large foam rubber blocks into masks with vacuous eyes and an overall square appearance. Our blockheads paid their seven dollars and strangely enough were not questioned about the very large foam blocks they carried. Inside, they donned their heads and walked from home to home with the other visitors as they were followed by our clandestine video crew. The most amazing thing about the blockheads' visit was the total unwillingness of the non-EF! tour participants to acknowledge their existence. After this wonderful demonstration of an American's ability to ignore even the oddest twist of reality, one woman finally asked the blockheads what was up. The blockheads explained that they were a traveling theater troupe, and toured several more homes before security ejected them from the development.

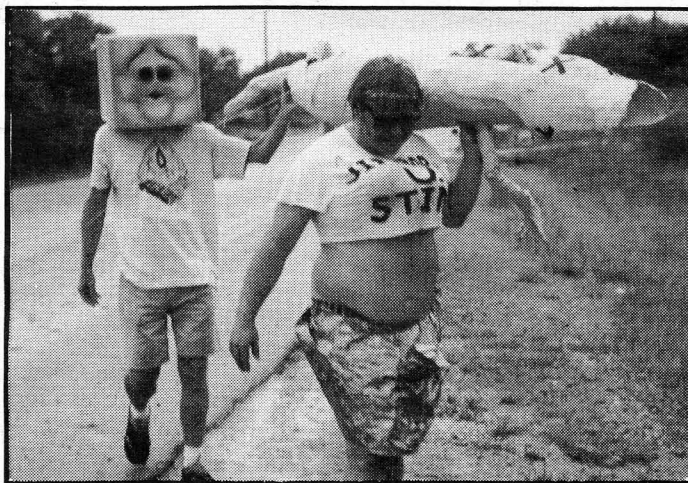
As the blockheads were sizing up their housing opportunities, a large contingent of EF!ers was stationed on the street adjacent to the shuttle parking lot. Continuing our Parade of Parody, a corps of Jim Bob cheerleaders performed yells like, "Jim Bob Moffett/A man of vision/ Pollution, Extinction/Sub-div-ision! YAAAAAY, JIM BOB!" "Subdivide and Conquer!" and "Kill the creek!" The cheerleaders were a gruesome, gender-confused lot, waving pom-poms of genuine Barton Creek algae with the tackiest skimpiest and garish makeup.

Although the sheer hilarity made this demo one of the most fun in years, we decided on a more straightforward approach for the closing weekend of the parade. The new theme was, "If you lived here, you would have been protested by now," and featured lots of non-voluntary education by way of bullhorn. Never underestimate the power of a bullhorn. Most of the tourgoers seemed fairly disgusted by the dirty details of the impact of sewage effluent on the health of those downstream, including earaches, diarrhea,

and yeast infections. In spite of the endless-loop bullhorn presentation, many of the attendees rolled down their windows to take our flyers, and many promised they wouldn't buy homes.

Maybe it Came from the Indonesian Copper Mines

While most of us paraded around with signs and banners, Tim Jones and his video camera sleuthed around on enemy territory. Earlier this spring, Tim noticed something just as disturbing as an algae bloom in the Barton Creek tributary coming from one of Jim Bob's golf courses—a distinct lack of algae, or plant life of any kind. We immediately suspected that Freeport had poisoned the water to prevent a telltale algae bloom indicating nitrogen runoff from their sewage effluent-fertilized golf course. As our local daily said, "At that time, the developer was seeking regulatory concessions from the city and state, and an algae bloom in the creek...



The Parody of Homes

could have been politically damaging to the company." Tim reported his findings to the city, which did tests to determine the cause of the algae die-off. Finally the local daily newspaper acquired the report, and sure enough, the city had found high levels of copper in a tributary to Barton creek. Copper salts are common ingredients in many commercial algicides and the concentration found in Freeport's pond was almost four times the level that can harm aquatic life. Freeport, naturally, denied they put anything remotely copper-like in the tributary. A "scientist" they hired said there was no algae kill, only "a natural discoloration."

Salamander in Distress

One of the victims of Freeport-McMoRan's plans for Barton Creek is the Barton Springs salamander, which has been languishing as a species proposed for protection under the ESA. After missing every deadline in the process of listing, Bruce "Will of Jell-O" Babbitt himself granted a six-month extension on final listing, at the request of Texas Guv George "Shrub" Bush Jr. and Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison. The state of Texas, you see, had not been given the opportunity to come up with a plan for protecting the salamander. Last time we talked with the Guv's office, they were "reviewing the data." The legislative session is now mercifully over, but the salamander protection efforts in this recent session included wiping out most of Austin's attempts to control the impact of development on the Barton Springs watersheds. While the Guv's extension ends in August, President Clinton signed a bill in April that instituted a six-month moratorium on any new listings for any species anywhere. This makes it impossible to get the salamander listed before October, if there is still an Endangered Species Act by then.

With the extension came a reopening of the official comment period on the listing. We decided to make the best of it by visiting the Fish and Wildlife Service en masse on the last day of the comment period, all day long. This is how Earth First! works within the system, we told them. We were going easy on them since several FWS bureaucrats had been getting death threats from the local property rights nuts. Since it was a fairly friendly occupation, we were given a conference room to ourselves, where we perused their salamander files,

composed letters, conducted live radio interviews, ordered pizza, etc. Accompanying us was a seven-foot algae-draped Barton Springs salamander which had seen better days, having spent all day at the Parade of Homes on the side of the road, out of water.

On to Public Enemy Number Two

Another enemy of the salamander and the aquifer is Gary Bradley, whose 4000-plus acre Circle C Ranch development straddles the Barton Springs Aquifer recharge zone in Slaughter Creek's watershed. This development is much further along than Jim Bob's, thanks to Bradley's lobbying acumen. While one side of Bradley is a violent, woman-beating hothead, the other is an accomplished schmoozer who makes friends in high places in the good ol' boy way—plenty of campaign contributions. His winsome ways have netted him: two state highways, two schools, sewer service, a park, soccer fields, a velway (high-tech bike track), and a \$92 million S&L bailout. Many of these subsidies were provided by the City of Austin with the expectation that Circle C would eventually be annexed into the tax base. Not content with having extorted millions from the taxpayers, Bradley just got his buddies in the legislature to pass a bill which exempts Circle C from Austin water quality ordinances, prevents annexation by Austin, and gives Circle C its own powers of annexation, taxation and pollution.

We figured that if Bradley was going to back out of his end of the deal, we should present him a bill for goods and services rendered. So we went down to the Circle C sales office with our signs and a larger-than-life itemized bill. The grand total was \$174.9 million dollars. As

we attempted to present the bill to the butthead at the sales office, he violently ripped it from our hands and crumpled it up, as the local news filmed. This, of course, was the take for the afternoon and evening news, which actually did a good job of reporting how this bill screws Austin. It's looking like this is a developer's bill so outlandish and unconstitutional that even George W. Bush might consider vetoing it. Probably our most hopeful grounds for veto, though, is that Gary Bradley didn't contribute to Bush's campaign.

Revolution 101 at Moffett Building

With the Rendezvous coming up and none of our cars or checking accounts working properly, another demo—this one with serious bust potential—was all we needed. But we had to do it, because the University of Texas (UT) was preparing for construction of the new Jim Bob Moffett building, a grad student and research facility for molecular "biology" (read: genetic engineering). Student activists stoked the fires on campus—not an easy chore, since the UT administration cannily scheduled construction for the off-season summer months. Their efforts were rewarded by over a hundred spunky protesters who clogged the road in front of the building site and swarmed all over the sidewalks. Two students were arrested for blocking the gate into the site, and Neal unfurled a banner from a balcony overlooking the site which read "Don't Honor Human Rights Abusers and Polluters—Freeport Out of UT" and then locked himself to the balcony. After several hours of negotiation, Neal unlocked himself and was released with a warning.

Student and townie activists have resolved to organize weekly protests of the Moffett building. Our message to the University is, "Give up now, and save yourself some trouble."

Analysis and Allegory

All told, this has been a very daunting spring for Austin enviros. We feel like salmon meeting a dam on our way upstream. With the Legislature in town and all the anti-Earth forces hard at work, we have to give it all we've got just to lose the least ground. While most of the mainstream groups assume "duck and cover" positions, we fight on, guarding that little ember, in the hope that when the storm has passed, it can be rekindled into a bonfire.

EARTH DAY '95: ARE WE SAVING THE PLANET YET?

BY LONE WOLF

The 25th anniversary of Earth Day passed about as quietly as the proverbial Silent Spring. Oh, sure, there were the traditional fairs, bursting at the seams with fliers and bumper stickers, the Sunday supplements trying to paint a happy face on our chemically impaired planet, and even a poll of Nor'westers proving beyond all reasonable doubt that, yes, we do want to have our planetary cake and eat it too ("Jobs and Owls!"). But it seemed to this lonely lupine voice in the wilderness that we Amerikaners made a much bigger deal out of the 25th anniversary of Woodstock than we did out of ED XXV.

The tragically hip might say it doesn't really matter, because every day is Earth Day, but it does matter. There is a growing malaise in the environmental movement, a sickening sense that the gig is up, and the general public's apathy is rising in direct relation to the growing environmental crisis. America is in denial—which should come as no surprise considering our level of dysfunction—and some kind of intervention will be required to get us all into a twelve-step program to save the earth.

For right now, though, before this tarnished planetary milestone recedes into the murky depths of our pop-culture consciousness like last week's recycled newspaper, all we can do is struggle for perspective. Let us ask ourselves and our favorite lobbyist this simple, sound-bite question: Is our environment better off now than it was 25 years ago?

Let's get real. While we were busy car-pooling in our new and improved fuel-efficient vehicles, an invisible hole the size of Alaska opened up in the stratosphere. While we were busy switching from nuclear to coal power, the whole ball of terra firma wax started heating up, and state-sized chunks of the Antarctic ice shelf started disappearing. While we were busy planting trees in our cities, robber barons continued clear-cutting our forests and the World Bank barons were torching the world's rainforests on such a scale that astronauts started commenting on the plumes of smoke visible from outer space. Are we saving the atmosphere yet?

While we were cleaning up our urban rivers and Great Lakes, our most pristine streams were being choked off by sloppy forestry practices and the oceans started dying. Jacques Cousteau tried to warn us, but the idea that we could over fish the ocean or pollute it to the point of breaking links in the food chain still seems unfathomable to most of us. Are we saving our waters yet?

Twenty-five years ago we had Tricky Dick to kick around, and while you don't think of the old Millhouse as a friend of the environment, the truth is he created the Environmental Protection Agency and signed into law most of the major environmental laws which we have yet to implement. Now we're giving Slick Willie the boot licking treatment, and although the enviros hoisted toasts to his election like it was the dawning of the Age of Aquarius, it is now the morning after in America, and we are waking up with a nasty hangover wondering who this bulbous-nosed bozo is, and just how it was we ended up in bed with him and his wooden pal Pinochio.

Twenty-five years ago there were 92 species on the threatened and endangered list, including the American bald eagle and those funny brown pelicans whose eggs kept turning into DDT omelets just the way Rachel Carson said they would years earlier. Today there are 1,467 species (give or take) threatened and endangered by man's activities, including all the Greater Columbia and Snake River Basin species of salmon; furthermore, scientists now predict that over a third of all species on the planet could disappear before our great grandchildren even draw a breath. Are we saving species yet?

Even more ominously, with all the increased

stress on the environment that comes from 5 billion humans and two billion cars and another billion McDonald's hamburgers sold, there are signs all around us that our natural defense mechanisms are beginning to break down. For example, people tend to think of AIDS as some exotic disease of gays and druggies. Of course, this overlooks the fact that there have always been gays and drug addicts, but there has never really been anything like AIDS before. What has this got to do with the environment? Well, scientists knew in advance that one of the potential effects of increased solar radiation pouring in through the ozone hole was that biological immune-defense mechanisms would come under attack. Is it just coincidence then, that AIDS arose out of the southern hemisphere at about the same time as the hole opened up down there? Is it paranoia, intuition, or basic survival instinct that is telling us that something is terribly wrong with this big picture?

It's like that granola gal at the Alternative Earth Day Fair told me when I asked her what she thought the most troubling environmental

Now it's 1995, and we have finally banned CFC's, which are known atmospheric carcinogens. Problem is, they too are persistent little bastards, and NASA scientists tell us that we will be seeing their Pac-man like effects at play in the stratosphere for at least another 25 years. And AIDS is spreading like wildfire in places like Asia and Africa—not to mention all the other plagues, both old and new, that are popping up with the renewed vigor of locusts rising out of the Earth.

The more I know, the more I want to howl at the moon.

Okay, then, summing up: After 25 Earth Days we have "progressed" from Watergate to Whitewater, Nixon to Newt, DDT to CFC, reuse to wise use, atmospheric pollution to stratospheric pollution; from ecology to "the economy stupid," cancer to AIDS, pelicans to spotted owls and from disappearing eagles to practically extinct salmon. Twenty-five years ago we marched in the streets and turned our campuses into battlegrounds to end an unconscionable war we could not win. We all learned the meaning of

the word "quagmire." Now we are mired in another unconscionable war we cannot win, a war being fought with chemical weapons on a global scale.

And we have fairs.

We, who continue to exist on an island of luxury in a great sea of misery, devouring 40 percent of the world's resources and burning more fossil fuels than anyone else. And creating more new chemicals! We, who recycle our bottles, cans and newspapers as if that's the handily packaged solution to our environmental problems, and maybe even send money off to our megalithic conservation groups in Washington, DC, so they can work out compromises with Republocrats who aren't even capable of solving this morning's crossword puzzle, let alone the "environmental problem." We citizens of America—the only developed country in the world that still refuses to ratify the international treaty on biodiversity. The American Dream is quickly becoming the world's worst nightmare.

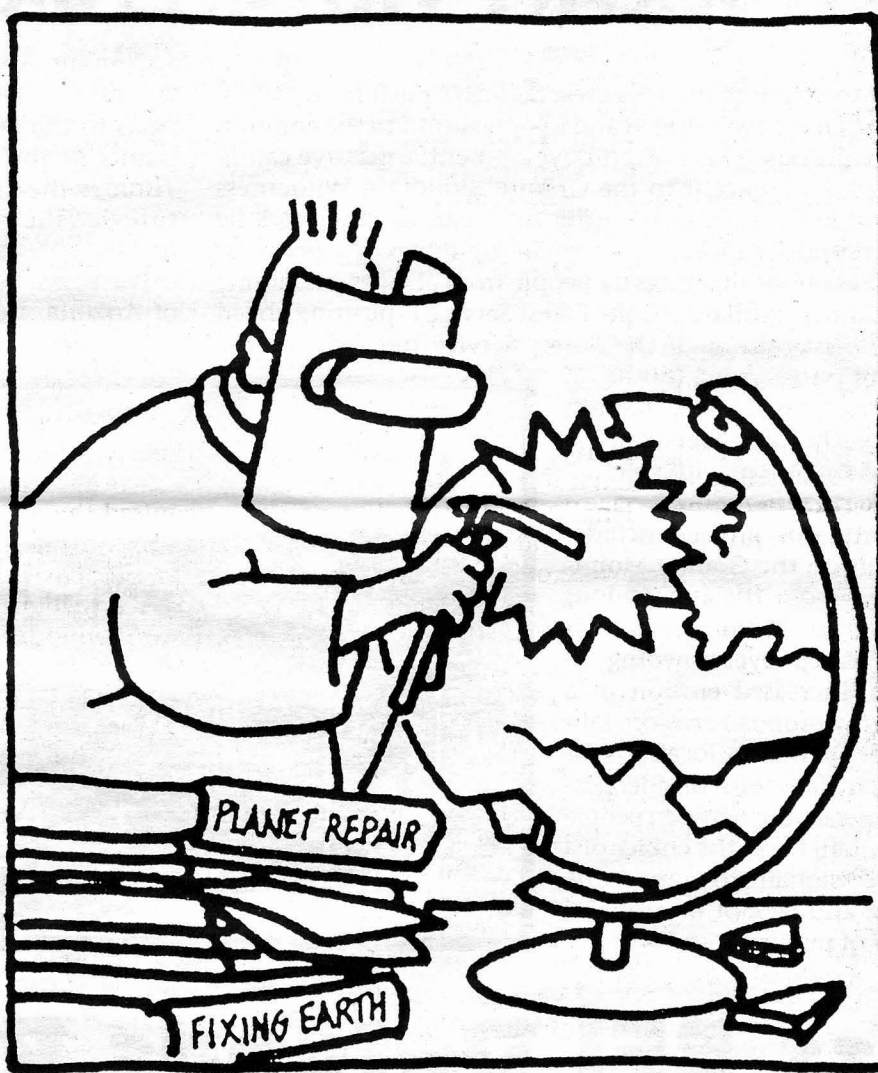
We must wake up.

In man's war against nature, Gaia holds all the cards. And since, technically speaking, humans are a part of nature, we are really at war with ourselves. Planetary ills are nothing more than symptoms of our own disease—the dis-ease of our spirit. As the first real tree-hugging environmentalist Henry David Thoreau once said, "There are a thousand hacking at the branches of evil to one who is striking at the root."

There was a time when we worshipped the planet—before the inquisitions of the patriarch, and the torture of nature. Before manifest destiny became suicidally exposed. It is time to give up the ghost of the American Dream, and wake up to our natural destiny. It is time to return not to the cave, but to our pagan roots, and the Native American Dream of walking softly on the planet. It is time to resurrect the Goddess.

Let us choose not to make too much of a prophet out of Thoreau, who also said this: "Not till we are lost, in other words, not till we have lost the world, do we begin to find ourselves."

Editor's note: This article was submitted by Lone Wolf, not to be confused with columnist Jesse "Wolf" Hardin.



problem in the world was. She said "Plankton are dying off the coast of San Diego!" When I asked her why she saw that as the most troubling sign, she said, "Because it's all related!" When the bottom link in the food chain starts to disappear, it's only a matter of time.

And now marine biologists tell us that dolphins off the coast of Florida are beginning to suffer from symptoms of acquired immune deficiency syndrome. I don't even think they're monogamous! Monkeys, humans, dolphins—who's next in this twisted game of species roulette?

If there is one consistent theme of the past three decades of environmental mismanagement, one bright and shining lesson to be learned, it is how little we really know about how things work on this living planet. Gaia is still a big mystery. The more we know, the more we realize how much we don't know, and by the time we do know, it's usually after-the-fact. By the time we banned DDT, it had already become ubiquitous in our environment, showing up in mother's milk and getting stored in our fatty tissue. Cancer has become as common as plastic in the past two generations, and the rates keep rising.

Senate Bill Threatens Wetlands

You already know that Alaska contains almost 70 percent of America's remaining wetlands, fragile ecosystems that provide critical feeding and rearing habitat for five species of Pacific salmon and millions of shorebirds and waterfowl. You also already know that Alaska, which has one of the nation's most lenient regulatory programs, does not need an exemption from federal wetlands protection. What you may not know is that Senate Bill 851 (S851) opens all of Alaska's wetlands—175 million acres—to unbridled destruction and development. (S851 proposes to rewrite Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for all of the US.)

Three years ago, President Bush proposed the infamous "One Percent Alaska Wetlands Exemption" to remove federal protection from millions of acres of Alaska's wetlands. That exemption was withdrawn after overwhelming opposition by the American public. Now, however, Congress wants to go even further and is poised to exempt all of Alaska's wetlands from protection.

HR961, the House counterpart to S851, has already passed the House. If S851 becomes law, it will affect not only Alaska wetlands, but wetlands throughout the entire United States. S851 was drafted by polluters for polluters and is being rammed through Congress with a deaf ear to the concerns of citizens across America who care deeply about wetlands and clean water.

The Senate will soon vote on S851, a bill that would effectively give the powerful oil, gas, mining, and timber industries virtually unfettered access to all of Alaska's wetlands. The impacts on Alaska's 175 million acres of wetlands, and the jobs, fish and wildlife those wetlands support, would be calamitous. S851 must be stopped and the Senate informed that the bill is unacceptable to the American public.

Using voodoo science, S851 defines and then deregulates Alaska's wetlands out of existence. By carving out loophole after gaping loophole, it ensures that polluters, developers and industry are never again

hampered by the Clean Water Act. S851 shamelessly proposes to use our tax dollars to pay off corporate landowners for complying with laws that protect them and the welfare of their community. In a single stroke, S851 turns back the clock on 20 years of environmental protection. S851 is an insult to anyone who cares about wetlands, and the health and safety of communities, families, and friends.

Please!! Take a moment *now* and E-mail, fax, phone and write your Senator expressing your strong and unequivocal opposition to S851. Insist that the bill is unworkable, unacceptable, and must be rejected. Demand protection for wetlands. Contact your Senator at US Senate, Washington, DC 20515, (202) 224-3121. Please send a copy of your letter to Senator John Chafee, US Senate, Washington, DC 20510. For more information contact Alaska Natural Resource Center, 750 W. Second Ave., Suite 200, Anchorage, AK 99501, phone (907) 258-4800.

FOREST SERVICE VIOLATES GRANITE MOUNTAIN

BY JULIA ROLL

Yet another example of the US Forest Service's push for development at the expense of wilderness and in opposition to the community is the Granite Basin Recreation Development, a massive campground being built adjacent to the Granite Mountain Wilderness Area outside of Prescott, Arizona. After five years of hard work by activists, two rounds of appeals, overwhelming shows of support for the mountain at public meetings by people from all ages, economic classes, and political affiliations, the Forest Service is pushing ahead with development. Although the Forest Service has reduced the number of camp sites from 150 to 71, this is still outrageous. To make matters worse, the project caters to recreational vehicles, providing them with electricity and a place to dump their sewage.

Problems with this project include: adverse impacts on the Granite Mountain Wilderness from the tremendous increase in people drawn to its main entrance; increased overcrowding in Granite Basin; increased erosion in a watershed highly prone to erosion, failure to consider alternative locations for the development; failure to consider possible adverse interactions between people and area mountain lions; the choice of a for-profit concessionaire to manage the campgrounds; and lack of meaningful consideration of public input.

Community members were so outraged by the Granite Basin Recreation Development that they wrote an unprecedented 41 appeals to the decision. The Forest Service regional office rejected all points in the appeals. When the citizens appealed to Jack Ward Thomas, the Chief of the Forest Service, he made the unusual decision to review the case, but he only decided to cut the number of camp sites to 71.

The Forest Service cites studies showing the increasing population of Arizona, the increasing demand for camping, and the damage caused by dispersed camping. Although these problems need to be addressed, massive development at Granite Basin is not the solution. Write the regional Forest Service. Express all your concerns. If they refer you to the Prescott National Forest, insist that the Prescott NF has not listened to concerns and campground construction has begun without consideration of public opinion. Write to John Kirkpatrick, US Forest Service, Albuquerque, NM 87102, phone (505) 842-3303. Tell Arizona Representative Bob Stump to cut appropriations for Granite Basin Recreation Development. Contact Rep. Stump at 211 Cannon, Washington, DC 20515, (202) 225-4576. Get involved with Granite Mountain Action, PO Box 1463, Prescott, AZ 86302, (520) 717-1914.



Mass EF! Defends Right Whales

BY PIPING PLOVER

In Massachusetts, the North Atlantic right whale sits high on the list of keystone endangered beings. Winter habitat for all 350 of these whales is Massachusetts and Cape Cod Bays by the Stellwagon Bank. The whales won't be laughing all the way to the bank if Boston's town fathers have their way and complete the biggest plumbing project this side of the Rio Grande. Talk about a load o' shit, the outfall pipe, part of the Boston Harbor Clean-up Project, is slated to carry between 500 million and 1.3 billion gallons of only partially treated human sewage and toxic industrial waste from Boston and 43 communities into Massachusetts Bay on a daily basis. In their eternal wisdom, city fathers and their mindless minions plan to dump this waste 16 miles from Stellwagon Bank and 37 miles from Cape Cod. Prevailing currents will sweep their shit along the south shore into and around Cape Cod Bay. Have a nice vacation at the beach,

guys! Oh, that this was the only outcome, but naturally humanity once again shits on their fellow beings. The discharge will flow into the Cape Cod Bay Ocean Sanctuary and disturb the right whales, sea turtles and the already dwindling populations of other ocean dwellers.

One might think the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would be appalled, no? I mean those 350 whales are endangered! But no, the Democratic Party machine is rolling out of control in Massachusetts and the EPA is on board watching the pedestrians fall by the wayside.

It was with this in mind that Mass EF! paid a visit to the EPA on May 30, but damned if we weren't so excited about being in the presence of such illustrious officialdom that we didn't all have to go to the bathroom. By the time we got out of all eight bathrooms, our enthusiasm must have dwindled, because we left the building and went for ice cream.

EPA employees, however, got the message when they went into the stalls to take

a dump. The signs pasted to the walls said: "You're about to shit on the endangered North Atlantic right whale." These were matched by ones at the urinals, where the hard-to-remove stickers said: "You are about to piss on the endangered North Atlantic right whale."

Meanwhile, back at the office, a "Death Certificate" was spewing out of the fax machines: "Name of Decedent: North American right whale; death caused by: The outfall pipe; Signed by: EPA; etc." OK, OK, so it was a childish prank. We just couldn't resist. Next time we'll join forces with Greenpeace and the local Native people (whose ancient burials on Deer Island are being trashed for this bogus project) and have a big press conference or demo. We'll try to behave ourselves ... well, we'll see.

Protest the dumping by contacting John DeVillars, Regional Director of the EPA, phone (617) 565-3420, fax (617) 565-4949. Contact Mass EF! for future actions at (617) 565-3420.

T-BAGS BURN AT THE CAPITOL

BY STEVE TAYLOR

The Times Beach Action Group (T-BAG) continues its campaign to stop the construction of the Times Beach dioxin incinerator.

The latest protest came five days after the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issued a permit allowing the incinerator to be built.

One day prior to the protest, the office of Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan called T-BAG requesting that we cancel plans to protest the next day. The Governor's office offered to meet with us if we put down our placards. We informed them that we were not going to stand down, and the rally went off beautifully.

Protesters assembled at the proposed incinerator site clad in white chemical protection suits and carrying an "OUST MEL" banner. We burned copies of the state permit to construct the incinerator as law enforcement looked on and the county police helicopter circled overhead. As usual, no officials were willing to meet with us at the site. Then we caravanned over 100 miles, media in tow, to the capitol, where we held our government responsible for bending to the threats of Syntex and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Taking positions on the steps of the capitol, we continued interviews. Capitol police informed us that we were under close scrutiny because we were known to "employ sit-ins and other noisy tactics."

Representatives met with the Governor's staff, the head of the DNR, and a representative from the Department of Health. We demanded that the project be canceled. They stated they were not happy that we had adopted tactics such as burning the Governor in effigy. We demanded that the project be canceled. They replied that we were unreasonable, that we should quit being "dark and adversarial," and that the governor did not deserve this sort of treatment. We demanded that the project be canceled and stated that if it was not canceled, we would accelerate our tactics of noisy protest and civil disobedience and discredit the Governor as much as possible. The head of the DNR added that he was "sick and tired" of our crap and threatened to pull the agency out of the project leaving us with a poorly monitored incinerator.

Times Beach, now a ghost town, has been central in the heated debate over both the toxicity and dangers of dioxin incineration. Times Beach was evacuated in 1982 because it and 26 other sites in Missouri were sprayed with dioxin-tainted oil in the early seventies. The EPA and Syntex Inc., the company liable for the cleanup, plan to burn over 100,000 cubic yards of the dioxin-laden soil at Times Beach.

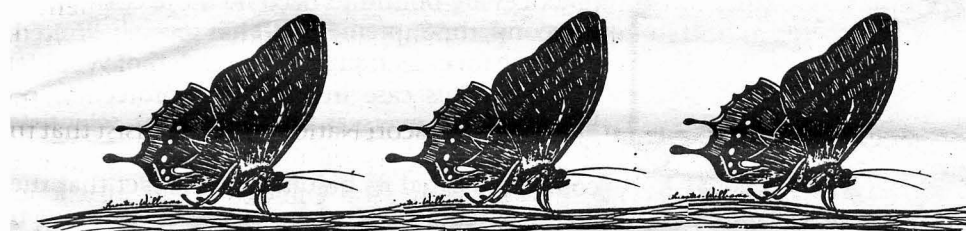
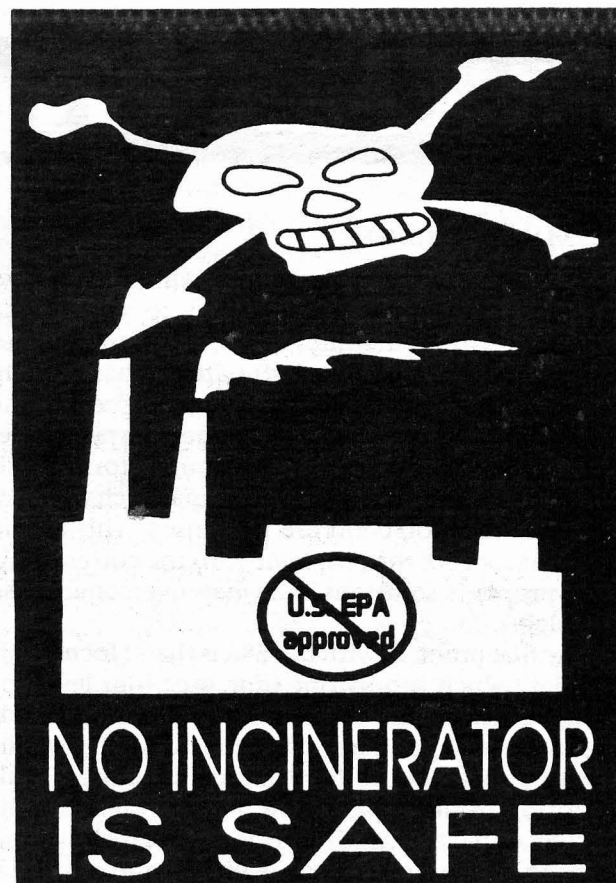
The EPA has issued a report declaring incineration second only to pulp and paper mills as a source of dioxin contamination. Last year, an EPA scientist leaked a draft reassessment on the toxicity of dioxin. The public at that time learned that dioxin, once heralded by the EPA as the most carcinogenic substance known, was even more toxic than previously thought.

During the last several years, the Times Beach Action Group, along with other area groups, has been successful in countering government and corporate propaganda regarding the so-called harmlessness of dioxin and incineration. The *St. Louis Post Dispatch*,

which receives a third of its paper from the notorious pulp and paper outfit Diashawa, has been cited several times by the *National Journalism Review* for its biased coverage of the dioxin issue.

Since April 18th, activists have been threatened with Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP) suits and tensions are running high.

On July 27, T-BAG, along with activists from Arkansas and Illinois faced with similar incinerators, will converge on the Times Beach incinerator site and make good on its promise to shut it down. For information call Steve Taylor at (314) 391-5715.



Victory for the Belt Woods

Citizens, environmental groups and civic associations are celebrating a decision on April 21 by Judge E. Allen Shepherd of the Prince George's County Circuit Court rejecting the Comprehensive Design Plan (CDP) for development of the Seton Belt Home Farm. The decision is a setback to the plan to put 649 houses on environmentally sensitive property which is the only old growth on the mid-Atlantic coastal plain. Belt Woods is located 20 miles east of the White House near Bowie, Maryland in an area threatened by urban encroachment. (See the Mabon, 1994, issue of the *EF!* for more information.)

The Seton Belt Home Farm is a 515-acre tract of forest and farmland held in trust by Mercantile Bank in Baltimore for the Episcopal Diocese of Washington and St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church of Leeland. The Belt Woods has the highest density of nesting migratory songbirds anywhere in North America and is well-known to local naturalists for its unique habitat characteristics.

The CDP had been approved by the District Council in June 1994 and was immediately appealed. The appeal, argued by land-use attorney, Tom Dernoga, was based on the fact that 13.7 acres of existing forest were to be cut and adjacent fields set aside for regrowth or replanting. Judge Shepherd's decision makes a clear distinction between preserving existing forest, as required by zoning conditions placed on the Belt property, and conserving forests which can include replanting. "Cutting mature trees and replacing them with saplings just does not qualify," said Dernoga.

Write to the Right Reverend Ronald Haines, Episcopal Church House, Mt. St. Alban, Washington, DC 20016, phone (202) 537-6550. And since Belt Woods is an area of national and international significance, please send copies to the Presiding Bishop: The Right Reverend Edmund Browning, 815 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

To get involved, contact the Coalition to Save Belt Woods at PO Box 1023, Bowie, MD 20715 and Anacostia/Rock Creek *EF!*, PO Box 5625, Takoma Park, MD 20913, phone (301) 270-0857.

FORESTERS BATTLE CATERPILLARS

BY MATT PETERS

The US Forest Service sprayed 55,444 acres of the Allegheny National Forest in Pennsylvania with the insecticide "B.t." in order to kill forest tent caterpillars on May 15. One little flaw with the project, however, was the Forest Service never solicited public comments or input as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Forest Service claimed that since they approved a similar project in 1994, respraying was justified. The 1994 spray projects, however, were for a different species of caterpillars and in completely different areas of the forest. No site-specific documentation was done as required by NEPA.

The Allegheny Defense Project (ADP) drafted an appeal to stop the spraying on May 11. A legal complaint and motion for an immediate Temporary Restraining Order were drafted and filed simultaneously. ADP's inexperience in legal procedures was a major factor in not getting the restraining order which would have stopped the spraying. In their eagerness to stay out of court, however, the Forest

Service agreed to all the points in the lawsuit. Although the suit did not stop this year's spraying, ADP was successful in ensuring that NEPA will be complied with in all future spray projects.

B.t. is a bacteria deadly to all types of caterpillars, which means no butterflies in the Alleghenies this year. To birds that depend on the caterpillars for food, the sudden disappearance of this essential part of their diet in the middle of their nesting season means a high mortality for our feathered friends. Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* predicted the region-wide decline of songbirds as a result of pesticide use over 30 years ago.

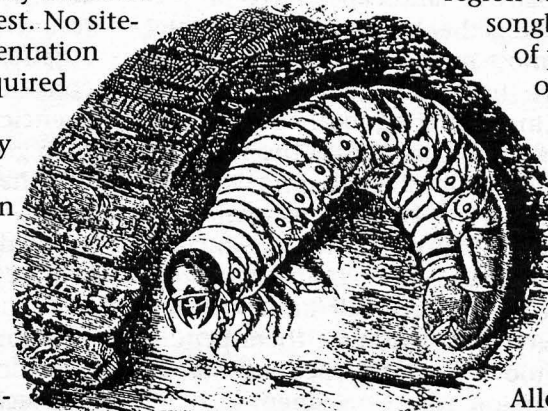
It seems that the Forest Service has either not read the book, or they missed its point.

Songbirds are in decline all over, and in the Allegheny National

Forest, the cerulean

warbler is easily a candidate for status as a state-listed endangered species.

If you would like to support the Allegheny Defense Project's work, write to ADP, PO Box 81011, Pittsburgh, PA 15217.



Making the ESA Work

BY MARTY BERGOFFEN

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) has been touted as one of the strongest attempts to protect the environment, sometimes called "the pit bull of environmental laws." Unfortunately, it has actually failed to fulfill its stated purpose: to protect the ecosystems upon which endangered species depend. This is caused by a number of factors, which upon examination suggest that major changes in biodiversity protection are warranted. This article looks at some of the problems with the current ESA, and proposes solutions that may overcome these problems.

The first problem with the ESA is that it focuses on species, which is only one of at least four levels of biodiversity, according to our current understanding. Preventing the loss of genetic diversity exclusively at the species level is a shortsighted goal. Ignoring or de-emphasizing diversity at the individual, ecosystem, and bioregional levels allows the continued erosion of biodiversity, and must be countered by significant efforts on all spatial scales from the microscopic to the global.

Diversity at the genetic or individual level is measured by how much individuals differ within the same species, like different strains of wheat. This level is protected under the ESA only occasionally, due to procedural roadblocks. For example, while dozens of salmon stocks have gone extinct in the Northwest, only a few have been listed. Similarly, lack of protection on this level would have permitted the Bald Eagle—our nation's symbol—to go extinct in the lower 48 states, given the burgeoning population in Alaska; luckily, this was averted. A more proactive protection scheme would examine the interactions between individuals and their ecosystem, and determine whether the continued viability of the land requires such links.

At the species level, diversity is manifested as the multitude of species interacting to make up an ecosystem, including plants, microscopic organisms, vertebrates and invertebrates. This level is supposedly completely protected by the ESA, but there are only about 800 species listed and over 3000 awaiting listing, which at current rates will take decades to list. Obviously, tremendous effort must be made in this area to prevent disastrous consequences to future generations.

The ecosystem level of diversity is seen in the vast array of ecosystems which make up a bioregion. For example, the low-altitude old growth forests of the Oregon coast are vastly different from the inland forests only a few miles away, due to different soils, rainfall, and other factors. The ESA claims the purpose of protecting ecosystems, but has failed to do so because of pressure from economic and development forces. Such economic forces must give way to other concerns, such as health and quality of life for all beings.

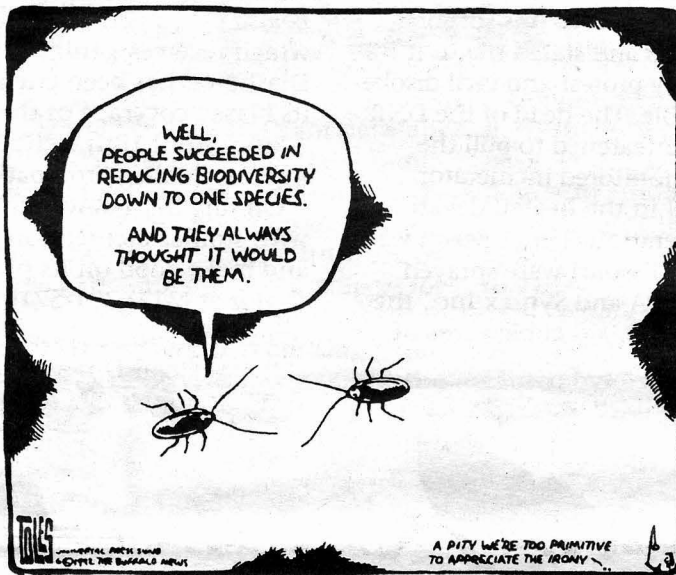
The bioregional level of diversity manifests itself in widely different ways, from deserts to rainforests to tundra. Such expansive landscapes have only recently been linked together biologically, and protective efforts are almost nil. However, protections at this level will have the advantage of protecting the smaller levels by incorporating local concerns into regional planning efforts, as well as the reverse of considering the effects of local actions on a bioregion.

A more complete program will recognize and protect all levels of diversity, in a way that includes populations, species, ecosystems, and bioregions that are endangered but lack full understanding, rather than excludes protection for them pending further study. In too many cases, species have been studied into extinction, to the detriment of all life.

Similar to these spatial problems is the problem of time scales. Currently, conservation efforts may only look a few years into the future, as salmon plans do, or even up to a century, as spotted owl schemes currently call for. However, most species have been on earth for millions of years. Planning efforts must allow for the proper time scales for evolutionary forces to ensure continued viability for all species, ecosystems, and other entities over

their proper lifetime. Planning that only examines the lifespan of the action project, or until the next rotation, is shortsighted and must be overcome.

One of the more problematic areas in biodiversity protection is the lack of empirical information on species, ecosystems, and the interactions that drive evolution. For example, we don't even know within a factor of ten how many species there are, let alone what species are where. Last year, Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt started to alleviate this condition by creating the National Biological Survey (NBS) from existing programs within the Interior Department. Unfortunately, it seems Congress would rather ignore a problem than gather information to assist in alleviating it, and has proposed to eliminate all funding for the NBS. It is interesting that Congress has continued to funnel billions into the effort to map the human genome, which is only one strand of DNA in a vast web of life throughout the world. This dichotomy is akin to memorizing one book, while simultaneously burning the rest of the library.



This situation must not continue. The NBS must be affirmed, with a mission to catalogue, investigate, and understand the biological, ecological, and evolutionary systems throughout the world. Full funding must be appropriated, and the best scientific minds from the US and beyond should be sought.

Another problem with ESA implementation has been the abuse of loopholes by action agencies and even listing agencies. There are a plethora of ways a listing agency can deny listed status to a species, such as lack of information. Further, the agency may decide that a species that warrants listing is precluded from protection by other conservation efforts. It may also list an endangered species as merely threatened, as happened with Snake River Fall Chinook in 1990.

There are also three difficult problems with recovery planning efforts. First, many species have no recovery plans; only 61 percent of species have developed plans. Second, the plans often fail to actually recover species; 60 percent of them set recovery levels below scientifically credible limits. Finally, recovery plans have no force of law, but are considered mere guidance documents by action agencies, which often fail to incorporate recovery plan goals into their documents.

Perhaps the most damning loophole is the fact that while critical habitat supposedly must be designated concurrently with species listing, or at least within a year of such listing action, such designations are almost never actually undertaken. For example, in 1986, only four of 45 listing decisions included critical habitat designations. This flies in the face of evidence indicating that habitat loss is the primary reason for species endangerment and extinction. These are only a few of the many ways that government agencies avoid their responsibility to protect biodiversity.

Eliminating these loopholes will be a daunting task, but must be undertaken. First and foremost, any new effort must include an absolute ban on adverse modification of habitat. This will include commercial activities such as logging, mining, and

subdividing for human residences, but additional activities may also require prohibition, such as hunting, hiking, or other endeavors. Further, agencies must have the ability to enforce recovery plans. Efforts must also be made to eliminate the backlog of species awaiting listing. These efforts will require a great deal of cooperation between various government agencies, as well as the private sector. However, any progress made in these areas will undoubtedly provide munificent benefits to future generations.

One of the reasons the ESA has failed to protect species is that enforcement efforts have not been serious enough to actually deter violations. This is in part due to a lack of effort in the field, coupled with minimal sanctions. This has in effect created a random permitting scheme, with only a few violators paying for the actions of many. An example of this is seen in the case of turtle excluder devices, which prevent endangered sea turtles from drowning in shrimp nets in the Gulf of Mexico. While the National Marine Fisheries Service has issued numerous citations, it has admitted severe difficulty in collecting associated fines, and dead sea turtles continue to wash up on Gulf beaches.

Two other problems with enforcement are related to the citizen suit provision of the ESA. First, the requirement that citizen suits be preceded by a written 60-day notice has led many action agencies to issue decision documents and rush implementation through before suits can be initiated. On Mt. Graham, the Forest Service approved a site change for a proposed telescope in protected Mt. Graham Red Squirrel habitat; timber cutting began the next day. Without the added protection of emergency injunctions, such practices are bound to become more common.

Second, the Supreme Court has severely limited standing for citizen suits, in *Defenders of Wildlife v. Lujan*. This case involved the protection of listed species overseas and held that scientists studying endangered species lacked standing. The court predicated its holding on the fact that the scientists could not prove injury in fact, given their indefinite plans to observe such species in the future. If specialists striving to preserve biodiversity have no standing in court, such efforts are doomed. One dissenting Justice called the *Defenders* decision "a slash and burn expedition through the law of environmental standing." The rights of citizens to use all methods to protect their environment, including litigation, must be guaranteed in new legislation.

One way to improve enforcement efforts might include diversifying the remedies for violations. Currently, civil fines are available, as well as injunctions to prevent future violations, and criminal fines and jail terms, although the last has been used rarely if at all. These remedies require varying levels of proof, as well as varying culpability and states of mind, but without more serious penalties, a de facto licensing scheme is established.

One way to overcome this difficulty is to increase criminal sanctions for particularly egregious violations, including holding corporate officers liable for actions taken under their supervision. For example, the Pacific Lumber Company (Palco) was recently found to be intentionally violating the ESA with respect to the marbled murrelet, resulting in both harm and harassment. A company as large as Palco will have no problem paying the associated fines, given the large profit they derived from logging the murrelet's old-growth redwood habitat. But jail terms for those responsible would have a significant deterrent effect for future violators, both in northern California and elsewhere.

Another remedial method to deter such economically viable violations is the use of restitution. This would require that profits accruing from violations be confiscated and awarded to the victim of the violation. A little legal creativity would allow the creation of a constructive trust for the benefit of either the specific species affected, or more general protection efforts for all entities. By eliminating the profit motive from such intentional violations, an

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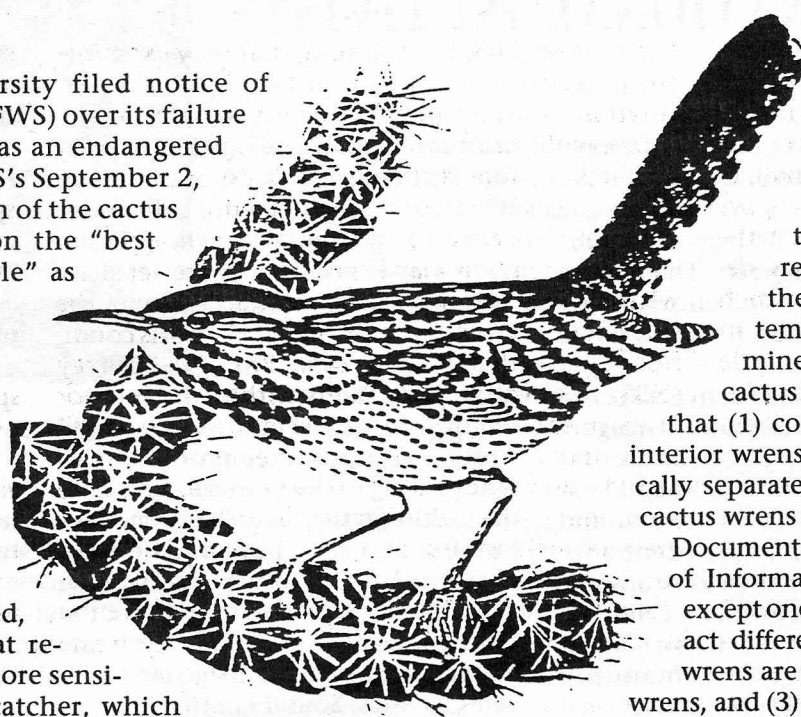
LAWSUIT SEEKS CACTUS WREN PROTECTION

BY DAVID HOGAN

The Southwest Center for Biological Diversity filed notice of intent to sue the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) over its failure to propose the coastal cactus wren for listing as an endangered species on May 18. The Center alleges the FWS's September 2, 1994 finding that the "Pacific coast population of the cactus wren is not a listable entity" is not based on the "best scientific or commercial information available" as the Endangered Species Act requires.

The coastal cactus wren (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus couesi*) is a robin-sized bird (aren't they all?) which feeds on insects and cactus fruits. It is entirely dependent on the presence of prickly pear or cholla cactus patches in coastal sage scrub habitats. Its call sounds like a deep-voiced, oft-repeated, throaty chuckle. Cactus wrens are the slackers of the coastal sage scrub; they are known to sleep well into daylight hours in their enclosed, darkened, nest-huts. Due to restrictive habitat requirements, the coastal cactus wren is much more sensitive to disturbance than the California gnatcatcher, which often occupies nearby coastal sage scrub habitats. The FWS stated in its status review for the coastal cactus wren that "fewer than 2,600 pairs are estimated to remain throughout its range..." Since the issuance of the status review, several hundred pairs of coastal cactus wrens have been lost to brush fires, and dozens more have been displaced by developments and "weed abatement" activities.

The Endangered Species Act defines the term "species" to include full species, subspecies and distinct populations of vertebrate species. The FWS considers a population of a species, or one or more subspecies, to be "discrete" when: (1) The population is "markedly separated from other populations of the same taxon as a consequence of physical, physiological, ecological, or behavioral factors," and (2) "It is delimited by international governmental boundaries..." For a discrete population to be considered for protection, it must also be biologically or ecologically "significant." The coastal southern California and northern Baja California Norte population of the cactus wren meets all of these requirements.



The Endangered Species Act requires the FWS to issue a rule proposing a species for listing, or indicating listing is "not warranted," within one year of the receipt of a petition. No such rule was issued for the cactus wren until a lawsuit was filed by the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity and the Sierra Club in November 1993. The lawsuit resulted in a settlement with the FWS, which then agreed to issue the 1-year finding by September, 1994. In the finding, the FWS determined that the "Pacific coast population of the cactus wren is not a listable entity" due to the fact that (1) coastal cactus wrens look and act the same as interior wrens, (2) coastal cactus wrens are not geographically separate from interior cactus wrens, and (3) coastal cactus wrens occupy the same habitats as interior wrens.

Documents obtained from the FWS through the Freedom of Information Act indicate otherwise. All documents except one indicate that (1) coastal cactus wrens look and act differently from interior wrens, (2) coastal cactus wrens are geographically separated from interior cactus wrens, and (3) coastal cactus wrens occupy different habitats than interior wrens. According to all documents, scientists are unified in the opinion that the "species" deserves protection. The one reference held up by the FWS to support their position is not a scientific document, and merely misinterprets another document in the FWS's possession.

The political pressure on the FWS not to list the coastal cactus wren has been intense. Southern California developers have continuously lobbied the Portland Regional Office of the FWS against listing the coastal cactus wren. Apparently, their pleas fell on friendly ears. Major development projects that could be slowed or stopped by listing the cactus wren include the Otay Ranch in San Diego County, the Foothill Tollroad and East Orange projects in Orange County, and a housing development on the Palos Verdes Peninsula in Los Angeles County. For more information, please contact the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity at swcbd@igc.apc.org, PO Box 742, Silver City, NM 88062, (505) 538-0961.

Dave Hogan is an ecologist at the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity. He has a cool toque.

THE ARK AND THE OFFICE

BY PATRICK MITCHELL

On May 15, three dozen endangered species congregated at the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Field Office in Carlsbad, California to take control of the agency charged with their protection. Kangaroo rats, a saguaro cactus, a Delhi Sands flower loving fly and Pacific pocket mice were among the species joined by one of God's chief messengers, and perhaps the most famous savior of species in history, Noah, who transported the plants and animals to the FWS office in his ark.

The morning began as two Earth First! activists scaled the office building (thanks to a local forklift driver) to hang a banner reading "SPECIES NEEDS NOT INDUSTRY GREED." Shortly afterward, a bigger than life Bruce Babbitt showed up to assure the critters that everything was under control. "It's a win-win situation, there is plenty of room for all of us, developers and rats" declared the ten-foot high Secretary of Interior. "You don't understand the

pressure we're under here," Babbitt continued. Noah shouted back, "Talk about pressure, I've got the Roman Catholic church to deal with."

Moments later a cougar arrived to present the field office with a habitat conservation plan designed to protect honest field biologists and eliminate the invasive bureaucrat. The cougar explained that the corridor to the restroom had to be developed, and, unfortunately only the conference room and a few of the offices would be preserved. The decisions were difficult, but the finest consultants money could buy were used to create the plan, the cougar assured Field Supervisor Gail Kobetich.

The flower loving fly then proceeded to point out the myriad problems endangered species have with the FWS and assured all present that they would return if the problems were not corrected. Fish and Wildlife Service representatives admitted that many



Endangered species with Noah and the Ark. Hey, isn't that Barney?

of their responsibilities often went unfinished but assured the species present that it was a result of a lack of funding, and that staffs were overworked and underpaid.

Patrick Mitchell is sick of seeing his native Orange County destroyed by greedheads.

Making the ESA Work

continued from the previous page

appreciable deterrence level may be accomplished.

Another perspective on enforcement is the opposite of deterrence: providing substantial benefits to private entities that protect biodiversity is certainly an option. This could come in the form of tax breaks for those who forgo development, or alternative dispute resolution methods for potential violators. Such efforts have already met with great success in isolated circumstances.

Finally, the biggest problem facing biodiversity protection efforts has been erratic, and sometimes nonexistent,

funding. As the political winds have changed over the last 25 years, funding has expanded and deflated like a balloon, often leaving many species and their habitat without any protection. Attempts to overcome this situation may be as short lived as the current Congressional session.

A method is needed that helps shield funding from political considerations. A prototype of such a system may be seen in Florida's "Preservation 2000" program, which establishes a dedicated tax on deed transfers to be applied to land acquisition and habitat

conservation efforts. The tax generates \$300 million per year, and the \$1.2 billion spent in the last four years has acquired over 350 square miles throughout Florida. A similar tax on the sale or lease of rights to federal resources that degrade habitat, such as timber harvest, mining, and grazing, could generate billions of dollars for federal land acquisition programs and biodiversity enhancement, including endangered species and their ecosystems. Further, such taxes could be applied in a way that deters subdividing large tracts of habitat, by scaling the tax to the degree of subdividing. Large tracts that are sold in one piece could have a much lower rate than those that split large

tracts into smaller ones.

In conclusion, restructuring biodiversity protection is necessary, given the abject failure of past efforts and the benefits that will accrue from such efforts, both to humans and the environment. Such efforts must take the form of a major overhaul, as opposed to the mere tinkering that has occurred in the past, and has resulted in incrementalization rather than prevention of extinctions.

The suggestions given here are only the beginning; future efforts may make even these suggestions seem conservative in hindsight. I can only hope that such is the case.

POLISH MINISTRY OCCUPIED BY INTERNATIONAL ACTIVISTS

BY TOM FULLUM

On April 28, a contingent of international forest activists blockaded and occupied the Ministry of Agriculture in Warsaw, Poland to protest the ongoing destruction of the Bialowieza Primeval Forest. The action followed a three-day vigil and encampment outside the Polish Parliament in downtown Warsaw.

While more than a dozen activists locked down to the ministry's entrance, Grzegorz Kubicki of the Polish environmental organization Workshop for All Beings, Tom Fullum of the Native Forest Network, and Joystick Jazdyk successfully gained entrance to the plush office of Stanislaw Zelichowski, Minister of the Environment, Natural Resources, and Forestry. The activists handed Mr. Zelichowski a letter demanding expansion of the present Bialowieza National Park to include the entire forest and an immediate moratorium on old-growth logging. The trio then refused to leave voluntarily until these demands were met and were eventually dragged from the office by Warsaw *policja*. Outside the ministry, blockaders were cut out after a long struggle successfully trapping the minister's car and delaying his speaking engagement before the Polish Parliament. Although several activists were taken to the Warsaw police station, no arrests were made.

The Primeval Forest

The Bialowieza Primeval Forest, which covers a total area of approximately 1,400 sq km, is found straddled uncomfortably across what is now the Polish-Belarussian border. It contains the last remains of native lowland temperate forest in Europe, dating back to 8,000 BC. For generations, it served as a hunting ground for Russian Czars, Lithuanian Dukes and Polish Kings. They spared it from conversion into agricultural lands. Thanks to these unwitting environmentalists, the Bialowieza Forest survived in its natural condition right up to the beginning of the twentieth century, after which began intensive timber exploitation.

At present only a small core "island" of 47 sq km is completely protected as a national park, while logging in the remaining 550 sq km is accelerating on the Polish side. The 800 sq km of forest on the Belarussian side is better protected and there are no forestry activities. The Polish government and the scientific community have long accepted that the core protected area needs to be greatly enlarged in view of the conservation importance of the whole forest. The national park was designated a Man and Biosphere Reserve core area in 1977 and in 1979 was selected as the only Polish natural site for inclusion on the World Heritage list.

The forest is refuge for European bison which were extirpated during World War I and reintroduced in 1929. It is also home to wolf, lynx, beaver, masked shrew, moose, crane, lesser-spotted eagle, black stork and all but one of the European woodpeckers.

Just outside the national park, forestry is irreversibly damaging the vast unprotected part of the Bialowieza, though it contains plant communities not represented within the park. Only 450 of the 1,050 species of vascular plants and 40 of the 113 plant communities known to inhabit the whole forest are represented in the national park. Furthermore, the park does not provide a big enough territory for animals such as the wolf, lynx, crane, eagle, and owl, which are vulnerable to hunting and poaching in the

unprotected area. The forest is being mined for its ancient oaks and other high quality hardwoods with a checkerboard of small 5-acre clearcuts. Despite heavy logging, the unprotected areas of the Bialowieza Forest still contain significant old growth.

According to the Workshop for All Beings, the logging activities in Bialowieza forest are running at a loss. Logging is done by the state which sells to private mills. The money raised from timber sales is not enough to cover the costs of extracting the timber plus the payment of a stumpage fee to the local communities. Sound familiar?

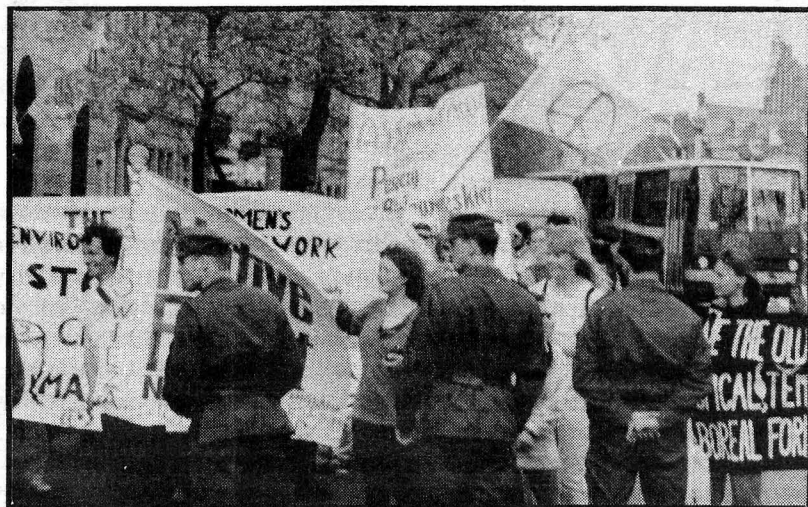
In 1992, the World Bank agreed to loan \$146 million to develop Poland's forestry sector. This allowed Poland to access funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), partly administered by the World Bank. The Bialowieza Forest and the Sudety Mountains received a GEF grant of \$4.5 million, but two and a half years later, at the end of the first pilot phase of the GEF project, there has been no discernible increase in the protection afforded the area outside the national park. In fact, the GEF grant may have stimulated logging as companies race to extract timber before proper protection is enforced.

International Delegation Visits Poland

The Workshop for All Beings and Theo Hopkins of the English Native Forest Network gathered a delegation of activists and foresters from more than a dozen countries to meet with Polish activists and strategize for an international campaign to save the Bialowieza Forest. Our first stop was the village of Bialowieza, 150 km from Warsaw. Situated on the edge of the Bialowieza National Park, the village is prosperous from tourism and logging.

After day hikes in the national park and surrounding areas of managed forest, Bialowieza villagers met with the Workshop for All Beings in a public forum which turned somewhat hostile. The village mayor was unsympathetic. Although there was little translation provided to international activists, it was apparent that this village knew logging was doomed but was not ready to make the transition to tourism. Whether or not they would have any old-growth forests left to draw visitors in the future, was up in the air.

Two days later, back in Warsaw, the Workshop for All Beings held a rally featuring speakers, music, banners, and an army of national media. More than 100 people marched to the Prime Minister's office. The Warsaw *policja*, composed mainly of bored ex-soldiers, quickly pushed demonstrators onto the sidewalks after a couple of showdowns. The marchers set up a vigil camp outside the government building that lasted three days despite rain and police harassment. Responding to demonstration pressure, the Chief of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Borowski, met with the Workshop for All Beings and the Native Forest Network and agreed to raise the issue in Parliament on May 9th.



March for Bialowieza Forest in Warsaw

Photo by Tom Fullum/NFN

Direct Action Gets the Goods

The vigil and ministry action have had significant impacts on the Polish political arena and the Bialowieza Primeval Forest logging controversy is now open for heated public debate. The Polish media provided steady national coverage in print, radio and television. On May 11, the Polish Senate passed a resolution asking for an immediate moratorium on old-growth logging and demanded that the government declare when the entire forest will become a national park. This represents a political turning point. Furthermore, the Ecological Council to the President of Poland passed a resolution urging that "immediate radical activities be taken by the highest state authorities." The village council of Bialowieza passed a resolution four days after the stormy public hearing stating that they also "see the need of protection of the forest." And on June 19, international actions and fax campaigns were organized by two European environmental groups, ASEED and European Youth Forest Action. Now is the time to increase the international pressure.

What You Can Do

The Polish authorities need to be convinced of the widespread international concern over the Bialowieza Primeval Forest. Send politely worded faxes to the Prime Minister of Poland, Josef Oleksy, fax +48 2 62 84 222.

Main points to include:

- an immediate moratorium on logging in the whole 550 sq km forest
- the total forest area should be given national park status
- financial compensation for the logging communities affected by the moratorium
- adoption of the resolution of the Ecological Council to the President
- adoption of the Polish Senate's resolution to afford the forest full protection

Please send copies of your letters to the Workshop for All Beings. Their address is Pracownia na rzecz wszystkich istot, ul. Modrzewskiego 29/3, 43-300 Bielsko, Biala, POLAND, phone/fax +48 30 183 153.

Contact Tom Fullum at the Native Forest Network, POB 8251, Missoula, MT 59807, phone (406) 251-2385, fax (406) 251-2386, e-mail: tfullum@igc.apc.org



Bialowieza Old Growth

Photo by Tom Fullum/NFN



GLOBAL NEWS



Suriname's Rainforest Threatened by Logging

The Republic of Suriname, in northeast South America is about the size of New England. It still has 90 percent of its rainforest, more than any other country on Earth. The forest of the interior remains virtually undisturbed and is inhabited by Maroons and indigenous Indian tribes. Suriname is the only place in the New World where Maroons, originally from West Africa, have kept their traditional lifestyle intact. The Indians and Maroons possess extensive knowledge of the value of forest plants as foods, fibers, medicines and other products. For centuries, these people have lived in the forest sustainably. Now, under the duress of a mounting economic crisis, with 500 percent inflation, the Surinamese government has opened the door to wealthy foreign loggers.

The proposed logging concessions, if executed, would wipe out nearly a quarter of the country's forest cover over the next 25 years.



Selling its trees and selling out its indigenous peoples won't solve Suriname's money problems according to sources ranging from a team of Harvard economists to sources within Suriname itself. If logging proceeds, Suriname will get only a small fraction of the profits. At best, it would get \$2 million annually for 25 years, compared with upward of \$28 million for the logging companies. At worst, the government could lose tens of millions of dollars a year, even if it complies fully with its contracts. That lost revenue is about the same size as the current budget deficit, which is what drives up inflation in the first place.

Forest dwellers in Suriname are prepared to defend their ancestral lands with violence, if necessary. The Surinamese government signed a peace accord with indigenous groups in 1992 following years of civil war. The accord calls for recognition and demarcation of lands, but the committee formed to supervise the assignment of lands has never even met.

Logging negotiations have been covert. Marauding companies include Berjaya, a Malaysian firm with a track record of bribery and environmental destruction. Two other large bids come from Indonesian firms. Two mainland Chinese companies have sought smaller concessions.

The Surinamese Parliament was scheduled to vote on the Berjaya contract in February. Rainforest Action Network has issued an alert to all those concerned about rainforest protection to become involved in saving Suriname's forests. To find out what how you can help, contact Nigel Fizer at the World Resources Institute at (202) 662-3496.



The Tarkine Tigers

With every passing week, more and more of Australia's "protected" high conservation value forests are being released by the Federal Labor Government of Premier Paul Keating, only to face the firing squad of the woodchip export industry.

The Heemskirk Link Road bisects Australia's largest temperate rainforest wilderness. The area, known as the Tarkine, is located in northwest Tasmania, the island state of Australia. The pork-barrel roadbuilding project will cost \$3.4 million and is designed to destroy the area's wilderness values before they can be assessed for World Heritage status.

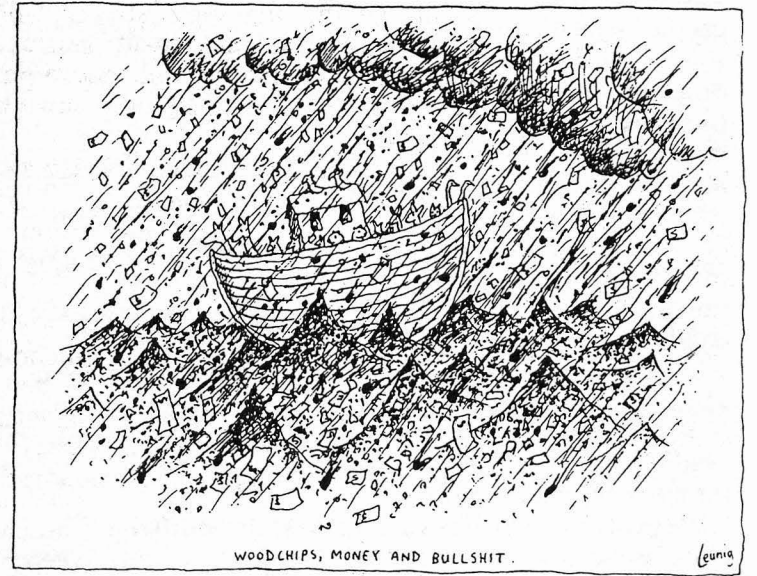
This so-called "tourist road" is a blatant sell-out to the rabidly anti-Green, anti-forest, anti-gay, pro-4-wheel drive crazy electorate. It opens up the woodchip resource to North Forest Products (NFP), the world's largest native woodchip exporter. Coincidentally, NFP has negotiated a second rainforest woodchip pile at the Burnie wharf for myrtle chips (used by Japanese fax paper manufacturers).

The Tarkine rainforest is home to the world's largest freshwater crayfish (up to three feet long!), white goshawks, wedgetail eagles, huon pine and myrtle beech. Conservationists, dubbed the "Tarkine Tigers," have continued to hamper progress, stopping chainsaw crews at every turn including preventing them from even landing on their helicopter pads. (The loggers are being flown in because the new road is so crowded with construction equipment.)

On one occasion, protesters gathered at a woodchip facility owned by NFP in Tamar River, Tasmania. The mill was closed for over three hours while 70 log trucks were forced to back up along the Tamar Highway, providing extensive media footage. While the principal target was NFP, the export terminal is also used by Boral, the world's second largest exporter. Police, obviously under instructions from NFP, scrupulously avoided arrests. NFP's Tamar manager, Brian Hayes, spent most of the next two days in a futile attempt at damage control. However,

the log trucks, piled high with old growth forests, were an eloquent testimony to the company's destructive practices. This action was followed by a protest at the opening of NFP's New Hampshire Woodchip mill, the largest in all of the southern hemisphere. Activists were joined by unionists, angry at the company's use of contract labor.

In Melbourne, Victoria 100 activists occupied the



main foyer of the AMCOR building and leafleted the crowds. The Native Forest Network (NFN) was protesting AMCOR's near total control of Australia's domestic paper and packaging market and its recent moves to phase out recycling in favor of virgin fiber. They plan to purchase 500,000 tons of fiber annually from North Forest Products. AMCOR is responsible for the destruction of forests on four continents, including North America. The protest appeared on page one of *The Business Australian*, and even drew comment from the company's managing director Don Macfarlane: "The reasons for the demonstrations today are to put more pressure on the Federal Government to walk away from its National Forest Policy." That's right Don, and to raise the public's awareness of just exactly what AMCOR's up to.

—NATIVE FOREST NETWORK

CITIZENS CHALLENGE DUPONT PLANT IN INDIA

For ten years, a coalition of Goan citizens has opposed the construction of a nylon producing plant on the Kerim Plateau in the remote jungle highlands of India's coastal state of Goa. Thapars-DuPont Limited (TDL), a joint venture between E.I. DuPont de Nemours of the United States and the Indian business house of Thapars, is developing the \$200 million plant.

The TDL factory would be the largest nylon manufacturing facility in Asia. Designed to produce "nylon 6,6," a product used mainly in vehicle and airline tires, the plant will have an annual production capacity of 18,000 tons. Company officials admit that the facility will create only 650 full time jobs. Despite assurances from TDL that the plant will not pollute the environment and will benefit the local economy, opponents argue that the factory is unwanted industrial development. Critics of the plant are concerned that the factory's operations will deplete the water table (the plant will use 65,000 gallons of water a day), pollute water resources, and poison the air with toxic chemical discharges.

Local citizens are also concerned about irregularities in TDL's takeover and the collusion of government officials. Among the lands obtained for the plant site are the local cremation grounds where, for generations, Hindus offered prayers and gifts to their ancestors.

On January 23, 1995, a peaceful blockade of the road leading to the factory site escalated into violence after two bus loads of police opened fire on seventy unarmed protesters. One person was killed and several more wounded. Angry local citizens then ransacked TDL offices in the nearby town of Ponda and destroyed a boundary wall at the factory site.

DuPont has stated in a document entitled "Consent to Operate" that it will not operate in

communities where DuPont's industrial development is not welcome. Local opposition to the plant includes the local councils of all five villages surrounding the plant site, rural farmers, tribal herdsmen, opposition political parties, the local Catholic Church, and Hindu leaders. DuPont seems to be ignoring community opposition to the plant in Goa.

Despite its claims that the plant will not pollute the environment, DuPont's contract with TDL has a clause that limits liability and exempts DuPont in the event of a chemical accident or pollution problem. One specific clause states that TDL "shall hold DuPont and its representatives or assignees harmless from any claims made in the Republic of India ... alleging bodily harm or death." Furthermore, an October memo from DuPont to the TDL project manager acknowledges that DuPont had not considered and taken appropriate measures regarding four critical areas of pollution control: ground water protection, waste water treatment, solid waste recycling, and air pollution control.

Please send letters to Edgar S. Woolard Jr., CEO, E.I. DuPont de Nemours, 1007 Market Street, Wilmington, DE 19898, fax (320) 773-0737.

Mention in your letter DuPont's "Consent to Operate" commitment and the widespread opposition of the local people to the Thapar-DuPont LTD Facility. Express your concern about the possibility of further violence and casualties.

Also write Chief Minister P.R. Rane, Goa Government, Secretariat, Panaji 403001, Goa, India, fax (91) 832-225254. Ask him to allow the citizens of Goa the right to determine the extent of industrial development in their communities and to express concern that further efforts to build the plant may result in additional violence.

Muir Society Continues Push for Sierra Club Reform

BY CHAD HANSON

As reported in the last issue of the *Journal*, Dave Foreman and David Brower have been elected to the Sierra Club's Board of Directors. Muir Society members are counting on them to support efforts to get the Club to call for an end to all logging and grazing on public lands. Time will tell.

Nonetheless, corruption in the Sierra Club has become so acute that the Muir Society (an organization created to restore and pursue John Muir's original vision) has begun to videotape meetings of the Club's national board of directors. At the last board meeting, which, to the board's extreme dismay and discomfort, we recorded, the board was to certify the results of the Club's national election for board of directors. Ordinarily this is an uneventful, routine process. But this year some serious questions arose regarding the way the election was conducted.

In previous year's elections, the ballots were counted by a firm in southern California. But this year, without explanation, Club management switched to a Long Island firm that counts ballots for labor unions. Hmmm.

We expected the ballots to remain sealed until the close of the election. A few days before the ballots were to be counted, one of the Muir Society candidates discovered that the ballots had continuously been opened for the previous six weeks. The board-appointed election inspectors knew about this, but failed to tell us. We requested that we be allowed to send an election observer to watch the counting of the ballots. Sierra Club president Robbie Cox refused our request without explanation or comment.

What do they have to hide?

Another interesting development occurred when former Club president Michele Perrault, rather than running on the board's slate of candidates, ran as a petition candidate—a category normally occupied only by challengers. My guess is that Perrault, knowing that Muir Society candidates would heavily criticize the board in our ballot statements, decided she would try to masquerade as a challenger to the status quo. Perrault has always been aggressively opposed to the Muir Society and the strong environmental advocacy we represent.

While the election was still open, the newsletter of one Club chapter published an article, favorable to Perrault, advertising a speech she would be giving, and encouraging people to attend. Club funds were used to publish the article—a serious violation of Club election rules. The rules specifically require the disqualification of any candidate (even past Club presidents) who violates this rule. After one of the Muir Society candidates filed an election complaint, the board's election inspectors reluctantly acknowledged that the election rules had been violated. However, they refused to enforce the rules, claiming that Perrault had no knowledge of the article and therefore could not be disqualified. Perrault never explained who supplied the photograph of her that accompanied the article. Nor did Perrault, who actually voted to enact this rule in 1989, explain why she approved any advertising of her campaign speech, when the rules clearly prohibit this in the first place.

The issue was appealed to the board but they flatly refused to uphold their own election rules. By doing this, the board set a precedent: anything goes in

Club elections. Club election rules are now totally meaningless—unless, of course, they are violated by a Muir Society candidate, in which case they would be ruthlessly enforced with righteous indignation.

David Dilworth, the Muir Society candidate who filed the complaint against Perrault, wrote a letter to the editor of *Sierra Magazine* (the magazine of the Sierra Club) describing Perrault's violations and the board's complicity, but was refused publication. He then sent the letter to various San Francisco newspapers—with the added charge of censorship.

The plot thickened when Susan Schock, a Muir Society candidate, finished second in the election. If the board upheld the Club's election rules, Michele Perrault would be replaced by Schock.

The Muir Society will be organizing to place another initiative on next year's election ballot. With David Brower and Dave Foreman now on the board, there is optimism that they will uncompromisingly support an end to the logging and grazing currently destroying our public lands. If we are successful in our petition drive, Club members will cast their votes to decide whether the Club will finally take a stand against public lands abuse.

Chad Hanson is the chair of the Sierra Club's Many Rivers Group (Oregon) and a member of the organization which can no longer call itself the John Muir Society without getting sued by the Sierra Club. This organization is a nationwide coalition of Sierra Club leaders and activists who reject bureaucratic, access-driven, political-realities-conscious, compromise-prone green politics in favor of grassroots organizing and strong, honest environmental advocacy.

Mexican Spotted Owl Victory

continued from the front page

servation agreements or other mechanisms be used to preclude designation of critical habitat throughout all or a significant portion of the species' range?" The documents also included a timetable showing how the critical habitat proposal could be withdrawn by November 30, 1995. After the story hit the press, Spangle dug the FWS's grave quite a bit deeper by stating "voluntary agreements between agencies are a better way to do business," and that "they provide equal protection without the regulatory measures associated with critical habitat." Thus, Spangle affirmed the FWS's goal of substituting designation of critical habitat with a "conservation agreement." Man, was Judge Muecke pissed...

No doubt spurred by exposure of the FWS's plan to disobey his June order, Judge Muecke ordered the FWS to propose critical habitat by December 1, 1994, and to finalize protection by May 30, 1995. In an effort to assign responsibility and make clear the possibility of contempt of court charges, Judge Muecke also demanded a list of all FWS personnel involved in writing the rules, and a daily log of all FWS actions regarding Mexican spotted owl critical habitat designation. On December 1, in an apparent attempt to save face, the FWS rolled out its official plans for a "conservation agreement" with the Forest Service and proposed critical habitat as required by court order.

Fish and Wildlife Service vs. Judge Muecke

After Judge Muecke's September ruling and the FWS's December proposal, it seemed like critical habitat

designation was finally on track. That's when Congress attempted its first strike against the ESA, with Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison's six month moratorium on listings beginning April 13, 1995. The moratorium was included as a rider on an emergency Pentagon expense budget bill, and was signed into law by Clinton with no comment. Seemingly seeking the extinction of the owl and forty-three other imperiled old-growth dependent species, the FWS wasted no time in asking Judge Muecke to set aside his order that critical habitat be designated by May 30.

Judge Muecke sided with the owl once again when he ruled that the Hutchison rider did not apply to the Mexican spotted owl, because he had previously set a specific date for the FWS to finalize the critical habitat rule. Further, **Judge Muecke set a national precedent by ruling that the moratorium was unconstitutional and limited in scope. According to Muecke, although Congress has the right to rescind funding for Endangered Species Act listings, it cannot overturn court rulings or court ordered settlements requiring listings.** To do so would violate the Separation of Powers Doctrine which states that the Courts and Congress hold distinct powers and cannot infringe upon one another. Further, Muecke limited the scope of the moratorium by interpreting its budget restrictions to apply to final listing rules only, not 90-day findings or proposed rules.

Governor Symington, in his infinite political savvy, responded to the ruling by calling for Judge Muecke's impeachment.

Enviroselated by Muecke's rule were

further surprised when Sen. Hutchison conceded that Muecke's interpretation is allowed under the moratorium. Despite Muecke's rule, Hutchison's concession, and a mandate to protect threatened or endangered species, the Fish and Wildlife Service had the gall to submit a last minute appeal of Muecke's ruling to the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals in late May. The appeal was denied, and on May 30 the Fish and Wildlife Service designated 4.6 million acres as critical habitat for the Mexican spotted owl. The chainsaw noise in Southwestern old growth mixed conifer and ponderosa forests quieted to a whisper.



IMPLICATIONS OF RULING ON HUTCHISON RIDER, AND WHAT YOU CAN DO

BY KIERAN SUCKLING

What does Judge Muecke's rule mean?

1) All past and future court orders to list species as threatened or endangered, or to designate critical habitat, must be carried out despite the Hutchison Rider. This includes 90-day findings, proposed rules, and final rules. 2) While the Fish and Wildlife Service can no longer argue that it is illegal to issue final rules, it may still attempt to argue that it is economically "impracticable" to issue final rules under the Hutchison rider. 3) The rider's budget restrictions do not apply to 90-day findings and proposals. 4) Other anti-environmental riders which attempt to overturn court orders will also be ruled unconstitutional.

What should you do?

1) Litigate and obtain court orders for all species and critical habitat which are overdue. This needs to be done now, before any more riders, amendments, or re-authorizations are enacted. The Southwest Center for Biological Diversity is suing for critical habitat designation for the southwestern willow flycatcher, Sonoran tiger salamander, Huachuca water umbel, and a listing proposal for the coastal cactus wren [see page 15].

2) File Endangered Species Act listing petitions ASAP and insist that they be processed despite the Hutchison rider. We will be filing several ESA petitions next month. If you would like a copy of Muecke's ruling or the Hutchison rider, send us a note and include your mailing address. Our e-mail address is swcbd@igc.apc.org, our mailing address is PO Box 742, Silver City, NM 88062, and our phone # is (505) 538-0961. Special thanks to Mark Hughes and the folks at Earthlaw (Denver, CO) for arguing this case.

SUPERNATURAL

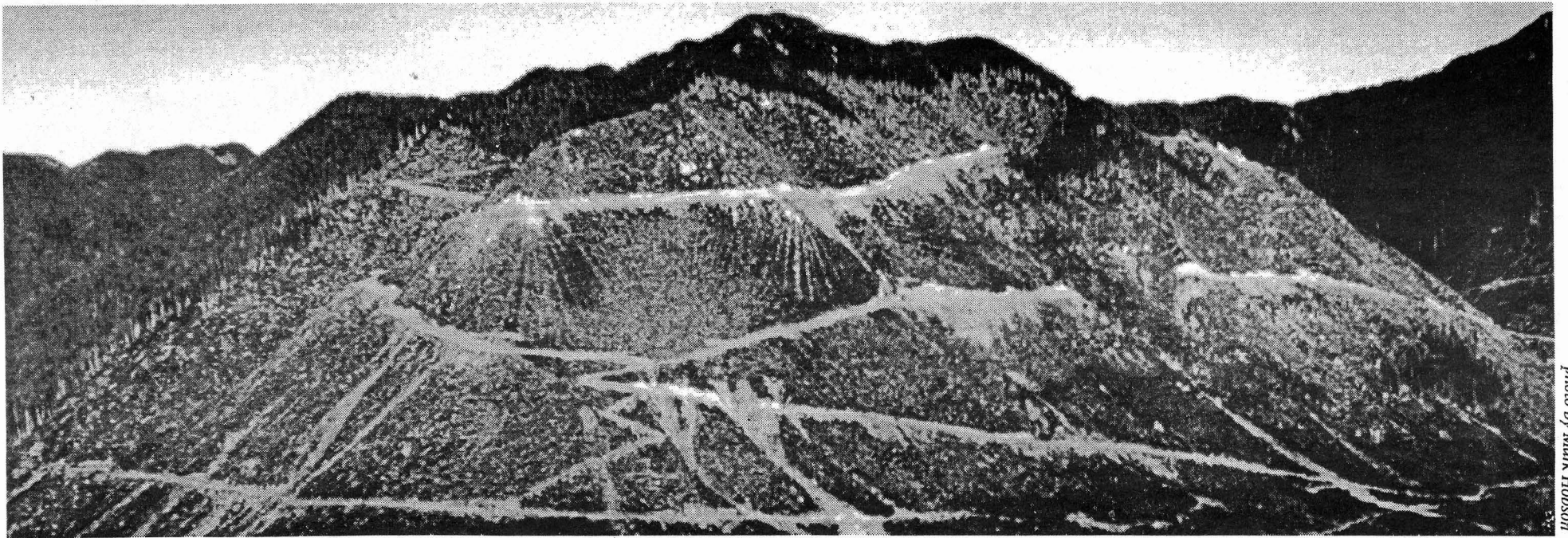


photo by Mark Hobson

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Over the years, the facade of "SuperNatural British Columbia" has been shattered by the images of massive clearcuts and hundreds of bodies being pried off logging roads.

Both the provincial and federal government have become quite proficient in assisting species extinction. With habitat destruction, dams and commercial fishing it is not a surprise that we are witnessing the death of the salmon.

The current provincial government (NDP) has been wandering around the province in the past few months waving a "green thumb" granting provincial parks and protected areas. As the national eco-groups bless the ground they walk on, it seems that they are not aware that each "present" has a price, the price here is land swaps. They give us a mountainous and rocky park in exchange for a nice old growth patch. Provincial politicians have been creating many of these sorts of deceptions recently, which allow for the government to gain support of national groups (which looks good to John Q. Public) and at the same time start small wars between the nationals and the grassroots.

As the year comes to an end BC will be seeing some major changes in its political climate. Many believe the NDP will be replaced in the elections. The only thing we can count on is whether it is the NDP, Social Credit or the Reform Party, it will be business as usual, the environment be damned.

On a federal level there will also be some changes. In November of 1995 Canada will finally have a national Endangered Species Act (ESA). We all hold our breath and hope it is the answer we've been looking for, however, the language in the proposed ESA is loose and needs some real work if it is to actually help species survive (look for a complete article on the proposed ESA in the next issue of the *Journal*).

British Columbia, in its entirety, is a hot spot; it has been for the past few years and will continue to be until change is made.

BC is an enormous and diverse land mass. From coastal rainforests to pristine boreal forests, you can find yourself in sage country and desert, or move through deep woodland bogs and marshes that open out near raging rivers. For the amount of destruction in BC, there is still a large amount of wild lands, and we fight to keep those alive.

In the same way that the provincial government is recklessly mismanaging habitat and ecosystems, it is also blundering its way through native sovereignty issues. Racism and complete disregard for the land have made the gov't quite proficient in contributing to the extinction of species as well cultures.

Included in the next four pages is a look at the political atmosphere in BC, from First Nations struggles to ecological campaigns. This is by no means meant to represent what Earth First! is doing in BC. Contributors are from a variety of movements, this publication is meant to give you a feel for what is really happening in BC— not just what Earth First! has the time to work on in BC.

Don't worry. This isn't a Sierra Club blankwall, Earth First! is alive and well!

If only for a visit, we encourage you to come and see both the beauty and destruction. There is always a need for activists in BC. Read this blankwall and perhaps you might find yourself changing your summer plans for a trip up north. - Michelle Stewart

Vancouver Earth First! Attacks

It seems as though the onset of Spring has awakened Vancouver EF! from its hibernation. Not that we were in a state of slumber! We were busy in the way that only winter can keep eco-elves active...

In early February, we spontaneously stormed into the Greater Vancouver Regional District meeting which was supposed to announce whether local environmentalists would be allowed into Vancouver's watershed. The watershed has been the site of extensive logging and 22 landslides. EF!ers heckled the board from the audience until they could take it no more and went right up to the round-table discussion, sat down in front of them, with stern stares, the formal meeting immediately ended. Activists and some board members discussed and debated watershed logging. A local member summed it up, "How else are we supposed to pay off our multi-million dollar debt?"

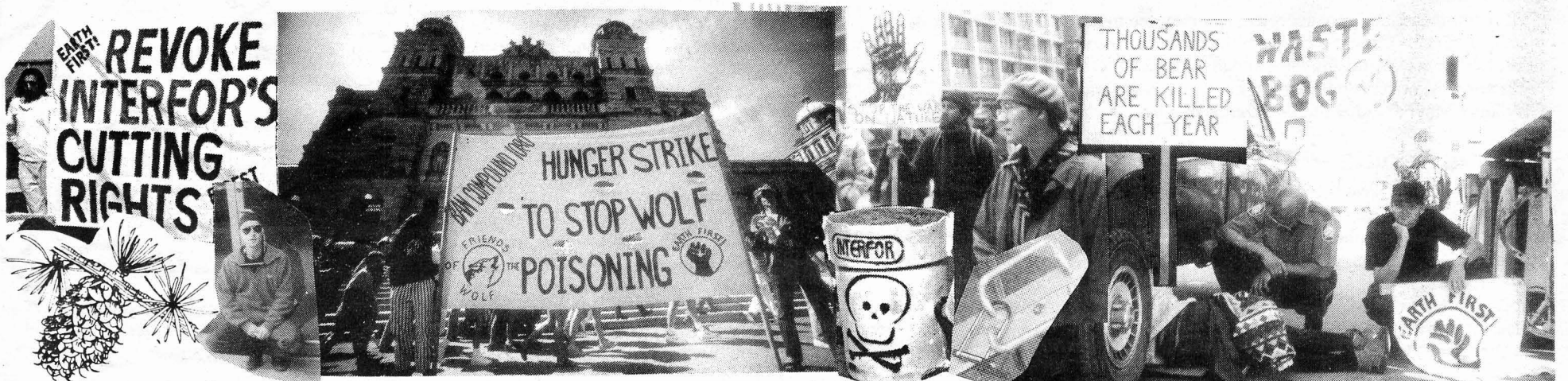
The first week of April found local EF!ers attending MacBlo's annual general meeting. For more info about that fiasco just read the March issue of the *Journal*.

A week or so later it was Pulp and Paper Day, we had a small demo and rally letting people know about the struggles of the Lubicon Cree and Daishowa's role in the desecration of their traditional land. After the rally we went to Daishowa's headquarters, locking up a couple of their doors, and generally being ourselves. One person was arrested, then released. In the end, there were many annoyed security guards, removing door handles to get krypto's off... we were happy and went home.

Later in April, it was time for Interfor's annual general meeting (AGM); we thought it would be a little predictable if we just showed up at the meeting, so we went to their mill. Armed with cement-filled barrels and kryptos, we closed two paralleling mills in Surrey. After almost seven hours of holding up the mill, and no worry of arrests we decided to go to the AGM. Vancouver City Police out numbered activists 10 to 1, and the press did the same at 5 to 1. Well, we just laughed as they stressed out.

Most recently, we had a little rendez-vous here in, after which we were feeling just a little bit restless... so we did an action. Read all about it in this issue of the *Journal*.

THE RESISTANCE



Keep The Great Coast Wild - 1

If you are looking for vast wilderness, there is one region in BC, as yet unnamed, and it is there for the saving. But... hardly anyone is working to save this great fjord river mainland coast.

Many First Nations people live on the mainland coast but, as usual, their voice is unheard. First Nations people are still dealing with the results of their removal from their land onto reserves, their removal from the economy by greater mechanization (native employment in logging has greatly declined), and the increasing invasion of industrial society. Within native communities there are great divisions as how to deal with all this shit. In spite of this, First Nations, elders and activists continue to speak out against the destruction of their land.

Natives see the land as their place, and understandably do not support wilderness proposals that exclude them from the land.

The BC coast can be divided into three sections:

In the south almost every major valley has been roaded; with the sidehills being logged up to the alpine. A few significant pristine valleys remain, most notably the Kwalate (tenure of the evil Interfor, who are poised to move in soon and must be stopped!), and the Ahnuhati; both are primary watersheds.

The major area of interest is the midcoast. Though many of its valuable watersheds have been wrecked, it still contains enormous wilderness areas covering ten million acres. Yes, ten million acres of largely pristine forest stretching from the low scrub and bog outer coast, through rich channels and emerald isles, up great forested valleys to vast icefields and down to immense inland plateaus.

The Great Coast Wild, the Great Bear, "land" to the native peoples: the Nuxalk, Heittsok, Owikeeno, Haisla, and Tsimsian. A land of salmon, grizzly, orca, sitka spruce, douglas-fir and 30 000 years of native occupation.

And still there is the north coast about which I know bugger all, and so back to the midcoast.

The population of the midcoast is less than 5 000, over half of which are natives. Most of the destruction is by loggers in for two week stints, fisherman up for the season, or lodge operators that pack up and ooze south for the winter.

The area is accessible by a weekly ferry and a single road snaking across the Chilcotin plateau to Bella Coola, home of the Nuxalk.

The Forest Action Network has been invited by the Nuxalk hereditary chiefs to work with them this summer in completing a long house at the sacred Talyu hot springs, and on other threatened areas. The Nuxalk have just completed a 20'x30' frame building close to the Talyu; with Interfor putting plans of logging the area on hold for six months.

FAN has recently purchased a small cabin cruiser to enable us to operate more effectively, but we need equipment, navigators, a mechanic, tools, carpenters, and support from your communities. The logistics of working in a remote area are quite expensive and we are always looking for \$\$\$\$. Contact FAN for more info or to get involved! -Simon Waters

Forest Action Network, Box 155- 1895 Commercial Dr., Vancouver BC V5N 4A6.
(email) fan@alternatives.com

The Latest in Clayoquot - 2

Yes, we are talking about Clayoquot again, the single most popular environmental controversy on Vancouver Island if not all of British Columbia.

Eighteen months ago, the BC government appointed a 19 member 'scientific panel' to help resolve the conflictual fate of the Sound; the much anticipated results have finally been released.

The recommendations for how forestry activity is to be carried out in the Sound are being praised by the major environmental groups such as Friends of Clayoquot Sound, Western Canada Wilderness Committee, the Sierra Club, and Greenpeace. MacBlo also approves of the recommendations, commenting that it will be a "challenge" to log this way, but that they "will not lobby the government to dilute the recommendations"; a good indicator that every activists should get their hands on the three booklets released and read them carefully!

The panel was originally formed by the NDP government as a means of dealing with mounting public pressure regarding Clayoquot. Upon forming "The Scientific Panel for Sustainable Forest Practices for Clayoquot Sound", the government resolved that it would follow whatever recommendations were made. In the early months of the panel, the government requested preliminary findings. It was recommended that all logging be halted to allow for proper inventory and assessment of the biological diversity and ecological integrity. The government responded by allowing continued logging, a good indication of how things go in BC.

In total, 127 recommendations were given to the NDP government. Some key points in planning was an ecosystem-based approach to natural diversity, treating watersheds as discrete units, than planning be area-based rather than volume-based, and skyline yarding be the method of logging to mention just a few. When discussing monitoring they recommended assurance that forest activities and practices comply with prescribed standards for ecosystem integrity and cultural integrity. Also in the list the panel called for a halt to all clearcut logging.

Although we have doubts about science being able to provide all the answers, we do think that the panel has tried hard to bring about ecologically-minded forestry in this province. Hopes of the panel providing leadership in administering a downward trend in mechanization have been dashed, along with bringing back people-intensive participation at all stages of planning, implementation, and monitoring. The panel was successful in sketching out the urgency to protect and inventory habitat and ecosystems. But, there was a need for them to be "loudly explicit" to force the message home to the provincial government... which they did not.

It seems that perhaps environmentalists and the industry are losing steam in each of their extreme positions. In backing the scientific recommendations, each are putting their faith in the planning process described by the panel. The next move is up to the government.

If recommendations are accepted, we may see much smaller clearcuts in Clayoquot as well as a restructuring of how forestry is practiced in B.C. Or will the government take the recommendations in bite-size pieces, in the context of socio-economic considerations, further compromising the standard of forestry practices in this remaining old-growth forest ecosystem?

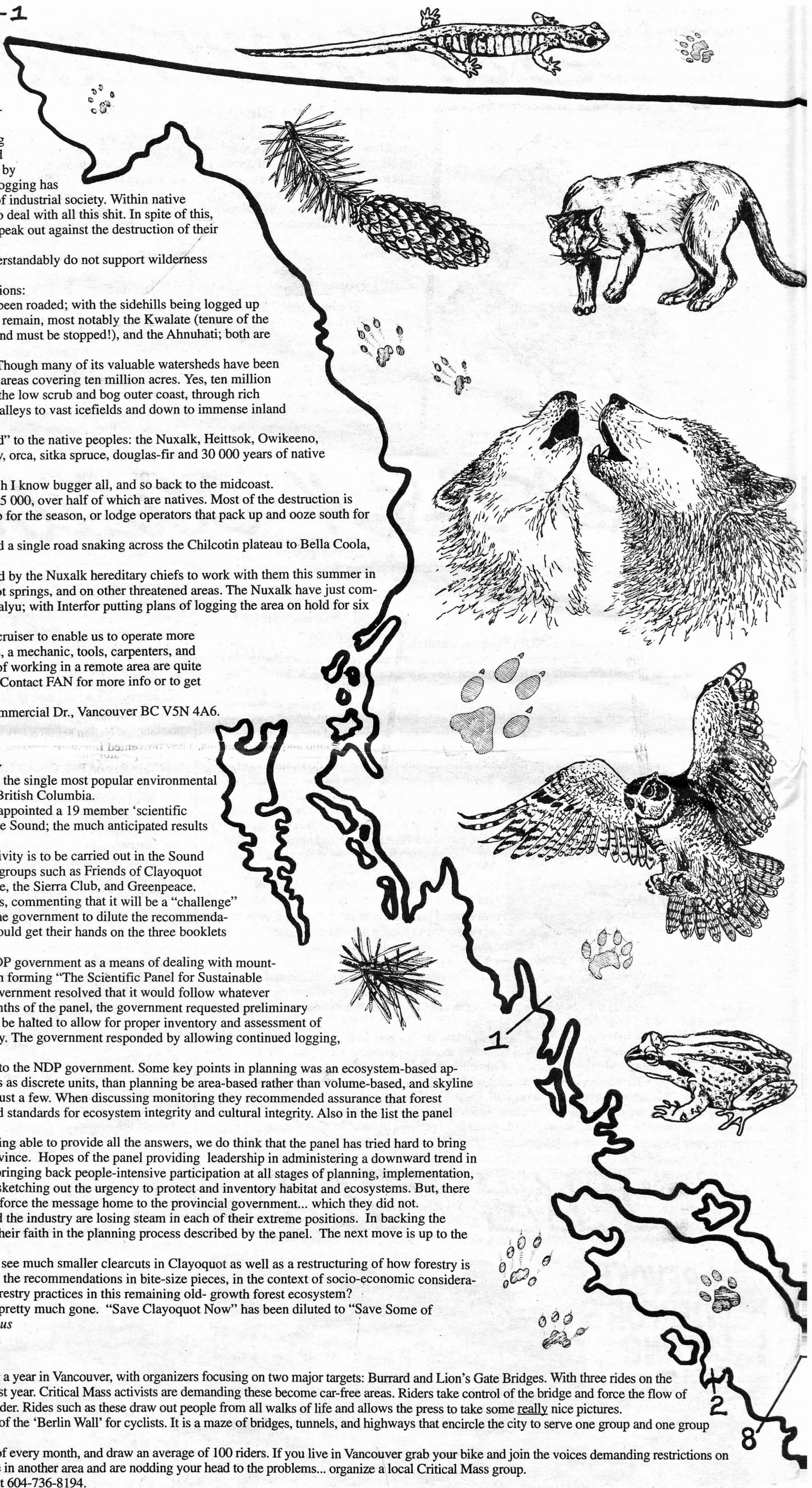
Either way, hopes of total preservation are pretty much gone. "Save Clayoquot Now" has been diluted to "Save Some of Clayoquot Maybe". - Joe Lui and Deryk Wenaus

Bicycle People - 3

Critical Mass rides have been going on for over a year in Vancouver, with organizers focusing on two major targets: Burrard and Lion's Gate Bridges. With three rides on the Burrard Bridge and one on Lion's Gate in the last year. Critical Mass activists are demanding these become car-free areas. Riders take control of the bridge and force the flow of traffic to be reduced to the pace of the slowest rider. Rides such as these draw out people from all walks of life and allows the press to take some really nice pictures.

Vancouver is regarded as having the equivalent of the 'Berlin Wall' for cyclists. It is a maze of bridges, tunnels, and highways that encircle the city to serve one group and one group only— motorists.

Critical Mass rides happen the last Wednesday of every month, and draw an average of 100 riders. If you live in Vancouver grab your bike and join the voices demanding restrictions on motorized traffic and car-free bridges. If you are in another area and are nodding your head to the problems... organize a local Critical Mass group. The Vancouver Bicycle People can be reached at 604-736-8194.



Kemano - 4

On January 23, 1995 the NDP government slapped Alcan in the face with a monumental decision to halt the Kemano Completion Project (KCP). A total of 88% of the Nechako River was to be diverted in a last ditch attempt to sell off power to the US. The Nechako, a major tributary of the Fraser River, is the richest salmon habitat in the world. The Cheslatta people have been fighting the development of the River since the 50's when they were first displaced by this horrific project, that to this day, has actually reversed the natural flow of this once wild river. A bitter victory has been won, however, they must now try to re-establish themselves and deal with the outlandish legal costs that have accumulated. - Michelle Stewart

Douglas Lake Blockades - 5

In May of 1995, the Upper Nicola Lake natives set up a blockade on the road to the Douglas Lake Ranch, the largest cattle ranch in Canada that is owned by the Woodward family. Natives were trying to force the provincial government to hear their calls to settle the land disputes in the area, which includes the fact that they are not allowed to fish in the lake that is in their traditional territory. The blockade was ignored by the RCMP, that refused to move in with an injunction that they had; at the same time the provincial government would not commence talks until the blockade was down. With all of this bureaucratic BS going on, the only clear message being given from the province was that they were fearing another situation like Oka. The native blockade numbered at about 250 at its peak. After weeks of holding the road, the blockade came down with negotiations taking place at this time. The Upper Nicola say that if negotiations do not move forward the blockade will go up once again.

Lower Fraser Valley Wetlands - 6

The importance of the wetlands in this region can not be over-emphasized. They are crucial feeding, migration, nesting, and breeding sites for millions of ducks, geese, sandpipers, and raptors in the Provincial Flyway. Boundary Bay exceeds the Ramsar United Nations criteria for internationally significant wetlands by sixty times! Unfortunately, the city of Vancouver lies on top of much of this area. Old growth stands of black cottonwoods (a temperate deciduous rainforest, almost non-existent in North America) still exist along the Fraser River; the freshwater and estuarine wetlands remain in several areas. Numerous Canadian and BC species also remain: turtle, barn owl, opossum, mountain beaver and Pacific giant salamander. Urbanization is the greatest threat to this region. The BC government has recently protected several areas, but many others must be included, expanded and connected. Some areas of particular concern are enlarging protection for Boundary Bay, Sturgeon Banks, the Reifel Wetlands, Iona Island and Burns Bog. -Ken W.

Bunchgrass/Ponderosa Pine Zone - 7

These arid ecosystems occur only in the narrow major valleys found in the interior, especially the Okanogan, Fraser, Thompson, Similkameen, Nicola and Kettle Valleys. The grasslands and ponderosa pine forests of BC include such rare and endangered species as the western rattlesnake, canyon wren, sage thrasher, scorpion, spadefoot toads, an incredibly high bat diversity, and yellow-bellied racers. The southern Okanogan Valley near Osoyoos, largely destroyed by urbanization, fruit orchards and cattle grazing, contains Canada's only true southern desert. Another key area is a pristine grassland ecosystem at the confluence of the Chilcotin and Fraser Rivers; the most extensive grasslands left in BC. An original national park proposal (Churn creek) for the region encompassed 4 000 square kilometers and was turned into a provincial park (which affords less protection). -Ken W.

Nanoose Blockade - 8

As the BC Provincial election nears, the New Democratic Party is facing the wall on ecological and cultural issues due to its band-aid approach to First Nations' inherent rights. This Spring, First Nations' blockades against development and resource extraction are igniting all over BC. These are issues we must understand and support if we have any hope for the preservation of west coast ecosystems.

On Vancouver Island, the Nanoose Nation set up a blockade on April 27 with the support of other mainland and Island nations. They prevented Intrawest workers and their archaeologist from entering a site that is believed to be 4000 years old and possibly the largest burial ground found to date. The burial ground is located in what is now called Craig Bay on East Central Island near Parksville. Images recounted to us by the Nanoose were of backhoes ripping up skeletal remains from the earth, while an old oak tree was yanked out of the ground, destroying ancestral remains beneath it.

Local activists drove up island a total of three times to lend support to the blockade and were welcomed by the Nanoose Nation. In Victoria we helped organize support for the blockaders and also conducted research. What we saw could only create anger and disgust within us:

- * The 50 acre site, the last tract of undeveloped ocean front, is slated for the construction of 500 houses.

- * Before developing, a government appointed archaeologist excavated 45 pits with a backhoe.

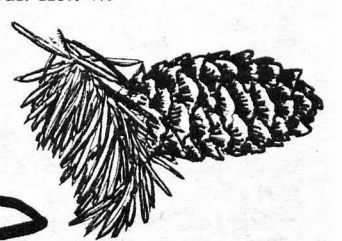
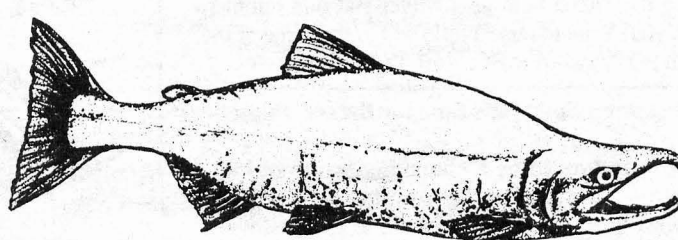
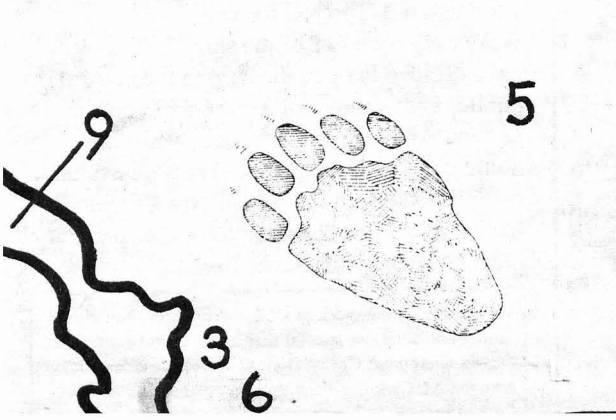
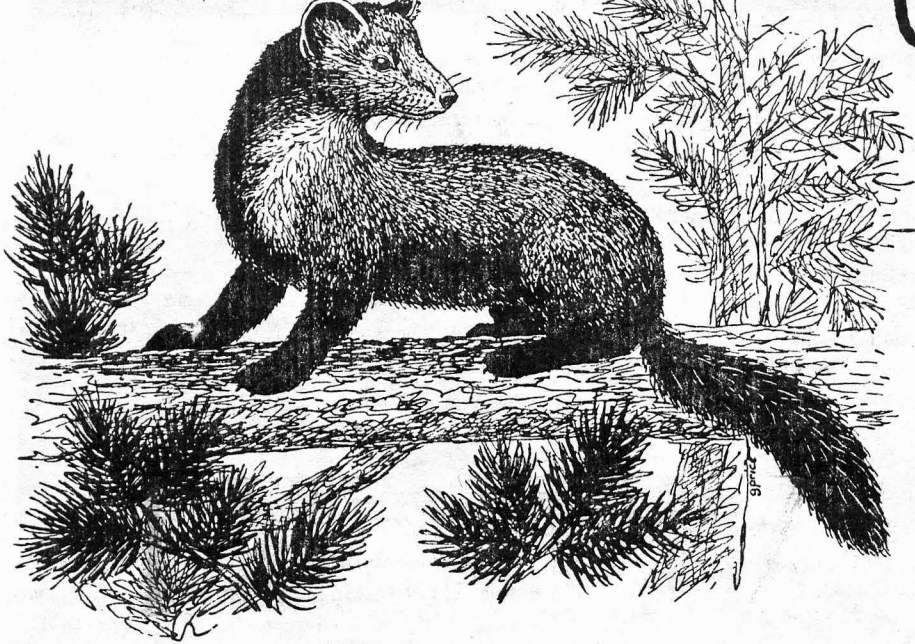
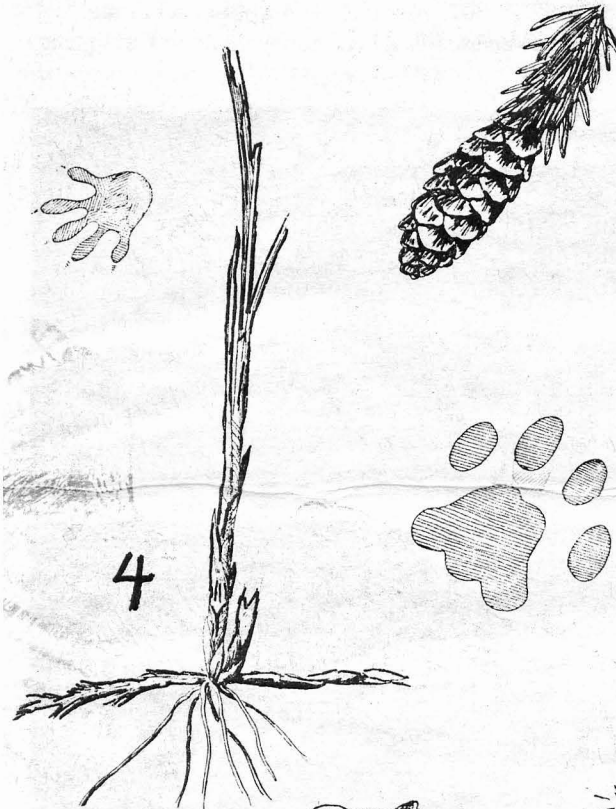
- * To date 147 skeletal remains have been removed and 248 still lie exposed in gouged pits, while 14000 cultural artifacts were expropriated. Not included in these figures are the countless remains crushed by developers.

So far archaeologists have had no legal guidelines binding them; they've been controlled only by their own ethics. The Craig Bay case will likely set a precedent in BC for how the province will handle other First Nations' historical sites. This is important to determine the success of all First Nations' demands now and in the future.

Contact the Nanoose Nation: 604-390-3661. -Carrie St. Pierre

Coastal Douglas Fir/ Garry Oak Meadows - 9

Found on eastern Vancouver Island and on the Gulf Islands in the rain shadow of the mountains, this drier forest ecosystem has been overshadowed by the old growth struggles on the western side of Vancouver Island. Home to the rare Garry oak meadows, old growth Douglas fir, prickly pear cacti, sharp-tailed snakes, turkey vultures, and other endangered and rare species, this is probably the most threatened ecosystem in all of Canada next to Manitoba's tall grass prairies. The mild year-round climate, with little rain, has made this area favorable for agriculture and industrial development. Rapid urbanization is the greatest threat to this ecosystem. A national park and marine park proposal in the Gulf Islands should be supported and expanded, with an emphasis on including the rarest, driest zones of this ecosystem wherever they occur. -Ken W.



BEAR WATCH

Several years ago Bear Watch formed in response to the trophy slaughter of black bears in Clayoquot Sound. Bear Watch has now expanded its focus to all of BC, tactics now include a newsletter, an ad campaign, and scientific surveys, in addition to the hunt interference Bear Watch is known for.

This year's campaign began with a series of TV and radio ads to coincide with the start of the black bear hunting season on April 1, since then over 1 500 people have called our toll-free number in response to the ads. While these ads have been on the air, a rotating group of activists have been occupying basecamps in Clayoquot Sound patrolling the shorelines to watch for bears and hunters. Since the Bear Watchers have been in the Sound hunters have stayed away.

Less than a week into the spring bear hunting season the Guide Outfitters Association of BC held their annual convention at a swanky Victoria hotel. Bear Watch had decided to focus this year on the guide outfitting industry's role in the slaughter of black bears, so we rented two rooms on the top floor of the hotel and two activists, dressed as black bears, repelled from the windows with banners. The climbers hung for just over an hour, while local police and hotel management patiently waited for them to come down. No arrests were made.

In the beginning of May, Bear Watch sent someone undercover on a black bear hunt to get more information about Zarco Wildlife, a company that claims in their literature to have produced more 'successful' black bear kills than anyone else in BC. Four bear hides belonging to Zarco clients went missing from outside their hotel while the undercover

activist was on the hunt, and the outfitters became suspicious of him so he left before the hunt concluded; later, a group called Couer de Bois claimed responsibility.

Zarco Wildlife controls the largest guiding territory on Vancouver Island, spanning

approximately 1/3 of the island. Zarco is a Mexican owned and American run business.

Shortly after, a group of executives from the Seattle Seahawks flew into the Campbell River airport on the Island to go black bear hunting. Bear Watch supporters demonstrated at the airport, causing the hunters to delay their departure a day to avoid the demonstrator's cameras. As activists continued harassing hunters at the airport, hotels or wherever they were in town, activists in the woods were following hunters out and intervening when necessary. Zarco Wildlife was turned down in their attempt to get an injunction against the activists and their activities.



Near the end of May, an undercover conservation officer showed up in Zarco's hunting party for two days, and videotaped Bear Watch's actions. During this investigation activists intervened in two different hunts; we are waiting to see if any charges will be laid. - Diana Wilson

For more info on Bear Watch call toll free from anywhere in N. America: 800 836 5501; while you are at it call Zarco's booking agent in Oklahoma and tell him what you think of the slaughter of black bears 405-737-8070. Contact the new Minister of the Environment, Elizabeth Cull to demand an end to black bear trophy hunting: Parliament Buildings, Victoria BC, Canada V8V 1X4.

FRIENDS OF THE WOLF

Canada's Yukon Territorial Government (YTG) has concluded year three of their controversial aerial Wolf kill program. By labelling the kill "caribou recovery", the YTG hopes to convince the public that the massacre is solely intended to enhance an over-hunted caribou herd. Their rationale is simple, eliminate 80-90% of the wolves from the Aishihik region and the caribou population will skyrocket, thereby helping the natives live off the caribou, a staple of their diet.

Industrial society has a strong history of putting profit and jobs ahead of a sustainable and healthy environment. Industrialists do not have a history of being sympathetic to indigenous peoples and to ensure the survival of the environment. The aerial Wolf kill is to ensure Northern industries: life management. the public in an effort to their crimes

Government once a trophy hunt-region he hunted is for the Wolf kill pro-office, Ostashek to his son-in-law to obvious conflict of prior to the sale of moose were killed higher than the av- kon guide outfitters. licly denounced as cal media, the gen-guide outfitters. At moose head, it is easy to see why greed got the best of him. The moose is the most sought after animal by trophy hunters, and is not surprisingly the primary prey of the Wolf. The YTG rationale: eliminate the main predator of the moose and there will be a larger number of trophy-heads for local outfitters to market. Good economics, right?



Industrialists do not ing sympathetic to indig- have done anything but try vival of their dying cul- true intent or Yukon's the survival of two major trophy hunting and wild- The YTG is misleading fort to silence opposition against nature.

leader John Ostashek was ing guide outfitter. The the same area designated gram. Prior to running for sold his outfitting business avoid allegations of this interest. In the two years his hunting business, 68 in his region; three times erage taken by other Yu- Ostashek has been pub- an unethical hunter by lo- eral public, and other \$10,000 for a "trophy"

Not if our tourism boycott catches on!

FOW has protested the aerial Wolf kill for three consecutive years. We have performed civil disobedience, run a high-profile media campaign and tried to directly interfere with the hunt by camping in the kill zone. We have been jailed, beaten, suffered frostbite and had our lives threatened but have not and shall never be deterred. We have been called every name in the book from terrorists to freaks...the most flattering is when they call us a royal pain in the ass.

FOW will continue to oppose this violent attack against the Wolf nation, but we can't do it alone. We need all you arm chair revolutionaries to do your part by keeping pressure on the scum directly responsible. Call them and tell 'em what you really think about their crimes. It works. Wolf kill staff are quitting due to job related stress. Apparently late night phone calls are at the root of this 'stress'. It's not our fault that long distance calls are cheaper after 2 am. Try these ones:

Rick Farnell, wolf kill biologist: 403-668-4683, Dennis Senger, wolf-kill propogantist: 403-667-7715, or John Ostashek, Gov't leader: 403-668-7323.

FOW is also looking for affinity groups to go to the Yukon both next winter and this summer, funding may be available so don't let money stop you! Want to raise a little hell in the name of the wolf, contact FOW at POB2983, Vancouver Main PO, Vancouver BC, V6B 3X4 Canada.

Yup, you thought you got away without seeing one... Sorry, it's time for the ole' Pathetic Plea for \$\$\$.

Here at Vancouver Earth First! we consider ourselves to be a charming group of individuals that really just want to have all the money in your bank account.

If you would like to send us all the money in your bank account please do. If you just want to send us a little bit of \$\$, we will accept that also (cheap skate). We have a surplus of BC rendez t-shirts, so now (for a limited time offer) with each bank account donation you will receive a free t-shirt. If you can help us out please send a check or money order to: Vancouver EF, Box 176, 1472 Commercial Dr., Vancouver BC V5L 3X9.

Up and Coming

Prince George is hosting the 1st United Nations Forestry Conference held outside Europe, September 9-15, 1995. The focus of the conference will be on the economic interests rather than on the environmental impacts.

Situated in the middle of BC, Prince George is south of some of the last boreal forest ecosystems and huge intact, untouched watersheds remaining on this planet. Consequently, Prince George is the heart of the forest industry in BC. Prince George (PG) Earth First! invites you to take part in humiliating our government! For more information please contact PG EFi: POB 1762, Prince George BC, Canada V2L 4V7.

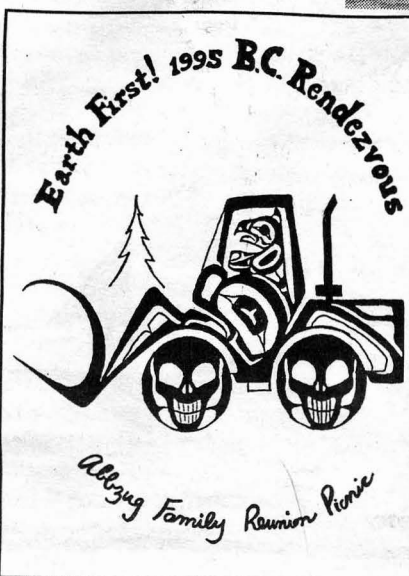
Clayoquot

If all recommendations made to the NDP gov't are not implimented, the Friends of Clayoquot Sound are prepared for another long summer of ritual arrests. If you would like more information about plans for this summer and would like to get involved contact the Friends at Box 489, Tofino BC, VOR 2Z0.

If blockades aren't your style, but you want to be in the sound this summer you might want to get involved with the restoration camp opening on June 27. The camp will run through August, for more info contact the Cascadia Restoration Society, Box 587, Tofino BC, VOR 2Z0.

WANT ANOTHER T-SHIRT?

You missed the rendez-vous, didn't you? You realize you missed the first ever BC rendez. You missed the beautiful Cascades, the friendly freddies, the rip-roarin' rednecks and the mosquitoes. Yes, you also missed the rafting contest, which turned into the ramming and sinking contest. Yup, you missed out! see above picture. Bet you feel kinda stupid, eh? Missed



out on a chance at intermixing with Canadian culture, networking, and sun tanning. You had a chance to be an "international" activists and you missed it. Too bad for you.

Well, we have a few of the shirts left, so we have decided to open them up to the general public. That's right, for a mere \$10 you can pretend you were at the rendez! Shirts are going quick so get one now. They are available on unbleached cotton in large (for a nominal fee we might dye them for you), see "pathetic plea" for money for our address.

We appreciate the work of all the writers for their contribution and send out special thanks to: David Barbarash, Dayna Chapman, Corey Duncan, Mark Stoddard, Amy Newton-McCaan for their help in editing and paste-up. Layout by Phil Dobrikin and Michelle Stewart.

A War of Words Over Violent Analogies

At what point does rhetoric become so volatile that it becomes inflammatory? I pondered this question after a call from Judi Bari in which she asked me if I wouldn't reconsider something printed in this space a few issues ago in light of the Oklahoma City truck bombing and the Unabomber mail bomb assassination of a California timber lobbyist. Words, I thought, like bombs, can sometimes injure innocent people. That is a measure of their power, and something we should all keep in mind while staring into our computer screens.

There is probably no word in any language that carries the connotation of the word "bomb." It brings immediately to mind violent images of the killing and maiming of innocent people. On the other hand, movies "bomb," old cars are "bombs," and I bottle home-brew in what is commonly referred to as a "bomber." So it is the context in which words are used that gives them meaning. This is especially true when we use words like "revolution," "war" and a recent addition to the American vernacular, the word *jihad*.

At a workshop I attended this spring, Michael Frome, distinguished professor and environmental historian, voiced what I consider the erroneous but widely held view that since we are nonviolent we should not use the language of war, and he invoked Ghandi and Martin Luther King Jr. as examples. At first glance this seems to make sense, but it is in conflict with the truth. Ghandi and King were both fond of using military analogies, where activists were marching soldiers for peace, armies were non-violent and the struggle for freedom was characterized as a war on injustice.

When I pointed this out to Professor Frome after the workshop, he admitted that it was true. I told him I believe Ghandi, King and others like them embraced this language in order to underscore the seriousness of the issues and the necessary sacrifice and organization required to effectively address them.

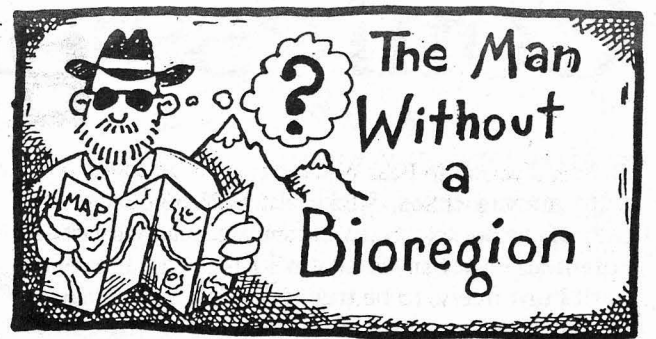
The difference between conventional forms of warfare and nonviolent warfare is that nonviolent

armies do not seek to inflict casualties in pursuit of a goal, although they are willing to risk their own personal safety and well-being. Their true aim is not conquest and annihilation but understanding and reconciliation. Nonviolence will not sacrifice these long-term goals in favor of short-term gains. Nonviolence emphasizes respect for all opinions, but above all it requires a sense of moral responsibility in resisting and opposing injustice. All this is in stark contrast to the Bosnian Serbs, Desert Storm, the Militia Movement or the Aryan Resistance.

In our phone conversation, Judi was particularly adamant about my use of the word *jihad*. Indeed both Lyndon LaRouche and Barry Clausen have interpreted my call for a *jihad* as proof that we are advocating a new wave of violence. In fact, Mr. Clausen has become something of a press agent for me of late, as everywhere he goes he generates calls from the media asking me what I meant by that word. *Jihad* is Arabic and roughly similar to our word "crusade," although it generally has a broader meaning. This is why the word *jihad* is sometimes mistakenly interpreted as exclusively meaning "holy war." Indeed in countries where Arabic is spoken, it would not be unusual to see a poster proclaiming a *jihad* for cleaner streets or even for whiter teeth.

Believe me, a *jihad* for the earth is precisely what we are all involved in at the moment. The armies of darkness are on the move. When we say that bystanders are not innocent we are referring to the Nuremberg Principles, which state that all citizens have the responsibility to resist the power of evil or repressive institutions. It does not follow that we advocate victimizing innocent people, or even those less innocent. It simply means that people must choose sides when confronting a moral dilemma. And what could be more urgent and compelling than the survival of our planet's life support system?

I do not advocate here the donning of camo and the brandishing of monkeywrenches. Monkeywrenching, like anything else, has its time and place. But I do think we should put on our flak



jackets. We need not retreat from using strong language when strong language is necessary. You don't hear G. Gordon Liddy or Rush Limbaugh backing off their core beliefs because they were attacked by the President on Larry King Live. Neither does the National Rifle Association, the Christian Right or the Ryder Truck Rental agency back off defending the quality of their product. They use the opportunity to explain their differences, if they have any, with Timothy McVey and Terry Nichols.

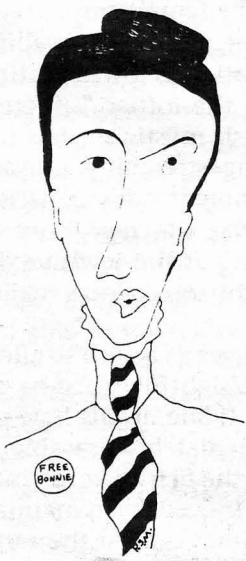
In our attempts to deliver a message to the American people, we will unavoidably invite a certain amount of "incoming" (a word Vietnam veterans use to describe being on the receiving end of an artillery barrage). This will come both from within our ranks and from those who oppose us politically. This does not mean we should back down or change our message. We should use this and every other opportunity to talk about our position on the issues.

We must remember that even though most Americans agree with us on the majority of issues on which we work, they are not yet radical in their ecological analysis. Radical ecologists are still a small voice in the political wilderness. We should never doubt for a moment, though, that if our small voice is heard by reasonable people, we can change public perceptions and thereby change political reality. In the electronic fog that now passes for news media, smaller groups cannot ignore the power of words, or the impact of personal actions. Because eventually the truth gets out. It always does.

—MIKE ROSELLE

Dear Miss Demeanor

ADVICE FOR THE ECOLOGICALLY CONFUSED



Dear Miss Demeanor:

My nose is big and pudgy and soft. Except for that, I'm nice looking. But now when I walk in the woods the owls hoot at me and the turtles mock. A red cockaded woodpecker tried to nest in my left nostril.

My path sharer, Goliath, is a real dreamboat. He's big and handsome and gives me the shivers. Until a few months ago his thighs were big and pudgy and soft. Then he began using thigh cream and his thighs became smaller. Now they're trophy thighs, thighs to absolutely kill for. So I thought, hey, if thigh cream can do all of that,

why can't I use it to make my nose smaller?

So one night when Gollie was out spiking trees in Issaquah, I got into his drawers and snatched his thigh cream. And guess what I learned— thigh cream is made from petrochemicals and CFCs, all the nasty stuff that depletes the ozone layer and pollutes the world and makes it get way too hot and gives all the animals cancer and makes them blind.

So my question to you, Ms. Demeanor, is this: Do I have the right to destroy the world just so I can have a smaller nose?

Yours truly,

—Ms. KUHLE WHIPPE

Dear Ms. Whippe:

No.

Miss Demeanor responds to actual letters. Humorous questions may be sent directly to the Journal.

EARTH FIRST! TACKLES TROPHY HUNTING

continued from the front page

Two hundred feet later, we emerged from the innards of the flagpole onto a crow's nest, from which the pole, now two feet in diameter, continued another 82.7 feet up. Mick put on his climbing harness and began an arduous climb up the pole, successfully unfurling the banner emblazoned "STOP TROPHY HUNTING" in plain view of the Environment Ministry a block away.

Trophy Hunting in BC

The guide outfitting industry in BC is responsible for widespread and devastating wildlife slaughter across the province. Trophy hunters from around the world come to British Columbia, paying from \$3,000 to hunt black bear to as high as \$15,000 to hunt endangered species such as grizzly bear. The guide outfitting industry claims to generate annual revenues of about \$35 million in BC, guiding around 4,500 clients each year. These hunters kill thousands of big game animals, including bear, mountain lion, bighorn sheep, wolf, elk, moose and mountain goat.

There are roughly 300 outfitters in BC, and judging by the record they are not especially concerned with obeying the law. These outfitters were convicted for violations of The Wildlife Act 61 times in BC between 1990-94, despite the fact that conservation officers are pitifully understaffed and underfunded. Many more violations undoubtedly go undetected.

Meanwhile, back at the flagpole...

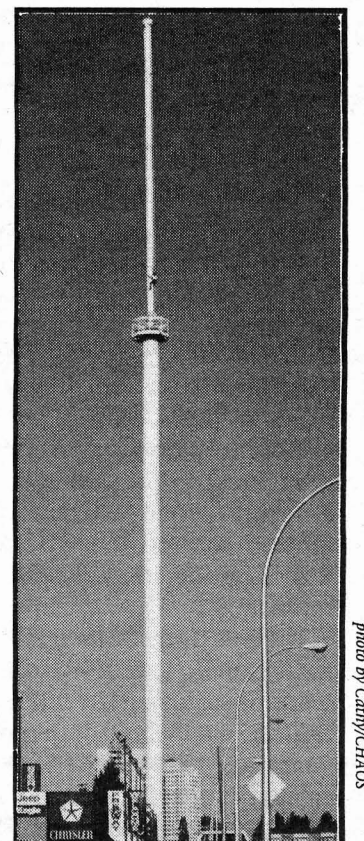
A gaggle of activists picketed the Environment Ministry building, and were even granted a meeting to discuss their concerns with a ministry representative. It turns out that a large game management conference was coincidentally happening that very day in a hotel facing the flagpole. Perfect timing!

The police who arrived on the scene locked the grate at the bottom of the flagpole and, as there was no way to get us down, left. The locked grate kept us from leaving the way we came up, but in a bucket on the crow's nest there was this long rope...

We went for it. We tossed the rope over the side for what will surely be the longest (and scariest) rappel in my life: 200 feet straight down onto a used car lot. Alas, the authorities were not nearly as scarce as we hoped; we were both arrested upon landing.

That night, the national news featured a positive story, along with a dashing shot of Mick looking very Indiana Jones-like in his hat and trenchcoat, rappelling off the flagpole.

Apparently in the midst of the rappel some piece of equipment fell and accidentally jammed the small door that led onto the crow's nest; flagpole personnel were effectively blocked from taking the banner down. In fact, the banner stayed up for another ten days, until a huge crane was brought onto the scene to take it down.



Mick climbing pole

Photo by Cathy/CHAOS

Confessions of a Jewish Pagan

BY MARK LONDON WILLIAMS

"In ancient times, Shekinah, as the goddess, was Lady of the Beasts ... She, like they, is wild of heart and untamed. To be holy is to be wild, to let the fires of the spirit burn freely, to be true to one's spirit nature."

"Shekinah" is the Hebrew word for the female presence of God, and Her description is from *She Who Dwells Within*, a new book by Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb, defining a path of Jewish worship that celebrates both the female and the earthly. And yet, as revolutionary as her call for something akin to a "goddess sensibility" in Judaism seems, Rabbi Gottlieb is not inventing out of whole cloth. In Judaism, as in much of the haphazard historical gumbo that has come to be known—too simply—as "Western Culture," wisdom traditions lurk, waiting to be uncovered, and simply reclaimed.

That work of reclamation, or, as it were, inviting Brother Griz up to the *bimah* (altar) is not easy, but like all other reclamation work we advocate as biocentrists, it needs to be done. As Christian thinker and troublemaker Matthew Fox has noted, the Western Monotheisms will become irrelevant to people in the very near future if they fail to incorporate the earth wisdom so desperately needed for our collective survival.

Certainly Judaism, like most human institutions, has much of its own *tikkun* (healing) to do. In its journey through history, it has been prey to the same short-sightedness and prejudices as any belief system. But remarkably, it has also adapted and survived. God said to Moses not "I am that I am," but "I am that I am *becoming*." The process never ends. As a particular path up the same mountain we all tread, Judaism, too, is still becoming. I am, in contemporary mystic Rabbi Zalman Schacter's phrase, "a Jewish practitioner of generic religion." A generic religion that strives to be wild and untamed.

Although I've celebrated generic religion with an occasional equinox, Yule, and Beltane, I agree with Sam Keen, who writes in *Hymns to an Unknown God* that "...eventually the spiritual journey circles round toward home ... you may be a sojourner in a Buddhist land, but eventually you will need to return to your native holy land to rescue the treasures that are buried there...."

Just as I can't help being an Earth Firster in outlook, it would be equally impossible for me not to be Jewish. When the New Year is welcomed at the time of the fall harvest at Rosh Hashanah, that feels right to me; and it would be hard to do anything other than fast ten days later on Yom Kippur—a day devoted to introspection and spiritual housecleaning for the year to come.

The Jewish holy-day calendar, which has its basis in the agricultural festivals of ancient Israel, operates on a rhythm familiar to readers of this publication's masthead; *Chanukah*, the festival of winter lights; *Tu B'Shvat*, the tree planting ritual of late winter, *Purim*, the equivalent of Carnaval, releasing pent-up winter energy as spring begins to blossom, *Pesach*, or Passover, connected originally to first planting in spring, and *Shavuot*, a celebration of summer's first harvest.

Once the Jewish people found themselves in exile, the holy days' emphasis changed. No longer connected to the agricultural rhythms of one place, the more transcendent aspects of each festival were emphasized. *Shavuot*, for example, was originally a festival where crop offerings would be brought into Jerusalem or other centers of worship. Without a place to bring crop offerings, *Shavuot* becomes a celebration of Moses receiving the first five books of the bible, the *Torah*, on Mt. Sinai. *Yom Kippur*, once a fertility ritual where couples made love on the ground outside Jerusalem's walls, is transformed into a period of spiritual indwelling and personal reckoning.

The weeklong festival immediately following *Yom Kippur*, *Sukkot*, retains some of its original flavor. Commemorating the fall harvest, this was the most important celebration in ancient Israel. Good crops guaranteed life throughout winter, and the raucous celebration reflected the relief of tribal peoples living close to the earth. *Sukkot* is now celebrated

with the admonition to spend all eight of its days sleeping outdoors, in a shelter decorated with fruits and leaves, yet constructed loosely enough to permit stargazing. Thus all of creation, the terrestrial and the infinite, is worshipped in a single gesture.

At the same time that *Sukkot* binds Jews all over the world in a distinct ritual, my own celebration is sparked with the awareness that all Gaia—not just the Israel known to my tribal forebears—is a holy place. And thus the *sukkah* I dwell in should reflect my native California—and the seasons of the oak woodlands, redwood forests, and chaparral that I love. But even this celebratory cycle, this intuitive awareness of the seasonal underpinnings of the Jewish lunar based calendar hasn't brought Brother Griz all the way back into the fold. Or am I trying to be accepted back into *his* congregation?



Woodcut of a Sukkah

To get there, we still must discuss the Bible, the edicts therein, and the problems that that Really Big Text appears to present for environmentalists. Drawing the most fire is the verse in Genesis purporting to give humankind "dominion" or "mastery" over the rest of nature. But before we embark on a discussion of these alleged marching papers from God, there are a couple of important things to note. First, in Jewish tradition, the Bible is never read by itself, or taken solely at face value. The many centuries of accrued *talmud* (rabbinic commentary) and *midrash* (oral tradition) are considered equally holy, and equally important for an understanding of the whole. They also convey the sense that drawing closer to the sacred is an ongoing, evolutionary process. Only fundamentalists take the book literally, and I don't think environmentalists want to throw in with them.

Second, even if you were to take the Hebrew Bible by its naked self, the book is full of contradictions. Thus, in the same Genesis passage that allegedly gives us "mastery," you also have the first of two creation stories in which men and women are made absolutely equal—back to back—as opposed to the later version involving ribs and such.

As for the bit about mastery, though, let's look at just a couple of the commentaries. The Babylonian Talmud, written during the first exile from Israel, notes that humans were made on the sixth day of creation, "so that if people's minds become (too) proud, they may be reminded that gnats preceded them in the order of creation." And Rashi, considered perhaps the premier rabbinic commentator, notes that "dominion" and "descent" derive from a common linguistic root (traditionally, no verse in *Torah* is considered to have a "single" meaning) and thus "when humanity is worthy, we have dominion over the animal kingdom; when we are not, we descend... and the animals rule over us."

In other words, the question becomes whether we are worthy stewards, a station which mandates a deep ecological awareness. I imagine this awareness would include such duties as keeping vast tracts of wilderness whole and intact, and keeping our own numbers down. Clearly, thus far, our "stewardship" is catastrophically inept.

The same passage in Genesis purporting to give us "dominion" over the earth also, by the way, commands us to eat vegetarian diets! "Every seed-bearing plant...and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit...shall be yours for food." Meat-eating is considered a fallen state of grace, and is only finally allowed, with strictures, for Noah and his descendants after the flood. Those dietary strictures, known as *kashrut*, or *kosher*, view meat-eating as bad business, which must take into account the animal's suffering. While it's dubious that nowadays a kosher hot dog is any more "cruelty free" than a regular one (it's just more cow!), the system of mindfulness that *kashrut* seeks to instill opens the door to wider ecological awareness and softer treading on the earth.

Rabbi Zalman Schachter, a contemporary mystic, has coined the term "eco-kosher." It's no longer enough to eat dairy and meat on separate plates (from the biblical injunction against mixing the milk of the mother with the meat of the kid). Now we must start asking whether non-recyclable material is *kosher*. Or power from a nuclear power plant. Or fur. Or old growth wood or mahogany. All these questions, and hundreds of others, are completely in line with the original impulse behind *kashrut*. "Love of the Great Mystery," in Lynn Gottlieb's words, "is demonstrated not by belief or words but in the actions of daily life and the way we treat humans and animals—all sentient beings." and, implicitly, the non-sentient ones as well. For Jews in our currently ravaged world, eco-kashrut represents one of the ways back to Gaia/God-aware living.

So, too, does the re-embracing of the two most oft-occurring ritual observances in Judaism. The first of these is *Rosh Chodesh*, or "new moon," which is quite simply the monthly celebration of the moon's return. Rife with female energy, doubtless connected to worship of the Goddess and with post-biblically prescribed ritual, this lunar celebration has wide latitude, infinite possibility, and is too often overlooked. At a recent all-gal *Rosh Chodesh* at a Jewish ecoconference in Oregon, my wife and sister both wound up howling at the moon 'round midnight. *Rosh Chodesh* represents a monthly chance to get wild!

Before we get to the second ritual, a brief note about the Goddess. She survives in Judaism much as she does in Catholicism, only instead of Mary, we have Shekinah, considered the female presence of God on earth. Often, however, this earth-dwelling gave the female essence of creation a "lower" station on the chain of being than the loftier "spheres" ascending heavenward. Jewish mysticism has ten realms or "spheres" of being stretching upward from the earth, each getting more steadily transcendent. So, too, the female was the repository of sorrow, the Shekinah weeping as the Jewish exile from the original Holy Land mirrored God's "exile" from humankind.

Still, Shekinah's presence gives us a path to allow the Goddess to reclaim her rightful place as an aspect of the Great Mystery. If She dwells here on earth, then She is more immediately knowable to us, and we to Her, and She is the first to be affected by our rituals and prayers. Indeed by remaining here, She reminds us that crimes against the earth are an assault against the Mother of us all.

For a fuller discussion of the Goddess in Jewish history, and as a wonderful guide for reclamation of the female in Jewish worship, Rabbi Gottlieb's book is highly recommended.

Now to our second oft-recurring ritual; Shabbat, the Sabbath, the proverbial "Day of Rest."

One is supposed to withdraw from work, commerce, and trade in order to rest, pray, make love (Jews are commanded to make love on the Sabbath!), eat a festive meal, and contemplate, once again, the Great Mystery. Orthodox Jews will not even throw a light switch or turn on a stovetop burner, as such actions would constitute "work." Alas, they often leave the lights burning instead (a violation, perhaps of eco-kashrut?). To their great credit, the Orthodox

continued on next page

EARTH TRIBE RELIGION

BY JESSE WOLF HARDIN

No doubt about it, we are a tribe. Although drawn from diverse racial and cultural backgrounds, and living in a multitude of different bioregions, we are marked by a sometimes painful sensitivity; by the habit of loving and listening to the Earth. A common ancestry and heritage is no longer a guarantee of shared tribal values. We are a tribe when we share a common bodily as well as intellectual recognition of the sentient spirit in every element of the natural world, a tribe to the degree that we experience the living world in similar ways. We are a tribe in direct proportion to the loyalties we demonstrate both to each other and to the wildness that nourishes us. I'm talking not only about our immediate affinity groups and clans but also about the redneck who plants by the moon and refuses to sell-out to urban developers, and all children before the age of disenchantment, in alliance with the traditionalists of existing indigenous peoples. We are members, as individuals, as families and as clan, members also with people we've never met, people who seem remarkably familiar at first introduction. "And you shall know them by their eyes," Susan Lowry dreamed. A dream that can be accessed by anyone in the tribe. As Roszak calls it, a "dream of the Earth."

And like any tribe, whether determined by lineage or calling, we have developed ritual demonstrations of our priorities and appreciation. When repeated from gathering to gathering, one year after the next, these become traditions. Together the ethics, rituals, lifestyle and practice function as our tribal religion. This Earthen spirituality draws from the perspectives and vocabularies of deep ecology and bioregionalism, Sheldrake's new science and morphic resonance, pantheism and neoprimitivism, Taoism and Zen Buddhism, ecofeminism and pan-tribal shamanic practice, European and AmerIndian world-views, and the veneration of the living Earth from the Dark Mother of Africa to the disturbingly conscious Gaia of Lovelock's wildest dreams. Yet for all its cultural and philosophical associations, the primary formative influence and motivating force behind Earthen Spirituality remains the personal, subjective experiences of its adherents. These include a person's resurfacing instincts, interpreted as a call to awareness and action; their empathy with some childhood piece of paradise covered over with asphalt; nightmares of all species banished into extinction along with human liberty and humanity's rightful place in Nature; dreams of a happier, more authentic existence for themselves; the desperation of feeling trapped in rote habit and imposing schedule; the ecstasy inherent in day-to-day physical sensation, and the blissful satori arising from an experience of oneness with what is most certainly Gaian will.

Even the most anti-"woo-woo" pragmatists, when pressed for what drives them, will usually cite a very qualitative, emotional sense of connection and/or loss. Both dumpster-diving anarchists and insulated academics, once physically placed in wild

Nature, away from television, traffic and conversation, usually experience that energetic "something" which includes us but is greater than us. One who is uncomfortable with the concept of "good for the soul," may refer to their response as being "gut level," or cloak it in layers of intellectual abstraction, referring to their "adventures" in third-person in an effort to distance themselves from the reality of spiritual epiphany. For all the pitfalls of religious institutions and their intractable dogma, it remains true that our Visions are gifts, our highest insights are revelations not conclusions. Such epiphany comes with our deepest relationship with the Earth, an intimate knowing of the whole by relating intensely to a particular place. It comes only to those who have quieted their minds, opened up to the instructions of Nature-embodied Spirit, and learned to feel in place, at home, indigenous.



The ReWilding

A Column of Ecosophy & Practice

Hope for the continuation of life as we know it will depend on the individuals of every race learning to bond with the physical and inspirited place we call home. In this pursuit, it's important that we look to the elder peoples of whatever continent we live on for inspiration, but there is danger in those of mixed blood idolizing and mimicking Aboriginal shamans, Hourani dream-masters, or Lakota healers.

While the cosmologies of AmerIndians can serve as positive models of relating to this land, appropriation of Indian ritual and vocabulary can be counterproductive for those descended from Vikings and Celts. The practitioners of Earthen Spirituality need to tap the deepest wells of their inherited traditions, then move on to direct interaction with the Spirits of place, free of the mediation of annointed priests, creating new rituals as they go along, founding a religion without rules or walls. We are respondents to the pleas and pointers of the natural world, a tribe honoring in small groups the "Great Mystery" that can be felt but never adequately named, that can be tasted and even tested, but never tamed.

It's been shown over and over that unless there is a change in people's hearts as well as heads, that unless the swelling human population reverts to a deep ecological experiencing of the the world we are an inseparable part of we can't expect any legislative or political gains to last. Laws protecting wildlands—laws enacted and enforced by the same corporate and governmental system active in the destruction and degradation of those wildlands—can never substitute for reverence on the part of the people such laws purport to govern. Likewise, with the necessary change in heart and in spiritual worldview, in how we perceive and thus act upon the

world, laws would be both superfluous and intolerable, and no boundaries would be needed to protect healthy wilderness from a rewilded humankind. Human and planet mutually healed, human and planet made whole again.

While religion has been used as an escape from the responsibilities of realpolitik, it remains that Spirit and manifestation, intent and action, are as indivisible as mind and body, light and dark, life and death. I have little hope for any well-intended activity devoid of spirituality, or, for that matter, any spiritual system that fails to manifest itself as resistance to the degradation of this sacred Earth, as celebration of its inevitable survival and irrepressible dance. In Earthen Spirituality, every second is a decisive moment, and we are responsible to both what we do, and what we fail to do. Earthen Spirituality makes no promises of an easy, painless or practical cure. Its rewards are more immediate and subjectively realized than that. It's not about leaving the body but finding it, not transcendence but reinhabitation, heaven within Earth, paradise in present time. In Earthen Spirituality one taps their honest pain for real power, rather than giving their lives over to the avoidance of discomfort. One treats every breath as a unique gift, every bite of food a flavor-filled communion wafer, every glimpse of love the touch of Earth-bound angels.

There is nothing to fear from this Earth-centered religiosity, from the instinctually directed forms making swirling order out of what we were sure was "chaos." Unlike the major religions of our time, an Earthen Spirituality promotes celebratory existence, full individual and cultural freedom in combination with reverence for life, diversity and the quality we call wildness. Real deep ecology is found in Arne's clinging to the sides of alpine cliffs like a lover, not in his voluminous footnotes. Our spirituality is the child saddened by the sight of a butterfly bounced off a windshield onto the shoulder of some numbered road, and an old woman finding reason to go on living in the slow unfolding of a window-box flower. Earthen Spirituality is a sermon-scream let out by falcons feeding on pigeons in downtown New York City, the spontaneous living prayers of outlaw dandelions erupting in the cracks of every aging sidewalk, a liturgy recorded in the spiraling reggae of the DNA helix and the twisting samba-line of ants ascending a gnarled cottonwood. It's only commandments are "written in stone" in the many "rocks of ages," a testament in limestone, granite and quartz, a demonstration of and demand for authenticity and substance, the weight of commitment to place. The rocks say, "Be real. Be here. Be beautiful. Shhh... like this!"

That's the message of Earthen Spirituality, the message gifted to our purposeful tribe: "Let our lives be our prayer. Let all that's good come from this prayer."

Wolf coedits *Talking Leaves: A Journal of Earthen Spirituality*, available from: D.E.E.P., 1430 Willamette, #367, Eugene, OR 97401. His new new novel *The Kokopelli Seed* is said to be "making waves"....

Confessions

continued from the previous page

also refuse to drive cars on the Sabbath.

Social critics have commented that the very need for a separate day of rest and prayer shows the bifurcation between the hunting/gathering cultures and the agrarian cultures that spawned the Hebrew tribes—that hunter/gatherers didn't need to set aside such a day because their lives were intrinsically better-balanced.

It is a tenet among Jewish mystics that the great task of healing among humankind is to expand *Shabbat* outward, to stretch it from one to two,

then three days, and so on, until one is living permanently in a state of *Shabbat*. According to some Jewish commentators, this will bring the long-promised Messiah, who will come—can only come—precisely when she is no longer needed.

What would such a state mean? It would mean pulling back from the hurlyburly of the "global economy." It would mean more walks and bike rides. Taking money much less seriously. (One is not supposed to buy or sell on *Shabbat*.) It would mean long

meals and more lovemaking and a total reordering of human priorities as we now know them. It would mean keeping the TV off.

It would be subversive.

So, in Jewish ritual, we have one day out of every seven where we are asked to unplug and pull back and be Fully Present for a moment. And we are asked, if possible—slowly at first, if need be—to expand that present-ness, that centeredness, until we are whole again.

And when we are all whole, so too will be the earth.

* * *

The following books were a great help in writing this article and are strongly recommended:

Judaism and Ecology (New York: Hadassah, 1993)

Kaufman, Elisheva, *Jewish Earthways* (available from the author: 5 North Street, Montpelier, VT 05602)

Gottlieb, Lynn, *She Who Dwells Within* (San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 1995)

Schachter-Shalomi, Reb Zalman, *Paradigm Shift* (Northvale: Aronson, 1993)

To Till and To Tend (New York: Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life)

High up in the San Juans of Colorado, in a clearing among the mixed conifers and ponderosa pine, Ramon, another Old Fart for Wilderness, confronted me with the question "Do you agree that the environmental stance of the Bible is second to none?" "Yes," I nodded emphatically.

Considering the behavior of most who call themselves Christians, and the legacy of Western civilization, such an affirmation must seem ludicrous. But the stories from the Hebrew Bible, and the ethical tenets put forth by the initiator of Christianity, Jesus, a Jew, are deeply radical and do not fit comfortably with our present way of seeing things. Bill McKibben observes that these stories are "equally unpalatable to the left and to the right, and simply maddening to the middle." The overwhelming ecological relevance and synchrony of biblical principles has been overlooked, much more than can be dealt with here.

When asked what he thought of Christianity, Mahatma Ghandi's response, that it would be a "good idea," not only implied that it was not practiced, but that if it were, the world would be a better place. Instead, Western "Judeo-Christian" civilization is now identified with imperialism, economic predation, violence, the enslavement of women and people of color, the genocide of non-Christian people and the development of worldwide markets for opium, heroin, cocaine, alcohol, tobacco, coffee and other addictive drugs. Christians have sinned by promoting sexism, racism, fanatical nationalism and other evils in the name of Christ. As Isaiah warned, we have allowed house to be joined to house, field unto field, until there is no room for anyone else. God's creation is groaning under our weight. The world has become a toilet. All "Praise the Lords" and "Happy Faces" take on a demonic quality as toxins rise and species fall silent.

Lovers of God's creation since Noah have been aware of the impending crisis. "Voices crying in the wilderness" were either burned at the stake or co-opted by being made saints (witness the birdbath Francis of Assisi).

"No one is aware that Christian environmentalism has been active in the US for more than a century, going back to the late 19th century when preachers of the Social Gospel movement first became conscious of the vanishing buffalo herds and deforestation," laments Marshall Massey, a Deep Ecology Quaker. Despite brilliant leaders, such as John Muir and Liberty Hyde Baily (who coined the term "biocentric" in 1915!), the early religious environmental movement was unable to communicate its values to the mainstream church. Muir started the Sierra Club and we can only gnash our teeth about what happened to his vision. More recently, Christian environmentalists have been excluded from theological dialogue, trivialized, dismissed as pantheistic or branded, like Rachel Carson, as communists.

Since the first Earth Day in 1970, however, the mainline religious community has increasingly joined the movement to save the environment. One body of Christians, with Thomas Berry and Sir Miriam McGillis in the vanguard, takes a more spiritual approach, telling the new sacred story in light of what has been discovered

BE SACRED AND SUBVERSIVE

Proclaiming A Gospel of Hope and Eco-prophetic Activism

BY UDO WALD

by science. The implication is that we have become the mind of the universe since we can reflect on it. It emphasizes the mystery of God in creation, an egalitarian place of humanity in creation, and our stewardship responsibility as co-creators. Traditional sacraments and earth rituals celebrate this mystical union.

Another group is apologetic, dressing up the environmental agenda with scriptural quotes. I value their efforts, but one has to jump through a lot of hoops to deduce love-of-creation from Calvin's utilitarian approach. Their model is stewardship. Ron Sider, a prominent evangelical theologian, writes in an otherwise very sympa-



This is Not what happened

thetic essay, that "human beings alone have been given special dominion, or stewardship. If one abandons that truth, the whole project of civilization crumbles." As it should! It is a failed experiment, bankrupt. Jesus asked us to be born again, to move through the experience of this death-culture and participate in the life everlasting, which is at hand now. Repent!

We need also to embrace the Christian virtue of frugality. "Living simply, that others may simply live," assures everyone and everything equal access to God's abundance. "All our relations," that wonderful phrase indigenous people use to define the "neighbor" we are to love, means that nothing exists merely as a resource for others; that animals have an intrinsic right to live; that the forests are not only a source of oxygen and wild plants, from which we extract miracle cures, but have a right to life on their own; that we don't hold off species extinction just so our grandchildren have an opportunity to see rare and interesting creatures, but for the species' own sake.

Frugality counsels us to limit our numbers. Of all the commandments given by God, one can assuredly say that we have obeyed "Be fruitful and multiply." So much so, Bill McKibben suggests in his most recent book *The Comforting Whirlwind*, that we should declare a holiday and take that commandment off the list of things to do.

Living frugally is among the most sacred and subversive actions one can take. It denies authority to the false idols materialism and money, and undermines their worship, mindless consumerism. Episcopal Bishop Bill

Swing declares the role of the Church to be counter-culture, for our culture is worshipping such false idols. To quote Bill McKibben, "The act of buying a BMW must become one of shame, not an occasion for joy and pride." Tony Campolo, a courageous prophet in the fundamentalist camp, asks, "What is so important for me to have that I am willing to sacrifice the future of my children and grandchildren in order to get it?"

The ideals of loving your neighbor as yourself, eschewing false idols, avoiding pride and living simply are fundamentally ecological, but not limited to Christianity. They are central to most faiths. Christians are addition-

tionally commissioned to proclaim the presence of God at hand and to repent, to heal the sick and to drive out demons. Demons are defined as principalities, powers and world rulers. Multi-national corporations certainly fall into that category. In the Gospel of John, Jesus promises that his disciples will do greater works than he! But to do that we have to pick up our cross and bear it. Like him, to fulfill the law, we have to become the outlaws! Like him we have to cleanse the temple of the money changers. That's

how prophecy works! Even the root form of "Hebrew" means outlaw. To defend and preserve the wild we have to foil what is "legal" and call for justice. For as we meet Christ without the other members of God's creation, he will ask us where they are.

In his epistle, James exhorts, "Fools, would you not know that faith without deeds is useless?" Ed Abbey echoes that "sentiment without action is death to the soul." But the Buddhist tradition cautions us that "action without contemplation leads to destruction." That is why I have chosen Mark's bare-bones version of the beginning of Jesus' ministry as the guiding text to read, meditate on, and contemplate.

Jesus leaves his small home town in Galilee, answering the call of "a voice crying in the wilderness," to repent and be baptized in the river Jordan... Living waters, not polluted, a pagan ritual if there ever was one; now we call it a sacrament and get to do it only once.

...by John ... A prophet, dressed in camel skin, not a fur coat, eating locusts and wild honey, not exactly vegan, but definitely frugal and "off the land." He did this with pilgrims from all over Judea and even Jerusalem looking on.

...AND AT ONCE, as he was coming out of the water, he saw the heaven torn apart, and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him... A more macho God would have come at least like an eagle.

...And a voice came from heaven, "You are my son, the Beloved, my favor rests on you." Here it is, the Beloved, the love affair that God has with the Cosmos—including all of us.

...AND AT ONCE, the Spirit drove him

into the desert and he remained for forty days, and he was put to test by Satan. To find out what these temptations were we have to read Matthew or Luke:

1) He refused to turn stones into bread, because man does not live by bread alone, just as man doesn't have to tear stones out of the earth to get at gold or uranium to benefit humankind;

2) He refused to test God by violating the laws of nature, just as we should not have the hubris to go beyond God and create life forms by genetic engineering;

3) He rejects the offer of political power and authority, as well as money, which the devil says are "his to give." Jesus does not even dispute that claim, teaching that those who hold political power, authority and money receive it from evil and depend on evil to keep it.

He lived with the wild animals. Contemplate that. Having rejected the temptation of power and money, he is able to accept the shalom of God, that peace which passes all understanding, and lives with the wild animals.

As soon as Jesus returned from the desert, he went home to his synagogue in Nazareth and proclaimed the Jubilee year. When the synagogue heard this, everyone became enraged and they wanted to throw him off a cliff, on the town midden. The sacred and right relationship between the earth, God and the people of Israel is found in the laws regarding sabbatical and Jubilee years. The land must lay fallow, rest every seventh year. This is also true of the Jubilee year when all land seized as payment for debt is returned to its original owner. The message is clear: the earth is the Lord's; not individual property, not to be foreclosed, not to be consolidated into massive industrial agribusiness spreads; but rested to prevent soil erosion and chemical poisoning. Additionally, the corners of a field were to be left uncut, trees and vineyards were not to be harvested a second time, the gleanings were to be left for the poor, the alien and by extension, other creatures. Today, environmental activists have had their homes burned down for merely asking that this right relationship be restored.

I proclaim with Martin Buber that "no one can be really devout in relation to God, if he is not devout toward His Creation, and that the love of God is unreal, unless it is crowned with love for one's fellow men." Can we fall in love with the mystery of "I am who I will be," and with the Word made flesh? Can we return to the basic principles of our faith and support the changes needed to rescue the earth? Should we, as John E. Carrol of the University of New Hampshire asks, "Stop calling ourselves Christian?" No, but the world would be a better place if there were a few more Christians around.

A mystic, Udo Wald lives in San Diego Baja Ecotopia, where he works as a sculptor. Not content with contemplation alone he is also an Earth First! agitator, Catholic worker and co-founder of the Episcopal Environmental Council. He invites inquiries to form an eco-prophetic community. Udo can be reached at Baja Ecotopia Earth First!, PO Box 33663, San Diego, CA 92163, phone (619)523-0899.

Ecological Spirituality

BY BRON TAYLOR

"The Historical Roots of Our Ecologic Crisis," a 1967 article by Lynn White, focused attention on the relationship between spirituality and ecology. White argued that by repressing animism and pantheism, promoting human-centeredness, a sense of separateness and superiority to the rest of nature, and by viewing wilderness as "cursed," Judaism and Christianity are responsible for much of the West's anti-nature tendencies. As a remedy he urged Christians to appropriate St. Francis of Assisi's reverence for all life as a basis for a more ecological Christianity. In the subsequent twenty-five years, some Christians have begun developing spiritualities that break down the walls between humans and the non-human world. Others have turned to religions of the Far East, especially Buddhism and Taoism, for what they believe are more nature beneficent spiritualities. Still others are drawn to, or inventing, pagan, pantheist, and animist spiritualities, which they often trace to the world views of primal people or the remnant indigenous peoples still in touch with nature.

These developments have been made possible by the confluence of several streams: an increasing tolerance for and openness to religious pluralism (concomitant with the 1960s social upheavals), increasing understanding of the science of ecology, all combined with anxiety about the declining health of the planet's ecosystems. Perhaps most remarkable is the syncretistic creativity going into the development of new ecological spiritualities as we approach the next millennia. Now it is becoming possible to study the direction in which such spiritualities are going.

Ecological spirituality first expresses the conviction that all reality is metaphysically interdependent and interrelated. The planet's diverse species are related as kin, because they all evolved through the same process from the same single cell ancestor. Additionally, ecological spirituality either affirms nature as having sacramental value for humans, i.e. it mediates or symbolizes in some way the Grace of God (and/or the Goddess), or perceives nature itself to be sacred. In both cases, the preservation of nature is of spiritual significance. In the former case, the natural world represents or symbolizes something essential about the character of the Divinity, while in the latter nature is intrinsically valuable

because it is sacred, not because it is spiritually or materially useful to humans. Christians attempting to reform their faith in a more ecologically sensitive direction tend to view nature in the former way, as a sacrament. But in its more radical forms, some Christian ecological revisionism approaches the view more typically found in Pagan, Pantheistic, Animistic, and some Far Eastern religions—that nature itself is sacred. It should also be noted that although Deep Ecology (involving the view that natural systems are intrinsically valuable) is not always spiritually based, many, if not most, Deep Ecologists find their way to such a perspective through some form of nature-based spirituality.

It is not unusual in US history for nature to serve as a decisive symbolic center for human religious experiences. Nor is it unusual for Pantheistic and/or animistic experiences to underlie the moral passions of conservationists. What is unusual about the last two and a half decades is that (1) contemporary ecological science, including the "new Physics," acknowledges the sub-atomic relatedness of matter, thus buttressing a variety of religious sentiments formerly ridiculed; (2) partly because of #1, conservationists have less fear that expressing such spiritual experiences and sentiments will be counterproductive; (3) some with such experiences are self-consciously developing the arts—poetry, prose, music, dance, theater and the visual arts—weaving them anew into ritual performances designed to evoke and deepen human spiritual connections to the natural world; and (4) "Transpersonal Ecology" or "Eco-psychology" is being developed which traces human neurosis to an alienation from nature, and which is beginning to

prescribe guided imagery techniques, ritual, and therapy designed to promote the mystical reunion of the human spirit with the nature world.

Uniting the diverse efforts to develop ecological spiritualities is the conviction that Western culture has lost its way spiritually, that this has devastating ecological consequences, that there are spiritual and ecological insights to be gained both by looking back—appropriating insights from the spiritual intuitions and lifeways of primal peoples—and looking forward, appropriating insights from science to the extent that it can illuminate the way to spiritual and ecological harmony. Through time spent in wilderness and through various forms of meditation and ritual, ancient and newly invented, we must "resacralize" our perception of the natural world. In essence, then, ecological spirituality has to do with healing the personal wounds which result from human alienation from nature, and the planetary, ecological trauma that has resulted from this separation.

Bron Taylor is Associate Professor of Religion and Social Ethics at the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh.



St. Francis of Assisi: The basis of a more ecological Christianity?

RELIGION FOR ECOLOGISTS: Needed Catalyst or More Baggage?

BY LYNN HAMILTON

One day a month, I pick up garbage on the shores of coastal Georgia's barrier islands. These are the days I think about god. Not, as you might think, because of the insinuating beauty of southeastern marshes and thick canopies of oak and palm against cloudless blue skies. If nature *could* lead me into the arms of divine comfort, the golden isles certainly would. But, no, that's not what sets me meditating on a higher power. It's getting up at seven on a Saturday morning. When my alarm goes off, interrupting that luscious REM cycle, I really need some long-haired patriarch, looking faintly like Uncle Bill, or some goddess looking faintly like me, only more awake and with weeds in her hair. I need to believe that something else is out there besides the beer cans, pop bottles, and gasoline jugs I'm gonna be rooting around in. So I completely understand why radical environmentalists have revived paganism. Direct action requires a lot of energy, and believing in a support group of overseeing spirits *does* make it easier to get yourself out of bed and over to an action where you might be arrested or to a beach choked with garbage.

Paganism is all the rage. Sorry, EFlers, you are not alone in having rediscovered the goddess. Marion Zimmer Bradley introduced her to a whole generation of 17-year-old girls in 1985 when she published *Mists of Avalon*. Just today, I saw a sign advertising a rock group named "Pagan Jug." Nevertheless, it is not my purpose to denigrate pagan ecology or any other religious ecology. I have been wondering, though: sometimes you need god, but should you invent him?

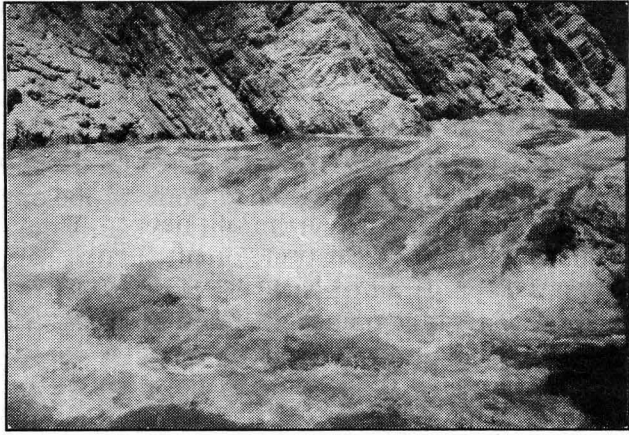
I think a lot about the "Contract of Ardra" episode of *Star Trek* in which the people of a faraway planet make, so they think, a contract with a goddess named Ardra to give them 1000 years of peace, social equity, and

environmental purity. It's a sort of Faustian deal—buy now, pay later. After their millenium, she will own them, lock, stock, and planet. Of course, they themselves still have to do all the hard work of establishing peace, cleaning up, and eliminating social injustices. A thousand years later, when they have the desired peace, justice, and clean air (entirely through their own efforts), a woman calling herself Ardra comes along to claim possession of the planet under their contract. Captain Picard arrives at about this point. There's something about this "Ardra" he doesn't like. Attempting to break their iron-clad superstitions, he asks the natives a series of questions. "Did Ardra write any laws?" "Did she organize any clean-ups?" "Did she," he asks with exasperation, "even pick up one, single piece of garbage?" The answer, of course, is no. The people of the faraway planet are, of course, us. The problem is: Ardra may have motivated them to face the formidable task of recovering their planet, but their belief in the literal truth of her leaves them vulnerable to an impostor. Myths are better when you understand they are myths. In the final analysis, god isn't going to do it for you; you have to roll up your sleeves and do it yourself. And that is why, having worked as hard as I have to free myself of the hang-ups and senseless restrictions of the religion in which I was raised, I don't think I'll be taking up another.

Richard Wilbur wrote a wonderful poem, "Love Calls Us To the Things of This World" in which the soul of a waking man hovers outside his body, reluctant to go back, wishing the laundry on the line were angels instead of sheets. As he wakes up, though, he recovers his love of the "hunks and colors" of worldly things. Religion invalidates the beauty of the waves and trees and wild places. It says these things are not perfect as they are, that some spirit world is needed underneath to jazz it all up. It suggests that something is missing, that the oceans, forests, and mountains are not enough. And they should be enough. They are enough.

RAFTER ROCKS SALT RIVER RAPID

BY KRISTIN ATWELL



Quartzite Falls at Class V+: a reversal wave to have nightmares about

Late in 1993, eight men blasted out a ledge at Quartzite Falls in Arizona's Salt River Canyon Wilderness. Their goal was to do what the Forest Service hadn't: ease bottlenecks of boaters waiting to portage the rapid. There are some parallels between these saboteurs and the Oklahoma City terrorists. Their explosive recipes were basically the same: fuel and fertilizer. Both took their grievances with the government into their own hands. They were all charged with destruction of federal property by means of an explosive. But the "Quartzite Eight" were motivated by stupidity, not ideology. If they had a message it would be the one we've been hearing since the invention of the wheel: progress without limits, convenience at any price.

Quartzite Falls

In 1984, the US Congress recognized the value of wind-planted Saguaro, active eagle's nests, and one of the last free-flowing rivers, by establishing the Salt River Canyon Wilderness Area. But a workable river management system to fulfill the wilderness objectives of primitive recreation, solitude, and inspiration while granting access for a growing sport, remained elusive.

At Quartzite Falls, the 120-foot wide Upper Salt River gets crammed into a 60-foot wide chasm. The rapid's first drop is negotiable, but the second was capped by an unforgiving hydraulic keeper hole which had been known to stop and hold everything from cows to rafts as big as Buicks. Boaters used to spend either a few hours portaging boats and gear over steep, slick ledges around the rapid; lining their empty boats through; or a few seconds running it. To run the rapid was to risk being recirculated in Quartzite's keeper hole indefinitely. Negotiating Quartzite was the ultimate test of boating skills and judgment.

The Making of a Falls

Quartzite Falls was a gleam in the eye of the Mazatal Orogeny, which folded, faulted and metamorphosed some 460 million years before the explosion of flora and fauna on the planet. The ancestors of the Upper Salt's native fish, the Sonoran sucker, Colorado squawfish, and bonytail chub came first. Fast forward 300 million years and Mama Earth squeezes out reptiles like the diamondback rattler that dwells in the Sonoran desert region of the Salt River Canyon. Another 150 million years and the winged ancestors of the Southwest's great blue heron, belted kingfisher, white-throated swift and turkey buzzard appear. Another 50 million, and up pop flowering plants: yucca, biting catclaw, mesquite and juniper. Some tilting, some uplift, add 64 million years, and the Salt River drainage system evolves, minus one ingredient. Man shows up to the party about one and a half million years late, figures out how to navigate the river, then alters the work of eternity.

Slob Boaters

By making a runnable rapid, the Quartzite Eight implemented a "lowest-common-denominator management plan" and opened up river use to a wider cross-section of boaters. The destruction of Quartzite Falls demoted the rapid from a class V+ (on a scale where class VI is suicide) to a fun, class III ride. That accessibility shift was enough of an

environmental threat to force the Tonto National Forest to implement a river usage permit lottery.

It seems the higher the water, the stronger the wilderness ethic. The low water of the 1994 season brought hordes of new boaters to the Salt. They left fire rings, dumped coals in the river and defecated on the beaches. Somehow "pack it in, pack it out" failed to take hold in their confused brains. It is the uneducated slob boater that the Quartzite Eight enabled to travel the entire canyon.

And it was slob blasting that sealed the Quartzite Eight's legal coffins. If the high water they were counting on had washed the evidence into Lake Roosevelt, or if the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms had only found a fuse, some duct tape and two zillion chunks of faded pink quartz, the criminals may have remained anonymous. But Nature didn't cooperate and the BATF found a half burnt K4-P box. Investigation yielded only two purchasers of "4-pound Kinepouch binary high explosives" in 1993: the Arizona Department of Transportation and a Mr. Richard Scott.

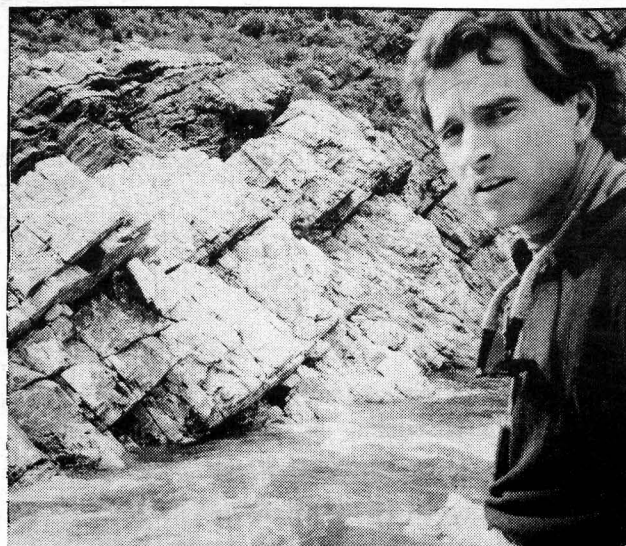
Pat Blumm, owner of Desert Voyagers rafting company, was initially suspected of financing the demolition because of his persistent complaint: Tonto NF kept a tight leash on commercial outfitters' river use, but no restraints on private boaters. However, Blumm's customer capacity is limited by the number of user days the Tonto NF awards him each season, not by how many spots he can sell. Therefore, the removal of the rock wouldn't increase his business. Polygraph tests proved Blumm didn't finance or initiate the covert action. But Desert Voyagers' weekend trips would benefit some from running Quartzite easily because they would not be delayed at the Falls. The guide of those weekend trips, Ken "Taz" Stoner, plotted the destruction.

Quartzite's Courts

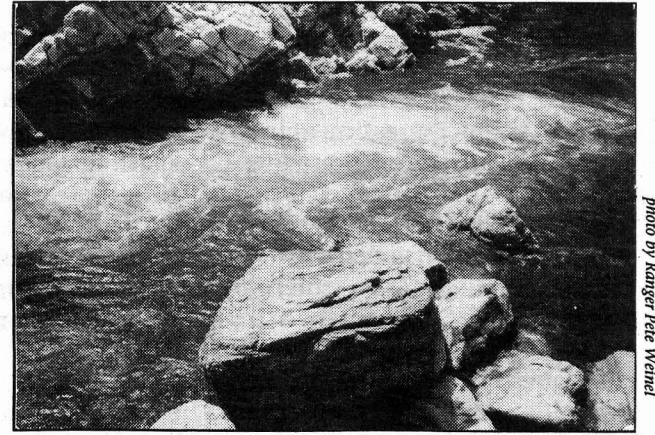
"We did the Forest Service a huge favor," asserts Stoner. The Eight testified that they were motivated by recent drownings to remove a hazard and ultimately save lives. At worst, they thought they'd be cited for mining without a permit. But they broke federal statutes to the tune of 5-20 years in jail and a maximum of \$250,000 in fines.

Stoner argued that environmentalists overreacted because, from an engineering standpoint, they successfully blew a waterway. "We could have made a pond in there," says Stoner. "Instead we did surgery. We did our first blast then it was always just a little bit more, not too much, just enough to make a slot."

"I don't see why the special designation of wilderness gives us no right," says Richard Scott, who executed the blasts. "To me a drowning is a drowning." Kayaker Mike Stamps rebounds, "Either you know your skill level or you go with someone who does, or you don't go there." Ranger Carl Taylor agrees, "I feel it was done for convenience, nothing loftier. In my opinion more people will drown because now the fear is gone."



Stoner at Quartzite Falls—if you see this man, notify the US Attorney's office at the District of Arizona, 230 1st Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85025.



Quartzite "Falls" at Class III: Stoner's "lowest-common-denominator" management program

Damage Done

The blasting comes at a time when America's "... rivers are threatened by flood-control projects in the Midwest, mining and logging in the Rockies, hydropower dams in the Pacific Northwest, sewage in eastern urban centers, and agricultural runoff in the South." (*Arizona Republic*, April 19, 1995). Destruction of an area that had already been set aside to remain wild hits beneath the belt. By taking a bite out of the river in order to keep a schedule, Stoner has become the "anti-Hayduke."

Before the rise of environmental activism, the destruction of Quartzite Falls would have been a loss, but not a prosecuted offense. Blossom Bar on the Rogue River in Oregon and Ring of Fire rapid on West Virginia's Gualey River were "legally" blown for recreational and financial benefits. And in the late 1970s, Salmon Falls on Idaho's Main Salmon was dynamited by jet boaters so they could drive upstream. The incident was half-heartedly investigated, but no charges were ever filed.

After the first known drowning at Quartzite in 1969, Tonto NF thought about destroying the Falls, but decided to educate boaters with a detailed river map. Ranger Taylor insists that even after two 1993 drownings, blasting the Falls was not a management option. His opinion is: "Congestion at Quartzite was the problem, not Quartzite."

Of course, humans are not the only ones affected by the destruction. Arizona State University Zoology Professor W. Minckley thinks the ledge at Quartzite was a natural barrier to introduced catfish and bass coming upstream from Lake Roosevelt. Whether Quartzite held swift-water dunces back or not, native chub and suckers are in rapid decline.

Prosecutor Paul Charleton says stiff fines and jail terms will deter others from tailoring wilderness to suit personal whims. He promised, "the federal government will come down and come down hard," on wilderness violators (just those who don't turn a profit?). But three of the Quartzite Eight will slip their felony charges by successfully completing 120 hours of community service. James Lewus, who helped on two of the five blasting trips, was given a \$6,000 fine and 36 months of probation. Christopher Meehl was also put on probation but not fined. His brother Michael, who hiked in three times, got three months in a work-release rehabilitation program, a \$15,000 fine, and had his truck impounded. Richard Scott, the blasting engineer, was sentenced to a year and one day in prison, slapped with a \$15,000 fine and, along with Lewus and Meehl, is responsible for \$75,000 in restitution—none of which will help the Salt River Canyon.

Banning Stoner from ever running another river seems an appropriate sentence, but he failed to appear in court. He disappeared after cashing a \$25,000 home equity loan and committing bank fraud. Rumors say he's fled to Costa Rica, Canada, Australia, and of course, Oklahoma City. As of June, 1995, Stoner is at large and no river is safe.

Kristin Atwell is making an documentary about Quartzite Falls and, admittedly, is in love with the river. If you have knowledge or photos of other rivers being destroyed with explosives please contact her at Concentric Media, PO Box 1414, Menlo Park, CA 94026.

Bear Watch Sabs Spring Bear Hunt

BY TOFU PUP

The end of the spring rain marks the beginning of black bear hunting season throughout British Columbia. It is a time when bears groggily tread from their dens to meadows and tidal estuaries in search of the grasses that clear their hibernation weary stomachs and sleepy heads. The bears are slow, like many humans before their morning coffee, and are easy targets for hunters. This year, Bear Watch was awake and alert before the bears and the hunters, ready to interfere in any attempted bear kill on Vancouver Island.

Equipped with air horns, boats, binoculars and survey sheets, hunt saboteurs spent every day in April, May and half of June cruising Clayoquot Sound in search of bears or hunters. Barely able to ignore the constant sound of logging trucks and helicopters, activists in small motor boats managed to stop almost every fisherman, whale watcher and scuba diver who entered the south Sound. Word traveled fast; hunters heard that no bears would be killed in south Clayoquot Sound in 1995, and amazingly enough, none were.

While many people stayed at base camp in the south Sound, a few of us traveled north to join local activists in the Port McNeill/Gold River/Port Hardy area of Vancouver Island. The north end of the Island presented quite a different hunt sabbing scenario. Instead of using boats and base camps, we undertook a hotel/car-oriented hunt sab encompassing the vast and ever-expanding network of logging roads. Trying to sabotage the hunt presented a logistical nightmare. With three towns and thousands of kilometers of logging roads to watch, we were spread very thin.

By mid-spring, however, what would become a powerful and controversial hunt sabotage was well underway. One bear hide had already been liberated and given to the local native peoples.

The main Vancouver Island hunt is a large scale

operation, run by Zarco Wildlife Inc. This spring, the company planned to kill 10-12 bears a week, with local outfitter David Fyfe guiding foreign hunters. These hunters pay big bucks for the thrill of slaughtering barely-awake bears from logging roads.

Hunt saboteurs were asked to dig deep into their souls and let the bear spirit enter us, to feel the anger and the pain and get creative. With passion and fortitude, we did just that. Rather than be reactive like the maverick hide liberator, Bear Watch decided to be proactive and try to save bears before they were shot. An elaborate stake-out and undercover scheme was devised.

Days were spent in hotels and campgrounds, waiting and studying the habits and patterns of the bad guys. Mike Mease was put on "the inside" to watch and hopefully document the atrocities perpetrated by Zarco. [See "Undercover," front page] With James Bondian stealth, we carefully observed Mike, the hunters and the guides. We sat and watched and learned.

After a few short, tense days, the undercover operation was over. We were now fully informed, completely frustrated at seeing bears killed, and ready to stop the hunters any way necessary. We decided a full frontal attack was our best strategy. We informed David Fyfe and his lackeys that their days of peaceful, uninterrupted hunting were over. We explained, politely of course, that we would follow the hunter's every waking moment. From the time they got off the plane for their "safari hunts" until the second they left to return home, we would be there, holding signs, taking pictures and

chanting. By the looks on their faces it was obvious they understood and were afraid. People don't pay to hunt unless they are having fun.

And so began the most successful sign holding campaign I've ever been a part of. We held signs at the airport. We held signs at hotels and restaurants. But most importantly, we held signs on the logging roads. Every day, hunt sabbers followed the hunters out to the clearcuts where the kills happen. Yelling, filming, chanting and occasionally stepping between guns and bears saved many a burly beast from ending up mounted on some bonehead's living room wall.

These tactics proved to be extremely effective, but unfortunately, many black bears were still killed. On a happy note, though, David Fyfe wants out of the outfitting business. Fyfe was heard saying to a hunt saboteur, "You guys are like the bogeyman. Every time I turn around, there you are."

We will be back next year. Trophy hunting will be stopped.



UNDERCOVER...

continued from the front page

in the woods, I have never seen anything quite like this, but the bear, still groggy from hibernation, just looked up at me and went straight back to eating. I, on the other hand, had hit myself in the head with the scope of the rifle and was bleeding everywhere. After about ten minutes of wiping blood out of my eyes, Mr. Fyfe again began telling me to shoot the bear.

Once again my shaking and heavy breathing started as I took aim at this unconcerned bear. Another shot over its head got the same response. David then suggested that we hike in closer to the bear and try again. When we got within 30 yards of the bear, and David lined my gun up on top of a stump, all I had to do was pull the trigger. After my third "miss," we decided that I needed to take a break and reconsider my ability to kill a bear. On our way home for lunch, we made a quick stop. Fyfe pitched out rotting bear meat from an earlier hunt into the woods.

Lunch time featured me as the main course of humor and harassment. Their plans of making me man enough to kill a bear consisted of Fyfe showing me pictures of his 10-year old son with his trophy bear, bragging of his incredible 150-yard shot. The plan then turned to having me watch someone else kill a bear. Their choice was a cattle baron from Kansas who even brought his wife to watch his manly act of killing a bear. His wife told me about her husband's hunting adventures

around the world. She said they had a trophy room at home full of stuffed monuments of every wild animal (endangered or not) in Africa, Alaska, the Yukon and British Columbia. She added that she hoped her husband only killed one bear this hunt because they were out of space in their trophy room (cemetery). These types of hunters are often Safari Club members, a hunting club that travels the world to kill exotic species.

We returned to the same clearcut and the cattle baron killed the bear that I had tried to warn with my three missed shots. While the man from Kansas watched the guide skin the bear he kept asking about the bear's dip stick. The dip stick is a bear's penis bone. Allegedly, part of the Safari Club's annual games entail a "penis pool." After hunting season, a gathering is held where penis bones are lavishly displayed and sized. The hunter with the largest penis bone wins the big dick bucks.

The following day everyone in our group of four hunters, excluding myself, shot a bear. A man from Texas, with only one tag and permit, shot two bears in one day. The cattle baron from Kansas, on bear number two, shot the largest bear of the week in the ass. It ran away never to be retrieved.

On day three, we discovered that a freezer containing four bear hides had been stolen. The stolen hides represented a loss of approximately \$12,000

dollars to Zarco Wildlife. Fyfe angrily declared that they now had to kill four more bears and that they were going to bring in as many hunters as they could to get revenge by killing even more bears. The Texan said the saboteurs must have had someone on the inside. As I was the only one in the party not having lost a bear hide, he might as well have pointed at me.

With the increasingly suspicious atmosphere, I began plotting my way out. At the hotel, I called Mike Chain and David Fyfe to my room. They knew I was having trouble with being "man enough" to kill a bear, and I told them with all of the protest to the killing, I was not comfortable doing it. They bought the story and within minutes I had Port McNeill in the rear view mirror.

The hunt itself cost \$3000 American dollars plus \$210 more for Canadian tax and \$260 Canadian dollars for the license and tag, all of which had to be paid in cash or money order. This money was received by Mike Chain, the head booking agent for Zarco Wildlife Inc. based in Oklahoma. Chain has no work permit in Canada. The owner of Zarco is Juan Ramon Zaragoza, registered in Laredo, Texas. In addition to owning one-third of Vancouver Island's hunting rights, Zarco also offers safari hunts in Africa, South and Central America and other parts of North America.

Hunters need to take a stand against trophy hunting. If you are not hunting to feed your family, you have no right to kill an animal. The main en-

joyment hunters receive from hunting is said to be the time spent in the woods. Driving around in 4X4 trucks and shooting bears in clearcuts does not constitute an outdoor experience.

Canadians beware! Hunters from around the world are coming for a week's vacation to your beautiful country. They are leaving with body bags filled with two black bears, maybe a grizzly, a few endangered salmon, a wolf or two, lovely caribou and everyone's future. Let your outrage toward the trophy hunting industry be heard!

Please feel free (or obligated) to contact Zarco Wildlife Inc. through Mike Chain/Backwoods Hunts at 11600 SE 44, Oklahoma City, OK 73150, (405) 737-8070, fax (405) 741-8224. Call and book your own (bogus) kill.

The Namgis Nation, the First Nations people of the region, oppose all hunting that does not involve utilization of animals for sustenance. They also support Bear Watch in their endeavors to halt trophy hunting. Four bear hides were recently anonymously delivered to the Nation.

For more information on this inhumane slaughter, contact Bear Watch at Box 405, Ganges PO, Salt Springs Island, BC Canada V8K 2W1, (800) 836-5501.

Mike Mease does guerrilla media for Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers. CMCR is an environmental group focused on exposing hidden truths from around the world. Contact them at PO Box 7941, Missoula, MT 59807, phone/fax (406) 728-0867. For the dates/locations of CMCR's "Create Your Own Media" roadshow, see page 34.

Lead apron

We marched in a parade against nuclear waste
Twenty years ago.
One of the activists wore a padded dragon suit
with a long green tail.
She carried a sign—
"If you think my breath smells bad,
wait til you smell nuke fumes."
This was back when the Nuclear Reprocessing plant
was operating in West Valley,
A beautiful, wooded area of western New York.
They finally closed the plant
but it's still heavily contaminated with radioactive waste.

Twenty years,
And we're subjected to more and more insidious poisons.
The whole country reels of dragon's breath.
Supermarket vegetables shine lush and tropical
under their coating of pesticide and wax,
Irradiated with Cesium 137,
No bumps, insect holes or wrinkles mar the smoothness,
The fruit is as dead as the ink on the Sunday Supplement.

DRINKING—water comes out of the taps
shimmering with pearls of chlorine, fluorine, and lead.
In my yard,
Soft as a ghost,
Transparent as an angel
Atrazine is slipping into the blotting paper of my lawn,
As my next door neighbor has his lawn squinted
by a man in a white mask,
To eliminate the weeds.



In two decades—
More subdivisions have appeared,
Trees lopped, habitats destroyed, highways built.
The deer have taken to foraging among the automobiles on the roads,
Their carcasses slumped in the ditches.

Out in West Valley,
Tests have shown that gamma radiation
is leaking into the water table,
Invading Buttermilk Creek, Cattaraugus Creek,
Spilling into Lake Erie,
the water supply for the area.

Most people don't want to hear about it,
They don't want to see the dragon again,
But the invisible virulence can etch into your cells,
Knit around your genes like piano wire,
Poison the land forever.

Joan Fitzgerald

DEFINITIONS

Why demonstration forest?
Why vacant land?
Why development?

Why not monoculture out of balance?
Why not more genetic information per quarter
acre than all the world's libraries?

"We are not waiting for the coming of the
houses"—song of the land
Why not destructive urbanization, prelude to
pollution, increased density, traffic, and loss
of memory of what was here before?

DON WALSH



FROM THE AIR

The plowed fields slip to the sea,
Rain-washed, wind-lifted,
drifting to clog the depths the creek
carved, the silt settles
between stones where insects creep
or minnows swim. It fills the still pools.

During snow melt the plowed fields seep
caustics sprayed from planes
to wither weeds, or dusted to frustrate
the bugs, or made to hasten grain
to grow. The plowed fields
slump when storms lash in from the North.

Most lovely from the air the swirls
made by furrows in the dirt,
the contours tractors scratch on land.
From the air the grandeur of
grain surpasses all. Green turns
gold and seedheads pour to the silo floor.

Most lovely from the air the swirls
made by furrows in the dirt,
the contours tractors scratch on land.
From the air the grandeur of
grain surpasses all. Green turns
gold and seedheads pour to the silo floor.

Paul Lindholdt

Will and Testament

because there are currently
no organic apples within 100 miles
I, Sallie EHRMAN, being of sound
mind and body
do consciously purchase
5lbs of granny Smith's at SAFEWAY
white lettering on plastic
tells me apples have been coated
with caruba wax and food-grade shellac
it does not, however, inform me
what pesticides or how many times.

i don't know what food-grade shellac is;
how it differs from shellac i brush on
wood cabinets. my mother's floors
are not even waxed to this luster.

does an apple a day keep the doctor away
or is it the shine
like sunlight off water
that blinds his approach?

Sallie Ehrman

ARMED WITH VISIONS

CLEAR AS CUT GLASS
JUST AS DANGEROUS

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Send poems to:
Warrior Poets Society
Bancroft's Telegraph
ASUC Box 361
Berkeley, Ca. 94720-1111

A poem for Henry

One hundred and forty years since Walden
was published and

US Americans still can't hear
his words,

and still
see him as
a threat

It's even worse now,
with television and VCR's,

virtual reality waiting

like Yshiroh on the next
mountain. So much more mind
to own you.

And see his saying
like Christ before him,
who understood
what many of his followers don't is
give it up,

but Thoreau goes further
with his Buddhist sense

of what it means
to be

Awake.

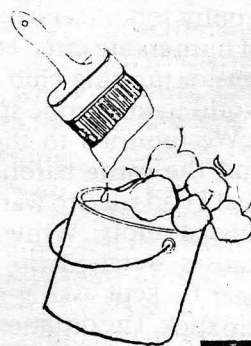
Great mosquitoes,

watch the flickers and the robins
in the crook of an oak, swim

if you can
in a cold pond, work,
but do only work

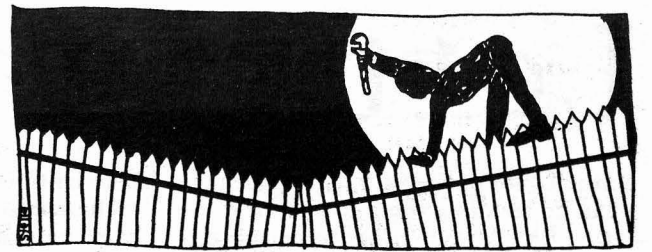
of consequence. Live
simply. That's
it.

Kevin Bezner



DEARNED LUDD

DEARNED LUDD IS A REGULAR FEATURE IN THE *EARTH FIRST! JOURNAL* FOR DISCUSSION OF CREATIVE MEANS OF EFFECTIVE DEFENSE AGAINST THE FORCES OF INDUSTRIAL TOTALITARIANISM. NEITHER THE *EARTH FIRST! MOVEMENT* NOR THE *EARTH FIRST! JOURNAL* NECESSARILY ENCOURAGE ANYONE TO DO ANY OF THE THINGS DISCUSSED IN DEARNED LUDD.



ECO-CONSUMER GUIDE TO NIGHT VISION DEVICES

With the downfall of the Soviet Union and the cash-strapped Russians selling anything that isn't nailed down, night vision equipment originally designed for the Soviet military has become widely available in this country at bargain basement prices. These devices utilize the "passive" technology of "image intensification." In other words, rather than use a light source invisible to the human eye, like infrared, and convert it into visible light, this state-of-the-art technology amplifies the existing light many thousands of times, making it possible to see in the night.

Some of these devices are of low quality and early technology and not worth the prices asked, while others perform on par with some of the higher-priced American equipment. If money is no option, buy a US made Litton product (starting at around \$2500). But if you're on a budget and feel entitled to a higher level of security during your nighttime activities, consider the wide range of imported goods. The licensed US importer is Moonlight Products (5965 Pacific Center Blvd., Ste. 711, San Diego, CA 92121) but their prices are usually higher than those of retailers.

Their models include the following:

NV-100: This model offers a light amplification of approximately 10,000x, a level of performance that doesn't justify a price tag of \$300-\$400.

MPN 1400-I: With a mere 1400X amplification and a price around \$400, don't even consider this one.

MPN 1500-I: Another low amplification device. Even with a detachable infrared illuminator, it's not worth the price.

MPN 30 K: This unusual binocular-type device offers approximately 30,000X light amplification and a price of \$400-\$500. A best buy for low budget operators.

MPN 60K: With an estimated 60,000X amplification and high 5.2 image magnification, this is

an excellent unit, but pricey (\$1000 to \$1200).

MPN 95K: This is the top-of-the-line. Its light amplification of 90,000X, coupled with a 3.5 image magnification make it the best for all purpose night use. Its only drawback is a price that hovers around \$1200.

There are other models on the market, including some real oddball types. As a rule of thumb, consider nothing with less than a 30,000X light amplification unless you are accustomed to operating in an environment with relatively high ambient light, such as an urban setting or under a nearly full moon (both dangerous operational environments).

Sources for night-vision devices include some gun shops and military surplus outlets in bigger cities (phone ahead and only pay cash). Mail order suppliers include: Ken Nolan Inc., 16901 Millikan, PO Box C-19555, Irvine, CA 92713; Damark International, PO Box 9437, Minneapolis, MN 55440-9437; Brigade Quartermasters, 1025 Cobb International Blvd., Kennesaw, GA 30144-4300.

Macho combat/gun type magazines available at newsstands can provide ads leading you to other sources. Look for suppliers of new and used military-type equipment.

Mail-order suppliers will cooperate with law enforcement. Have the item(s) sent to either a mail drop, a trusted friend, or a relative in a distant city. Never use a supplier's 800 phone number unless you're away from home. They get printouts of the phone numbers of all incoming calls.

These units have serial numbers stamped into their metal bodies. This number should be thoroughly filed off. Even after you file it off, some reading of the numbers may be possible in a top-flight forensics laboratory (i.e. FBI) In other words, *never* lose one of these devices at the scene of the action. If necessary, add better straps and fasteners and keep it secured to your body *at all times*.

Tips for use:

Never expose these units to bright light. Leaving the protective caps off in daylight or under artificial light may permanently damage the image intensification tube. Similarly, at night *never* look at a bright light.

These devices use conventional batteries. Wipe batteries clean of fingerprints and use gloves when loading them into the unit. At a minimum, test batteries before every job. Better still, minimize battery handling and insure operation by putting fresh batteries in before each night operation. Before every job, wipe down the outside with a cloth to destroy fingerprints. If you're stupid enough to lose one at the scene, be prepared to talk convincingly about the time it disappeared when you left your house unlocked, or when you picked up a hitchhiker.

Because these devices appear to turn night into day, overconfidence and overreliance on them is both natural and dangerous. They cannot see into shadowed areas without the illumination provided by an additional infrared light source (which can betray your position if the other side is using a passive night vision device). The infrared illuminators sometimes sold as an option with these units are generally low-powered and useless. See *Ecodefense* for pointers on how to use your senses fully at night. The night vision device is only a supplement, never a replacement for sound field techniques.

Practice under simulated conditions before using it during the real thing. Run and crawl with it on so that you can find a way to protect it from damaging impacts. Tucking it inside the front of your jacket can both protect the unit and leave it accessible. In cold weather, wearing it inside an insulated jacket can warm it to the point where the lens will fog up when you pull it out into the cold night air. Only with realistic practice will you find the best way to handle these devices in the field.

EARTH NIGHT NEWS Go out and do something for the EARTH ... at night.

Dozer Demolition Derby in Maine

Skowhegan, ME - Somerset County sheriff's deputies are investigating the cause of extensive damage done in February to equipment at four logging sites worked by Timberlands Inc. in the remote Highland Plantation.

Deputy Rene Guay said fuel tanks on logging skidders were loaded with sugar and the contents of high-pressure fire extinguishers. The contents of another fire extinguisher had been emptied on a skidder's engine, while other skidders were driven "go-cart" style, ramming into one another and plowing a logger's dinner shack into the ground. A new bulldozer also had broken headlights and a broken window.

Guay said the four work sites are located about 15 miles from Pleasant Ridge Plantation, near Bingham and US Route 201. A lock on the main gate to the access road leading to the areas had been broken with a heavy tool.

Guay estimated the monkey-wrenching occurred between 3 pm Sunday and 4:30 am Monday. "It's going to be hard to tell how much damage was done," he said, adding that the skidders had been run with the foreign substances in the fuel lines.

Guay said the cost of rebuilding a skidder motor could be as much as \$3,500. The deputy said felony charges could be filed against any potential suspect. The investigation will continue.



WAR FOR WILDLIFE HEATS UP

Cranbrook is located in the East Kootenay region of BC, and is home to approximately 20 guide outfitters. So, when a taxidermy shop and a so-called "wildlife museum" burned to the ground on April 28, many locals were a bit upset; especially since the wildlife museum happened to be attached to the Cranbrook Chamber of Commerce.

According to press reports, someone broke a wildlife museum window and set the inside on fire. Fifteen minutes later, Taxidermy by Parsons was set ablaze with the use of a delay mechanism. No public claim of responsibility has been made.

The fires were enough to send a bunch of hunters and guide outfitters over the edge, or at least down the highway, to the Fort Steele Heritage Park where the BC Environmental Network was hosting a conference. The angry mob was looking for blood In a classically conciliatory sell-out move, a so-called environmentalist, Ric Careless of the World Wildlife Fund, joined Bob Fontana, president of both the East Kootenay Guides and Outfitters Association and the Guide Outfitters Association of BC, in posting a \$4,000 reward for the arsonists.

The taxidermy fire destroyed all contents of the shop including mounts of bighorn sheep, mountain goat, elk, waterfowl, and a full cougar mount. Damage is estimated in the tens of thousands of dollars. The owner, Reg Parsons, does not have insurance.

The chamber of commerce fire completely decimated the building, including the entire "wildlife museum," in which there were numerous dead animal mounts: bull elk, wild cats, and grizzlies. The damage is estimated at over \$100,000.

As trophy hunter, hunting lobbyist, and Reform Party candidate Steve Pinch says, "If Reg Parsons is put out of business over this, then the extremists have won." We can only hope.

Letters, Letters, Letters...

To the Editor of the Earth First! Journal:

I'm drawn like a moth to a flame.
Do moths dream? Does some subconscious voice tell them to avoid the candle?

Last night I had a dream: I was sitting at a conference table—in a boardroom. A guy pokes his finger at one of our board members (I seem to be a member of this anonymous, but clearly executive, group). He says, "She's got Chevron stock. Let's be lawyers." I say, "No."

These fleeting images told me the whole story: The guy was opposed to the lady's politics. He saw his chance—discredit her with an irrelevant "conflict of interest." The others weren't sure. He said "let's be lawyers." Meaning: We can prevail if we use the technicalities, let's use every tool that we have. I said, "No." Meaning: let's deal with the real issues. Let's not just bicker about rules and their interpretation; let's try to find what is right and wrong.

A few days ago I went to a demonstration organized by Earth First! I really enjoyed it. What's more, I really thought that it was effective. They did "street theater"—a mock trial, with Mother Earth as judge, and a bunch of animals (Well, Earth First!ers in costume...) as jury.

The issue was immoral logging. The show was about (no surprise): immoral logging. The audience was the public, via the media. The media was playing along: there was coverage in the local paper and on TV.

The next day I was in court, as a plaintiff suing the government. The issue was still illegal logging but the show was now about (surprise) procedure. The audience was a Judge. We challenged the Environmental Impact Statement. We did not, and according to the rules could not, tell the Judge about the logging, only about the paperwork that would allow or disallow the logging. Just paperwork. If the right papers are filed with the right clerk, we admitted, the logging could proceed. But if the paperwork was inadequate, the logging was wrong.

Thus the dilemma: Why am I doing this? Why am I arguing about the paper, while others are out there trying to tell the public about the concept? Should I be doing street theater, and ignoring this system that allows the destruction of the Earth as long as a public notice was posted? (Did anyone read Douglas Adams's "Hitchhiker's Guide to the Universe"?—The Gorgons are here to destroy the Earth to build an intergalactic bypass. They are amazed that there are objections. The notice was posted on Alpha Centuri decades ago; doesn't anyone around here pay attention? In the book, it's good for a laugh. In Federal court the same scenario seems a bit grimmer....)

Thus the dream. And the big surprise of the week: unlike the indecipherably weird dreams that I usually have, this one was as concise as a good legal brief. As terse and concrete as an Army Colonel's memo to the General.

The message: F—the system. Deal with the issues. Do street theater.

I'm writing this as I wait for a law professor to start his lecture on procedure. And I'm not even a law student!

Like a moth to the flame.

Maybe the next dream will push me over the edge, out of the courts.

If I get out of here with my wings intact, I know that there are folks that I could join in with; with whom I could start dealing with reality. I'm glad that they're out there, and I'm glad that they're talking to the public.

And I want to say thank you to them: perhaps to you.

Keep doing the theater.

—SINCERELY, CHARLIE OGLE

Dear Earth First!ers,

The 9th Circuit Court's recent Mt. Graham decision ruled, in effect, that the University of Arizona (UA) and the US Forest Service (FS) must stop pretending that they can't tell east from west. On Dec. 7, 1993 UA/FS collaborators staged a secret 5 am pre-dawn clearcut of as much sacred, ancient forest as possible before Apache or enviro attorneys could stop it.

UA/FS officials would have flunked Geography 101. Imagine an astronomer that can't tell east from west! UA wrote the congressional rider that said the project would be off the west end of a specified road terminus. But UA sneakily tried to locate it off the east end after learning it had mistakenly lobbied Congress for the worst telescope site on the mountain.

Tucson Judge Alfredo Marquez, who *could* tell east

from west, asked UA lawyers why they didn't ask the Washington drafters of UA's tailor-made congressional authorization about the wisdom of turning east into west. UA was strangely silent. Apparently UA can't break itself of trying to circumvent or violate laws the rest of us must follow. After all, UA and Arizona's Regents have a record of ethical impoverishment to uphold; namely, being the first US university to: (1) exempt itself from all US environmental and Native American religious protection laws including the Endangered Species Act and the American Indian Religious Freedom Act; (2) enter court opposing the religious beliefs of an Indian people; (3) oppose listing an endangered species; (4) declare in court that if the project "was going to kill every squirrel" no law could stop them.

Now UA can add to their ethics list an unusual ability to illegally convert west to east. To what further depths of chicanery can UA sink?

—CLEM TITZCK

Dear EF!

The Forest Service just doesn't get it.

They still think they can win a battle of a timber sale by prevarication and deceit without losing the larger war of credibility so crucial to their future.

If you doubt it—just look at the miserable history of the Hay Timber Sale near Greer [in eastern Arizona] The Forest Service's latest pyrrhic victory in its campaign to clearcut the public's forests.

The Southwest's ponderosa pine forests are in terrible danger, as a result of a century of overgrazing, overlogging, and fire suppression. The stately, fireproof, ecologically diverse old growth forests that once covered millions of acres have been replaced by dense, overcrowded, sickly "managed" forests vulnerable to disastrous crown fires, insect infestations, and the soil exhaustion that afflicts Europe's used-up forests.

That's why the Forest Service and their timber industry clients insist we need to rush through emergency "salvage" cuts to supposedly remove lots of little trees to protect the handful of remaining big trees.

Obviously, that's just another Forest Service deception.

If you doubt it, just take a look at the Hay Sale—pushed through by the Forest Service over the objection of environmentalists based on outdated, decade-old data. Here's a prime patch of old growth forest—full of the big, 30-inch diameter trees the Forest Service claims it wants to protect. So which trees did the loggers mark? Precisely the 24, 30, 36-inch trees the

forest so desperately needs to retain its ecological balance.

Anyone who walks through the sale and watches the destruction of this precious patch of old growth will know that the Forest Service hasn't changed: it's still trashing the forest in its obsessive effort to get out the cut—no matter how many environmental laws, endangered species, or larger public interests stand in the way.

—DOROTHY RICHARDSON

Dear EF! Journal,

The liberation of animals (yes, this includes cows) from human oppression should be viewed not as a consideration in the fight to save the earth, but as a necessity. Does this mean that animal liberationists want cows to freely roam the earth devouring the land for eternity? Hardly!

In my view the best thing that can happen to cows and in turn the earth, short of the extinction of the human race, would be for the cows to go the way of the dinosaur. This is especially true for a species that has been created, domesticated, dominated, and desecrated in the service of humankind. As famous animal liberationist Ronnie Lee states, "An individual animal doesn't care if its species is facing extinction—it cares if it is feeling pain."

However, the extinction/liberation of the cow as a species, and the resulting benefits to the earth, will never be realized as long as there are those who continue to eat and wear the flesh of these yes, innocent and friendly animals, as some sort of twisted payback for "their" destruction of the earth. In so doing, you only reward those who make a living breeding these unfortunate animals, giving them the incentive (money), to continue depositing them upon the wildlands to devour the earth before "we" devour them. In the meantime, those of us who fight for the liberation of both the earth and the animals who reside upon it (cows included), find the talk of feeding cows diapers, shooting them, or inflicting other abuses upon them, offensive and cruel.

If you eat meat or wear leather, you only have yourself to blame. "Riled in N. Y." said it best: "Stop blaming the victim."

—SINCERELY, RILED IN MARYLAND

Dear EF! Journal:

Whoever wrote the information sheets about the RRR (Beltane) has obviously used the opportunity to insinuate their own values which are quite contrary to those for which I had hoped the EF! movement was all about.

What the world needs more than anything is a drastic reduction in the human population. To encourage EF!ers to bring their children to the RRR is, in fact, pro-natal. It suggests that children are to be admired as desirable and that parents should be rewarded by being relieved of the responsibility for their education and amusement.

I am not a member of a tribe. I am an individual allied with other individuals in the common cause of defending the earth against the destructive forces of too many people. I don't consider children to be precious any more than I do dogs or other destructive pests.

I consider children to be the sole responsibility of the destructive parents who made them and I'm not going to baby-sit them or teach them. If their parents want

to teach them environmental responsibility, that's fine, but once they find out who is really responsible for the mess the world is in, they'll probably hate everyone's parents, maybe even their own.

—ZORRO

The Editor-in-Chief (left) responds:

I plan on avoiding people in black masks at the Rendezvous. Godeegodeego!

Dear Shit for Brains,

I think that I have come up with a novel solution to the ongoing battle over the "correctness" of having children

within the radical environmentalist movement. RECYCLED KIDS!! Think about it. For those interested in rearing children but are worried about the impact on our dwindling natural resources, adopting a child who obviously already exists is the perfect solution. The aspiring parents are enabled to experience a family, and at the same time can feel comfortable knowing that they did not bring yet another human life into the world. Certainly the most ardently misanthropic eco-warrior could not find fault with this proposition. The child is already born, and therefore any impact he or she will have on the planet has already been sanctioned. So why let him or her rot in a children's home, or get scooped up by a consumerist enslaved couple looking to adopt. Assuming the child lives a life of normal length and will thus destroy "x" amount of the planet, it's much better that he or she be brought up by parents who will teach the utmost respect for Mother Earth, and will not raise the child within the decadent paradigm of TV, McDonalds, suburbs, and automobiles. The motivation to have offspring is a feeling shared by all creatures, and to deny this interest based on political beliefs goes against the philosophy of Deep Ecology. So, let's be reasonable people, when it comes to having children, keep the following phrase in mind: "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle"!

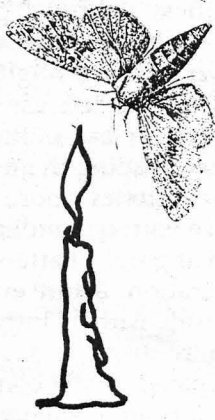
—PHILIP GOFF

Journal:

You straight, white motherfuckers just don't get it. You're beginning to sound a lot like how anthropologists are viewed by Indians (yeah, all the Indians of all the different tribes I know and hang out with laugh at the trembling political correctness of those trying to somehow make up for 503 years of racial and ecological genocide by using words like 'Native American' now); or possibly worse, like supplicants of what I call the Boulder Syndrome (Sinapu definitely excluded!), where a bunch of out-of-touch, squirming lefties view Nature most comfortably through boutique glass windows and groomed, up-the-hill 'Nature Trails.'

I read Matthew Cheney's letter, nodded my head in complete agreement and went on, not giving it another thought. The inference and context of his letter could not have been clearer. What's the average IQ of Earth First!?! You're also missing the fact that this guy is writing from NYC, where the word 'minority' means nothing, and where everything about daily life is hardcore, and where people—at least those of the lower-class, street and subcultures—have no concept of political correctness, only the awareness of everyone being thrown face-first into the shit together, with the main and mutual goal first being that of simply keeping your head above water.

You wonder why Earth First! is something of a monoculture itself, and why people of other subcultures remain insular? Nobody wants to feel as though they're



(Y'all are a wordy bunch!)

being studied, or that they constantly have to 'explain things,' or answer 'well-meaning' (but to us, stupid and intrusive) questions. I can see why Rod Coronado said he often felt very alone.

Come on! The biosphere is crashing! The Earth is not dying, she and all our non-human sisters and brothers are being killed, by a bunch of old, bloated, greed-gorged, pink-faced bigots. And the Journal is spending all this time and energy and vital chunks of page-space on an issue that wasn't even one, until you created it into one. This all makes for greater internal divisiveness at the most extreme inopportune time, the same internecine problem which brought about the failure of many of the other great historical struggles, whether it was Tecumseh's or the Black Panthers'. The way I see it, if some hippie creep has got a problem with somebody else solely because of that person's nature, then that creep motherfucker ain't even an Earth Firster, because, simply, apart from all his other fucked-up shit, he's obstructing the way of those striving to cohesively make the Earth come first.

We don't have time for anything else. These are the 90's! Let's make them make the 60's look like the 50's! Humans might kill and destroy everything and there may truly be no hope, or we may make it through the next 20 years more or less intact and out into a wide-open Future. More and more of those grinning, old white men die off each day, and that's good news enough to have with your morning organic coffee or ginseng or whatever the fuck else you have.

In my best moments, I believe we can get through this final crux period, and evolve into something else. Time is so huge, and the raping, grinding crash of machines so small, so recent, (yet, I know, to us so soul-shattering and immense, so at times hopeless and overwhelming) ...

But if a wild salmon way out in the dark, moody depths of the Pacific can find its way hundreds, even a thousand miles back up into the inches-deep mountain meadow stream in Idaho where it was born, then we—all of us, of all colors and variations—can find our way home too. The first part will take 20 years, the second maybe a hundred, and the third and fourths maybe a thousand. But in a thousand years, or less, you could even have (except for my sleepless, heartbroken totem the Passenger Pigeon) the unimaginably sacred once-Eden of Ohio back. In the arcing scope of Time and Spirit, a thousand years is not that long from now, not that far away.

Anybody seen how bright and huge Jupiter's been in the southeastern sky lately? She's only 36 light minutes away.

—JIHAD

To all you heterosexual-white-male editors quivering in fear . . .

This is the perspective of yet another heterosexual white male, one who is more attuned in age and perspective to the Berkeley free speech movement of the sixties than to the political correctness of this current era. Thus, if you feel inclined to dismiss this as an odd historical artifact, then so be it.

The question has come up, "Is it ever okay to use these words?" words that are sexist, racist, homophobic.

It seems to me that the language of bigotry is akin to the froth at the mouth of a rabid dog (the valiant defenders of rabid dogs shall undoubtedly rise up in righteous indignation at this comparison). It is unseemly, but it does serve the important purpose of exposing a far more serious problem. It is a symptom. I believe that the arbiters of political correctness who would excise offensive words are pursuing a course that is self-defeating. They encourage us to mask unpleasant realities that should, in fact, be exposed to the harsh light of public scrutiny. Bigotry

will not be defeated by pretending that it doesn't exist.

Let's make this clear: sexism, racism, homophobia, etc. ad nauseum, are not okay. The question is whether censorship promotes or inhibits "the creation of a world Wild and Free of speciesism, racism, sexism," and all the other assorted odiousisms that debase life on earth. Offhand, I can cite three reasons why I believe that censorship promotes the cause of those being censored and results in far more harm than good.

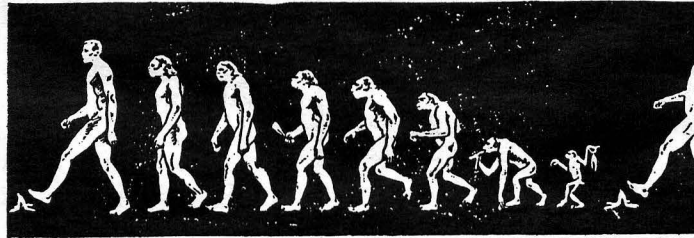
First, by seeking to stifle the words of the bigot, it is the act of censorship that becomes the issue rather than the obnoxious ideas being expressed. A few years ago, a musical group rapped about the joys that they derived from the physical abuse of women. As a consequence of the subsequent effort to punish group members for their words, misogynists were elevated to the status of free speech martyrs. Far more often than not, censorship will backfire in this way against those who seek to use it.

Second, we who align ourselves with Earth First! are, by definition, prone to express ideas that are unpopular with the status quo in this modern civilization. It seems to me that we should not legitimize the use of a tactic that may very well be employed by the powers-that-be against us.

Third, the language of bigotry serves the useful purpose of revealing underlying attitudes. Certainly, it is uncomfortable being around people who yap "about niggers, femi-Nazis and faggots" as Matthew Cheney puts it, but isn't it better to find out about personal inclinations that someone might have as a consequence of their yapping as opposed to some betrayal that may occur as a consequence of their repressed prejudices? It seems to me that in our work, it is better to know up front what peoples' true attitudes are, rather than foster an environment in which attitudes are repressed, only to fester.

So I say, when people send in material that is bigoted in some way, print it! But insist that the author provide a real name. No pseudonyms allowed. Maybe set aside a special section of the paper for offensive ideas. It is my belief that this would be far more effective in eliminating bigotry than this constant charade that we engage in, pretending that problems don't exist.

—TIM HAUGEN



Dear EF,

It'd be nice not to read another SFB advocating a return to the hunter Gatherer approach to existing - assuming virtually everything we are trying to do isn't all but one big dead horse We are trying to whip, i feel the hunter-Gatherer concept wont fly at this time, and I'll spare the ink as to why. Everyone can use their imagination.

Besides i like my little Gardens spread between the forest and so do the critters, and i'm less incline to eat the fish in front of my house or take one of the pesky squirrels (Rodent Monkeys)

—SINCERELY, CORRY E MASON

Dear Journal,

This morning I said to friend: "I wish there was something I could do for chinook salmon, because they are going extinct. But I feel powerless."

She said: "Right now, right now as we speak, the last viable migration of salmon

is happening. Never again will this many salmon smolts migrate downstream. They began to reach the dams just last week, and in the next month they will nearly all be killed in the barges and trucks used to get them past the dams."

"They will die for greed. they will die for lack of care, and for lazy thinking such as you are displaying now. This the very last chance for them, for their race, and a last chance for us."

"Right now, right now as we speak, chinook salmon are being sucked into holding pens and fed into trucks and barges with big hoses on the dams of the snake river. They are being sucked out of places with hoses, by men who have trucks. The trucks drive on the roads and are steered by ordinary people who get up in the morning and go to work. The trucks use



fuel like any other. The hoses are complicated contraptions. Any number of things can go wrong in this procedure.

"But nobody knows about these fish, because they are sucked along and trucked along and spat out someplace and they die and nobody pays much attention, and they go extinct and people forget. People have forgotten what it means to live with chinook salmon, and they, like you, cannot remember how to do anything."

"They do not oppose this because they forget to. They can't even remember how to get a map and visit one of these places, how to watch it from afar and apply their minds to the meaning of it all. Perhaps they will remember to shed tears later but for now they wait and they ponder lazily what is to be done."

—ANONYMOUS

Dear Friends;

The bombing in Oklahoma City makes me realize how out-of-touch my way of thinking may actually be. While I've been worrying about the fate of organic evolution and biodiversity, others have concerned themselves with right-wing politics, religion and greed. And, as evidenced in Oklahoma, some are even willing to kill in these struggles. I guess the point here is that we have an opportunity to reaffirm our peacefulness and commitment to non-violence in the effort to protect Earth. Only by continuing to demonstrate our reverence for all life will we gain the ground needed to protect those things most important in this world. Although the sadness in Oklahoma can't be ignored, we must remain above the fray in our own struggle to do what's right.

—ROGER J. WENDELL

Dear Shit For Brains,

As you're all aware industrial civilization and the technology that it has wrought are rapidly spiraling out of control (or more out of control than it already is). And if we all agree that technology is part of the problem, then why have individuals within the radical environmental community been taken in by the lure of all

these high tech toys? (And why the hell are you busy reading this goddam' letter that was printed out on a friggin' computer for that matter?) The truth is that technology is (or could become) a double edged sword. Unfortunately our side of the blade is as dull as a butter knife. Most Earth Firsters are quick to denounce anything that plugs into a wall outlet. And many of you are right in your condemnation. No, e-mail and Eco-net aren't going to save the world, nor should we expect them to. But ignorance of technology would also not benefit our movement. Remember all those diagrams of heavy equipment in *Ecodefense*? What if those authors had ignored technology?

Also, high tech monkeywrenching could be very effective, though not everyone has the knack for it, just like not everyone has the knack for fixing cars, painting pictures, knitting or what have you. Have any of you heard about the guy in California (Kevin Matnick) who broke into the Well (a computer network) and was "paying" everyone's bill for them? He wasn't actually putting up the money for everyone, merely changing the amount everyone owed to zero with only his wits and the help of a computer. Think of what could happen if some of us could pull off stunts like this inside the computers of scumbag multinationals who really deserve it!

If you're interested in learning more about this kind of thing, I'd recommend reading the books *Cyberpunks: Outlaws and Hackers on the Computer Frontier*, *Information Warfare* by Winn Schwartau and *Secrets of a Super Hacker* by the Knightmare (Sorry but I forgot the names of the authors of *Cyberpunks*). Also, *Secrets of a Super Hacker* is available from Lumpiness Unlimited (PO Box 1197, Port Town send, WA 98368) if your local bookstore doesn't have it. Briefly, *Cyberpunks* describes what some people have already accomplished, *Information Warfare* goes into some technical details, and provides sources of more information, and *Secrets of a Super Hacker* is a hands-on guide to breaking into computer systems.

Yes, I know technology sucks, but I'm afraid we're stuck with it for at least the time being, so why not have at least a few of us learn how to manipulate it to our advantage? Enough said.

—HELEN BACK

EF,

Hope y'all are in good health & spirits. Thought I'd take some time to tell you of a recent legal battle I had with a timber co.

I own 20 acres, very isolated, built a cabin and a fence to keep out those "open range cattle" (we call them "slow elk" around here) back in 1981 and have lived here since in eastern Oregon.

In 1993, a scam company of rip-offs bought 100's of acres from non-resident owners via mail and phone calls under fraudulent conditions and logged it all.

When they reached my fence line they crossed (with police hired as protection) onto my property and began marking trees for harvest, telling me my fenceline was wrong and they would be back to take the trees that same week. I filed a restraining order and then won the 35 trees and 11/2 acres because of Adverse Possession Law—my fence had been up over 10 years.

They (timber co.) spent over \$10,000 in legal fees trying to take the trees next to my cabin worth only \$3,000.

They finally quit fighting when they realized Adverse Possession Law was applicable in this case and they lost.

Cost of restraining order, etc. was about \$160. Law library was free.

The trees are not logs!! I'm now spiking "my" trees so that later after I die, no one will want to cut them.

So, even though the fence was built to stop open range beasts, it also stopped the timber beasts. Don't ya just love happy endings?

—LUCKY DUSTY

YOUR SUMMER PLANS ...

"SPIRIT WALK FOR SUGARLOAF" WALK FOR THE WILD SISKIYOU JULY 14-17

Come save Sugarloaf from the chainsaws of Boise Cascade!

The 3rd "annual" Walk for the Wild Siskiyou, a three-day hike from the Sugarloaf timber sale site to the Boise Cascade mill in Medford, will bring the message down from the mountain to the corporation that this area is too valuable to cut.

The Sugarloaf timber sale was awarded last year to Boise Cascade amid massive public outcry. Local forest advocates have been fighting this roadless area timber sale for ten years. The Siskiyou National Forest, determined to "get the cut out" has pushed it through, despite overwhelming legal, administrative, and public relations difficulties, including a letter of opposition from (then) governor, Barbara Roberts. After several modifications, the Sugarloaf Timber Sale still allows Boise Cascade Corp. to log 10 1/2 million board feet from about 700 acres on Grayback Mountain (huge trees), the highest mountain in the Siskiyou National Forest.

After walkers convene and camp on Grayback Mountain Thursday evening, the 45-mile walk will begin on Friday morning, July 14, from Sugarloaf. Support vehicles will follow the walk for those who are unable to hoof it the full 15-mile daily distance. Walkers will hike for three days, arriving near Medford on July 16. Monday morning, July 17, the walkers will carry their message through the city of Medford to the Boise Cascade mill. There we will join Agnes Baker Pilgrim, surviving member of the indigenous Takelma people. Together we will tell Boise Cascade that they must keep their chainsaws off this sacred land!

To participate, donate money, or for more information, contact Debbie at (503) 592-3386, PO Box 2093, Cave Junction, OR 97523. Checks for the Walk should be made out to "League of Wilderness Defenders," earmarked for "WWS," and are tax-deductible (for those of you who still pay taxes!)

—LEAGUE OF WILDERNESS DEFENDERS, KALMIOPSIS EARTH FIRST!

CREATE YOUR OWN MEDIA

In the activist's world, the most important friend of someone in front of a bulldozer is the video camera.

- Secret Star Wars test shut down on Shoshone land in Nevada: activists beam microwave transmission of ground zero protest ...
- LA action hits Hollywood on rainforest sets: ship boarded to stop rainforest wood imports ...
- Blackfeet documentary shown at United Nations: traditionalists defend sacred lands, cultural ways from oil and gas giants ...
- Forest activists use video to make point: roadless lands on the chopping block ...

Maybe you missed us on TV ... so we thought we'd take it on the road.

Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers—a grassroots activist media group—is bringing its "show on the road" to western North America.

We'll be showing our latest campaign documentaries and sharing grassroots media strategies that get the message out to the people who need to hear it.

MEDIA ACTION—*Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers* wants to train you to create your own media. Video presentations and music will be followed by a day of hands-on field training. Please join us.

OUR MISSION VISION—*Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers* explores alternative media from a grassroots perspective and budget. We are a non-profit group dedicated to defending the earth and human rights.

QUESTIONS?—Contact Michael Mease at *Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers*, PO Box 7941, Missoula, MT USA 59807, (406) 728-0867.

JULY

21-22 Calgary, Alberta
Friends of the Whaleback
Ken Beitel (430) 931-3333

23-24 Pincher Creek, Alberta
Castle-Crown Wilderness Coalition
Dave Sheppard (403) 627-4914

25-26 Nelson, BC
The Grizzly Project
Candace Batycki (604) 355-2327

28-30 Vancouver, BC
Vancouver Temperate RAC
Ian Marcuse (604) 251-3190

AUGUST

1-2 Tofino, BC
Friends of Clayoquot Sound
Yvonne Beaudry (604) 725-4218

4-5 Victoria, BC
Activist Center
Bryan Skinner (604) 380-0102

7-8 Olympia, WA
Media Island
Jimmy Mateson (206) 379-9421

9-10 Seattle, WA
Pacific Crest Biodiversity Project
Suzanne Pardee (206) 545-3734

11-12 Eugene, OR
Earth First! Journal
Jim Flynn (503) 741-9191

14-17 Dixie, ID
Cove/Mallard Coalition
Steve Paulson (208) 882-9755

19 Hamilton, MT
Friends of the Bitterroot
Jim Olsen (406) 363-0020




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For more info write us at:
EF! Journal/Affinity LD, Box 1415, Eugene, OR 97440

Gifford Pinchot Action Camp

A base camp for activists has been established this summer to initiate an on-going campaign to stop the corporate liquidation of our national forests in the Pacific Northwest.

Educational materials and technical skills (tree climbing, administrative appeals and litigation, media, outreach, etc.) will be shared. What individuals do with this information is their *own responsibility* ... but it is **TIME TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE EXPLOITATION OF OUR PUBLIC LANDS!**

Don't forget to bring your own camping gear, food, water, rain gear, warm clothes, musical instruments, pen and paper, camera, your family, your friends, and all the motivation you can muster.

DIRECTIONS:

From I-5 in Portland, take I-84 east to the "Bridge of the Gods." Continue east on the Washington side of the Columbia River on State Highway 14 to the town of Carson. Follow the main street which will put you on County Road 30 north. After about 25 miles look for a sign for the Upper Wind River Winter Sports Area. Approximately 2 miles thereafter turn left on Forest Service Road 3050 and when you reach the very end park in the landing and you are there!

For more information (food donations, car pooling and other logistics) call Laura at (360) 866-8728.

Clearcut Action Tour June 21-August 14

The Clearcut Action Tour is an activist bike ride from San Francisco, CA to Vancouver Island, BC to promote awareness of the destruction of ancient forests and Rainforest Action Network campaigns to protect these vital ecosystems and the rights of indigenous peoples. Our purpose is to energize and organize working forest preservation campaigns and inspire non-violent direct action in the defense of Mother Earth.

WHY RIDE?

- Indigenous cultures are being forced from their homelands.
- Less than 5% of North America's native forests remain.
- Every second 2.5 acres of the rainforest is plundered.
- An area the size of New York City is destroyed every day.
- 137 species are being driven into extinction every day.
- Two wheels good, four wheels bad!

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Take Action! The relentless industrial destruction of the Earth's last remaining ancient forests must be stopped!!! Hold large transnational corporations like Georgia Pacific, MacMillan Blodel, Mitsubishi, the World Bank and the Forest Service accountable for their crimes against nature and native peoples. Join forest activists in demonstrations, forums, press conferences, meetings, field investigations, and **civil disobedience.**

DOES IT COST ANYTHING TO RIDE?

NO! There is no registration fee. But, we need your help in working to get food, lounging, and gear donated. You cover personal expenses on the road.


WHAT IS THE ROUTE?

We're riding from San Francisco on June 21 to the EF! Round River Rendezvous (June 27-July 4), then heading through Oregon and Washington and into British Columbia to Vancouver Island on August 14, organizing in towns along the way.

FOR MORE INFORMATION


Contact the Clearcut Action Tour, c/o Rainforest Action Network, 450 Sansome St., #700, San Francisco, CA 94111, phone (415) 398-4404, fax (415) 398-2732, e-mail: rags@igc.apc.org

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SHARK HUNT SAB JULY 29

The Sea Defense Alliance (SeDnA) will be at the shark hunt in Elkhorn Slough south of Santa Cruz, CA, on July 29 to halt the bow & arrow "sport hunt" of these magnificent creatures.

With the depletion of ocean life at an all time high, we feel that the killing of these sharks is uncalled for and is a serious threat to the chain of life in the Monterey Bay Sanctuary.

SeDnA will be there to stop the hunt and is asking for support from the environmental community. They are in need of additional boats and donations to help maintain them.

SeDnA is a new group of activists concerned about ocean issues. They use an 18 foot power boat named *Auk's Revenge* to act in the defense of marine life.

If you are interested in helping stop the hunt, contact Jonathan at (408) 461-1518. If you can help with money, mail it to Sea Defense Alliance, POB 67121, Scotts Valley, CA 95067.

FERMI 2 NUCLEAR PLANT JULY 28-AUGUST 6

Fermi 2 is one of nine General Electric reactors in the US that show symptoms of cracks in the reactor shroud. These cracks represent a weakness that could give way under stress and prevent the shroud from containing an accident. Spent fuel and nuclear waste from Fermi 2 threaten life in the area. In recent years, Fermi has dumped 1.5 million gallons of radioactive and contaminated water into Lake Erie.

The Fermi 2 Action Project is conducting a summer encampment July 28 through August 6 in Michigan. Events

will include a solar-powered rally, workshops, nonviolent CD training, a film festival, and a demonstration at the gates of Fermi 2 on the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima. For more information, contact Fermi 2 Action Project, 3948 Grayton, Detroit, Michigan 48224, or phone (313) 886-0608 or (313) 884-2374. A \$15 donation is requested. The project also needs donations of office supplies, art supplies, camping equipment, printing equipment and food.

—FERMI 2 ACTION PROJECT

Florida EF! Rendezvous August 18-20

Come sweat with us in the Ocala National Forest! We haven't decided on an exact site yet, but we are planning on being near water. We are going to focus on rebuilding the movement in Florida with the usual workshop thing and getting to know one another. Sunday is reserved for a canoe trip down the Oklawaha.

(DAM KIRTPATRICK NOT THE OKLAWAHA!)

For directions call Heather at (904) 371-2952 or Audrey at (904) 375-1454.

NEW EF! GROUP TO FIGHT DEVELOPMENT IN CALIFORNIA

Attention all Orange Countians:

The time has come for Southern California developers

Things are looking bad for all of Orange County. Three toll roads are being carved into our wild foothills, opening up these once pristine lands to tomorrow's condos, strip malls, hotels, and fast-food joints. New housing projects seem to be erected overnight. Despite public protests, bulldozers are relentlessly rumbling through coastal sage scrub at this moment with no intent on stopping. All in the name of more roads, more houses, more profit, more people, more cars, and less of what we once enjoyed here in Orange County.

Something must be done! The line has been drawn. No more development! And with that said, we are pleased to announce the emergence of yet another Earth First! group in the county—NORTH ORANGE COUNTY EARTH FIRST! We will be working closely with Orange County EF!, but we will also concentrate our actions in the northern part of the county. We're only in the planning stages, but send us a note at the address below showing your interest and support. Include your address, phone number, and lots of ideas. So hey, come join us in festive celebration as we tell all Orange County developers and their prostitute politicians to "GO BUILD IN HELL!" Down with the Irvine Company!

—JEFF KUYPER, N. ORANGE COUNTY EF!, PO Box 693, YORBA LINDA, CA 92686-0693

MARCH FOR REFORM

Larry Tuttle, the Director of the Environmental Equity Committee, began an 1872-mile walk on May 10 from Salem, Oregon to Denver, Colorado. The 1872 miles was chosen to represent the "1872 General Mining Law" which governs mining on federal lands. This archaic law has remained largely unchanged since it was signed by President Ulysses S. Grant. The route is designed to include the state capitals of Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming and Colorado.

Concerned citizens are invited to join Larry on the "March for Reform." Walk with Larry for an hour, a day, or a week. Help provide logistical support. Tell your friends in Idaho, Montana, Wyoming and Colorado about the March nearing them!

The Environmental Equity Committee is asking for 1872 people to contribute \$10 each to make the March for Reform a success. The Environmental Equity Committee is an Oregon political committee which supports state and national mining law reform; challenges taxpayer-financed subsidies to extractive industries on public land; and supports political campaign finance reform. Contributions to the Committee are limited to \$100.

For more information contact the Environmental Equity Committee at 610 Alder #1021, Portland, OR 97205, (503) 221-1683.

Start A FOOD NOT BOMBS



Group in your community

You can begin feeding the hungry and working for peace by starting a Food Not Bombs group in your community. Food Not Bombs is a nonviolent all-volunteer network that provides free, hot vegetarian meals and political support to low income people in over 50 communities in North America and Europe. Food Not Bombs is empowering, rewarding and FUN! Send \$10 to Food Not Bombs for our helpful 128-page book that includes the steps for starting and maintaining a food recovery program, 30 vegan recipes for feeding 100 people and logos, flyers and letters you can reprint.

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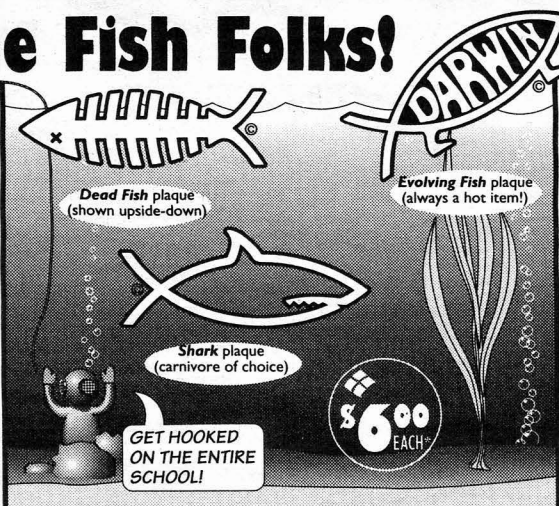
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- ★ Remove protection for your clean water & air.

Supporters of these measures have carefully concealed all this by failing to disclose the true effects of their proposed laws. In fact, large corporations are the only beneficiaries of these laws and they will reap huge profits as your American Wildlands are sold for their short-term profits. This is worse than bad policy, this smacks of patriotism sold to the highest bidder.

Act now to save what little is left of America's Natural Heritage. Stop these bills and the supporters of the "Contract with America" now. **Save America the Beautiful.**

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Earth First! activist and media slut extraordinaire, his music is a campfire favorite.
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A magical journey into the wilderness with poetry and music.
 "Oikos"— \$12

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Hilarious songs, biting satire, and excellent harmonizing characterize this band from the Northwest.
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With his southern folk sound and biting, witty lyrics Robert is a favorite at rendezvous campfires
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Marvelous country-folk satire. Greg Keeler's wit must be heard to be fully appreciated and laughed at.
 "Songs of Fishing, Sheep and Guns in Montana"— \$10
 "Talking Sweet Bye & Bye"— \$10
 "Bad Science Fiction"— \$10
 "Post-Modern Blues"— \$10
 "Enquiring Minds"— \$10

Go DOWN IN EF! HISTORY

Calling for submissions for the 1996 EF! calendar. We are interested in dates of milestones in Earth First! and environmental history, pertinent quotes, photos, poetry and artwork.

Send ideas and submissions to:
 Calendar Project
 EF! Journal, POB 1415, Eugene, OR 97440

KATIE LEE

Katie Lee's strong voice speaks to Colorado's canyons, plateaus, and people.
 "Colorado River Songs"— \$10

DANA LYONS

Dana's soulful voice and strong guitar convey a powerful, and often humorous, message.
 "Turn of the Wrench" Tape— \$12 • CD— \$15
 "Animal"— \$12
 "At Night They Howl at the Moon"
 with John Seed, environmental songs for kids
 Tape— \$12 • CD— \$15

PEG MILLETT

Longtime Earth First! activist and convicted felonious monkeywrencher, Peg has one of the most beautiful voices you'll ever hear.
 "Clear Horizon" Tape— \$12 • CD— \$17
 The CD contains all songs from the tape plus eleven songs from Gentle Warrior.
 "Gentle Warrior"— \$12

CASEY NEILL

Earth-based, inspiring lyrics and fast finger-picking, Casey's a noted Northwest musician and Earth First! activist. "Pawprints"— \$12

BILL OLIVER

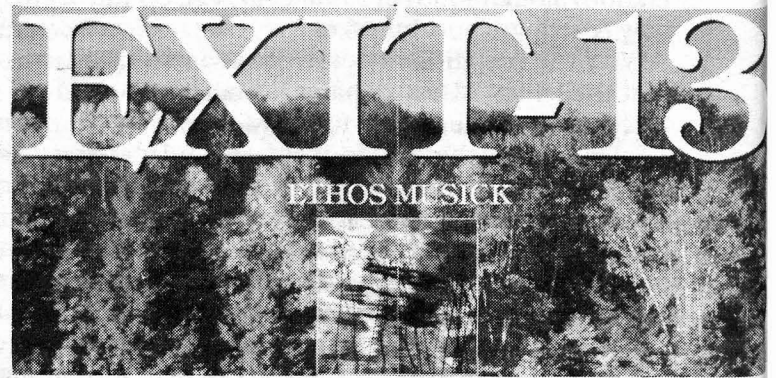
Texan Bill Oliver sings rollicking Earth First! classics that have become favorite sing-alongs at campfires and rallies.
 "Better Things To Do"— \$10
 "Texas Oasis"— \$10

JOANNE RAND

Joanne's strong and versatile voice climbs and dances through her inspirational songs and music.
 "Live"— \$12 • "Home"— \$12
 "Choosing Sides" Tape— \$12 • CD— \$15
 "The Monkey-Puzzle" Tape— \$12 • CD— \$15

WALKIN' JIM STOLTZ

Walkin' Jim's deep, powerful voice and wilderness-inspired lyrics will launch a howl in your heart.
 "The Vision"— \$10
 "A Kid for the Wild"— \$10
 "Listen to the Earth"— \$10
 "Forever Wild"— \$10
 "Spirit Is Still On The Run"— \$10



EXIT-13

A green psychedelic GRIND band out of Pennsylvania that advocates monkeywrenching, vegetarianism and hemp legalization with their lyrics and music. They have a cut on "ETHOS MUSIC" entitled "Earth First!" and a page in the liner notes dedicated to EF!
 "DON'T SPARE THE GREEN LOVE"
 (See the review printed in the Eostar, 1994, issue of the EF!J)
 •NEW• "ETHOS MUSIC"
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!TCHKUNG!

"!TCHKUNG! is the sound made by the machine in motion, stamping out mass produced media-ocrities." They combine snare drums, violins, power saws and rebellious vocals to create a driving ethno/industrial/slam beat. This band threatens to change the entire Earth First! music scene.
 •NEW• CD—only \$9

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SURVIVAL LINES provides useful tools—**T-SHIRTS**—for people working to protect the Earth. All our shirts are available at bulk prices for environmental groups. If your group contemplates developing its own t-shirts to support your advocacy of the Earth, get in touch with us. We will guide you thru the process—moving from idea thru graphic design to a final run of quality shirts. We currently print several of the shirts available in the *EF! Journal*. This print shop was born in the Oregon environmental movement, but we also do shirts for musicians and others.

New Shirts for SALE:

KEEP THE OZONE One of a series of snowboarding frog designs produced to dramatize the increasing dangers to amphibians from the thinning ozone layer. The front is a print of a highway sign that says 'No Fossil Fuel' and stands amidst skulls. The back is a six color print. Long sleeve, white, 100% cotton, M-L-XL, \$12 on factory seconds.

NO FOSSIL FUEL Graphic of gushing black oil well, splashing drums and skulls with yellowed eyes/fading aqua earth in one eye socket (below). Printed on white background on assorted dark shirts—purple, black, burgundy, forest green, plum, or indigo (please list three color choices). Short sleeve, 100% cotton, L-XL, \$14



NO NEW FERRY STREET BRIDGE

Black and green graphic of an asphalt & steel bridge with giant red 'NO.' This hip shirt with street graphic was

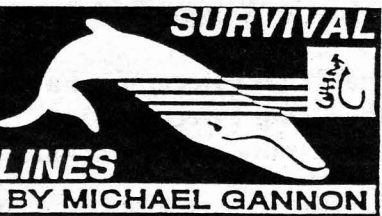
part of a successful citizen's campaign to stop a massive highway renovation in Eugene. We throw it out to the Universe for all activists. Back of shirt has **NO FOSSIL FUEL** image (shown at left). Printed on factory seconds. Short sleeve, white, 100% cotton M-L-XL-XXL, \$10

OF INTEREST:

CITIZEN FISH We printed a new t-shirt design for Citizen Fish's 1994 Arizona, California, and Nevada tour (not shown). The image of yellow, orange, and white is available. Short sleeve, black, 100% cotton, \$10

Send SASE for 4 FREE stickers and an informative brochure. All prices include shipping. Multiple shirts to the same address subtract \$2. Send check or M.O. with written instructions to: Box 10324, Eugene, OR 97440-2324. Retail stores may also inquire. Write, call or fax.

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BUY NOTHING DAY!

*Tired of Corporate Welfare?
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Sunday, September 24th

We're asking people all over to participate in Buy Nothing Day. Join us that day at your local Mall to demonstrate our consumer power. Help promote any of the dozens of corporate boycott campaigns sponsored by human rights and environmental groups. Together our voices will be heard in the boardrooms and the media. Exercise freedom of speech at stores selling unethical products from giant, greedy

corporations. Pick your "favorite" products or corporations and tell people to BUY NOTHING! That's the general theme and anything else is up to you! Some people might want to block a lumberyard selling old growth or rainforest wood, yell about slave labor products, confiscate some illegal rainforest furniture or stop the sale of animal products or products tested on animals... the list goes on and on.

We'll get you an action packet with corporate fact sheets, petitions and all sorts of goodies to help you tear down the Corporate Machine! Write or call Wetlands Preserve, 161 Hudson St. NY, NY 10013 (212) 966-4225 or 966-5244 fax (212) 925-8715.

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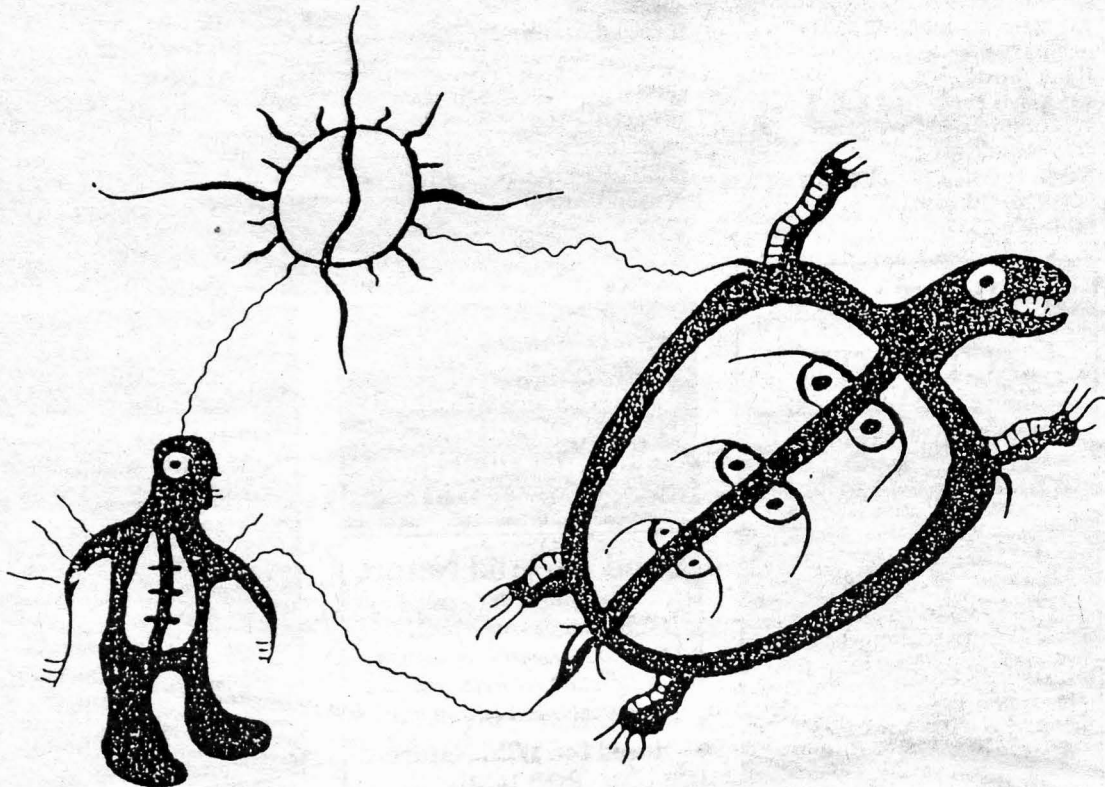


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