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EARTH FIRST!

BRIGID EDITION

February 2, 1987

Vol. VII, No. III

THE RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL

TWO DOLLARS

Sally Bell Redwoods Protected! Sinkyone Coast Purchased for Park

by David Cross

On December 22, 1986, representatives of the Trust for Public Land (TPL), based in San Francisco, signed papers exercising their option to purchase 7100 acres of the Sinkyone Wilderness from Georgia-Pacific Lumber Company. Of the total, 2900 acres, including the full 7-mile coastline and most of the remaining old growth forest, will be added immediately to Sinkyone Wilderness State Park; 400 acres of old growth will be transferred to Save-the-Redwoods League and later added to the Park; the remaining 3800 acres, containing a few uncut stands but most of which suffered badly under Georgia-Pacific (G-P), is for now termed a "multi-use" area. What will be done toward the goal of wilderness restoration remains to be worked out. The purchase option was set to expire December 31. By using the "multi-use" catch-all, the parties — TPL, environmentalists, state and local government agencies, International Indian Treaty Council, Woodworkers union, and the public — could consolidate their deal while postponing their debate. The TPL action thus climaxes, but does not close, the Sinkyone struggle.

To have reached this point is an extraordinary achievement for which many people are responsible. The fight to save the Sinkyone began in earnest over a decade ago, but Sinkyone preservationists first began to stir in the early '60s, before the Redwood National Park campaign.

"The Lost Coast is the wildest and most remote coastal area in California and possibly in the coterminous 48 states," according to the state Coastal Commission's report in 1978. The Lost Coast is comprised of the King Range National Conservation Area (BLM) and Chamise Mountain (BLM) in the north, and the Sinkyone Wilderness in the south, together totalling 50 miles of

coastline transected by one paved road. In the early 1970s land ownership in the Sinkyone passed from the old ranching families and locally based Union Lumber to the State Parks and Georgia-Pacific, respectively. Since the 1950s, G-P had been expanding its holdings at a rate unprecedented in the timber industry. The method was straightforward: Cut down the existing old growth and use the proceeds to pay off the land; second growth, on a good site, would be clear profit. The Sinkyone is not a good site; it is steep and slide-prone, with heavy rainfall and thin soils. The California Highway Department is happy to build a road anywhere it thinks it can, yet it thought otherwise about the Sinkyone. But there was old growth, and G-P's mill in Fort Bragg was just a few miles away.

G-P was first approached by William Penn Mott, a friend of the Sinkyone who was Parks Director under Governor Ronald Reagan. The Parks and Recreation Commission had outlined a 12,000-acre project of which 3650 acres was park land in 1975. Jere Melo, G-P's head forester, filed a plan with the Coastal Commission to log the entire 7-mile coastal strip from Usal, at the proposed park's southern edge, to the existing park boundary near Bear Harbor. The Coastal Commission had been created by a 1972 ballot initiative to regulate activity in a zone 1000 yards wide. Meeting resistance from the Commission's forester, Melo withdrew the big plan. Subsequent smaller clearcutting plans were appealed and denied by the Coastal Commission, which cited old growth values, cumulative effects, and habitat protection needs. In a 1976 trade-off over a 260-acre cutting plan near Usal, G-P agreed to offer an easement creating a protected coastal corridor. This agreement sat idle and forgotten for 8 years. Also, in 1976, jurisdiction over logging in the coastal zone was transfer-

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Sally Bell grove, Sinkyone Wilderness. Redwoods sprouting from the rim of a now-vanished ancestor that was more than 20 feet in diameter. Photo by David Cross.

Reaganites Propose Delisting of Grizzly

by Arthur Dogmeat

If Grizzlies weren't listed as a "threatened" species under provisions of the Endangered Species Act, they would quickly be extirpated in northern Montana. The Endangered Species Act

(ESA) tends to protect critical bear habitat and prevent humans from killing many bears. These are the two keys to insuring the survival of the Grizzly.

But the Director of the US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) has called for his agency to begin "delisting" the

Grizzly in northern Montana. It's no coincidence that the FWS Director made his announcement at an oil & gas development conference. Oil & gas companies plan to drill at least 20 wells in fabulous bear country along the East Front of the Rocky Mountains. Grizzlies and the ESA are blocking those plans. Since Reagan and the oil companies can't get rid of the ESA, a Congressionally mandated law, they're trying to get Grizzlies delisted so the big bear will no longer be protected by law.

The second agency that openly advocates delisting the Grizzly is the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (MDFWP). The MDFWP allows hunters to kill 14 Grizzlies a year. Many conservationists feel this sport hunt for Grizzlies is a violation of the ESA, which only allows killing of listed species under extraordinary circumstances. The MDFWP knows it could be sued and the hunt stopped. Again, since the MDFWP can't eliminate the ESA, it is trying to get the bear delisted. What better man to help than Frank Dunkle, former Director of the MDFWP, whom Reagan recently appointed as Director of the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

The third agency that wants the Grizzly delisted is the US Forest Service. If bears are delisted, Freddie's

won't have to deal with that pesky ESA before giving forest lands to the timber, mining, and oil industries.

Here are reasons why the Grizzly shouldn't be delisted:

1. Dunkle must prove the Grizzly population has "recovered" to a level of 440-680 Grizzlies in the Northern Rockies. To prove this point, Dunkle will use skewed population figures provided by an Environmental Impact Statement the MDFWP wrote to justify its Grizzly hunt.

As an example of evidence contradicting the MDFWP EIS, one researcher (Mace, 1984) doing habitat surveys in the Scapegoat Wilderness didn't see a single Grizzly track for 2 years. And although MDFWP biologist Aune (1984) warned against extrapolating his bear data from the Rocky Mountain Front to other areas, the MDFWP primarily used Aune's data to estimate there are 76-106 Grizzlies in the Scapegoat Wilderness. MDFWP repeatedly made mistakes like this to prove that there are a minimum of 549 Grizzlies in northern Montana.

2. Grizzlies must have habitat to survive, so Dunkle has to prove their habitat is secure. He will claim that 54% of their habitat is secure because it's

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Photo by Doug Peacock

EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

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Around the Campfire

During the Pleistocene (a mere ten thousand years ago), North America was brimming with big cats — including the saber-toothed Smilodon, the Cave Lion, and the Cheetah. Today, however, when we think of big cats, our imagination is left with the Cougar. Sadly, it is too often our imagination alone since *Felis concolor* has been shot and hounded by dogs until it now stares down that dusty trail trod by Smilodon and the others. But the Mountain Lion is not truly alone when it comes to big cats in the United States. Historically, the even heavier and more elusive Jaguar has ranged the Southwest from San Francisco Bay to Arkansas. Always rarer than its cousin, the Jaguar has had the same enemies — men on horseback contemplating the hind end of a cow, and the tough guys who think the skin on the wall is more beautiful than the skin on the critter.

We Southwesterners have long thought the big spotted cat was gone from our mountains and canyons; we've given up hope that we may be presented with the problem of determining which big cat left those four inch pug marks in the sand. Now comes the bittersweet news that the Jaguar still roams southeastern Arizona. Sweet, yes, sweet as the howls of the new Wolf pack in Glacier National Park; but bitter, bitter as the lead in the blood spattered on a rock. The Arizona Game & Fish Department discovered the presence of the Jaguar in the Dragoon Mountains by learning of its killing.

Game & Fish has offered a reward of \$1000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the murderer. *The Earth First! Journal* is offering an additional \$500. Anyone with information (not that any of our readers would have such information) can call Arizona Game & Fish toll free at 1-800-352-0700.



It is now time for the Game & Fish Departments of Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, the Forest Service, BLM, and the National Park Service to initiate a Jaguar Recovery Program, establish critical habitat, and augment the extremely limited Jaguar population in the Southwest with reintroductions. I encourage Earth First! to become deeply involved in the restoration of the Jaguar to its rightful and glorious place in the fauna of the wild Southwest.

Sitting on a wilderness beach in Mexico last week, noting the steady progress of a pack of coyotes and a flock of vultures in reducing the body of a Pacific Bottlenosed Porpoise to a skeleton, I thought of a number of matters. Among them were the many people deserving thanks and recognition for the production of this newspaper (bet you're wondering how the hell I got from scavengers chewing on a dolphin corpse to that, but you'll have to wait until around the campfire at the Rendezvous to hear, and by then I'll have forgotten). Foremost is John Davis, the unassuming but quietly competent and constantly industrious managing editor of *Earth First!*. Every good writer knows that a good editor can make any article

better. John does that with every piece that appears in these pages. Not only is John the guts of this operation but his sterling character deserves the finest praise I can give any human being — if we were all like John Davis, I wouldn't be a misanthrope. He is a Noble Savage, indeed.

Only a bit less saintly than Brother John are Dixie Dalton and Leon Czolgosz, even though they have funny names. If I go into how much I appreciate their work, I'll start getting mushy, and that would be inappropriate for a man of my dignified stature.

I want to thank Roger Featherstone for his work over the last eighteen months in this office and wish him the best as he leaves the secure but dull life of the EF! mail room for the rigors and joys of the open road as a full-time but hungry outside agitator for the Earth First! movement. Roger's a good hand and he makes things happen whether it's about uranium mining, acid rain, or Freddie deviltory. Drag him out your way to lend his expertise and energy in fighting your special demons. Give him a place to throw his sleeping bag, a meal now and then, a little gas for the "Iron Maiden," and a sixpack. Then watch the sparks. Instead of sending a telegram to that hotel in San Francisco where Paladin hung out, give us a call here in Tucson and we'll put you in touch with Roger.

The really unsung people behind the production of this newspaper are the steadfast members of Tucson Earth First! who come over here eight times a year for a sneakily-named mailing "party." In a few short hours, and a fair number of cervezas, they have transformed a mountain of newsprint into something the United States Postal Service can deliver to the door of each and every one of you. Thank you, Jim, Navi, Charles, Lainie, Les, Chris, Dale, Julia, John, Jean, Clark, Judy, Alyce, Tanya, Alex, Helen, Alex, Michelle, Diane, Kathy, Roberta, Lynn, Doug and the rest of you. I sincerely appreciate what you do and the good cheer with which you do it.

When I receive frequent compliments on the quality of the thought and wordcraft in this journal, I don't accept them for myself but for the bunch of visionaries, activists, and damn fine writers and artists who fill these pages. Thank you, friends. It is a pleasure to be able to facilitate the presentation of your fine work to the Earth First! tribe.

Finally, let me thank you, dear reader. That so many of you continue to renew your subscription to this irascible rag gives me hope — and joy. I'd like to buy each of you a beer in thanks for your support and for reading what we publish. Since I can't do that, I'll just have one myself now and finish this up later.

Actually, if I do that, I fear I won't get this damn column done in time so I'll just do the old sip and type number here. One more round of thanks: this one to all of you who responded so generously to our little unprofessional appeal for funds for the grassroots Earth First! movement a couple of months ago. We'll try to have a full report in the Eostar issue, but suffice it to say here that you brightened the hearts of more than a few activists with your support of their efforts. Thank you.

Let me insert one more admiring word here. This one's to Ted and Lourdes Fuentes-Williams, activists par excellence and good Earth First!ers. Ted has been bravely holding up under an ordeal which would have cracked me like a dry mesquite pod. He's been undergoing operations for glaucoma-induced hemorrhaging of his

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

Contributions are welcomed and should be typed or carefully printed, *double spaced*, and sent with an SASE if return is requested. Art or photographs (black & white prints preferred, color prints or slides OK) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested. Due to our tight budget, no payment is offered except for extra copies of the issue.

All material should be sent to Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703, except for poetry which should go to Art Goodtimes, Box 1008, Telluride, CO 81435.

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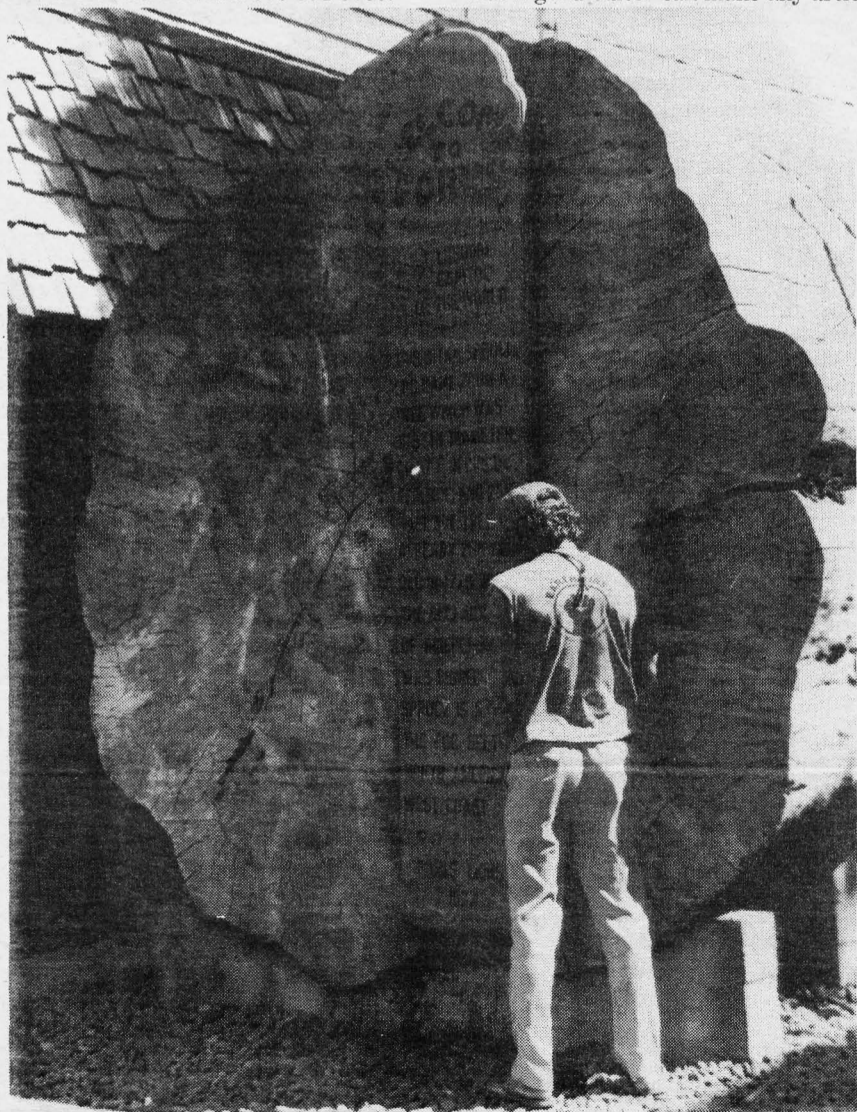
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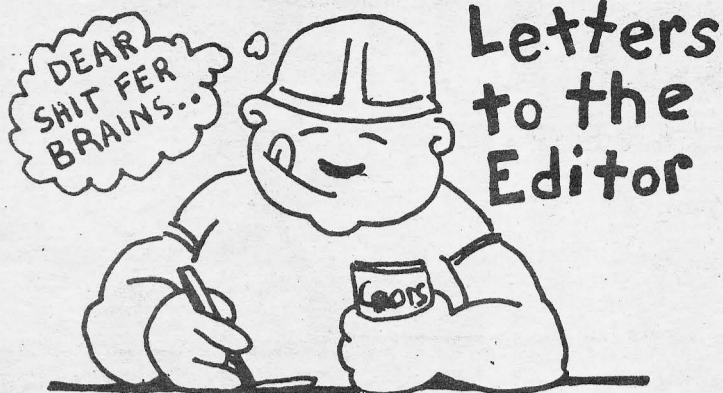
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Letters to the editor are welcomed. Lengthy letters may be edited for space requirement. Letters should be typed or carefully printed and double-spaced, using only one side of a sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate if you want your name and location to appear or if you wish to remain anonymous. Send letters to POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703.

EF!ers,

While hiking the Appalachian Trail (AT) in New Hampshire this fall, it struck me that the backbone of a potentially great eastern Wilderness already exists — the Appalachian Trail. In the next few months I shall draw up a proposal for *Earth First!* I need your suggestions.

An EF! vision foresees a post-fossil fuel age contiguous wilderness from northern Maine to southern Florida. Our immediate need is for a transition plan for wilderness recovery in the spirit of work being done by Reed Noss and others in the *EF! Journal*.

In selecting the AT as the backbone of a major eastern wilderness, I do not mean to exclude important ecosystems which do not lie near the AT. I have chosen the AT because it already exists and because it occupies a special place in the hearts of easterners. I hope to see the sort of wilderness corridors and buffer zones proposed by Reed Noss in Mabon 85, to include the widest possible diversity of local ecosystems. How else can we preserve (not to mention reintroduce) all native species? Isolated patches of wilderness simply will not work. (Other "backbones" may be the Atlantic Coast and major river systems.)

EF!ers in the AT region, I need your advice. Which areas in your region should we include in the plan? Which areas will need wilderness recovery plans? What steps will be necessary to reintroduce native species driven to or near to extinction? How can we recover private lands in your region? What roads should be closed today? In a few years? In the long-range? Is there a local bioregional movement which could help enrich this vision? Poets? Artists? Musicians? Native Peoples? What problems associated with wilderness reclamation are peculiar to the East? Forest Service practices? Water rights and laws? . . .

Campfire (cont)

eyes and has been virtually sightless for several months and unable to move around for fear of additional damage. Hang in there, buddy, you're one tough hombre. I know you appreciate how fortunate you are in having Lourdes helping you through this.

Our lead story this issue is for all of you who have been discouraged once or twice. Everybody told the good people of Humboldt and Mendocino counties in northern California to forget trying to save the Sally Bell Grove of Redwoods from Georgia-Pacific's chainsaws a few years back. But they were just a bunch of backwoods hippies who didn't know any better. They tried. They won. They're America's finest. I drink a cerveza to your victory, muchachos y muchachos. I hope the Gang of Ten is studying what you did. They can learn a lot. I know the Sierra Club is looking for a new Executive Director. When they pick one, they ought to make him or her go hang out for a couple of months with Woods, Richard Gienger, Lon Mulvaney, Gil & Cecelia Gregori, Agnes Mansfield, and Sally Bell, et al for some training in vision, humility, and perseverance.

As you read this, John, Nancy and I will be braving the swamps — Okefenokee and the Everglades. Communing with the Alligators and Water Moccasins. John is going 'cause he got an inflatable kayak for Yule and I figure the sharks down in the 'glades will try taking a bite out of that before they nibble on my canoe.

— Dave Foreman

Much as I love the wild West, I feel that nothing can surpass the beauty of the ancient Appalachians. I hope the day is near when healthy populations of wolves, bears, and big cats will again roam freely between Maine and Florida.

— Jamie Sayen, RR 1 PO Box 132-A, North Stratford, NH 03590.

EF!ers,

I was upset by the California Condor article in the December issue of *Earth First!* The condor issues are extremely complex: right and wrong have become hazy areas. I worked as a field biologist at the Condor Research Center (CRC) from 1983 until summer of '86, so I feel familiar with the situation. I was fired for my outspokenness and political views.

The article was filled with inaccuracies. It was an inappropriate attack against the Los Angeles and San Diego Zoos based on misinformation from people and organizations that know nothing about condors. Even the cover illustration is malicious, showing a monkey wrench releasing the birds.

In a nutshell, the biologists who understand the situation have been overruled by politics and bureaucracy. The 2 agencies who make up the CRC, the US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) and National Audubon Society (NAS), have been locked in a 7 year old struggle to gain control of the Condor Recovery Program. Each of these 2 powers has flip-flopped on critical issues so many times that their positions at any given moment might be more rationally determined by a coin toss. Other groups such as the Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth, and Earth Island Institute have never offered constructive input; throwing gas on the fire and fanning the flames is more their style. None of these groups has sought the facts.

Whose version of the truth are we to listen to? The Bay Area Earth First! chapter should have spoken to the 2 zoos before printing such a slanderous article, and staging such a harmful protest at the LA Zoo. One should listen to both sides before taking a radical position, in this case a position which may harm the condor.

The 2 zoos have become scapegoats for both the NAS and FWS. The zoos are doing the best they can. There is still a lot to learn about raising condors in captivity. Mistakes have been made, but neither the NAS nor FWS offered much constructive criticism before the problems occurred.

As one who has spent years studying condors, I yearn to see them flying wild. I also know that there is no hope for their future without the present captive breeding program. If the 26 or 27 condors in captivity had not been brought in, the present wild population would probably only be 4 or 5 birds; the rest would be dead. To me, the 2 zoos represent the only refuge for the condor, the only hope for the survival of the species. The zoos are moving in a positive direction, with the expertise of biologists, geneticists, captive breeding experts, and ornithological societies from all over the world.

The CRC is a money guzzling, inept beast that should be stopped. If the remaining 2 birds were to be brought in, CRC people would lose their jobs and power base. Their own survival, in their opinion, is more important than the birds. The zoos anticipated the present crisis 30 years ago, and proposed a captive breeding program that was too far ahead of its time to be accepted. If their captive breeding program had been

started at that time, we would not be facing today's ugly situation.

The major points in the article and the leaflet sound suspiciously like a plan to discredit the zoos by both the NAS and FWS!

The article never mentioned that most of the birds have been dying of lead poisoning due to eating dead animals that had been shot. Lead bullets and shot should be banned in Southern California. Unfortunately, the National Rifle Association would never go for that, and it is probably a stronger lobby than all these organizations combined.

In closing, I would like to emphasize the positive. The captive condors are healthy and vigorous. Soon they will start laying eggs. Within a few years (no one knows for sure) we will be able to start releasing these young birds into the wild where they will prosper.

— Louis Andaloro, Santa Barbara

Friends,

We've received good and bad news recently in Indiana. The Forest Supervisor of the Hoosier National Forest, Harold Sodlevike, who has maintained a pro-ORV position in the past, has publicly stated that he is recommending ORVs not be included in the Forest Plan package for Hoosier-Wayne NF. We at Protect Our Woods suspect the word was handed down from the regional office in Milwaukee to announce the decision first locally so there would be no apparent internal disunity over the issue. In any case, it looks like the National Forest in Indiana will be one of the first to ban ORVs. Perhaps this precedent will have positive implications for other National Forest's ORV policies.

The bad news is that the Supervisor's announcement is probably being used by the FS to cover up intransigence on their part over other aspects of the Plan which we and other groups have been trying to negotiate. An impasse was reached over clearcutting and wilderness/roadless areas in meetings which the FS abruptly discontinued. The Regional Forester, Larry Hensen, who had made verbal agreements with conservation groups, has been replaced, and it is assumed all the agreements are null. We are left with the expensive, long, drawn-out appeal in court.

an Indiana EF!er for Wilderness

[To support the Hoosier's opposition to ORVs, write: Supervisor, Hoosier National Forest, Bedford, IN 47421.]

SFB,

I've participated in the last two RRRs and was rewarded by both experiences. Here's food for thought concerning future RRRs: The most stimulating and instructive times for me have been the least structured moments . . . i.e., singing and talking around the campfire and listening to informal bull sessions featuring such notables as Nagasaki, Doug Peacock, Jasper and others. Should there be more of these kinds of things as opposed to so many heavy duty workshops? After staggering away from a workshop hopelessly mired in rhetoric, Nagasaki lamented about what we ought to be doing — namely having more fun! Coming from him that might sound incredible, but his point was well taken because he further stated that we could do our real brainstorming at regional workshops. Should we spend time organizing these workshops at the Rendezvous?

The most important aspect of either of the RRRs I've attended was the Yellowstone Grizzly action! It was Earth First! at its best. I think future sites should be selected close to wild areas that need attention focused on them. I can think of no better time to mobilize a major effort on behalf of Mother Earth than after a Rendezvous. I'd like to hear what other EF!ers think about these ideas.

Ken Kerchenfaut

Howdy EF!

It pisses me off to see the *EF! Journal* devote so much ink to trashing other environmental groups — case in point, Paul Watson's article about his Iceland activities and his comments on Greenpeace. I believe in dissent and debate in the movement, but I also believe that the political spectrum is wide enough for all and there are too many people on the wrong side (Chevron, IBM, FS, etc.) for ecologists to waste much breath insulting each other. Am I right?

Peg L.

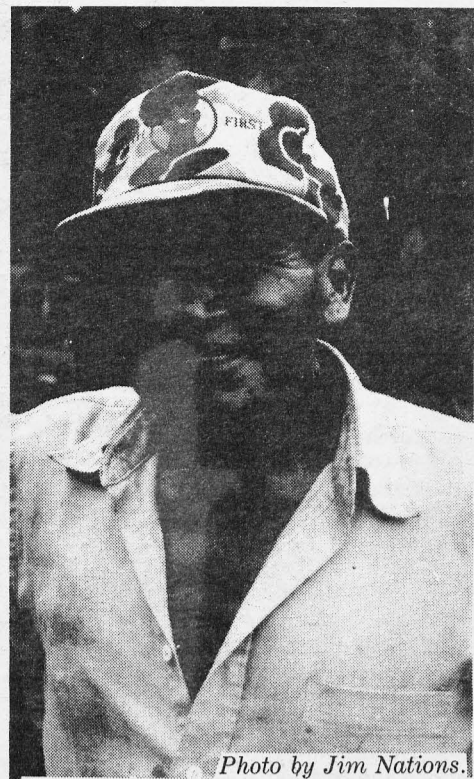


Photo by Jim Nations.

Editor:

Meet Dario Payaguaje, Siona Indian, lifetime resident of the Amazon rainforest and president of the new Earth First! group within the Cuyabeno Wildlife Production Reserve — a new Ecuadorian conservation unit that protects 1000 square miles of tropical forest and the traditional lands of the Siona Indian community of Puerto Bolivar, Province of Napo, Ecuador.

Mr. Payaguaje serves as one of the indigenous guides and canoeists for the Department of Natural Areas planning team now producing the management plan for the Cuyabeno Reserve. His admiration for my EF! cap gave me the chance to present it to him along with a brief history of the movement and its goals. He proudly announced that he was in complete agreement and put the cap on his head with flourish. He invites his colleagues in Earth First! to visit him in Ecuadorian Amazonia and experience the wonders of the tropical rainforest firsthand.

James Nations, Director of Research, Center for Human Ecology

Dear SFB,

I went to the desert recently. Amazing what you can do without tools! In desert driving, there are places where you go slow, and between bad places are stretches where you can kick it up to 30-40 MPH. Sometimes sagebrush grows in the center. A 16" rock standing up in this center area is totally unexpected. But I don't recommend hanging around to watch the results. (I was lucky.) Also, don't do it until you're in 4-wheel country.

Stuffing culverts in Palomar country was hard work. Some clever EF!er should invent a plug to lock in place a few feet in.

Your distant friends

P.S. Sent a check to Paul Watson too. Good man. I cut Greenpeace off til they repent.

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The Post Office does not forward Third Class Mail but they do charge us 30 cents apiece to to send us your change of address. Please send us your change of address promptly so you do not miss an issue of *Earth First!* and we do not have to pay the Post Office to receive it. Some people using clever aliases are not receiving their copies of *Earth First!*. Be sure to notify your postperson that "Attila the Hun" or "The Animal" receives mail at your address.

SCHEDULE

Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal is published 8 times a year on the old pagan European nature holidays: Samhain (November 1), Yule (December 21 or 22), Brigid (February 2), Eostar (March 21 or 22), Beltane (May 1), Litha (June 21 or 22), Lughnasadh (August 1), and Mabon (September 21 or 22). Deadlines for articles are three weeks before the cover date: October 10, December 1, January 10, March 1, April 10, June 1, July 10, and September 1. The newspaper is mailed Third Class on the cover date. First Class delivery is available for \$10 extra a year. Airmail delivery overseas is available for \$20 a year extra.

Sinkyone (cont)

red to the California Department of Forestry (CDF). The state's Forest Practice Act is *reputedly* the nation's best. In reality, the CDF bureaucracy usually plays a broker's role to bring Timber Harvest Plans (THPs) into apparent, on-paper, compliance with its own weak interpretation of the Act. Its regulatory powers are rarely used against major companies. With CDF in control, the stage was set for destruction.

In March 1978, clearcutting began in the Redwoods of Anderson Gulch and Little Jackass Creek. On the Equinox, the first Watershed Gathering was held at Needle Rock in Sinkyone Park, marking a change in the struggle. The Sinkyone was a "place no one knew." The progress so far had come through established organizations, Audubon and Sierra Club, working with government agencies and involving very few people. That had to change. The grassroots Sinkyone Council and Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC) started organizing a sparsely populated rural area; these efforts proved vital to the later successes. Over the next 4 years the Parks and Recreation Commission passed favorable resolutions. The area's state legislators earmarked \$3.2 million of 1980 Park bond money for Sinkyone acquisitions. In 1980 the Sierra Club listed the Sinkyone as a top statewide priority. Hearings on the park expansion showed overwhelming support. But no way was found to stop the destruction of the Sinkyone Wilderness, despite public supp)0t, money, and Governor Brown's carefully nurtured pro-environment image.

Overtures from Save-the-Redwoods League were refused. Jere Melo declared that G-P was not a willing seller but would listen to offers that did not call for reducing its timber base, of which the Sinkyone comprised 75%. The phrase "not a willing seller" dominated the issue for politicians, but there was an implied openness to land trades. Parks and Recreation did little to exploit that possibility. In 1982, voters elected for governor anti-environmentalist George Deukmejian, who fired environmentalists from jobs under his control. There would be no help from the top.

Enter Dan Hauser, freshman Democrat, member of the Assembly from the Northcoast, and one of few politicians in the Redwood Empire with a kind word for wilderness. He courted environmentalists, who had worked to elect him. Hauser declared his intent to make a Sinkyone bill the major environmental effort of his first term.

Meetings began in Sacramento among Hauser's staff and representatives of G-P and environmental groups. EPIC and Sinkyone Council were volunteer groups with no one working in the capital; but this had been no problem, as they were part of an environmental coalition. Hauser's bill changed that, eventually fragmenting the coalition. It provided for: 1) G-P to lease to the state a coastal corridor of 1340 acres at \$1 per year with the lease revocable if G-P found the trail in disrepair 3 years running; 2) a swap where the Park got Duffy's Gulch, and G-P got 300 acres elsewhere — partly old growth — plus \$420,000; 3) G-P to retain salvage rights in the corridor and logging to within 50 feet of its edge. The remainder of the \$3.2 million bond money was dropped.

"He's been woodworked," was activist Richard Gienger's assessment. Hauser's bill would give no protection to most of the proposed park and very little to the corridor, but it would appear to do so and that would kill the effort at real protection. G-P had a "white hat" to wear in public; Hauser had a compromise that was sure to pass because of Sierra Club backing. The Club considered the bill the best that could be passed in a bad situation; there was also the real wish to believe in Hauser, plus the influence of those in the Club whose loyalties were primarily political. The environmental coalition split rancorously. Sierra Club found itself uncomfortably sharing the "timber table" with G-P in support of a bad compromise. The compromise looked even more hollow after the Coastal Commission's easement provision of 1976 was unearthed. By then G-P had clearcut the



Sally Bell Redwoods saved from Georgia-Pacific's chainsaws. Photo by David Cross.

old growth in Dark Gulch, wreaking havoc on steep slopes and punching a cat road clear through the trail corridor to the cliff edge above the ocean. New methods were needed that summer.

On July 4, 1983, Earth First!ers at the Round River Rendezvous in Oregon were celebrating having stopped the Bald Mountain Road. Dave Foreman and I were standing under a shade tree when Lon Mulvaney walked up and asked if anyone had heard of the Sinkyone Wilderness.

August 1, 1983 — G-P submits THP 1-83-464M for a 75-acre clearcut in Little Jackass Creek watershed, which becomes the "Sally Bell Grove." The area includes a major Sinkyone Indian site, and the cove below is seasonal home to over 1000 sea lions. By clearcutting, G-P intends to kill any chance of real wilderness protection. For EPIC and Sinkyone Council, it is the last straw.

August 17 — Sinkyone supporters travel to Sacramento, where Hauser's bill is to be heard in the Senate Natural Resources Committee. Passage is a foregone conclusion. Richard Gienger and attorney Sharon Duggan speak in opposition, explaining how the bill would seem to resolve the issue while actually scuttling the original park concept. Chairman Robert Presley invites Gienger to propose an amendment. By a 5-0 vote, the \$3.2 million is restored and continued. A moratorium on cutting in "critical areas" fails 2-2-1. "For a minute there I was starting to believe in the system," Mulvaney declares. Across the street in the Brass Rail, where much capital business is done, a staffer tells us, "You'll never get a better hearing than that."

September 2 — CDF approves THP 1-83-464M.

September 8 — Parks & Rec. Commission describes the "critical areas" and asks CDF to work with private groups (Save-the-Redwoods, TPL) for purchase or exchange.

— EPIC finds possible grounds for a lawsuit and raises \$10,000.

— Dave Foreman and Nancy Morton visit the Sinkyone and ask Mike Roselle to come help organize.

— The late Bill Wahpopah of International Indian Treaty Council visits and IITC joins the suit.

— The Sally Bell Grove is named, and the name proves to be a stroke of genius. "Sally Bell" was the name taken by the last full-blood Sinkyone known in the immediate area. She survived a massacre as a child and died a very old woman in the 1930s. Fred Wolf, a local old-timer, was doctored by her as a child. This story, with its clear symbolism, is often quoted by reporters. Although they might confuse Sinkyone and Siskiyou, people from Marin County to Oregon soon know what the Sally Bell Grove is. G-P's lawyers and spokespersons go out of their way to avoid using the name.

— Governor vetoes AB 125 for reasons unrelated to Sinkyone. Being

sure to pass, other legislators had put their own baggage aboard it.

September 30 — EPIC files lawsuit in Superior Court, Santa Rosa. The suit (EPIC v. Johnson) claims abuse of discretion by CDF, resource agencies, and G-P in ignoring provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and other laws, especially in regard to cumulative effects of logging, and destruction of Native American cemetery and cultural sites, and of religious practice possible only in undisturbed areas.

October 4, 1983 — Suit becomes public in Santa Rosa newspaper.

October 6 — G-P begins cutting the Sally Bell Grove. A sentry in the field radios word to people in town. Garberville Theatre posts a marquee: G-P cutting Sinkyone. Help now. EPIC.

October 7 — In the morning 39 people occupy the Grove and prevent cutting. G-P's crew is astounded. At a gate on the county road, a G-P security guard is trying to convince a Eureka TV crew that it is a false alarm when a carload of sheriffs rolls up. The crew shoots footage of the outnumbered loggers and sheriffs reaching consensus with the protesters that no trees would be cut that day and no one arrested. In Santa Rosa, Judge Bentenelli issues a Temporary Restraining Order.

October 20 — G-P petitions Judge Jamar, now presiding, for a change of venue to Ukiah.

October 21 — Jamar grants the motion. He does not rule on the TRO in effect.

October 24 — Cutting resumes, and G-P's crew is escorted by nearly 50 officers. Protesters slow the cutting; one woman is struck by a tree and injured. In court, EPIC waives the right to appeal venue decision in order to get quick reinstatement of the TRO. Judge Jamar later tells a reporter that he had considered the TRO still valid. A G-P spokesperson later says that they had followed their lawyers' advice in resuming cutting.

October 25 — TRO reinstated at 1 PM after more cutting. Total arrests, 22. The TRO comes as sheriffs arrest protesters at the "Medicine Tree," a giant redwood at the bottom of the Grove. The faller had taken out the wedge and was trying to make his final cut and drop the tree. Days later, protesters return to put back the wedge; people from the Treaty Council perform a healing ceremony and continue to return at intervals to renew the tobacco ties on the tree.

October 27 — Judge Phelps hears the case but severely limits testimony. He indicates he will rule against EPIC but extends the TRO to cover the time until a Stay can be granted by an Appeals Court.

October 31 — State Court of Appeals grants Stay.

— Media coverage of the CD actions was intense but most of it was not immediate. Together with the lawsuit, it changed the game. The story was car-

ried on the wires and received notice on the East Coast and in the *International Herald-Tribune*. Paul Harvey was moved to admonish G-P on his national radio show not to be "just another greedy corporation." All the major Northern California papers did stories, and the business press discussed G-P's problems.

November 1983 — Following the Civil Disobedience, EPIC members attend an Executive Committee meeting of the Sierra Club chapter and describe it as a virtual love-in. The ExCom votes a resolution of support and asks Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund to support the suit, which they later do with an *amicus curiae* brief.

— Hauser holds meeting to discuss the Sinkyone with interested parties in his district. EPIC and Sinkyone Council are left off invitation list "by mistake." They decide to appear outside "Bolton's Cabana Holiday" with picket signs, in the rain. A few inside speak up for those outside; others are livid at the term "selling out" on a picket sign. Outside, someone jokes about the difference between Dan Hauser and Weyerhaeuser.

— State Court of Appeals decides to hear EPIC's appeal, which they do May 1, 1984. A decision is expected in fall, 1984, until which time the Stay holds. The decision finally comes in July, 1985. During this period there is no indication of when it will come, and most lawyers predict we will lose, which would trigger an immediate appeal to the California Supreme Court.

December 1983 — Pursuing the land trade possibility, Gil and Cecelia Gregori quickly find 4000 acres of timberland for sale and adjacent to G-P holdings. This is 4000 acres more than is found by Parks & Rec., which claims it is understaffed.

— Sinkyone advocates meet with Deukmejian's Parks Director, William Briner. Briner remarks that he has a budget to consider and land is cheaper when it is cut-over.

— Assembly member Tom Bates discusses alternative legislation with Sinkyone supporters.

— Hauser conducts a yes-or-no postcard poll in which he analyzes his own bill without rebuttal. It shows the expected result.

January 1984 — It was long suspected that G-P's Atlanta headquarters was getting a skewed report from their Fort Bragg outpost, especially given the heated situation and the vindictiveness of some personnel. The Gregori family arrives in Atlanta to keep an appointment it has taken 6 months and the help of the Georgia Conservancy to arrange. The morning of the meeting, Atlanta talks to Fort Bragg and decides to cancel. But the Gregoris are prepared. After calling the media, the family goes to work picketing and handing out leaflets in front of G-P's office tower. This presents quite a picture, and in a few minutes PR man Frank Slover asks them to come in and promises to try

Indian-Environmentalist Alliance Stops Exxon Mine

by Al Gedicks

On December 10, 1986, after more than a decade of intense local opposition, Exxon announced it was abandoning its plans to build one of the world's largest underground zinc-copper mines at the headwaters of the Wolf River in Wisconsin's northwoods (see *EF!* vol. 6 no. 8). Citing low metal prices, the company asked the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to suspend the permitting process just as it was entering its final phases. The DNR had just released a final environmental impact statement (EIS) on the project in November.

Arlan Ackley, chairman of the Sokaogon Chippewa Tribe, whose reservation is just half a mile from the proposed mine site, called Exxon's pullout "a victory for all Indian tribes." Exxon's

permitting manager, Barry Hansen, denied that pressure from environmentalists forced the action. "There's no question this was a marketing-driven decision," he said. But mine critics have long argued that depressed metal prices should have led Exxon to abandon the \$540 million project years ago. Exxon's response has always been the same: first we'll get the mining permits, then we'll make a decision based on market conditions. With mining permits in hand, Exxon could have sat on the deposit for years or sold it, complete with permits, to another mining company. Without the permits Exxon will have a hard time selling the property to another buyer.

Exxon's announcement came as a surprise to Wisconsin DNR officials. The DNR had given Exxon every indication that a permit would be approved despite serious objections raised by Indian tribes, statewide environmental groups, the EPA and the Interior Department. Despite major problems with water drawdown, ground water contamination and pollution of the Wolf River, the DNR's final EIS found no environmental problems that could not be corrected or mitigated by Exxon.

Both Exxon and the DNR had dismissed criticism of the project as the work of environmental extremists. They were continually surprised by the broad spectrum of the public opposed to the mine. When Exxon found it impossible to ignore environmental objections, they tried to assure locals that funds would be available to take care of any problems with the mine. Few were assured.

Last October Exxon approached the local township for zoning permits required before mine construction. Local residents turned out in large numbers. Exxon was unprepared to answer their objections. The town decided to withhold zoning approval until completion of the master hearing. Exxon thus faced the possibility of going through a master hearing only to be denied permission to mine by the local township.

Meanwhile the Sokaogon Chippewa kept the mine controversy before Exxon's management and stockholders. With the assistance of the Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters of Wisconsin, who own Exxon stock, the tribe filed their fourth stockholder resolution in 4 years asking the company to reconsider the social, economic and environmental risks of the project. In November Exxon's lawyers petitioned the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to prevent the resolution from being considered at this year's annual meeting. Each time the resolution has come up it has garnered more support among stockholders. This year's resolution would have been discussed while the master hearing was in progress.

If these challenges weren't enough, Exxon faced serious competition from the Cominco Corporation, the largest zinc producer in the Western world. Cominco's Red Dog deposit in Alaska, estimated at 77 million tons, was already in the final permitting stage. Red Dog is larger and richer than Exxon's Crandon deposit and once developed, could easily saturate an already depressed zinc market.

In the final analysis Exxon's management had to confront the economic risks of the project and an organized opposition that would not go away. While the Menominee Indian Tribe welcomed Exxon's pullout, they warned that if market conditions improve, the company will reactivate its mine application. The reservation is 50 miles downstream from the proposed mine. The tribe is using this time to complete its review of the final EIS and to hire its own consultants to address the impact of mine discharges into the Wolf River which flows directly through the reservation. Hilary Waukau Sr., chairman of the Menominee mining impact committee, said "While this has been put on hold, we want to make sure our people know what could happen to us if we let our guard down."

Al Gedicks works with the Midwest Headwaters *EF!*

for a meeting with the upper brass. They go in. Stanley Dennison, timber operations chief, eventually appears. He is upset, and it requires great diplomacy to get through the slide show with him, but the message is delivered. According to Dennison, "Our land is always for sale." The land exchange question is open from this point on, and the Trust for Public Land later states that this was helpful in their dealings with Atlanta.

January 1984 — G-P offers the rediscovered coastal easement. Hauser reintroduces his bill. Bates introduces his bill. Hauser bill passes swiftly and is signed. Bates bill eventually dies in "interim hearing"; Bates' role in the Sacramento game is never clear.

May 1984 — Richard Gienger attends the G-P stockholders meeting.

— Jere Melo is briefly in trouble. The report of a CDF review team reads: "He [Melo] made a statement about [how] he should get a gun and shoot the DFG [Fish & Game] representative," who was collecting stream sediment. A complaint was filed by a Sinkyone supporter and a hearing took place, but Melo kept his forester's license.

July 1984 — G-P announces no new THPs will be filed for the Sinkyone until April 1985, to allow time for possible trades to be arranged.

— The next months are taken up in efforts to find trade lands, motivate Parks & Rec., and help the Bates bill. The February 1985 issue of *Mother Jones* carries a full-page ad placed by the Treaty Council calling for action before G-P's moratorium expires April 15.

April 1985 — G-P at last announces it is a willing seller and will extend the moratorium into July, a new fiscal year. The legislature, with amazing speed, votes \$7 million for the purchase, but the Governor is an obstacle. Sinkyone Council produces a 30-second TV spot, with voice-over by David Brower, calling for letters to Deukmejian and distributes it around the state. To no avail; he cuts the money. Sen. Barry Keene, a key legislator, declares "I guess this ends the Sinkyone wars" and takes a shot at "intransigent environmentalists."

July 1985 — The Appeals Court finds for the plaintiffs, EPIC, IITC, Richard Gienger, Robert Sutherland, and Fred Downey. Again it's a new game. Logging practices are not exempt from CEQA and cumulative effects must be considered. The Native American community must be consulted. CDF deliberates over what it means. They announce it means more paperwork. Otherwise it looks like business as usual, with new weasel-works.

September 1985 — The judgment becomes final. Within days, two hikers report encountering Jere Melo in the Sally Bell Grove, marking trees. G-P refiles the Sally Bell THP. It is immediately appealed, and now EPIC must consider a new lawsuit without yet having received its legal costs from G-P.

October 21 — CDF holds a standing-room-only hearing in Ukiah. Of almost 100 attending, only Don Nelson, business agent for the Woodworkers union, favors cutting the Grove. Undoubtedly, if G-P tries to cut, it will be a big event. CDF extends the usual comment period and receives 500 letters, the most ever on a THP. CDF denies G-P's request for a winter operations permit. But the THP is approved on December 13. There are people in the Grove the next

morning, just in case, but G-P doesn't show and next day it is winter.

— Meanwhile in the City: Save-the-Redwoods-League had pledged \$500,000 for old growth in July. Trust for Public Land was introduced to the issue with slide shows, media, and interviews; they see a niche opening for themselves, and in January 1986 Ted Harrison was assigned to the project.

— EPIC v. Johnson II is filed, and this time Sierra Club Legal Defense is aboard for the whole ride. Court dates are postponed several times while, perhaps coincidentally, TPL is talking to G-P's Atlanta headquarters. Sinkyone supporters invade G-P's lands and plant 3000 redwood seedlings. G-P continues the moratorium. In August, G-P and TPL agree to an option on all 7000 acres, but the clock is running on the old tax code and politicking is in order. On December 22 the Coastal Conservancy votes 5-0 to commit \$1 million to the project and TPL signs the purchase agreement. The exact plan for the 3800 acres will be worked out over 18 months. EPIC and Sinkyone Council will be monitoring events, as they have for years, but as Agnes Mansfield wrote, "It is a victory for the Earth."

Each turn in this intricate plot required meetings, letters, phone calls, and official hearings. On many occasions, Richard Gienger traveled hundreds of miles to speak for the Sinkyone. This continued for a full decade at great personal and financial cost. This is not an honor roll, and Richard is far from the only person who made large sacrifices, but something must be said beyond "special thanks." Anyone who has worked on this issue, knows that does not begin to cover it.

David Cross is a California Earth First! leader and professional photographer who covers EF! actions and has been published in leading national periodicals.

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California Rivers

The following report is drawn from a January 6 press release by Friends of the River, Ft. Mason Center, Bldg. C, S.F., CA 94123 (415-771-0400).

In the first day of the new Congressional session, separate bills were introduced to place California's Kings, Merced and Kern Rivers in the National Wild and Scenic River System.

The Kings River was proposed for protection by Congressman Richard Lehman (D-Sanger), who introduced Wild & Scenic legislation identical to his bill of last year. The Kings River is considered by many to be the most threatened river in the country; 11 miles of the nation's greatest canyon would be destroyed by the proposed Rodgers Crossings Dam.

Congressman Tony Coelho (D-Merced) introduced a bill in the House to make a portion of the Merced River and its South Fork National Wild & Scenic Rivers. Both rivers begin in Yosemite National Park. A Merced River bill was also introduced by California's Republican Senator Pete Wilson. This legislation goes further than Coelho's bill by protecting an additional 8 miles of the most pristine part of the Main Merced River.

If passed, either bill would prevent the construction of the El Portal Hydroelectric Project, a proposal which would dramatically diminish the flow of the Merced River as it leaves Yosemite Park.

California's senior Senator Alan Cranston (D) introduced a bill to protect sections of the North and South Forks of the Kern River above Isabella Reservoir. The Kern, which flows from the slopes of Mt. Whitney down through Bakersfield, is the home of the Golden Trout, California's state fish.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write your US representatives and senators urging them to support Wild & Scenic protection for all eligible portions of the Kings, Merced and Kern Rivers.

Europe Wants More

by Tom Stoddard

The population squeeze has finally changed the reproduction habits of many Europeans. Citizens of East and West Germany, Britain, Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and the Netherlands are having an attack of good sense and are not mass producing children. The birth rates for those countries are stabilizing or falling and this poses the serious danger of helping Earth heal from overpopulation wounds. This wave of sanity has caused affected governments to panic. Politicians realize a smaller, more intelligent electorate will result in less chicanery and decreasing political power. Some governments passed legislation offering inducements to return to higher rates of human reproduction. France, for example, is offering parents of a third child a subsidy of \$280 per month for up to 3 years. Those stupid enough to fall for this boondoggle will surely produce citizens with low enough intelligences to keep the politicians in office.

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"This is your work, Jere Melo," Agnes Mansfield tells the Georgia-Pacific head forester at a hearing on the plan to cut the Sally Bell grove in Ukiah.

Photo by David Cross.

GRIZ (continued)

either designated Wilderness or National Park land. Yet people are allowed to hunt Grizzlies in Wilderness Areas, so that land is not safe for Grizzlies. Hunters in the Bob Marshall Wilderness, for example, displace bears from preferred habitat; those that remain are often shot.

Furthermore, the 6 Wildernesses in the Northern Rockies are separated by strips of private and federal land which are dangerous places for Grizzlies. These "travel corridors" are subject to rampant development. Biologists fear that development of these corridors will eventually isolate each Wilderness into a "biological island." Grizzlies can't survive on biological islands.

Finally, all land not afforded the minimal protection of Wilderness is open to oil and gas development, roading, timber cutting, ORV use, and other activities detrimental to Grizzlies. Available habitat is shrinking daily, and Grizzly populations will decrease in direct proportion to habitat losses.

Dunkle will claim that the recently completed Forest Plans and BLM Plans provide regulatory mechanisms to protect public lands for the Grizzly. That's crap. Every Northern Rockies Forest Plan has been appealed, primarily because conservationists feel the needs of Grizzlies have not been met. If appeals are rejected, conservationists will be forced to take the FS to court.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

The Reagan administration's plan to delist the Grizzly Bear must be stopped. Tell your Congresspersons (representative, House of Representatives, Wash., DC 20515; senators, Senate, DC 20510) that MDFWP population figures are not reliable. Point out that in 1984, the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee, reported: "The available data did not permit the task force to estimate total numbers of bears, to detect any significant trend or even confirm population stability . . . in the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem." Tell them that Grizzly habitat is not secure. Inform them that conservationists are still trying to work within administrative and legal systems to determine if regulatory mechanisms are in place to protect Grizzly habitat, and that it's premature for Dunkle to try to delist the Grizzly before this process is complete.



Yellowstone Rivers Protected

by Arthur Dogmeat

For the first time since 1971, Yellowstone Park officials have made a decision that benefits wildlife. The Park Service has decided not to open Yellowstone's rivers and streams to boating. Park officials just released a report which concludes that opening Yellowstone's waterways to non-motorized boating would have adverse impacts on wildlife, including Grizzly Bears, Whooping Cranes, Peregrine Falcons and Bald Eagles. Also, the Park Service expressed concern that there would be conflicts between boaters and people who fish. The report, which is only available for public review locally, provides remarkable testimony to the biological diversity of Yellowstone.

Earth First!ers constantly kick Yellowstone Park officials in the butt when they do something wrong, so it's only fair that we pat them on the back for doing something right. Send the Superintendent a note expressing your support of his decision to ban boating on Yellowstone's rivers: Superintendent Robert Barbee, POB 168, Yellowstone Park, WY 82190.

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IGBC Bureaufats Protested in Denver

by Eric Holle

As Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) bureaufats yawned and snored through their meeting in Denver, December 2-3, Colorado Earth First! and Campaign for Yellowstone's Bears (CYB) held a funeral procession for the 29 Grizzlies killed or removed from the Yellowstone Ecosystem from 1983-86. These are the human caused mortalities since the IGBC first began meeting. While Chris Servheen of the US Fish & Wildlife Service assured the press that the Feds' bear recovery effort is working, Earth First! gave the true story to the media: human-induced mortality remains too high to sustain the population, and reckless development continues to destroy habitat and increase human-bear conflict.

Increased sightings of sows with cubs in 1986 have prompted Servheen and the Dept. of the Interior to make irresponsibly optimistic statements to the public, following similar statements by Forest Service Chief Max Peterson in 1985. Such statements are part of a PR campaign to persuade the public that projects like Ski Yellowstone, new roads, a new gold mine, and the usual

Forest Service abuses of Earth are compatible with Grizzly recovery.

The IGBC agenda consisted of boring discussions of bear-proof trash bins, revised regulations, and public education projects — necessary business, perhaps, but completely ignoring the most important issue, overdevelopment. CYB director Tony Povilitis was the only conservationist present who raised significant questions on current management policy; unfortunately his request for a moratorium on further development in Yellowstone unless it can be proven to be non-detrimental to Grizzly recovery was brushed aside.

One bright spot was the presentation by National Grizzly Bear Habitat Coordinator, John Weaver, on a framework to assess the cumulative effects of development on "grizzly bear decisions." Yet, again biological realities apparently will take a back seat to money and politics: indications are that Ski Yellowstone will be approved with "mitigation" of negative impacts.

As disturbing as the green light given to development outside the Park is the "compromise" plan for Fishing Bridge: the RV park will remain, and the campground will be relocated else-

where in the Park. This violation of the agreement allowing the Grant Village abomination to replace facilities at Fishing Bridge is an insult to all conservationists.

The funeral procession for the bear, bound in red tape and strangled by development (represented as the Grim Reaper), proceeded to the conference room. Although we arrived prior to the 10 minute period scheduled for public comment, the frightened bureaufats were already in hasty retreat. The sound of the fiddle and drum echoing through the halls alerted them to the coming of the Cult of the Sacred Paw. Knowing that we carried the gravestones of the 29 murdered bears, they panicked and fled, not wishing to be held accountable for the crimes.

Chairman Stan Tixier's belated invitation to "sit in on our meetings to get better informed on the issues" will be taken seriously, with future "sit ins" planned. The Chairman is also cordially invited to sit in on our meetings so that he can get better informed on the issues. *Viva el oso grande!*

Eric Holle is an Earth First! Colorado contact.

Dirt Bikes & Grizzlies

by Mudslide Slim

Kalispell, MT, Jan. 7, 1987 — A case study of a US Forest Service road closure program near here finds that the agency's negligence in keeping existing gates closed and locked is the greatest single reason for the failure of forest road closures to restrict motor vehicle use. The study, sponsored by the local conservation groups Swan View Coalition and Resources, Ltd., concludes that nearly half of the miles of road deemed "closed" for wildlife protection in the portions of the Swan Lake Ranger District considered by the Forest Service (FS) to be "needed for survival and recovery of the grizzly bear" were not effectively closed.

Of the 62 road closures listed by the FS as within the study area, located between the crests of the Swan and Mission mountains of northwest Montana, 53 were inspected. Of those inspected, 38% were found to be ineffective in fully restricting passenger vehicles. Of these, 50% were not closed and locked, 25% allowed vehicles to be driven around the closure, 10% were rendered ineffective by minor vandalism, and 15% were not yet established on roads claimed as "closed" by the FS.

According to the study's principal preparer, Keith Hammer, a surprising finding is that not a single case of major vandalism to a Forest Service gate was encountered. Contrary to FS reports of major problems with gate vandalism, Hammer found that "75% of the ineffective closures resulted from either poor placement of the gate, which allowed easy detour around it, or the simple fact that the gate was not closed and locked."

All the road closures inspected are intended by the Forest Service to also restrict trail vehicles, such as motorcycles, on a year-round basis, and snowmobiles from April 1 to November 30. The study reports, however, that none of the closure devices were physically capable of restricting these uses and 92% failed to exhibit a sign indicating that these types of vehicles are prohibited.

The study cites numerous scientific papers which document the negative effects of open forest roads upon Elk and Grizzlies. Hammer points to the Forest Service's January 22, 1986, Decision to implement the Flathead Forest Plan showing that the public supports forest road closures.

Forest Service failings in the Swan could prove disastrous. Citing Grizzly Bear biologists' findings that the Mission Mountains population of Grizzlies is declining and that the Flathead Forest Plan calls for management of a secure Grizzly travel corridor along the Swan-Clearwater Divide in order to avoid isolating the Missions from the greater Glacier-Bob Marshall Ecosystem, Hammer states, "86% of the road



Protest outside the IGBC meeting. Photo courtesy of Eric Holle.

mileages listed as 'closed' in the corridor area were not effectively closed."

Recently released FS studies of the Noisy Face forest road and off-road-vehicle (ORV) trail system in the northern portion of the study area reveal that the road density is 2.2 miles per square mile — more than twice the density permitted by interagency Grizzly management guidelines. The excessive road density entails "over a 50% reduction in the ability of elk to use the area's habitat according to the Montana Cooperative Elk-Logging Study," Hammer states. He concludes: "The Forest Service should be getting the current Forest-wide road system and ORV use under control, rather than planning and building more roads into already stressed big game and critical wildlife habitats."

For more information on ORVs in the Northern Continental Divide Grizzly Bear Ecosystem, contact Swan View Coalition, POB 1901, Kalispell, MT 59903 (406-755-1375).

Freddie's Phony Road Closures in Griz Country

by Arthur Dogmeat

The worst thing about the Flathead Forest Plan is the 3000 miles of roads the Freddie's want to build, and one of the worst road systems is on the Noisy Face Geographic Unit of the Swan Lake Ranger District. The Freddie's have just released an environmental assessment (EA) documenting the Northern Swan Range Recreation Analysis. The EA lists nine alternatives for managing rec-

reation levels on the Noisy Face; Alternative 9 allows the most motorized use. ORV use of the Noisy Face is so rampant that Alternative 8 represents the current level of ORV use.

Alternative 8 is probably illegal. It fails to meet the Freddie's own guidelines for road densities in important Grizzly habitat. In "Situation 1" habitat, which contains "habitat components needed for the survival and recovery of the species," the Freddie's weak guidelines allow a maximum of 1 mile of road per square mile of land; road densities now are 2.2 miles per square mile.

These high levels of ORV use displace bears from preferred habitat. The only way the Freddie's can adhere to their own "Grizzly Bear Guidelines" is by adopting alternative 1 or 2.

Furthermore, the Freddie's want to issue a special use permit for a motorcycle race in situation 1 habitat. Freddie's allowed lunatics on dirt bikes to roar through great Grizzly habitat until last year, when local conservationists threatened to sue the Freddie's to stop the race. For now, the race has been stopped.

Your comments could keep the Freddie's from allowing the races again, or from picking an alternative that will allow ORVs in Grizzly country. Ask District Ranger Bill Pederson to adopt Alternative 1 or 2. Insist that there be no dirt bike races. Send a copy of your letter to the Forest Supervisor. Ask your Congresspersons to have Ranger Pederson explain A) what road densities are allowable in Situation 1 Grizzly habitat, and B) what levels will be allowed under the Freddie's "preferred alternative" in the Noisy Face Recreation Analysis. Ask your Congresspersons to send you a copy of Pederson's response. Addresses: Bill Pederson, Swan Lake Ranger District, POB 370, Bigfork, MT 59911; Ed Brannon, Forest Supervisor, Flathead NF, POB 147, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Oil Wells in America's Serengeti Rocky Mountain Front Under Assault

by Mike Bader

Driving along US Highway 89 in northwestern Montana, two great features demand the eyes' attention. To the east sprawl the Great Plains: dry, endless, the stuff of cowboy movies. To the west lie the incredible escarpments of the Rocky Mountain East Front. Jutting abruptly skyward for over 4000 feet, these mountains seem out of place in the prairie landscape. These two landforms crash together in a geologic formation known as the Overthrust Belt.

Located adjacent to the east side of the Bob Marshall Wilderness and Glacier National Park, the Rocky Mountain Front comprises some of the most ecologically sensitive lands in the US. Where two or more different land types meet, a phenomenon known to biologists as the "edge effect" occurs. These places typically support an abundant diversity of plant and animal life. The Front is home to the nation's largest herd of Bighorn Sheep, the second largest herd of Elk, a Mule Deer population estimated at 15,000, one of the largest Mountain Goat populations, and a multitude of non-game species. Black Bears number in the hundreds. Numerous raptors soar the skies, including the Bald Eagle and Peregrine Falcon, both Endangered Species. Streams teem with Cutthroat Trout. The howl of the endangered Gray Wolf can again be heard. The Front comprises the most crucial segment of the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem (NCDE) containing the largest and most stable population of Grizzly Bears in the lower 48. The Grizzlies on the Front are the last bears in the lower 48 to use habitat on the Great Plains. They range as far as 20 miles from the foothills. The Rocky Mountain Front has been referred to as "America's Serengeti." (See George Wuerthner's article in Beltane 86.)

The Overthrust Belt is a narrow band of upheaved sedimentary rock formed during the Precambrian Era. The entire Rocky Mountain Front lies within the Overthrust Belt. The Front stretches from the Canadian border down the east side of Glacier and the Bob Marshall to State Highway 200 on the south. The Overthrust is thought to contain deposits of oil and natural gas which energy industry wants. And that is where perhaps the biggest land management battle in western US history begins.

At issue is the management of the Lewis and Clark National Forest. Forest Service management of the Front has been characterized by an overwhelming bias towards oil and gas development. Evidence of this is found in the recently released Lewis and Clark Forest Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Forest Service (FS) picked management alternative "G," which recommends the least Wilderness, and the most allowable oil and gas exploration and development on the Front, while projecting a huge increase in ORV use on the entire Forest. There are currently 1,002,000 unprotected roadless acres on the Lewis and Clark Forest. The Plan recommends a paltry 51,834 acres for Wilderness. That land consists of high, barren rocky peaks. Crucial wildlife areas are opened to roadbuilding and drill pad construction.

The decision to open Front roadless lands came from former Interior Secretary James Watt. The Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) were pressured to issue oil and gas leases for the whole Front. They did so immediately. The lands were hastily assessed in a poor quality document in 1981 entitled *Non-Wilderness Lands Oil and Gas Leasing EA*. The FS ruled that it wasn't necessary to compile a full EIS, even though 98% of the Front is within Management Situation-1 Grizzly habitat, where bears are to be the primary consideration. The FS also ignored the Congressional directives of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Endangered Species Act



Badger-Two Medicine Roadless Area. Photo by Mike Bader.

(ESA), and the National Forest Management Act (NFMA). Conservation groups challenged the ruling in the courts, filing a lawsuit in 1982. The case was finally heard in May 1986 and resulted in an important decision titled *Bob Marshall Alliance v. Watt*. Federal Judge Paul Hatfield ruled that oil and gas leases in the Deep Creek area of the Front were issued "illegally and improperly." Hatfield stated that the agencies intended to take a "delayed look at potential impacts" and that the decision to forego an EIS was "unreasonable." He cited several violations of NEPA, ESA, and NFMA. The Deep Creek area had been given a perfect score of 28 points in RARE II (the second roadless area review and evaluation). The only other area to receive a 28 was Admiralty Island in Alaska, now a National Monument. The Lewis and Clark Plan calls for oil and gas development in the Deep Creek area. The FS will appeal the Hatfield decision.

The first major test of the Forest Service drilling program came in 1984 at Hall Creek, in the Badger-Two Medicine area, adjacent to Glacier Park and the Blackfeet Indian Reservation. The Badger-Two Medicine unit is the largest unprotected roadless area (120,000 acres) in the entire NCDE. American Petrofina of Texas wants to drill at Hall Creek, 2 miles from the Park. The FS and BLM again gave the nod to development, and again no EIS was prepared. That decision was appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals by the Glacier-Two Medicine Alliance and the Blackfeet tribe, citing numerous violations of NEPA, ESA, and treaty rights held by the Blackfeet. While the Land Board did not prohibit drilling, it did demand the decision back to the agencies for revisions including bringing it into accord with a law enforcement and road closure agreement between the Blackfeet; FS; BLM; Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (MDFWP); National Park Service (NPS); and US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS). The BLM, MDFWP, FS, FWS, and NPS signed the agreement. The Blackfeet did not and have since decided not to negotiate the matter. The agreement centers on protection of Grizzlies, Elk, and their habitat. There are a few jeep trails in the area which were built in the '50s and now are impassable to all but the hardest 4-wheel drive vehicles. But last August the Forest Service illegally "improved" one of these trails with a bulldozer, as access for a 925-acre controlled burn. The work suspiciously comes within 1/8 mile of the Hall Creek proposed well site. The FS did not consult the FWS, the MDFWP, or the public about this construction. Other agencies were disappointed with the lack of communication. The FS agreed to close the road.

The Badger-Two Medicine has been described by MDFWP bear biologist Keith Aune as the "best grizzly habitat on the Rocky Mountain Front." Bear expert Dr. John Craighead has said

areas on the Front are more important bear habitat than areas within the designated Wildernesses nearby. Yet massive oil and gas development is planned in the Badger. Chevron Corp. has proposed a well site near Goat Mountain, within the Badger roadless area. The FS is now preparing an EIS, due in June. They have already indicated that they will approve the drilling permit. This proposed project is intended to be a "model" for drilling on the Front. In the event of a strike of gas in Badger-Two Medicine, a gas refinery would be located on the boundary of Glacier Park. The NPS has voiced opposition to these plans, but is being ignored.

The Badger area serves as the key migration corridor for Grizzlies and other wildlife between Glacier and the Bob Marshall complex. Areas between Glacier and the Great Bear Wilderness are already being blocked by subdivisions and other developments. Grizzly researcher Dr. Charles Jonkel and MDFWP's Aune have warned that severing this Badger corridor will have dire results for the bear population of the entire NCDE. At a time when the world is drowning in an oil and gas glut, and prices are the lowest they have been in years, why drill in such an area as the Badger? Because the FS wants the roads and the precedent. This Goat Mountain battle is intended to break the backs of the conservation movement and the Blackfeet Indians. Improprieties related to the Goat Mountain project are numerous. For instance, the FS allowed Chevron to hire and pay a private oil and gas consulting firm to perform the Grizzly habitat mapping for this area. This information will be used in the EIS. As well as slanting the EIS in Chevron's favor, allowing Chevron to invest another \$150,000 in the project makes it easier for them to plead they have a lot at stake.

Public opposition to the drilling plans has been strong. Several appeals have been filed on the Forest Plan, including two by the Badger Chapter of the Glacier-Two Medicine Alliance. One Badger appeal centers on violations of environmental laws. Another appeal was jointly filed by Badger members and traditional Blackfeet religious practitioners. Traditional medicine people say the land is sacred and must be left in a totally pristine condition for them to be able to practice their religion. They want the area to be designated as a spiritual wilderness. The Badger-Two Medicine was once part of the reservation but was ceded to the government in an 1895 treaty. The Blackfeet retain rights in the area to access, timber for personal uses, hunting and fishing, and traditional usage such as religious activities. Several tribal elders and spiritual leaders filed sworn affidavits for the Forest Plan appeal, based on 1st Amendment rights to freedom of religion, and due to violations of the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978. The Blackfeet fear that if the Badger country is developed, they

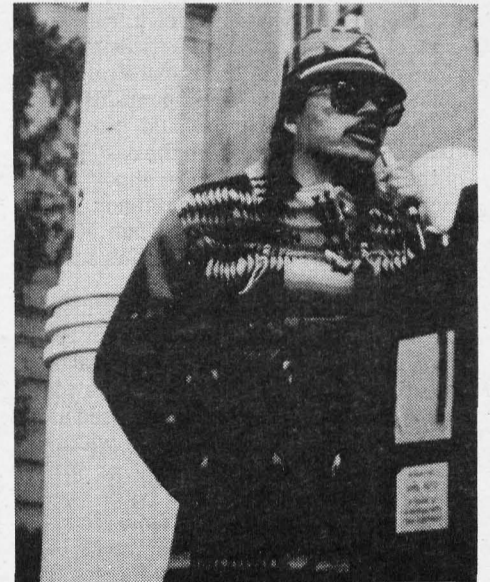
will lose the last link they have to their traditions and cultural identity. The FS rejected the appeal in their responsive statement and it has now gone to Forest Service Chief Max Peterson for a final decision. If he concurs with the responsive statement, the appeal will go to the courts. George Kipp, a traditionalist and Thunder Pipe medicine bundle owner, rejects the request of the FS that the Blackfeet identify specific sacred sites. Said Kipp in the appeal, "To imply that only the specific sites are sacred is like saying that only the altar in a church is sacred, and the rest can be torn down."

The Badger appeal originally received a stay on "any activities that might change the wilderness characteristics of any roadless lands on the Lewis and Clark National Forest pending the resolution of the appeals." The Forest Service later reversed that decision. Interestingly, officials of Chevron met with Ronald Reagan just weeks before the reversal, to discuss the "need to get drilling projects going within the United States in order to reduce our dependence on foreign oil." Yet the US Geological Survey has found that even with the most optimistic projections of a major find on the Front, the oil would provide only 2 days supply at US consumption rates, and the gas 3 weeks.

In November the Badger Chapter and the Blackfeet co-sponsored the "Blackfeet Nation Spiritual Wilderness Gathering," a protest march in Missoula. Over 350 people marched to the Region 1 Headquarters of the Forest Service to voice their displeasure. This protest solidified the coalition between environmentalists and Indians.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

The Montana Congressional delegation is currently working on legislation to create more designated Wilderness in Montana. Areas on the Front are being hotly contested. It is crucial that people write to Montana Congresspersons immediately in support of all 400,000 roadless acres of the Front for Wilderness. Send to: Pat Williams, US House of Representatives, Wash., DC 20515; Senators Max Baucus and John Melcher, US Senate, DC 20510. Also write to the Congresspersons of your state. Remind them this is an issue of national concern. For more information on how to help, contact: The Badger Chapter, POB 8374, Missoula, MT 59807 (406-549-0263).



George Kipp.



**MOVING?
SEND
US YOUR
NEW
ADDRESS!**

OLE Powerline Threatens Northern New Mexico

by Tom Ribe

The primitive beauty of northern New Mexico's landscape, where ancient Pueblo Indian and Spanish villages are scattered along the Rio Grande below high mountain ranges, is threatened by the impending construction of a massive 345,000 volt powerline through the heart of the Jemez Mountains and the Rio Grande Valley near Bandelier National Monument. The prospect of steel towers, buzzing cables and new access roads spanning remote forests has enraged Pueblo Indians and environmentalists who are fighting the formidable political power of the US Department of Energy and utility companies.

Despite overwhelming local opposition and documents disputing any need for the powerline, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the US Forest Service (FS) have given the go-ahead for its construction across the Santa Fe National Forest, the Valle Grande National Natural Landmark and other wildlands sacred to the Pueblo Indians. In September, the BIA said it would issue permits for construction despite notices from the State of New Mexico, four Indian Pueblos, the All Indian Pueblo Council (of Pueblo governors), the Sierra Club, and Save the Jemez that they will file suits to stop the powerline.

Known as the "OLE line" (Ojo Line Extension), the powerline would span the Jemez Mountains for 50 miles with 130 foot tall steel lattice towers from the remote Spanish village of Coyote in the north to Los Alamos on the east, crossing the Valle Grande, and the sculptured volcanic mesas overlooking Santa Fe. Roads capable of carrying huge machinery would be built in what is now remote land. The line would scar some of the most famous scenery in the Southwest.

Along the Rio Grande, at the base of the Jemez range, 14 tribes of Pueblo Indians live in villages which predate the European discovery of America. They practice a mostly secret religion which holds the Jemez Mountains as one of the most sacred places on Earth. The Jemez peaks and the Valle Grande have a central place in their beliefs, and the Jemez range is scattered with known and unknown "shrines" which the Pueblo people have visited for centuries as part of their religious practices. The ruins of hundreds of their ancestral villages lie throughout the mountains.

The OLE powerline would cross a flank of Tschicoma Peak on the east side of the Jemez, one of the most important sacred places within Pueblo religion. An active Pueblo shrine more than 1000 years old exists on the mountain's summit.

The reason the Pueblo people hold the Jemez Mountains in such high regard is obvious to anyone who walks into their Aspen, spruce, and pine covered heights. Three times proposed as a National Park, Jemez land is within the Santa Fe National Forest or privately owned, except for a patch protected within Bandelier National Monument. Characterized by tent rocks of soft volcanic tuff overtopping forests of Aspen and spruce, the mountains are rich with large mammals and delicate plant communities seemingly suspended above a vast view of mountains and deserts.

The US Bureau of Indian Affairs — the "lead agency" for the OLE project, charged with reviewing the issue and making a decision — ruled that the powerline would have "no significant impact on the Pueblo religion" since it would not cross shrines or other religious "sites" directly. This decision, which counters all that is known about the basically secret Pueblo religion, has become a lightning rod for appeals brought against the BIA by the Pueblo people charging violation of their First Amendment Religious Freedoms.

The BIA maintains that by avoiding construction near specific shrines in the Jemez they are protecting Pueblo religion. "The critical question in terms of the First Amendment is whether an area is so sacred that if they lose it they will no longer be able to practice their religion," said William Allen of BIA's Albuquerque office.

"The BIA has neglected to tell people that the shrines near where the powerline would be built have been 25 to 30 miles from the nearest road heretofore," said Alfonso Ortiz, an expert on Pueblo culture at the University of New Mexico. "It is the wholeness of the place that is sacred. The BIA has no unified sense of the relatedness of all things . . . To have high voltage wires humming overhead when you are meditating at a shrine, even though those lines are a quarter or half mile away, for us is tantamount to a profound defeat."

Although the Forest Service had opposed allowing the OLE line to disturb Indian religious practices on its lands, they abandoned that position. "The BIA is in a better position to evaluate the effects on religious freedoms than we are," said FS Regional Forester Sotero Muniz.

But the BIA abdicated its responsibilities with regard to Pueblo religious freedoms. "Once we took the responsibility as lead agency, in addition to our role of tribal advocacy we assumed responsibility to come up with the best decision for the American public, not solely for our constituency. The role of the BIA is not necessarily to agree with the tribes on every issue."

Below the surface of the appeals over the legitimacy of the environmental impact statement (EIS), a deeper controversy is developing around charges of collusion among federal agencies and violations of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) which mandates and guides the EIS process. Critics charge that a detailed decision regarding how and where to build the OLE powerline was made far in advance of the draft EIS (DEIS) in meetings involving the US Department of Energy (DOE), the BIA, Forest Service and a trio of utility companies. In the months that followed the meetings, according to documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, dissent among the agencies was quelled, and information which would have conflicted with the final decision was deleted from the EISs.

PNM (Public Service Company, the largest utility in New Mexico) first proposed to build the OLE line in the Rio Grande Valley in the late '70s, claiming a need to close a gap in its regionwide network of high voltage powerlines. No other powerline as large exists in this rural area of north-central New Mexico. Due to fierce opposition, the proposal was mothballed until early 1985 when PNM renewed the idea, this time proposing two routes — the original Rio Grande route and a new one across the nearby Jemez Mountains.

Again opposition to OLE was intense, but now divided as many valley residents fearing diminished property values preferred the mountain route where the line would be in the rolling 11,000 foot highlands of the Jemez. But Pueblo Indians and a group called "Save the Jemez" opposed the line in either location, questioning the need for the line while citing the religious significance of the mountains.

By now PNM's interest in the line had publicly been joined by the DOE, which operates Los Alamos National Laboratory on a plateau of the Jemez overlooking Santa Fe. DOE claimed it needed more electricity for future weapons research projects at Los Alamos and wanted the OLE line to connect directly to the lab via the mountain route before passing to Santa Fe.

Though DOE's projected needs would be less than 20% of the OLE line's potential load, DOE rejected smaller alternatives. Then, for unknown reasons, DOE began exerting pressure behind the scenes on state and federal wildlife agencies and the Forest Service, who opposed the mountain route for social and biological reasons.

While few have questioned Los Alamos' need for more electricity for research relating to President Reagan's "Star Wars" program, as the DEIS was released, questions persisted concerning PNM's motivation for wanting to build the OLE line. PNM argues that the line is needed to back up other lines feeding into the Santa Fe-Albuquerque area, but experts charged that the



Photo by Tom Ribe.

Valle Grande. The OLE powerline will cross the upper portion of the picture.

DEIS failed to prove a need for building such a large powerline.

"The reasons they give for wanting to build the OLE line make no sense," said Amory Lovins, an expert in western energy issues. "The line is about 10 times as big as the need that it is supposed to meet and there are cheaper ways to meet those needs anyway. So, either the bureaucracy is being more incompetent than usual or there is a reason nobody wants to talk about for building the line."

"Whoever wants to get that power is going about it in a rather ineffective way because by violating NEPA, if not other laws, they guarantee that the project will be held up for years and will be subject to intense scrutiny which they could avoid. Either way, whoever wants to get the line built would accomplish that goal much better by following the law," said Lovins.

The final EIS, issued in August, failed to quiet questions. Lovins noted, "The EIS doesn't address the most fundamental questions of need at all . . . These questions are addressed more in the final than in the draft but they are addressed by adding new mistakes . . ."

While none of the five federal agencies involved in siting or approving the OLE line joined the public in demanding justification for the line, the US Fish & Wildlife Service and the Forest Service opposed building OLE in the area of the Jemez where the line would cross the Santa Fe National Forest and the township-sized Dunnigan ranch — which encompasses the Valle Grande, a collapsed volcano which has been the heart of past National Park proposals for the Jemez. Santa Fe National Forest officials cited their Forest Plan, whose ecological and visual impact guidelines would be strained as OLE damages brought the forest close to those legal limits. They also noted, "The Jemez Mountains harbor some of the most important habitat for threatened and endangered species in the Southwest."

The FS proposed an alternative routing for OLE to avert the resource conflict in the Jemez. But according to government documents, the FS withdrew the alternative under pressure from PNM, the DOE and the BIA in a Sep-

tember 1985 meeting. The FS alternative never appeared in either draft of the EIS.

The Santa Fe National Forest's concern for several endangered species in the Jemez was shared by the US Fish & Wildlife Service and New Mexico's state wildlife agency. These agencies lobbied for the FS alternative plan after a report by USFWS biologist Terry Johnson detailed risks to Peregrine Falcons and Bald Eagles living near the mountain route. But in a July 10, 1985, interagency and utility meeting, both wildlife agencies agreed to suppress information about the Peregrines and to drop their opposition to the Jemez route.

Later in July, Maynard Rost, Supervisor of the Santa Fe National Forest, issued PNM a special permit to conduct a "centerline survey" for the powerline on FS lands. Rost ruled that no EIS was needed for the survey, which involved building primitive roads and cutting trees, because the project would have "no significant effect" on "human" resources. Rost then advised PNM in writing how to avoid "adverse publicity" which might result if the public noticed construction work beginning more than a year before any decision or permits had been issued.

"If proponents of this powerline would really see clearly in their minds exactly what they are doing would they still feel this powerline is absolutely necessary?" asks John Gonzales, Secretary of the All Indian Pueblo Council. "As far as I'm concerned, the best outcome of the OLE problem would be for all parties involved to be honest when they ask the question: is this powerline worth the pain it will cause to our people?"

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Environmentalists suspect that the administrative appeals to OLE will be rejected, and the issue will enter the courts in early '87. Meanwhile, we should send letters to New Mexico's US Senator Jeff Bingaman (US Senate, Washington, DC 20510) encouraging him to seek to completely and permanently stop construction plans for OLE. Urge him to seek to preserve the Jemez Mountains as a National Park.



Colorado Rivers

Wild Rivers News from the Colorado Rivers Coalition

The Colorado Rivers Coalition (CRC) is an organization dedicated to the protection of Colorado's last free-flowing streams under the 1968 Wild & Scenic Rivers Act. The W & S Act established three classifications of river protection: wild, scenic, and recreational (in decreasing order of protection). Some 25 dams or diversions have been proposed

for our few remaining free-flowing streams; river protection is an issue that should not be ignored any longer. There is currently news on three Colorado rivers:

North St. Vrain: Exciting things are under way for the North St. Vrain River. Originally disqualified for W & S designation because the free-flowing segment was less than 25 miles long, the study guidelines have subsequently been amended to consider shorter segments. The Indian Peaks group of the Sierra Club and many local residents

New Mexico Earth First! Reawakens

Like a big bear rudely awakened from its winter sleep, New Mexico Earth First! is reawakening to the industrial fascist threats to the Land of Enchantment. The resurgence of NMEF! could not have happened at a more propitious time. With Scary Garrey Corruption, James Watt's right-hand henchman, recently elected governor, the sinister forces of the Earth rapers are drooling at the possibilities that Carruthers will spread before them. Carruthers campaigned to improve the business "environment" in NM. With a history of coal give-aways and gutting pollution controls from his days under Watt, C-a-r-r-u-t-h-e-r-s spells trouble for the REAL ENVIRONMENT!

The latter half of 1986 found NMEF! mobilizing against the awesome threats to our environment. We demonstrated against the World Bank, against Scary Garrey, and worked for the environmental candidate Brant Calkin for State Land Commissioner (who was outspent nearly 4 to 1 by a corporate sponsored rancher but lost by less than 1%). The culmination of 1986 efforts was a demonstration for Big Wilderness in NM, bringing EF!ers from Albuquerque and Santa Fe areas to face the BLM. Thanks

go to Lone Wolf and Dakota Sid for the kick in the ass to get us to that demonstration. Twenty-five EF!ers braved the cold to bring the wild sounds of Earth lovers to sterile BLM HQ. Verses of "Habitat" echoed in the halls. It was fun and we'll do it again.

As this goes to print, EF!ers from northern NM plan to demonstrate for the re-introduction of Mexican Wolves in NM. We call on other New Mexicans to work for a future in which we all (two-leggeds and wingeds and four-leggeds and trees and fish and . . .) can share. Call the numbers listed for NM contacts. Mark your calendars for April 9, when Dave Foreman storms into Albuquerque. Before he leaves town, there will be plenty of fun to be had. HHOOOWWLL!

The Future Quality of Life in the Land of Enchantment

What will be the future quality of life in New Mexico? This vital issue will be examined from an environmental perspective in an upcoming lecture series at the University of New Mexico. New Mexico, the first state in which land was set aside as Wilderness, will become the first to store nuclear wastes in the ground. Local environmental groups

will bring their quality of life issues to this public forum. This series will address a variety of responses, from legislative lobbying and letter writing to direct action and civil disobedience.

Feb 19 — "The NM Legislature and the Environmental Agenda," Lynda Taylor, NM Conservation Voters Alliance.

Feb 26 — "The Rio Chama: New Wild & Scenic River for NM," Phil Whallin, The Rio Chama Preservation Trust

March 5 — "The Corrales Bosque: Army Corps of Engineers v. Community," Jeff Radford, The Corrales Bosque Task Force

March 12 — "How to Save the Jemez Mountains," Ted Davis, Save the Jemez

March 26 — "Will the Wolf Survive?" Carol Cochran, Defenders of Wildlife

April 2 — "The WIPP Controversy Continues," panel, Citizens for Alternatives to Nuclear Dumping

April 9 — "Earth First!: Defense of the Wild," Dave Foreman, EF!

April 16 — "UNM North Golf Course: Planning Preservation or Development," panel, Friends of the UNM Golf Course

All lectures will be held in Room 149 Woodward Hall on the UNM campus in Albuquerque, 7-9 PM. A donation of \$1 or more will be asked.

Capitol Reef Revisted

by David Lucas

Having been alerted by the Zuni Reincarnation article in the Journal, we questioned the National Park Service at Capitol Reef National Park (CRNP) during our November visit. Although the counter attendant was quite sure that no grazing was permitted in Capitol Reef, we persevered in our inquiry, referring not to *Earth First!* but to an article in *High Country News*.

Our eventual reward was an audience with the Park Supervisor. He admitted his opposition to the grazing and the improvements that the BLM, who administers grazing in portions of Capitol, had approved. Since Congress had extended grazing leases in CRNP, all the Park Service could do was insist on maximum mitigation and monitor the work.

As of early November, the contractor's Caterpillar had been swallowed by the sands of Deep Creek in an initial assault, and the aid of a second dozer was required for rescue. We learned that the machines were required to stay in the creek bed and to put cushioning under the vehicle treads to prevent scarring wherever sandstone had to be crossed. The wet fall made it likely that the stock pond improvements would not be attempted again until spring of 1987.

Learning of these livestock improvements, we recalled the reprimand we had suffered in 1985, in a heavily grazed and "improved" area further south along the Reef. We had pushed our car beside the road (there were no pullouts) for a short hike. The ranger had been concerned about our impacting the environment.

Beyond the insults to the Park is the larger issue of grazing on the vast tracts of BLM land within the 3 million acre EF! proposed Escalante Wilderness (see Beltane 86). We stumbled onto the BLM's Henry Mountain Grazing EIS, covering Capitol Reef and the land east, over to and including the Henry Mountains. The nation's only free roaming Bison herd survives there, as well as Bighorn, Pronghorn, and deer.

The BLM Preferred Alternative would increase stock AUMs from 33,298 to 54,043 and game from 5204 to 12,454 — fancy figuring! This sleight of hand range management was to result from the treatment (herbicide spraying, chaining, etc.) of 24,300 acres, and building 119 reservoirs, 37 miles of pipeline, 38 troughs, and 17 miles of fence.

We had questions regarding the nature, progress, and cost of improvements to date. Letters dated November 7 — to Glenn Patterson, Area Manager, Henry Mtn. Resource Area, Box 99, Hanksville, UT 84734 and to Dee Ritchie, EIS Team Leader, 150 E 900 N, Richfield, UT 84701 — raising these questions have not been answered.

Other EF!ers may wish to remind the BLM (above addresses) that this wilderness is not a place for cattle, and that we, and our Congressional representatives, want the information concerning our public lands to be clearly disclosed.

David Lucas, a Colorado EF! leader, has been traveling throughout the West this winter, studying threats to our lands and how EF! may combat them.

EF!LA & Chumash Protest Condor Capture

by Oldpantheist

Earth First! of Los Angeles joined members of the tribal council of the Chumash People and other Native Americans, and with Alternative Environmental and Social Action (AESAs), with continued support from Earth Island Institute, in another demonstration calling for liberation of the captive California Condors housed in the Los Angeles and San Diego Zoos. The protests have aimed at the zoo captive breeding program, which threatens condors — 27 of which are now captive — with accelerated extinction through a total gamble with their survival costing a small fortune. The program risks imprinting and excess handling of birds by humans, making the birds unable to survive again in the wild. Zoo handlers are reportedly using a hitherto untried experimental computer program to keep from inbreeding the condors, which program illicitly tinkers with Mother Nature's handling of the way condors make more condors. We challenged the LA Zoo and the program again on January 11, and repeated our call for a zoo boycott, leafleting Sunday zoo-goers and talking to many media people.

Earth First! maintains that the captive breeding program could be quickly stopped and the danger to the California Condors in their own habitat ended as soon as their wilderness home is

reopened to them in a way that protects it. Condors and their home must be protected from human harassment, hunting, poisoning via the carrion they eat, and disturbances to their nesting and feeding from ORVs (formerly allowed in condor habitat by the Forest Service).

We were honored to confront the condor issue with our Native American brothers and sisters and other great breathers of the winds of what remains of California's great wilderness, where only two condors still soar over the canyon grasslands beneath the Los Padres National Forest. We turned out 35-40 protesters at the LA Zoo gates. Chumash tribal spokespersons gave strong, quiet voice to the spiritual meaning of their condor brothers and sisters, from an ancient and sacred relationship that is still strong. The Chumash complained that they have been lied to and lied about, when the slimy condor capturers claimed to have the Chumash religious blessings for their high-tech theft of the California Condors from the land. The Chumash and condor have shared this land in a sacred bond from time immemorial.

Chumash wisdom filled our closing circle. Some of us were wearing our Chumash prophetic t-shirts with pictures of the thunderbird. By a fortuitous accident, an LA EF!er repeated a once obscurely spoken EF! notion of condors being broken out of their cages

and spirited home. The sources of this misunderstood notion remained undisclosed; which was fortunate because now, unbeknownst to us, TV instruments were recording it.

The Chumash spoke in the closing circle of the ecological Power Base. If the condors are taken away from their homeland, the land becomes spiritually imbalanced. An LA Earth First!er danced in old cardboard condor wings, expressing sorrow over the tragedy of the condor. Another LAEF! artist's graphic banner of a great condor chained to a bulldozer against a backdrop of condominiums looking like ORV tracks, lettered by a sign painter, fascinated the TV camera crews, who displayed it on the evening news. Friendly demonstrators at anti-vivisection tables in front of the zoo accompanied us, with their clown, in this sea of concrete hiding surrounding chaparral and forested hills.

Against this concrete face of a circus of cages and artificial habitats, LAEF!, AESA, and the Native Peoples gave a powerful, quiet voice to a mood as deep as the pools of water in the depths of the canyons in the grasslands sweeping below the Los Padres. Free the condor! May Los Angeles be overgrown with grasses and condors sweep down to feed over its renewed land.

Oldpantheist is a philosopher and ecologist, active in defense of his home in southern California.

are now organizing support for its protection. The city of Longmont, which owns the water rights, has agreed to support W & S protection, as have the Boulder County Commissioners and the Allens Park Community Club. The Lyons city council has agreed it should be studied, but does not fully support W & S designation for the river. If you are a resident of Lyons, let them know you want the N. St. Vrain River protected. The next step is for Congress to mandate that a study be done on the North St. Vrain to determine if it qualifies for W & S protection. That the river qualifies as wild seems obvious from its unspoiled condition and the habitat it provides for wild trout (one of seven such trout streams in the Front Range), mountain lion, elk, mountain sheep, eagles, rare plant and tree associations.

The 17 mile segment under consideration begins near Mt. Alice, in Rocky Mountain National Park, and ends just above Button Rock dam. If you'd like to help work on the North St. Vrain, contact Gary Brenner in Boulder (444-0233).

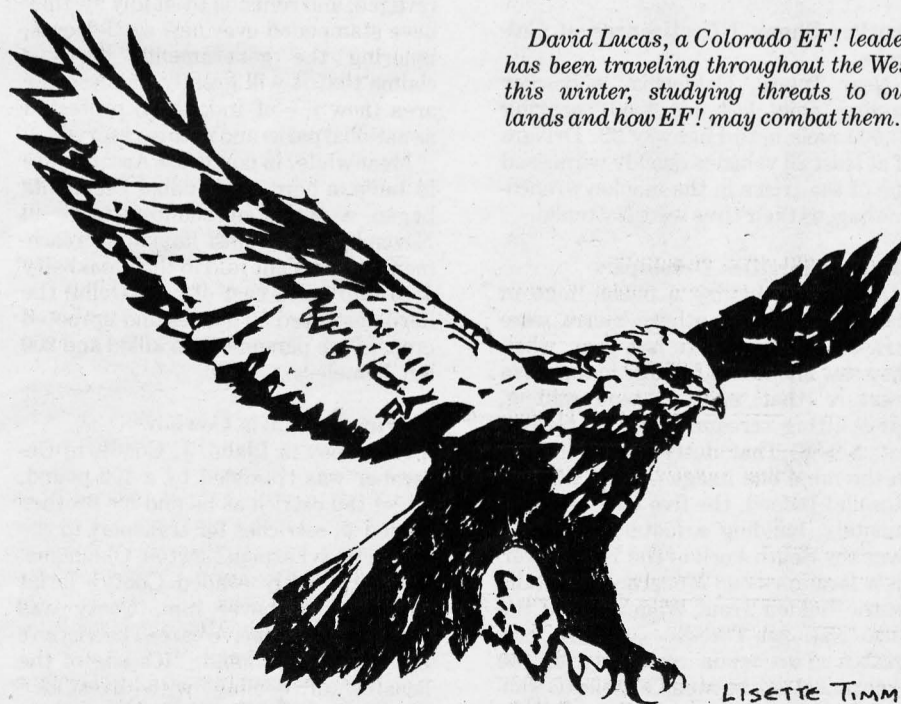
Gunnison: During the Congressional session just completed, Rep. Mike Strang (R-CO) proposed a bill which would designate 29 miles of the Gunnison River as a W & S River. The segment under consideration runs through the Black Canyon National Monument,

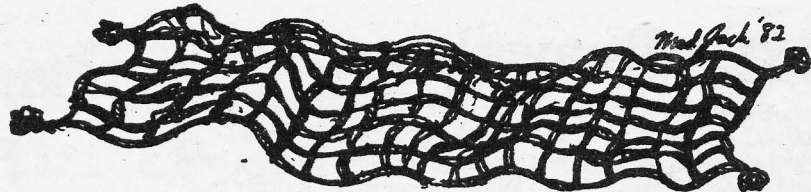
and ends above the town of Delta. There are numerous problems with the proposal: The adjacent Wilderness Study Area, Gunnison Gorge, was not addressed, and in-stream-flows of the river are not adequately protected by the bill. Conservationists want a minimum of 600 CFS guaranteed through the May-September boating season. A local water engineering firm has made flow studies which have been submitted to State and Federal agencies for consideration. Please write to Colorado Congresspersons asking that adequate stream flow protection and the Gunnison Gorge WSA be added to the proposed Gunnison National Park and Recreational Complex.

Poudre: The Cache La Poudre River Bill was recently approved by both the House of Representatives and the Senate, thus creating Colorado's first Wild & Scenic River. This victory comes after years of effort, but hopefully protection for other rivers will be easier now that the first battle has been won. The protected 75 mile stretch of the Cache La Poudre begins in Rocky Mountain National Park, and continues to just past the town of Poudre Park.

For more information on the 12 studied rivers and the many inventoried rivers in Colorado, or to join the effort to protect them, write or call the Colorado Rivers Coalition. To join CRC and receive its newsletter, send checks (\$10

or more) to: CRC, c/o CEC, 2239 E Colfax, Denver, CO 80602. Letters in support of protection of the North St. Vrain and the Gunnison should be sent to US Representatives and Senators (House of Representatives, Wash., DC 20515; Senate, DC 20510).





NEMESIS NEWS NET

by Australopithecus

Bill Condemns Rio Bosque

President Reagan in November signed a bill authorizing a \$44.9 million flood control project which will destroy a virgin bosque on the Rio Grande in New Mexico. The project involves rebuilding 51.5 miles of levees between Corrales and Belen. The Army Corps of Engineers, in cooperation with the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, will build the levees. The Corpse says that the bosque — one of the few cottonwood forests remaining in North America — will not be harmed and that public hearings on the project are unnecessary. Readers may wish to write the Army Corps insisting that public hearings be held and that the project be canceled. (*The Albuquerque Tribune*, 11-19-86)

Meeting Site Monkeywrenched

In preparing the setting for a recent South Asian summit meeting near the Nandi Hills of India, officials met resistance from monkeys. The monkeys refused to be evicted from their homes, and after being forcibly relocated they protested by destroying local crops and attacking four persons.

Bishop Love's Fief Seeks Airstrip

Aircraft are a growing problem for National Park Service lands in southern Utah. The Park Service has airstrips in Hite, Bullfrog, and Hall's Crossing and may soon host a new airport in the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. The Federal Aviation Administration is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) of a proposed airstrip, and is insisting that the strip meet FAA minimum standards for being able to accommodate jet traffic. However, because the FAA cannot legally provide funds for such projects to other federal agencies, such as the NPS, the FAA needed another proposer. Thus, San Juan County — demesne of Cal Black (known to Abbey readers as Bishop Love) — proposed funds for the strip. The FAA recently subcontracted the writing of the EA to Creamer and Noble Engineering. Although the proposed strip would be on NPS land, the NPS is exercising no control over this vile proposal. Please send a letter opposing any new airstrips in the Glen Canyon NRA to: John Lancaster, Superintendent, GCNRA, Box 157, Page, AZ 86040. For more information, contact: Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (a fine environmental group worthy of our support), Box 347, Springdale, UT 84767 (801-772-3468).

Trucker Shows Effectiveness of Cal-trops

Near Tulare, California, a trucker hauling nails lost his load, pouring 50,000 nails onto Highway 99. Drivers of at least 35 vehicles quickly witnessed one of the tricks in the monkeywrencher's bag, as their tires were flattened.

Monster Terrifies Developers

Five men building a bridge high in the wilds of the southern Sierra were stricken with fear late last year, when they saw and heard "a huge human-like creature that emitted bone-chilling, ear-splitting screams." (*Press Democrat*, 8-9-86) That description conjures in the mind one image — that of Mike Roselle! Indeed, the five men — unfortunately, building a foot/horse bridge over the South Fork of the Kern River, in a location near Monache Mountain, in the Golden Trout Wilderness of the Inyo National Forest — suspect Sasquatch. This lends credibility to the theoretical link between Roselle (Gigantopithecus) and Sasquatch. Could it be

that past Sasquatch sightings have, in fact, been sightings of Mike rampaging through the woods and scaring away Freddie's?

Fire Proves Effective in Catskills

Asplundh Brush Control of West Oneonta is clearing a swath through scenic upstate New York for the Marcy-South power line, and many locals are irate. There has been "a rash of vandalism affecting work on the controversial power line, which will run from the town of Marcy near Utica to East Fishkill in Dutchess County." (*The Post-Standard*, 12-6-86) Most recently, ecodefenders hauled a log skidder one-half mile away from the destruction area and burned it, costing the land despoilers \$22,000 — to add to the \$10,000 for the fuel truck that was burned several months ago. Additionally, a bulldozer and log skidder in Calicoon, being used to clear a swath for the Catskill bypass, were incinerated recently. The ecodefenders' effective utilization of conflagration has developers in a state of trepidation and police in consternation. This is one type of hazardous waste incineration which *The Earth First! Journal* does not oppose.

Indonesians Train Rebel Elephants

In recent years, there have been several instances of elephants stampeding over humans and their dwellings in threatened elephant territory. Last year, after farmers blocked an elephant trail with crops and buildings, a bull elephant and two females trampled 14 homes and one boy in the southern Sumatran province of Lampung. The Indonesian government responded by "importing trained elephants and their mahouts from Thailand" to teach Indonesians how to domesticate the Sumatran Elephant. (*LA Times*, 9-22-86) The elephants were then sent to Indonesia's new pachyderm reform school to coerce them into careers in show business or logging. The new school for elephantine delinquents opened in May '86 and already has 18 students in various grades. (*The Atlantic Journal and Constitution*, 11-27-86) No diplomas have yet been awarded, but given elephants' superb memories, one might expect high grades and subsequent high GRE scores for elephants proceeding into post-graduate studies.

Sumatra's wild elephant population is now only 2000, yet conflicts between Sumatran people and elephants have increased in the last 2 years. As prices for oil — Indonesia's most lucrative export — have fallen, the Indonesian government has urged timber companies to increase exports of lumber and plywood. Consequently, rainforest destruction has accelerated. The elephants are loath to see their habitat ravaged; and refusing to sit idly by, they have stampeded over new settlements, ignoring the government's specious claims that it will greatly increase the area (now 6% of Indonesia) protected as national parks and nature reserves.

Meanwhile, in northeast Assam state in India, a herd of 16 Indian Elephants began a series of counterattacks in November '86 against human encroachment. In a recent raid in the Panikhaity area (910 miles east of New Delhi) the herd destroyed 50 houses and uprooted crops. Five persons were killed and 200 left homeless.

Ostrich Pummels Cowboy

A cowboy in Idaho, J. Coody, in December was trampled by a 400 pound, 9 foot tall ostrich as he and his brother loaded 13 ostriches for transport to the 4-C Ostrich Farm in Lawton, Oklahoma. The bird deftly evaded Cooty's lariat rope and ran over him. Cooty was rushed into intensive care. The victim's brother sagely noted, "It's one of the hazards of dealing with livestock." (*Arizona Daily Star*, 12-21-86)

Boar Destroys F-16 Fighter

On December 17, as an F-16 jet fighter owned by the Pakistani Air Force was taking off from the Sargodha Air Base (120 miles south of Islamabad), a wild boar charged into its front wheel, sundering the wheel from the plane. The jet, a quality \$30 million US product, burst into flames as it skidded along the runway. Both pilots ejected to safety. The plane was part of a 40 plane air force fleet. Sources did not report on the condition of the boar, nor did they speculate on whether the boar's action was a protest against US-Pakistani arms trades. (*The Nation*)

Coyote Spotters Crash

The Omaha World-Herald (12-22-86) reported that 2 men spotting Coyotes for hunters on the ground crashed their airplane in southern Nebraska and died. At the time, 7 hunters were taking turns spotting from the air and shooting from the ground.

Blockader Sent to Asylum

M. Berthier, a farmer in France arrested for lying in front of a bulldozer, has been freed after having been sentenced to a psychiatric hospital for his act of civil disobedience. Berthier was protesting *remembrement* — a "re-grouping of lands" which allows destruction of farmland through elimination of hedges, and subsequent consolidation of small farms into large agribusiness operations. Apparently, French authorities consider those willing to commit CD to oppose ecological destruction to be *dans la lune*. Fortunately, Berthier's family prevailed upon the mayor of Ille-et-Vilaine to order his release.

Decoys Fool Hunters

Tennessee wildlife officers are successfully using stuffed deer to catch slob hunters. Illegal roadside hunting is a major problem in Tennessee, so wildlife officers there have placed stuffed deer in strategic locations to entice poachers into shooting and subsequently being caught. One wildlife officer noted, "You'd think they'd wonder after a shot or two why she isn't falling down, but they keep shooting. You've got to laugh at the people sometimes." So far, 40 hunters have been convicted as a result of this decoy ploy.

The Day of the Dolphin Arrives

The US Department of Defense has requested permission from Congress to take 25 marine mammals a year for "national defense purposes." The DoD hopes to train dolphins for anti-submarine warfare and intelligence gathering. The Navy has requested \$5.4 million for its Advanced Marine Biological Systems project to study cetaceans and train them to fetch objects and act as sentries. During tests in South Carolina in 1985, dolphins detected mines with 80% accuracy — far greater than that achieved by the best mechanical devices. *Defense Week* recently reported that seals and dolphins have already been trained to "clear enemy mines from harbors and to attach limpet mines and tracking beacons to Soviet submarines." (*Worldpaper*, 12-86) The DoD says animals will not be used for "kamikaze-type mine-planting missions" because too much effort is required to train them for this. Letters protesting exploitation of marine mammals for war purposes should be sent to US Defense Dept., Wash., DC 20301. Tell the DoD that the purpose of the porpoise is not paramilitary. Some ecodefenders have wondered if cetaceans might be encouraged to take direct action against the DoD and other institutions instead of being tricked into aiding them.

Lions Reinhabit Chad

Lions driven away by civil war are returning to southern Chad, now that strife between Muslims from northern Chad and Christians and Animists from southern Chad has quieted. Before the spread of fighting into southern Chad,

500 lions, 9000 elephants, and 3500 buffalo inhabited Zakouma National Park. In 1979-80, most of this wildlife was driven away as soldiers used cannons and rocket launchers to kill the animals. (Guerrillas and lions don't mix well.) As the wildlife returns, there have been increasing incidents of cattle, goats, and donkeys being eaten and herders being forced to flee by lions. The lions have cleverly avoided poisoned sheep bait. Chad now has 500 elephants, 300 lions and 700 buffalo.

Snowmobiles Threaten Canyon

Snowmobilers increasingly practice their loathsome hobby near the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. A group of snowmobilers, with great fanfare including TV and magazine media, last year popularized the cruise from Jacob Lake (7921') southwest to North Rim (9200'). There are now organized tours taking this 86 mile round trip. The following description appeared in an article promoting North Rim snowmobiling in *Snowmobile West* (12-86).

"[W]e recommend you contact Snowventure Tours, 277 W 500 North, St. George, UT 84770 (801-673-4919). Owner Doug McKnight has a permit from the Kaibab National Forest to conduct organized tours from mid-November through mid-March.

"Tours go on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday each week. Cost is only \$49 per person if you have your own machine or \$120 if you need the works . . ."

"Both Rich [Steve Rich, one of the Jacob Lake Inn owners] and McKnight are working with officials of the Grand Canyon National Park in requesting that snowmobiling be permitted on trails that would actually be within the park."

The article notes that Park officials will soon decide whether to allow snowmobiling to Fire Point, two miles south of the North Rim and within the Park. Letters opposing all snowmobiling in the Kaibab National Forest and in or near Grand Canyon National Park should be sent to: L.A. Lindquist, Forest Supervisor, Kaibab NF, 800 S Sixth St., Williams, AZ 86046; and to Superintendent Dick Marks, Grand Canyon NP, POB 129, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023.

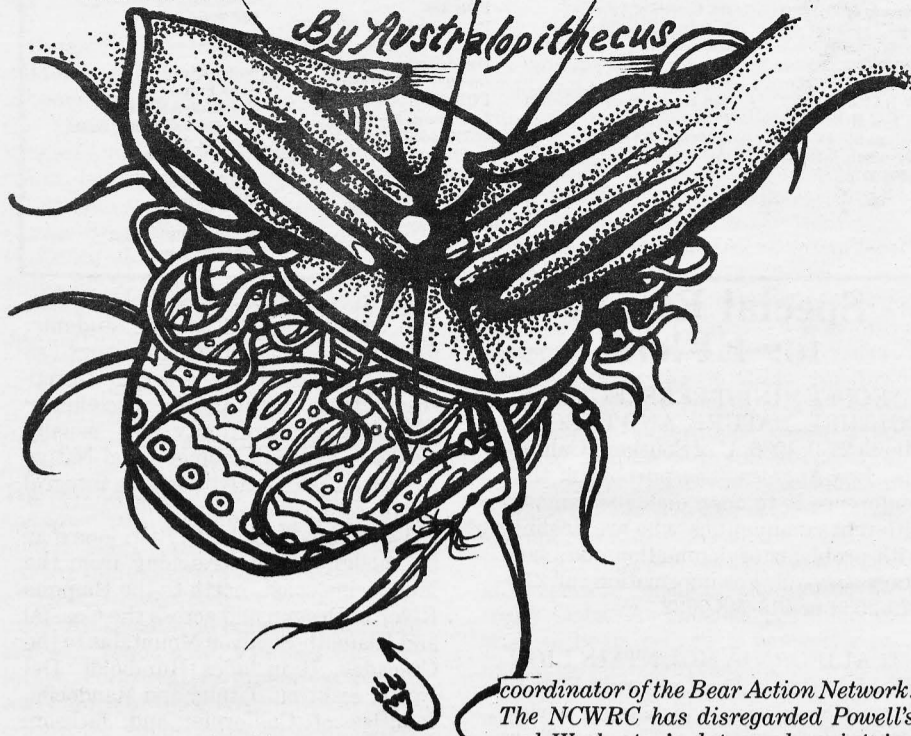
Letters

Address US senators at US Senate, Washington, DC 20510; US representatives at US House of Representatives, Wash., DC 20515.

*An Arizonan who was caught in a steel-jaw leghold trap is being sued by the owner of the trap. The victim, Larry Sutherland, may countersue. Letters in support of Mr. Sutherland and in opposition to trapping should be sent to Governor Ed Mechem, State Capitol, Phoenix; AZ Dept. of Game & Fish, Greasewood Dr., Tucson 85745; US Senators; and editors of newspapers. For information on how to fight trapping, read *Ecodefense* and contact animal rights groups, one of the best of which is the Arizona chapter of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA - AZ), POB 43026, Tucson 85733. (PETA - AZ is currently under fire from conservative and liberal Tucsonans as a result of illicit acts of destruction of department store fur coats as part of a major day of protest against fur sales. On that day, fur coat linings were slashed and pockets filled with manure. PETA, inexplicably, has been blamed for these acts of "sabotage." PETA - AZ needs funds to preserve its clout and continue its fight against fur sales.)

*House Interior Chairman Morris Udall and 24 other representatives are sponsoring legislation to bar oil & gas development on 1.5 million acres of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge's coastal plain. This bill should be strengthened (to protect ALL of the Refuge), and passed. If you've not already done so, write your Congresspersons urging them to support Wilderness designation for all of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Tell them to seek to prevent any oil & gas development in the Refuge. The 1002 report of Interior Secretary Don Hodel, released in November, proposes opening all the Arctic Refuge coastal plain to oil & gas leasing. (See article, last issue.)

TRIBAL LORE



Invest in Social Change

For conservationists with money to invest, and for persons interested in learning about alternative economic institutions and ideas for alternative economic systems, the journal *Catalyst* is important reading. *Catalyst* features well-written and highly informative articles on "investing in social change." The editor, Susan Meeker-Lowry, is a leading advocate of a decentralized ecologically sound approach to economics which she calls "Gaian Economics." To subscribe, send \$25 for 6 bi-monthly issues to *Catalyst*, POB 364, Worcester, VT 05682.

HOLY LAND: A NAVAJO PILGRIMAGE BACK TO DINETAH; John Redhouse; 1985.

Holy Land is a fascinating 14 page booklet telling of traditional Navajo myths and contemporary Navajo predicaments. For ordering information on this and John Redhouse's two other publications about the Navajo, write: Redhouse/Wright Productions, 160 Washington SE, Box 90, Albuquerque, NM 87108.

Environmental Guide for Everyday Living

Can one person make a difference? Yes, and one can learn how from *Living in Today's Environment: A Practical Guide*, a booklet of facts and suggestions published by the Department of Ecological Research of the Theosophical Order of Service, an international organization. Readers of this 44-page booklet will discover ways to put the "Earth First!" in their daily lives. "What we eat, what we wear, what we use . . . has an ecological impact," says Nadine Hunter, who compiled the booklet. To order, send \$3 to: TOS Dept. of Ecological Research, Star Rt., Box 70011, Pahrump, NV 89041.

Katuah Warns of Bear Deaths

The following report is reprinted from *Katuah: Bioregional Journal of the Southern Appalachians*. To subscribe to this excellent quarterly, send \$10 to Katuah, Box 873, Cullowhee, NC 28723.

Black bears in *Katuah* are facing lean times. In addition to the lack of hard mast (nuts, acorns) resulting from the drought this summer, Roger Powell of the Pisgah Bear Project reports that, because of increased hunting pressure, bear "mortality is outstripping productivity." Poaching accounts for 50% of all kills, while legal kills account for 30-40% of all bear mortality. In addition, of the 15 bears studied at the Pisgah Bear Sanctuary (one of 28 bear sanctuaries in NC) only one bear is a breeding age female!

Previous studies reveal a history of poor "population management." Warburton's 1981-82 study of the Pisgah Bear Sanctuary showed that, of the bears being monitored, 60% were killed, 75% of which were females.

The NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) — whose stated goals are to 1) maintain a stable viable bear population, and 2) maintain an abundant surplus for hunters — is "not living up to their mandate as wildlife managers" according to Paul Gallimore,

coordinator of the Bear Action Network. The NCWRC has disregarded Powell's and Warburton's data and maintains that although the bears are facing hardships this year, the "natural mechanics" are such that the bear population normally fluctuates with mast production. Fortunately female bears are denning-up early, and the impact of hunting (legal and illegal) may be lessened this year.

Recently, Tennessee shortened their bear season to the last week in December after research from black bear expert Dr. Mike Pelton of the Tennessee Wildlife Commission revealed that populations could be sustained if hunting was restricted until after the denning of females and cubs.

It is time to bring pressure to bear on the NCWRC. Call or write the NCWRC now. Ask them to reopen Powell's data and restudy his research. Ask for a moratorium on killing bears. (NC has the longest bear hunting season in the Southeast.) Address: Executive Director, NC Wildlife Resources Commission, 512 N Salisbury St., Raleigh, NC 27611. To report poaching or other violations, call: NC — 1-800-662-7137, SC — 1-800-922-5431, TN 1-800-262-6704, GA — 1-800-241-4113, VA — 1-804-257-1000. For more information, contact: Paul Gallimore, Bear Action Network, Rt. 2 Box 132, Leicester, NC 28748 (704-683-3662).

Bat Conservation Promoted

The following is quoted from Bat Conservation International. To join BCI and help save bats, send \$15 or more to Bat Conservation International, Brackenridge Field Laboratory, U of TX, Austin, TX 78712. Members receive BCI's quarterly newsletter.

Bats are among the world's most diverse mammals. Nearly 1000 kinds comprise almost a fourth of all mammal species and they inhabit all but the most extreme desert and polar regions. They range from a bumblebee-sized bat that is the world's smallest mammal to giant flying foxes with six-foot wingspans. Although bats are, for their size, the world's longest lived mammals (more than 30 years), their highly specialized lifestyles and unusually slow reproductive rates (usually only one young per year) make adaptation to habitat changes extremely difficult. They also form the largest and most vulnerable colonies of any warm-blooded animal.

Fruit-eating bats are among the most important seed-dispersing animals in tropical rain forests. Nectar-eating bats, along with fruit bats that visit flowers, pollinate more than 200 genera of tropical and sub-tropical trees and shrubs. Many of these are highly specialized to attract bats, and their flowers open only at night. In some instances, loss of a single bat species could trigger a chain of linked extinctions of other plants and animals with shatter effects throughout their ecosystem.

Millions of bats have been killed by people who explore caves. Many of these people are unaware of the damage they do. Others intentionally kill bats. Hibernating bats must conserve limited fat supplies until spring or face starvation. Yet in winter each human entry into a bat hibernating cave causes the bats to waste 10 to 30 days of stored fat reserve. In summer young bats die from human disturbance at their nursery

roosts. Most caves can be explored without harm to bats, but cave explorers must be educated regarding how and when.

In the early 1960s an estimated 150 million Free-tailed Bats fed over farms of the southwestern US. They caught approximately a quarter million tons (metric) of insects annually (half there and half while wintering in Mexico). But since then these bat populations have declined drastically, some by as much as 99%. Most apparently died from the overuse of agricultural pesticides. Voracious appetites and slow reproduction make bats everywhere extremely vulnerable.

Making Polluters Pay: A Citizens' Guide to Legal Action and Organizing

This workbook from Environmental Action Foundation provides information about using the law to hold polluters accountable for injuries they cause. It includes two sections: Legal Concerns — pros and cons of bringing a lawsuit to court, etc.; Citizen Group Activities — community health surveys and toxic substance testing, forming a focused organization, media strategies, etc. \$15 for individual activists, \$20 for public interest organizations, \$40 for libraries and other institutions, \$100 for businesses. Add 10% for postage. Workbook-EAF, 1525 New Hampshire Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Boundary Waters Foundation Forms

This announcement is from a new organization — the Boundary Waters Wilderness Foundation — formed to assist the Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness in protecting the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA).

The Friends will continue as the membership organization, and will continue to publish BWCA Wilderness News. It will also continue as the lobbying arm. To address non-lobbying issues such as those below, the Friends created the BWFF to seek tax-deductible donations and grants. BWFF will work on these current BWCA threats:

Forest Plan. Contrary to federal law, the Forest Service's new management plan for Superior National Forest proposes to retain three truck portages in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. These truck portages blight the Wilderness with roads, trucks, jeeps, buildings, docks, flagpoles and, at Prairie Portage, even a basketball court. The FS plan also proposes to maintain dams within the Wilderness — again contrary to federal law — and significantly increase visitor numbers in the already crowded wilderness. Just outside the Wilderness, the agency's forest plan proposes to continue wasteful taxpayers' dollars on heavily subsidized below-cost timber sales. This deficit logging program will construct roads in roadless areas of the forest, riddle critical wolf habitat with roads, and degrade potential Wild and Scenic rivers. Letters of protest should be sent to: Floyd J. Marita, Acting Regional Forester, Forest Service, 310 W. Wisconsin Ave, Rm 500, Milwaukee, WI 53203.

Acid Rain. Thanks to hard work by the Friends and other environmental organizations, Minnesota adopted tough new acid rain controls last summer. But these state standards must still be fully implemented and monitored. And even with good state standards, acid deposition from other states and Canada could eventually acidify our wilderness lakes.

Visitor Impacts. The heavy amount of visitor use of the BWCA — over one million "recreation visitor days" each year, the most of any Wilderness in the nation — threatens the area's natural resources.

LaVerendrye Provincial Park. Ontario will soon formally designate a new provincial park, LaVerendrye Park, along the international border from Saganaga Lake to Lake Superior. This park will either detract from or complement the BWCA Wilderness on the Minnesota side of the border, depending on the provisions of the park's final management plan.

National Guard Site. The State of Minnesota is still considering a 200,000 acre National Guard training site for tanks and artillery in northeastern Minnesota. The most "promising" site lies south of Ely in Superior National Forest, well within earshot of the BWCA Wilderness.

The Boundary Waters Wilderness Foundation and the Friends of the

Boundary Waters Wilderness are responding to these threats by appealing the Forest Service's management plan for Superior National Forest, continuing work on acid rain both locally and nationally, developing BWCA user education projects with the Forest Service to minimize visitor impacts, writing and meeting with Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources on LaVerendrye Park, working with local groups in opposing the National Guard site and more.

To give the gift of wilderness protection to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness send you tax-deductible contribution to the Boundary Waters Wilderness Foundation, 1313 Fifth St. SE, Suite 327, Minneapolis, MN 55414 (612-379-3835).

Anti-grazing Paper Still Available

The thoroughly documented manifesto by Earth First! activist Lynn Jacobs against the public lands livestock industry (copies of which many EF'ers have received) can still be obtained by writing to Lynn at his new address: 2945 W Barrel Dr, Tucson, 85746. Lynn has distributed 35,000 of these excellent tabloids and has 65,000 more. Please help stop public lands overgrazing by ordering and distributing copies. The papers are free but contributions are urgently needed.

Help Save Hawaii

The following message is condensed from *Save Hawaii*, a fine publication produced by a group of the same name (\$12/yr; Box 888, Captain Cook, HI 96704).

The SAVE HAWAII movement began in 1984 as a public response to pesticide abuse on the Big Island. SAVE HAWAII focuses on issues such as food irradiation, nerve-gas incineration on Johnston Island, deep-sea mining, geothermal hazards.

Hawaii has the highest rate of pesticide use of any state in the US! Numerous drinking-water wells on Oahu, Maui, and Kauai have been shut down because of pesticide contamination. Twenty-seven man-made chemicals have been detected in Oahu water. Pesticides are dumped on pineapple fields, sugar cane, public roadsides, etc.

SAVE HAWAII is concerned over plans for a food-irradiation facility in Hilo. Food-irradiation may be hazardous both to food consumers and to those who live near an irradiation facility.

Hawaii's few remaining untouched beaches may soon be lost to hotels, as state and county officials are hoisting tourism as the mainstay of economic growth. Almost 10 new resorts are planned for the Big Island's Kona-Kohala coast, although average annual hotel occupancy rates in Kona have been barely 50% during most of this decade. The development which has drawn the most attention is a 540-acre resort planned for Hapuna Beach, the island's largest and most beautiful beach (and state park). Big Island has very few beaches (with only a little more than 1 mile of primary, white sand beach, out of a total coastline of about 300 miles), and a population which is expected to double by the turn of the century.

Although Hawaii is blessed with a year-round growing season, fertile soil, and abundant rainfall, the state imports about 80% of its food supply! And Hawaii has the highest food prices in the US!

Sadly, over half the native plants in Hawaii are endangered, threatened, or extinct, and over half of America's endangered birds are in Hawaii.

Hawaii is a strategic military outpost, and the most militarized state in the nation. Oahu has more nuclear weapons (reportedly, more than 3000) concentrated in one place than anywhere else in the world. The Navy has acknowledged discharging almost 5 million gallons of radioactive liquid wastes into Pearl Harbor, and also admits dumping over 100,000 gallons of radioactive solid wastes into ocean waters off Hawaii.

SAVE HAWAII covers these topics and more. Please help us continue this work of environmental education by subscribing to SAVE HAWAII (\$12/yr), or by giving a tax-deductible contribution to SAVE HAWAII FOUNDATION, Box 888, Captain Cook, HI 96704.

Montana Forever Wild! Rally

Come to Montana and march for wilderness! Americans for Wilderness is sponsoring a grand show of support for Montana's remaining wild and roadless areas on March 2 in Missoula, beginning on the University of Montana campus at noon and marching to various offices and the Federal Building along the way. The day will build up to a high energy rally that evening with various speakers, poets, and musicians contributing.

We can't stress enough how important this march is! Montana's shrinking wild lands (both BLM and Forest Service lands) are threatened by a soon-to-be-released wilderness bill. The new bill, which will be sprung on the unsuspecting public by a congressional delegation controlled by the timber industry, will exclude millions of acres from consideration as Wilderness. All those who believe in keeping the wild lands wild, whether they belong to conservative, moderate, or radical camps of the environmental spectrum, are encouraged to show their support for roadless areas. We want to show the politicians, Forest Service, and national media that all of these lands should be saved, and that there is a strong population of folks who think so!

Be there! We need you; we need bodies; we need your energy! This demonstration will be the largest of its kind in US history. If you've ever walked Montana's wild country or dreamed of it, Earth needs your voice now! March forth on March 2nd! For more information call Mike: (406) 549-0263.



MONTANA RENDEZVOUS

by Linda Wolf

January 16-18, Montana Earth First!ers started 1987 with a fun-filled weekend rendezvous at Boulder Hot Springs. About 35 people gathered to talk about issues and share information within an informal discussion and workshop structure. Friday witnessed the meeting and greeting of people from as far as East Glacier to as close as Helena. That night people mingled, enjoyed the pools and listened to a group of skillful musicians.

Saturday we got down to business with the announcement of the opening of a new account by treasurer Randy T. Restless. As befits a group with no formal structure, the role of Earth First! in Montana was the first topic of discussion. While allowing respect for traditional methods of fighting the system, the conclusion reached was a reemphasis of the unpredictable, radical and uncompromising attitude of EF! Other areas explored that day included the press, Dogmeat on the Fishing Bridge issue, and monkeywrenching. Mike Bader presented a slide show on the Badger/Two Medicine area, after which Woody Kipp of the Blackfeet Tribe added his concerns for the spiritual value of the land. That night, the party started with Walkin' Jim's inspirational musical slide show and Greg Keeler's witty environmental songs. The fun continued far into the night.

On Sunday, discussion of the soon-to-be-introduced Montana wilderness bill led to the idea of organizing a huge "near-riot" in Missoula on March 2nd. The rally will be held to protest the inadequacy of the political system for producing a respectable bill for wilderness protection. At the hot pool, the group discussed legal methods for fighting political and industrial moves to develop our wildlands. To top off a great weekend, Phil Knight talked about the rainforest situation. Before leaving, everyone formed one last circle to wrap up the rendezvous with Walkin' Jim's "Power Song." And we all agreed, "For the Earth Now We Must Stand!"

Round River Rendezvous '87

by Barbara Dugelby

Plans are already under way for the 87 Round River Rendezvous, to be held July 6-10 on the spectacular North Rim of the Grand(mother) Canyon. Some of this planet's most recondite eco-warriors, including activists, poets, musicians, and artists will make their presence known at workshops, campfires, hikes and the like.

The 87 RRR Committee is considering problems with workshops, campfires, merchandise, the Rally, etc., encountered at the 86 RRR. No final decisions have been made, so if you have questions or suggestions please send them to us in the next few weeks. (For more info about what we are considering, see the Open Letter to the 87 RRR Committee in the Samhain edition.)

VOLUNTEERS — The Committee is desperately seeking volunteers for many tasks. As soon as possible, we wish to begin collecting names for regional carpool coordinators, as well as someone to coordinate these coordinators. We are seeking coordinators for parking, water and a stage. We also need volunteers on these committees: childcare (ideas and extra hands), trash, merchandise, and a greeting table.

ART — The Committee is considering allowing artists to display their artwork during the RRR. In order for artists to do this, however, they must first get an OK from the Committee. We want the exhibiting artist to already be a contributing Earth First!er and for the work to somehow reflect the EF! message or show appreciation for wild nature. Requests or inquiries should be sent to Gena Trott, POB 652, Reserve, NM 87830. No artwork can be shown without prior arrangement.

WORKSHOP IDEAS — What workshops or other (organized) activities would you like to see at this year's RRR? More specifically, would you like to lead a workshop? Contact Barb.

T-SHIRT — We need a design for a Round River Rendezvous t-shirt. Illustrations should be sent to Barb before March 31. If you have ideas about colors of the design or the shirt, include them.

MONEY — Yes! We are already accepting donations to the 87 RRR fund. There are so many hidden expenses for this wonderful event, including portapotties (ok, not so hidden), insurance, etc. Contributions should be sent to the Earth First! Foundation, POB 50681, Tucson, AZ 85703, earmarked for the RRR fund.

If you can help in any way with the Rendezvous, let us know. Everyone start gearing up for a hootin', howlin', definitely unforgettable week under the full moon in the Grand Canyon!



Bob Phillips at 86 RRR.

Battle of Four Notch Continues

by Lah Weaselman

The Battle of Four Notch is far from over. Even today, almost 3 months after the original standoff that received so much attention in the media, the Fredies still complain of nagging phone calls, "up to 20 an hour," from citizens concerned about the fate of the Four Notch forest. The State of Texas lost their lawsuit against the Forest Service (FS), but rumors are that the Attorney General may appeal the case to a higher court. Even if there is no appeal, the Freds are "stuck in the mud," at least for a while. It is so wet in East Texas that they probably will not be able to crank up Godzilla the Crusher again until late spring.

There is a strong chance, however, that our pyro-Fredies will proceed with plans to napalm the 1000 acres already crushed since soil and wood conditions need not be as dry for napalming. Despite FS claims that "most of the wildlife will be able to escape" the intense flames leaping from the helitorch, many critters are sure to fall victim to this ruthless destruction. Earth First! promises to be there as the tongues of artificial fire spit their curse of death upon the once flourishing wildlife of Four Notch.

On January 20, Four Notch heroes Robin Spraggins and James Jackson will go before Judge Ann Baker in Walker County as they appeal the November 12 guilty verdict laid down by Judge John Paskett. Six EF!ers were found guilty of disorderly conduct, a class C misdemeanor, and fined \$113 each. Instead of spending time in jail, or giving their hard-earned dinero to the judicial system of East Texas, 3 of the remaining 4 EF!ers opted to do community service for their penance — picking up trash along highways for 2 days.

The fourth — Bugis, famed Four Notch Warrior — has left the Texas Oasis on a mission of critical magnitude in bioregions far away.

Meanwhile, there remain other important forest-related issues here in Texas. Of extreme importance is the new (and hopefully improved) Ten Year Forest Plan for the National Forests of Texas. This "guide" for the Fredies is due any day . . . week . . . month (it was originally scheduled to be released last fall). It is crucial that environmentalists take this opportunity to influence forest management because this Plan will be the foundation for all management decisions for the next 10 years. The reason the FS was allowed to continue their "reforestation" activities at Four Notch was because, in the opinion of Judge Hughes, they were not violating the guidelines of their most recent Forest Plan. This is our chance to make sure the Fredies have strict guidelines by which they must conduct their activities.

To receive a copy of the Plan when it is released, and to object to FS napalming plans, write: William Lannan, Forest Supervisor, USDA FS, 701 N 1st St., Lufkin, TX 75901. If you are interested in joining the Earth First! appeal of the Plan or would like to be on a mailing list for information about the Plan, write to us: TX EF!, POB 7292, Austin, TX 78713.

Texas EF! thanks all who have so generously supported our eco-battles. From Oregon to New York, people are encouraging us in our efforts, giving us the finances and moral support which we desperately need to continue. Thanks!!

Lah Weaselman is a TX EF! leader. She is also a writer and linguist of high repute.



Christi Stevens arrested after blockading Godzilla. Photo by Larry Shelton.

CocaCola Against the Rainforest

The following is drawn from a January 19 press release of Friends of the Earth Limited, 377 City Road, London, ECI.

Today, 19 January, Friends of the Earth International issued a statement condemning proposals by Coca-Cola Foods Ltd to destroy 25,000 acres of tropical forest and wetlands for citrus plantations in Belize. Simultaneously, FOE contacted over 500 environmental groups around the world urging them to persuade Coca-Cola to stop the scheme before it is too late. The first trial citrus plots are expected to be cleared in early 1987.

In a letter sent to Roberto Goizueta, Chairman of the Coca-Cola Company in Atlanta (US), FOE accused the corporation of:

- 1) deliberately misleading members of the public worried about the scheme's threat to wild species;
- 2) falsely claiming to be working with the leading wildlife conservation group (the Belize Audubon Society) in Belize to "protect the environment and existing habitats";
- 3) refusing to carry out an environmental impact assessment.

After months of research, FOE has uncovered the following:

*The Coca-Cola project area has been described as "teeming with wildlife" by the Belize Audubon Society. Though it has not yet been possible to carry out detailed species surveys, similar forests adjoining the Coca-Cola estate are known to contain a wide range of threatened species, including the endangered Central American Tapir, the rare Jabiru Stork, the Black Howler Monkey, White-tailed Deer and Jaguar.

*A minimum of 25,000 acres of species-rich tropical forests and wetlands will be destroyed if the project, as it stands, goes ahead. Once access roads have been built, the total will inevitably be higher due to secondary development. The area consists of deciduous moist forest, high marsh forest, palm and moist pine forest, marsh and swamp.

*Coca-Cola, with a net operating revenue in 1984 of \$7.3 billion, refuses to commission a thorough environmental impact assessment (which would cost c. \$200,000)

Notes: 1) Tropical forests are being destroyed around the world at an annual rate of 200,000 sq.km. They are considered the most threatened major habitat type, and are home to 50% of all living things.

2) Coca-Cola Foods' products include: Fanta, Diet Coke, Sprite, and Tab soft drinks; and Five Alive, High-C and Minute Maid fruit drinks.

To protest to Coca-Cola, write: Roberto Goizueta, Chairman, Coca-Cola Company, PO Drawer 1734, Atlanta, GA 30301.

TONGASS UPDATE

Since publishing an article in *EF!*, last winter, about the Forest Service's ecologically ruinous mismanagement of the Tongass National Forest, our friends at SEACC (Southeast Alaska Conservation Council) have made progress toward reforms to reduce the excessive timber harvesting on the Tongass. The following is an update from SEACC.

by Bart Koehler

It was only a little over one year ago that the SEACC Board of Directors met in Petersburg to put the finishing touches on the Council's recommendations to Congress for changing Tongass management. Those recommendations were to be included as a major part of the Forest Service's report to Congress on the "Status of Management on the Tongass National Forest." This Congressionally mandated review of the Tongass was directed by provisions in the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA).

The review process did not, however, guarantee that Congress would hold any sort of hearings in order to take public testimony. Regardless, in the fall of 1985, SEACC had high hopes that Congress could be convinced of the necessity for reviewing Tongass management through an official "oversight hearing," as well as through the Forest Service report. So in early 1986, SEACC established an outpost in Washington, DC, and worked tirelessly to secure a hearing. Indeed, once presented with some facts about how the Tongass was being managed, Congress was convinced, and a two day oversight hearing was held in May.

SEACC was a major participant in the hearing, and many Southeast Alaskans also traveled to Washington to personally testify. Other participants were national conservation groups, Native corporations, the Alaska Loggers Association, Alaska Women in Timber, Alaska Chamber of Commerce, the State of Alaska, and the Resource Development Council. In addition to the hearing last spring, SEACC was active in House appropriations actions.

In June, one month after the oversight hearing, Senator William Proxmire gave his Fleece of the Month Award jointly to the Forest Service for spending \$50 million annually on the Tongass timber program and to Congress which authorized the expenditures under ANILCA. Then, in July, Congressman Bob Mrazek (D-NY) introduced the Tongass Timber Reform Act. Shortly thereafter, the House Interior Subcommittee on Appropriations commenced an investigation of the Tongass, as did the General Accounting Office. The results of these investigations should be available in early 1987.

As this goes to press, bi-partisan support for passage of the Tongass Timber

Reform Act is growing. At last count, 14 Congressmen had signed on as cosponsors. The Act is expected to be reintroduced in the next Congress in January 1987. SEACC is hopeful that the bill will move rapidly, especially now that the Senate is no longer under control of the Republican party. As Senator Ted Stevens noted recently, Democratic control of the Senate would be "horrible" for the Alaska delegation when faced with national interest legislation.

In addition to reintroduction of the Tongass Timber Reform Act next year, SEACC anticipates that the congressional appropriations process will play a big role in changing the direction of Tongass management. Also, as was the case this year, the key element in 1987 will be the active participation of concerned conservationists.

Looking back at that Petersburg meeting only one year ago, it really is amazing just how much progress we have made since then. Looking ahead, 1987 promises to be a very big year for the Tongass.

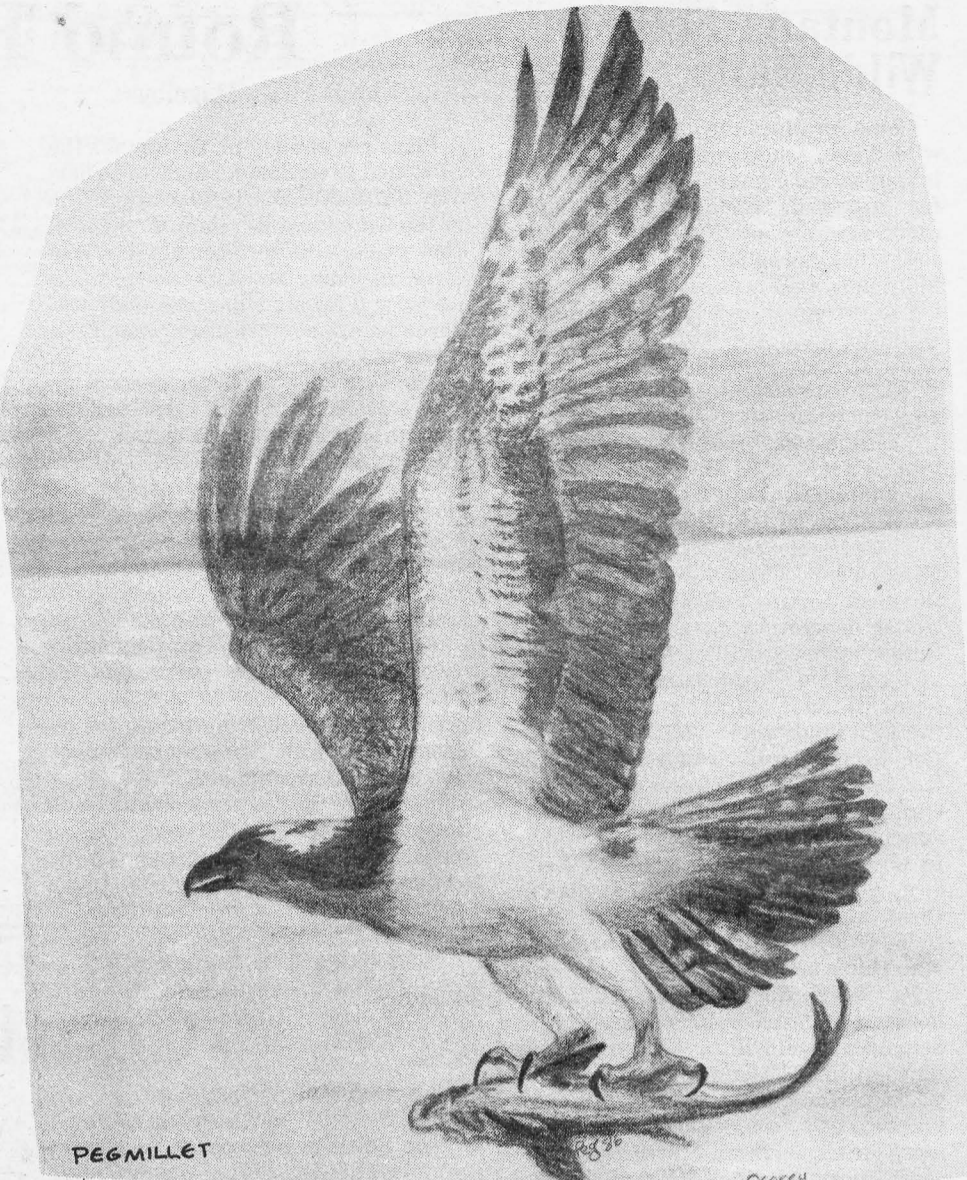
When I worked in the lower 48 on National Forest policy, we were always fighting the abuses of "multiple use." Here in the Tongass, the situation is so bad that we're struggling to gain multiple use and have the Tongass managed on the same basis as the rest of the National Forest System! We are in a race against time. Why the sense of urgency? Won't the Tongass Land Management Plan be subject to revision in 1990? Won't we then have a chance to change land allocations and thus gain Wilderness protection for key areas?

To answer . . . we're playing against a stacked deck. Tongass management is dominated — in fact, dictated — by the 50 year contracts for the 2 giant pulp mills in Southeast Alaska. The 50 year contracts are the foundation of the problems that confront the Tongass. If the 50 year contracts are not canceled, the Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) Revision will rubber-stamp the decisions made over the next two years for the pulp mills and thus doom key wilderness areas. If we don't truly reform the Forest by eliminating the contracts and the pork barrel language of ANILCA, the Forest Service will transform the forest at a steady bureaucratic gallop. We only have the next year or two to stop this madness.

Here's a summary of the Tongass situation as of January, 1987: The Tongass Land Management Plan will be revised in early 1990. But . . . the 5 year timber operating plan for one of the 50 year contract holders (APC of Sitka) has been approved for the period 1986 to the end of 1990, and will preempt any decisions made by TLMP. SEACC has appealed this 5 year plan. The 5 year operating plan for the other 50 year contract holder (LPK of Ketchikan) will run from 1989 to 1994 (decisions will be finalized in March of 1988) and will also preempt the TLMP decisions. (Both 5 year operating plans cover 500,000 to 800,000 acres). SEACC will also appeal this 5 year plan. Meanwhile, the Forest Service hopes to finalize the land "development" plans for the magnificent Yakutat Forelands (all 350,000 acres) — including roads and clearcuts from Yakutat to the western edge of Glacier Bay Park and Preserve — by February of 1988. SEACC will appeal this action. Though not in a 50 year contract area, as long as the \$40 million timber supply fund and the 450 million board foot timber supply goal remain in place, the Yakutat Forelands are sure to be hammered.

Passage of the Tongass Timber Reform Act, *without* eliminating the 50 year contracts, would reduce bureaucratic waste and slow the clearcutting and roadbuilding. But that is not enough! Unless the contracts are terminated, APC and LPK will destroy the remaining unprotected old growth rainforests of the Tongass. Simply put, the 50 year contracts must go.

Many key wild areas hang in the balance. If we don't change the course of the Tongass before 1988, the TLMP Revision will merely be an exercise in frustration — where concerned citizens try to pick up the pieces of a once great wild forest. As the old rock and roll song goes: "It's now or never . . ."



WHAT YOU CAN DO

1987 will be a big year for the Tongass in Congress. The Tongass Timber Reform Act (TTRA) will be reintroduced in Congress early in the session. We are hopeful that the bill, with many important co-sponsors, will move rapidly through the House. At the same time, the House Appropriations Committee will look at the Tongass. There will then be a heavy battle in the Senate. We urge you to write your representatives (House of Representatives, Wash., DC 20515) and senators (Senate, DC 20510) to co-sponsor the TTRA and go for maximum preservation of the Tongass. Alaskans should write to the governor as well.

Bart Koehler, a co-founder of *EF!*, is the executive director of SEACC.

[ed. note: As we go to press, expectations are high that the TTRA will be reintroduced in late January, and that it will likely propose 4 important changes: 1) elimination of the Tongass Timber Supply Fund — a \$40 million or more annual fund used to achieve the harvesting goal of 4.5 billion board feet per decade; this entails ending the

exemptions of the Tongass from the National Forest Management Act and thus returning Tongass timber sale and roadbuilding funding to the annual Congressional appropriations process as with all other National Forests; 2) elimination of the 50 year contracts held by Alaska Pulp Company and Louisiana-Pacific Ketchikan; 3) tightening of restrictions on deficit timber sales on the Tongass; 4) moratorium on logging and roadbuilding in key Tongass fish and wildlife habitat.

Another last minute note from SEACC concerns SEACC's hopes of hiring two coordinators to establish a center in Washington, DC, to promote awareness of the Forest Service's scandalous mismanagement of the Tongass. If plans materialize, the coordinators will travel throughout the US presenting a slide show and talking about Tongass issues. People who wish to have the slide show presented for their group should contact SEACC at POB 021692, Juneau, AK 99802 (907-586-6942).

EF! encourages those not plagued by impecuniousness to send a portion of their monetary surplus to SEACC.

Helms Protege Screws White Mountain National Forest

by Granite-dome

People dealing in the process of acquiring new lands for the National Forest system may encounter a new plug in the pipes of bureaucracy — Assistant Secretary George Dunlop in the Agriculture Department.

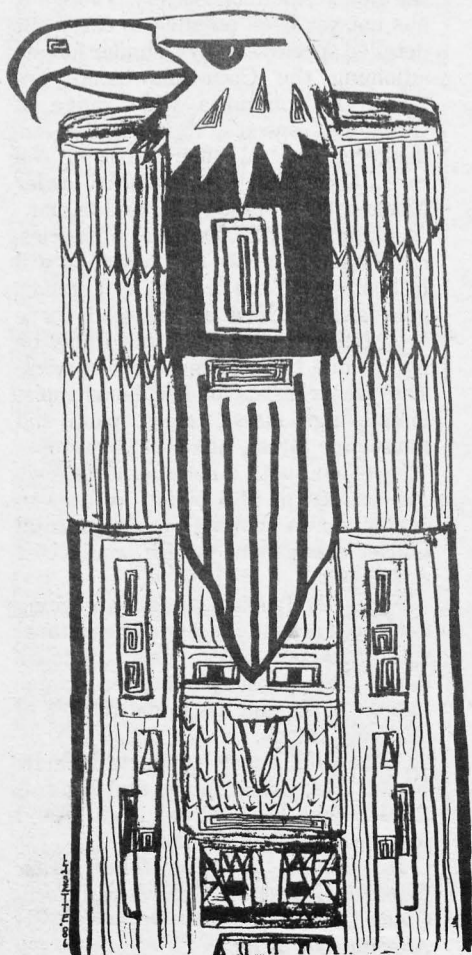
After negotiations lasting a year and a half, Forest Service officials recently cleared the way to purchase new land for the White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire. Since Congress had allocated the funds previous to these negotiations, the FS office was surprised to hear they would not get the money — it was withheld by Dunlop. Never mind that his position gave him no such authority, nor the fact that his duty is to negotiate policy not implement it.

Representative Warren Rudman and Senator Gordon Humphrey demanded that Dunlop meet with the White Mountain National Forest people, a landowner involved in the process, and representatives of the Society for the Protection of NH Forests (SPNHF). SPNHF helps preserve natural areas

by soliciting conservation easements from private landowners and by pre-acquiring selected land until federal and/or state agencies can budget money for purchase.

Dunlop comes to his position as a protege of Senator Jesse Helms. Dunlop has antagonized enough people in the Agriculture Dept. to earn the title "Helms' Angel." In the meeting with the New Hampshire group he lived up to his reputation. Besides implying that Forest Service people who try to fulfill the mandate of Congress to acquire new lands may be in jeopardy of losing their jobs, he asserted he would not simply hand over federal money for such pointless purchases. He even challenged the landowner to simply donate his property, worth more than a million dollars, to the National Forest. Having already been generous in negotiations with the FS, the landowner declined. Throughout the meeting it was apparent that FS officials, while in complete disagreement with Dunlop, were reluctant to challenge him. Finally, after concessions involving a few hundred acres, the money was released.

Dunlop must be watched. He is an ideologue who seems convinced of his anointed duty to defend the federal budget, even if illegally, against the demands of rabid environmentalists like those in the Forest Service. Another James Watt in the making? Perhaps demands for a good flush are in order.



Save the Eastern Sierra

Inyo National Forest Plan: Ski Lifts, Chainsaws, Cows, & Knobby Tires

by Cassiope and Coyote

The 1.9 million acre Inyo National Forest is a land of spectacular contrasts, encompassing parts of the southern Sierra Nevada and southern Basin and Range physiographic provinces. The long, narrow forest (165 long x 4-60 miles wide) includes large portions of the Sierra Nevada, Glass, White-Inyo and Excelsior mountain ranges, as well as two great basins — the Mono Basin and the Owens Valley. Outstanding features of the Inyo include: Mt. Whitney, at 14,495 feet the highest peak in the lower 48; White Mountain Peak, the highest peak in the Great Basin (14,246'); Mono Lake, an ancient inland sea whose briny waters dance with life and nurture millions of birds; the Mono Craters, one of the most geologically active regions in North America; the largest pure Jeffrey Pine forest in the world; and the largest stand of Red Fir, the "redwood of the Eastern Sierra," on the xeric east side. Varied plant and animal communities reflect the geographic diversity.

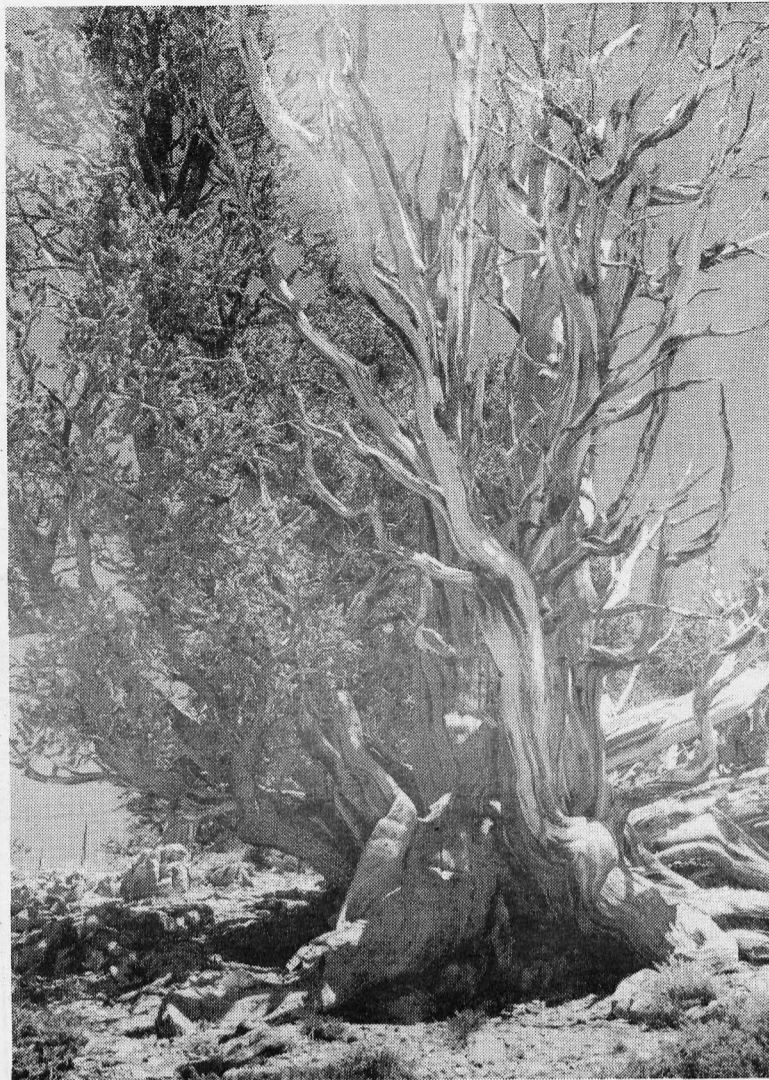
The Inyo is the fifth most utilized National Forest in the US for recreation. The Inyo National Forest Plan reflects this heavy use, with primary emphasis in the Forest Service Preferred Alternative (PRF) on increasing summer and winter recreation opportunities to meet the demands of Southern Californians. That isn't to say that grazing, logging, mining and other unsavory practices have been overlooked . . .

Probably the greatest threat to the future of the Inyo/Eastern Sierra is proposed ski development. (See Inyo article in Samhain 86.) The PRF allows for development of alpine skiing to a total of 39,000 SAOT (skiers at one time) in the next 10 years, from a current level of 23,000 SAOT. Since the plan was written, entrepreneur Dave McCoy has expressed interest in developing yet another area, Hartley Springs, with a 4000 SAOT potential, thus bringing the total planned alpine skiing potential to 43,000 SAOT. (McCoy has stated that his dream is for a capacity of 150,000 skiers at one time on Inyo slopes!) Also we face the possibility of a 6000 SAOT, 8000-acre nordic skiing resort — we're not talking wilderness skiing here! We can only hope that Mammoth Mountain, a dormant volcano, reacts with fury at this blasphemous desecration of its environs.

Given that "natural regeneration is not reliable on the Inyo National Forest" (DEIS p.IV-120), that the Forest's overall contribution to the lumber industry has always been small (currently 10.5 million board feet per year), that there are no local sawmills, and most importantly that the old growth Red Fir and Jeffrey Pine (and the whole forest) have great intrinsic value, it is preposterous that the Timber Beasts propose to log any of the Inyo. Yet, under the PRF, all of the old growth would be decimated within the next 40 years. The Freddies even intend to "manage" the extensive pinyon-juniper forest!

To give an idea of the sort of Forest Service attitudes we face: when queried about the possibility of finding a nesting pair of Spotted Owl in the Red Fir (there have been 2 documented sightings since 1979) Supervisor Dennis Martin said, "We have 3 men with guns out there looking for them now."

The Forest Circus naturally intends to increase grazing by range maggots



Bristlecone Pine. Photo by Jim Eaton.

in the already severely overgrazed mountain meadows and sagebrush flats of the Inyo. Their justification, they admit, is pressure by the local livestock industry as well as "an expected increase in demand for red meat because of the increasing population of Southern California" (DEIS p.III-59). Under PRF, grazing of cattle, sheep and non-native "wild" horses would increase from 41,400 AUMs to 45,300 AUMs on 140,000 acres of "poor to fair" quality range.

No part of the Inyo is safe from the Freddies and private interests. Where skiing, grazing and logging are not feasible, the FS proposes mineral exploration and excavation, geothermal and (small) hydro developments, and off-road-vehicle (ORV) abuse. In PRF, 196,400 acres (10.2%) of the Inyo NF would be designated "Open Roaded," including 87,000 acres in the Inyo Mountains.

Currently 29.4% (565,142 acres) of the Inyo is designated Wilderness. The PRF recommends only a 5.9% increase in Wilderness, in 4 areas: the Tioga Lake addition to the Ansel Adams Wilderness (a whopping 920 acres); Table Mountain, a 4138 acre addition to the John Muir Wilderness; a 52,874 acre White Mountains Wilderness (out of 346,445 acres of roadless areas in the Whites); and a 53,915 acre Inyo Mountains Wilderness (out of 188,956 acres of roadless areas in the Inyos). This totals 111,847 acres recommended for Wilderness, while total acreage of roadless lands (including "released" areas) in the Inyo NF is 962,697 acres.

Wilderness doesn't fare much better in the Amenities (the so called "wilderness") Alternative. Here, only 510,800 acres are recommended for Wilderness. Although wilderness wimps might commend the Amenities Alternative for not allowing ski area development, it does allow heavy timber harvest and grazing. In short, the Forest Plan presents no acceptable alternative.

Eastern Sierra Earth First! demands the following:

1. Wilderness designation for all 962,697 acres of roadless lands remaining in the Inyo. This will bring total Wilderness acres to 1,527,839. (Wilderness designation should not be incompatible with continued gathering of pinyon nuts by Paiute Indians.) Of primary importance is a combined White-Inyo Mountains Wilderness of 535,401 acres, which would be contiguous with lands in the EF! California Desert

Wilderness Proposal (See Yule.) Together with adjacent BLM roadless lands, this would form a 750,000 acre Wilderness. The Whites and Inyos are separated by Highway 168 but are essentially the same range. This highway should be closed; but at this time, closure may not be politically feasible. Other key areas are: A) Glass Mountain Wilderness/Wilderness Recovery Area (130,089 acres), which would protect (and restore) the largest pure Jeffrey Pine forest in the world, as well as numerous wet meadows, canyons, sand flats and obsidian flows. B) The entire San Joaquin Roadless Area (21,214 acres) to be added to the Ansel Adams Wilderness, thus precluding ski development and timber harvest.

2. Creation of numerous Wilderness Recovery Areas (about 250,000 acres). Closure of roads and termination of all practices that conflict with future Wilderness designation.

3. NO new roads! (62 miles of road are planned for recreation and 6 miles for timber harvest.) All existing roads should be reviewed to determine which are unnecessary or environmentally damaging (aren't they all?) and should be closed.

4. NO new ski development!

5. Termination of logging practices in the Inyo and restoration of all previously logged areas.

6. Phasing out of grazing and implementation of Range Recovery Areas where watershed and vegetation rehabilitation will occur.

7. Withdrawal of all Inyo NF land from appropriation under the mining laws.

8. A let burn policy for natural fires. Wood fires will be prohibited in all Wilderness lands. The huge number of visitors to Inyo NF Wilderness necessitates this policy.

9. An end to "put and take" fisheries. A return to pre-stocking conditions in all lakes and streams.

10. Allowing a continuous flow of water down all streams that feed Mono Lake. A return to pre-diversion and pre-dam conditions on all waters in the Inyo. (Mono Lake will be dealt with separately from the Forest Plan in the forthcoming Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area Draft Management Plan, due in July, 1987.)

11. Designation of all of the San Joaquin and Kern Rivers as Wild.

12. Banning of all ORVs from the Inyo excepting the Poleta ORV National Sacrifice Area. This 1500 acre area

would be a Disneyland for ORVs, enclosed by barbed wire, the only one of its kind in the country. [ed. note: It could serve simultaneously as a rifle range.]

13. Reintroduction of all extirpated species and restoration of habitat for indigenous species.

14. Removal of introduced species (Tule Elk, wild horses and burros, and range maggots of various ilk) from the Inyo.

15. An end to "predator control," namely of Mountain Lions, Coyotes and Black Bears.

The Eastern Sierra has been trampled by the people of Southern California for too long. Recreation should be deemphasized and the intrinsic value of the land emphasized. As Aldo Leopold said, "Recreational development is a job not of building roads into lovely country, but of building receptivity into the still unlovely human mind."

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Please write in support of the Earth First! Alternative. If you know the area, be specific in your suggestions. Deadline for comments is March 15. Write: Dennis Martin, Forest Supervisor, Inyo NF, 873 N Main, Bishop, CA 93514. If you want a copy of the 20 page Eastern Sierra EF! Wilderness Alternative for the Inyo, write: Eastern Sierra EF!, POB 22, Lee Vining, CA 93541. Donations are always appreciated!

Cassiope HOPES to be funded by the EF! JournalResearch Fund to study the Long-billed Curlew on the beaches of Sonora, Mexico, for her forthcoming book, Curlew Country. (That she would deign do this for us fills us with gratitude.) Coyote prefers to snorkel in icy streams and look at fish.

LETTERS (cont)

Dear Folks

Just a short note to let you know what's happening in the Lost Frontier.

Things are going from gruesome to just plain grim in Alaska. The wave of conservatism in the US has crested and broken against our shorelines as well. Alaska is "suffering" a galloping recession due to the drop in oil prices. The scene very much resembles the proverbial sinking lifeboat.

Cries of "Develop our resources!" and "No more wilderness!" drowned out all else in the recent election campaigns. The only time "environmentalist" was heard was when it was preceded by "damned." The "rape and move on" faction, always strong in Alaska, is firmly in control. It looks like the battle will be long and hard fought to prevent extensive road building and development in the Tongass National Forest. Protests by the native population and other local residents have had little influence in Juneau when pitted against Freddie and the Forestry Machine.

In Sitka, we are faced with the Japanese owners of a local pulp mill, which has been operating in violation of clean air and water standards since 1975. Wood pulp from this mill is shipped to Japan to make cellulose, which is made into fake totem poles and Eskimo dolls and sold back to Alaskans as souvenirs to be sold to the tourists on the cruise ships.

The waters of Silver Bay have turned a putrid coffee color from the toxic effluent, while Sitka Spruce on surrounding slopes are dying from the salt-laden steam from the mill. Not to mention the countless clearcuts and roads which support the existence of this behemoth. Efforts by the state Department of Environmental Conservation to force the Alaska Pulp Corporation to comply with air and water quality standards, and to toughen fines for non-compliance, have been limp-wristed at best. We are demanding hearings here in Sitka to force the DEC to adopt more realistic standards and toughen fines for non-compliance.

Any folks interested in keeping up on happenings in the 50th state can contact me at the address below.

—Michael Lewis, 105 Cedar Bench Rd., Sitka, AK 99835

—Editor's note: Mike is now an Alaska contact for EF!

continued on page 17

Readers concerned about the status of allocated funds for additions to National Forest lands can write to: Assistant Secretary Dunlop, Agriculture Dept., Wash., DC 20250. Environmentalists may want to contact Forest Service offices in their area to see that funds for purchase of new lands are being properly administered. Persons wishing to commend White Mountain National Forest officials for opposing Dunlop and encourage them to preserve their new lands in as wild a condition as possible can write: Forest Supervisor, WMNF, POB 638, Laconia, NH 03247.

BEYOND BOUNDARIES

An Ecosystem Conference

by George Wuerthner

Mapping out an ecosystem approach to natural system preservation and recovery was the theme of a one-day conference, "Beyond Boundaries: Saving Whole Ecosystems," attended by several hundred people November 15 at the University of Colorado, Boulder campus. Speakers — including Reed Noss, Mike Figgs, Tony Povilitis, Kirk Cunningham, Dave Hallock, myself and others — presented a diversity of concepts, developing the rationale for such an ecosystem program and explaining examples of how such an approach might be implemented.

Speakers agreed that our present approaches to natural system preservation are inadequate and that existing boundaries are based upon survey lines instead of biological needs. Most Wilderness Areas are set aside for their recreational potential and as a result are mostly rocks and ice high country — scenic, but missing ecologically diverse areas such as lowlands, and areas lacking spectacular scenery. National Parks such as Yellowstone and Rocky Mountain were created decades ago, before anyone imagined the land around them would be settled and long before many people realized the need to preserve ecosystems. Despite progress we have made in understanding the importance of an ecosystem approach to land use, even the newest parks ignore this knowledge, as witnessed by the creation of a Great Basin National Park in Nevada whose 75,000-acre size is not nearly sufficient to protect a wide range of plant and animal communities.

Conference speakers called for a substantial revision of our present conservation efforts to go "beyond boundaries" and save entire ecosystems. To counter the tendency to label ecosystem preservation as radical, I reminded participants that preservation of isolated remnants of our nation's biological heritage is a very conservative concept. In a sense, what are radical are the actions of public and private agencies, companies and individuals who promote the nearly total alteration of our natural ecosystems.

As an illustration of this radicalism I presented examples of how logging, grazing and other developed uses of the public lands are supported by the dominant management policies. These policies thereby support fragmentation of wildlife populations and communities. One glaring example is the almost complete dominion livestock grazing has on western landscapes. Most of the non-developed private land in the West is devoted to ranching and farming. Few public lands are excluded from domestic stock grazing. Nearly 90% of all BLM lands and 69% of all western Forest Service lands are under grazing lease and these include the most productive areas such as riparian zones, and lowlands.

One might believe that at least wildlife refuges are sanctuaries for native species, but among large western National Wildlife Refuges — including Red Rock Lakes, Charles M. Russell, Hart Mountain (National Antelope Refuge), Malheur, and Charles Sheldon — cattle grazing is often the dominant use and continues to be despite much documentation correlating impacts on wildlife with continued livestock operations. Grazing is also allowed in Wilderness Areas, and even some National Parks (Capitol Reef in Utah) and National Monuments (Saguaro in Arizona). Is there any place devoted exclusively to the preservation of fully functioning natural landscapes with all elements present — including wildfires, a complete array of native predators, and a diversity of original landscapes? I suggested that there are few if any examples.

Reed Noss provided many specific examples of the consequences of fragmentation and the scientific basis for conservation. Noss noted that many birds and small mammals avoid open areas and refuse to cross roads. Road construction — a major factor in the fragmentation process — and the loss of riparian zones and other critical



Ecocenters and Corridors.

habitat isolate organisms into smaller and smaller populations.

One problem with this fragmentation, according to Noss, is what biologists call the "island syndrome." Natural populations experience random fluctuations due to a variety of causes including disease, changes in climate, and alterations in habitat suitability. Small habitat fragments are less likely than larger areas to be recolonized since they present a smaller target to migrations and random travels of potential colonists. Plus, the farther an island is from the main land or other potential emigration zones, the fewer the species that will reach it.

I suggested that it would improve conservation goals if preservation proposals were given in terms of miles rather than acres. Even our largest proposals are small in total miles. For example, Yellowstone National Park, one of the largest preserves in the West at 2.2 million acres, represents an area approximately 60 miles long by 50 miles wide. In cars we can cross this entire preserve in an hour; and a Grizzly or Elk can do the same in a few days.

Conference speakers all presented variations on a similar formula for establishing ecosystem preserves. Large existing or potentially large natural areas are selected as cores or ecocenters. In the West, the use of proposed and established Wildernesses, National Wildlife Refuges, and National Parks offers several advantages. First, these areas have already been selected for special management consideration, and changing management to favor ecosystem goals should be easier in a refuge or park than on intensively developed public land. Second, these areas are usually the least damaged ecologically. Wilderness designation is not necessary to preserve an ecosystem, but it is a favored status.

After identifying a core area, the next step is to identify all important habitat components surrounding the ecocenter and to work toward their preservation by enlargement of boundaries, establishment of buffer zones, and development of wildlife recovery areas.

As an example of a local approach, Dave Hallock of the Boulder County Open Space Council explained how a volunteer group called the Boulder County Nature Association had located and surveyed remnant plant com-

munities such as tall grass prairie and willow carrs, as well as identified critical wildlife habitat such as Golden Eagle nest sites and Elk migration routes within the county. The group has presented their findings to the county planning office, which uses them to select areas for preservation through purchase or conservation easements. Hallock said it has been the experience of Boulder that a high quality natural environment attracts companies, countering claims that preservation of patches of wildlife habitat discourages businesses from locating in a community.

Another important component of most ecosystem proposals is closure of non-essential transportation corridors. I used an example from Idaho's Clearwater National Forest where large roadless areas in the North Fork of the Clearwater and Lochsa river drainages, several in excess of 250,000 acres, are separated by four seasonally open dirt roads. Closing these roads would unite these fragmented roadless areas into one large roadless complex. I reasoned that we often close roads for wildlife reasons, so we ought to do so to create large roadless expanses.

In order to prevent loss of species due to genetic isolation, travel corridors would be developed so flora and fauna could move freely between ecocenters. In essence, a series of large islands of natural wildlife communities would be interconnected by corridors and smaller protected units, so a mosaic is formed. Private lands intermixed with public lands could be purchased or obtained through conservation easements, and development on those lands not obtainable controlled by zoning. Mike Figgs reviewed how the New Jersey pine barrens and Adirondack State Park in New York achieved their goals by use of these methods.

Speakers emphasized that native wildlife species eliminated or reduced in numbers should be reintroduced. For example, Kirk Cunningham presented a slide show on a BLM program where Beaver are used to rehabilitate riparian zones decimated by livestock grazing. The Beaver are reintroduced and fed if natural food is lacking. When a Beaver constructs a dam, it sets in motion a chain of events including the stabilization of stream banks, a rise in the water table, colonization of riparian areas by

water loving species such as willow, and eventual creation of a wet meadow complex.

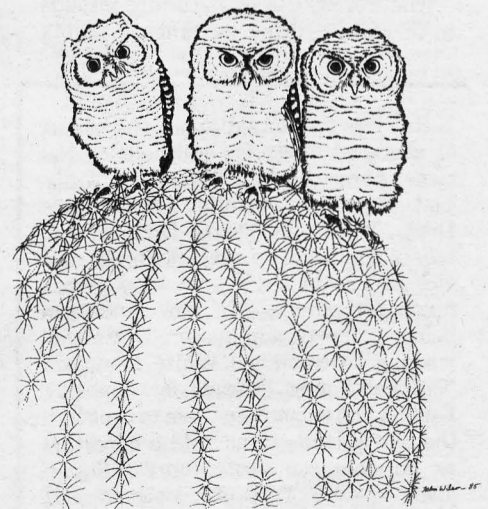
Reed set the tone for state-wide planning by presenting a Florida ecosystem proposal which utilizes riparian and upland corridors to link several large natural southern Florida preserves including the Everglades with coastal and upland natural areas in the northern portion of the state. Among groups working to implement the plan is the Nature Conservancy, which has made several key land purchases.

Mike Figgs of Colorado presented a state-wide ecosystem plan which called for linking the Pawnee and Comanche National Grasslands with the foothills of the Rockies, then protecting habitat and corridors all the way into the alpine zone. Figgs suggested that Rocky Mountain National Park could be expanded to include the foothills, as envisioned by Enos Mills, the first promoter of the park. In addition, Figgs believes that the existing designated Wilderness Areas as well as key adjacent roadless areas in the San Juan Mountains could be combined into an 800,000 acre Wilderness forming a minimum core area large enough to sustain reintroduction of Grizzly Bears. Then this San Juan area would be connected to the Sangre de Cristo Range and eventually the Comanche Grasslands through a series of corridors.

Using slides, I gave participants an overview of regions in the West where an ecosystem approach could be implemented. As envisioned, ecocenters would be established where large acreage of primarily uninhabited public land exists. Although Wilderness classification is the best land use classification, not all the public lands within these large ecocenters need be Wilderness. Nevertheless, within the boundaries of both large and small designated zones, land uses would have to strictly conform to the goal of preserving natural ecological functions. Thus livestock grazing would be curtailed, areas previously logged would be allowed to revegetate, wildfires allowed to burn, predators reintroduced, and roads closed. Private inholdings would be acquired if possible, or protected through conservation easements.

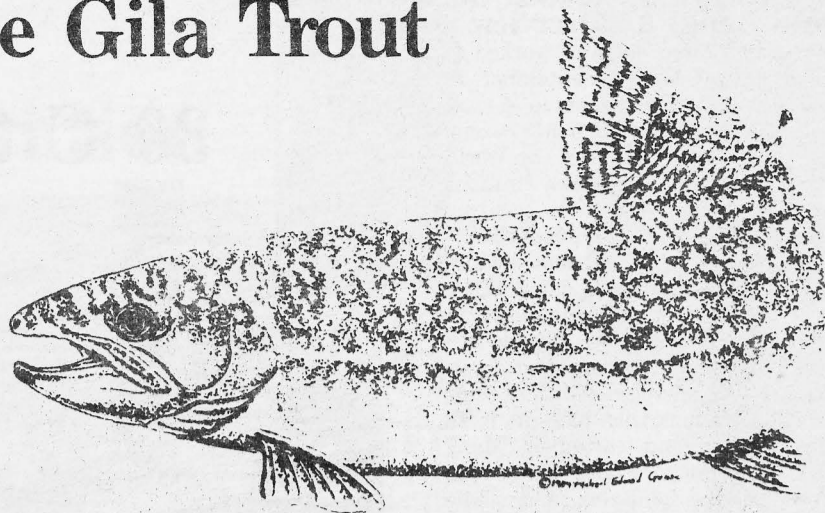
The areas I selected as ecocenters are either designated Wilderness Areas, National Parks, or areas proposed for such classification. Among these areas are the Central Idaho Wilderness complex, the Missouri River/Charles Russell/Bitter Creek complex, Yellowstone Ecosystem, Owyhee/Steens Mountain region of eastern Oregon, Siskiyou in northern California and southern Oregon, Sierras/Mohave Desert of California, Sonoran Desert in Arizona, Gila Wilderness/Blue Range Primitive Area on the Arizona/New Mexico border, and the San Juan Mountains/Canyonland complex in Colorado and Utah. Each of these large ecocenters could feasibly be interconnected to others by smaller protected zones such as the many smaller Wilderness Areas proposed or existing between these "stepping stones" of habitat.

Most conference participants felt these ideas would not come about overnight, but were long-term projects. Nevertheless, no one seemed to believe they were impossible dreams, for many of the key roadless areas exist, the knowledge needed to justify such a land program is available, and there is a growing realization that present preservation schemes are too fragmented and seldom consider how each part fits into the whole.



Restoring The Gila Trout

by Robert Tafanelli



ECOCENTER COMPLEXES

1. Olympic Peninsula
2. North Cascades complex
3. Rainier/Adams/St. Helens complex
4. Oregon Cascades
5. Siskiyou Mountains
6. Blue Mountain complex
7. Hells Canyon/Wallowa complex
8. Hart/Steens/Sheldon/Owyhee complex
9. Yolla-Bolly/Trinity Alps complex
10. Sierras
11. Mohave Desert
12. Sonoran Desert complex
13. Grand Canyon/Escalante/Canyonlands complex
14. Gila/Blue Range complex
15. Hatchet/Chiricahua complex
16. San Juan/San Luis complex
17. Uinta/Yampa/Green complex
18. Great Basin Divide complex
19. Deep Creek/Snake Range/House Range/Salt Lake complex
20. Greater Yellowstone complex
21. Central Idaho complex
22. North Fork Clearwater complex
23. Glacier/Bob Marshall/Front complex
24. Missouri/CMR/Bitter Creek complex
25. Cypress Hills (Canada)
26. Rock Creek/Sapphire/Pintler complex
27. Desert Range complex
28. Selkirk/Salmo-Priest complex
29. Lost River/Lemhi complex
30. Pioneer/White Cloud/Boulder complex
31. Beaverhead/Centennial Divide complex
32. San Gabriel/San Bernardino complex
33. Sangre De Cristo complex

Earth First! organizers of the conference produced the following statement.
COLORADO ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION PROJECT

The continuing loss of wildlife habitat in Colorado to competing land uses is of great concern. At stake is the diversity and abundance of our native wildlife populations, and related aesthetic, recreational, economic, and cultural values for Colorado citizens and visitors. The Colorado Ecosystem Conservation Project (CECP) is intended to promote an ecologically-sound balance of land uses that can insure the conservation of Colorado's biological resources in perpetuity.

CECP's goals are to:

1. Identify major land units (ecosystems) that can best conserve and restore populations of all native animals and plants.
2. Determine habitat areas within these ecosystems that are important to the conservation of those species faced with significant habitat loss.
3. Develop Ecosystem Conservation Plans that will reflect the need to maintain the land's ability to support wildlife over the long term, as well as the economic well-being of people.

The ecosystems conference has sparked serious interest in preserving and recreating Colorado presettlement style — from the Great Plains to the San Juan Mountains. As a result, the CECP is rolling, powered by a group of inspired eco-conservatives who froth at the mouth at the mere thought of griz, wolf, and countless other species making a return to their past niche in Colorado.

We need people with an interest in their particular bioregions to help with ecosystems identification, research into native flora and fauna, mapping, economics (for the transition to an Earth-centered life-way), planning, fund raising, and more. A second ecosystems conference is planned for southwest Colorado next July, and we would like to spread this idea to other bioregions. If interested and/or willing to assist in this lifelong project, contact: Colorado Ecosystem Conservation Project, POB 416, Boulder, CO 80306.

A participant's special note: During the conference, an EF'er — the Raven — addressing the subversive beauty of ecological approaches to wilderness, raised the question first posed by Chief Seattle in 1857: is humanity yet suffering from the great loneliness of spirit that will befall us when the beasts are gone. As the conference closed, the Raven croaked: "There is no freedom without wilderness, and no wilderness without freedom."

The Gila Trout is a colorful fish once abundant throughout the Gila River drainage in New Mexico. It may have also lived in tributaries of the San Francisco River in New Mexico and of the Gila River in Arizona. Seventy-five to one hundred years ago habitat degradation — from overgrazing, timber operations, mining operations, and forest fires resulting from previous fire suppression practices — began to take its toll on Gila Trout. However, the most severe blow to the species came with the introduction of Rainbow and Brown Trout. The Gila Trout was placed on the Endangered Species list in 1966. In 1970, pure native populations were only found in headwater sections of Iron, McKenna and Spruce Creeks in the Gila Wilderness and Main Diamond and South Diamond Creeks in the Aldo Leopold Wilderness — a total of about 10 miles of stream.

As early as 1923 the plight of the Gila Trout was recognized by the New Mexico Game and Fish Department, when they began raising the fish at the now abandoned Jenks cabin near the mouth of White Creek in the Old Gila Primitive Area. They also established a policy prohibiting stocking of non-native trout into known Gila Trout habitat, by that time a pitifully small area. Not until 1970-72 were the first transplants made, into three restoration streams which had never had trout in them. One of these, Sheep Corral Creek is often intermittent but the Gila Trout continue to thrive in less than one-half mile of stream, although their numbers are low. In McKnight Creek, a much more suitable stream, they are doing well in eight to nine miles of stream. In the third stream, Gap Creek, a tributary of the Verde River in Arizona, water flows are very low but the species is doing well in low numbers.

Formation of the Gila Trout recovery team and completion of the Gila Trout Recovery Plan in 1979 officially launched the recovery of the Gila Trout by four cooperating agencies: US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, New Mexico Department of Fish and Game, and New Mexico State University. The goal was to duplicate good populations of each of the five existing pure strains of Gila Trout.

The first reclamation was initiated in 1981 in a two-mile section of Iron Creek on the north side of the Gila Wilderness. The area selected was below a permanently dry section which formed a natural barrier to upstream migration of exotic Brown Trout and protected a one-mile section of stream containing pure Gila Trout. The first step in the reclamation was to build a barrier in a narrow, rocky section of Iron Creek two miles below the natural barrier. The artificial barrier, constructed by the Forest Service of native rock and concrete, stands eight feet high. The difficult task of construction involved local collection of tons of rock. Since the barrier is located six miles inside the Gila Wilderness all other materials had to be hauled in with pack animals.

After the barrier was completed, the exotic Brown Trout were removed using antimycin which in proper concentrations will cause suffocation of the trout, but not significantly affect the aquatic invertebrates. As the water passed over the barrier it was detoxified to prevent killing of fish downstream. About 40 Gila Trout were removed from the area prior to application of the fish toxicant and held above the natural barrier. They were returned to the stream after detoxification and some probably survived. Additional trips were made in 1982 and 83 checking the stream to be sure all exotic trout were gone. The sampling indicated a very abundant aquatic invertebrate population.

The stream was finally restocked with 105 Gila Trout from above the natural barrier in 1984. The fish were captured using a battery operated backpack electroshocker providing minimal D.C. current to immobilize the fish. Because of the difficulty of getting pack animals into the upper reaches of Iron Creek the fish were carried by bucket up to two miles and dispersed in the stream below the natural barrier.

When the fish were checked in 1985, reproduction had occurred and they

were found to be in good condition, probably because of the excellent population of aquatic invertebrates which built up during the time the stream was nearly devoid of fish. An additional 51 Gila Trout were stocked into the area from above the natural barrier in 1985. Because of the high elevation of the stream, about 9000 feet, the water is cold and this is expected to result in slow growth; but the prognosis is good. Some reintroduced Gila Trout had already reached 10-13 inches by 1985.

In 1982 a barrier similar to the one in Iron Creek was constructed by the Forest Service in Little Creek and a four mile section of stream was cleared of Brown Trout and Gila x Rainbow hybrids. Three months later the stream was found to be clear of exotic trout, so 100 pure Gila Trout from McKenna Creek were stocked in December, 1982. Because of the distance between the two streams the decision was made to transport the fish via helicopter, paid for by the Forest Service, which required a special permit since both streams are within the Wilderness boundary. The helicopter was not permitted to land in either location so the fish were carried in a special box suspended beneath the helicopter.

Another small fish, the Speckled Dace, also naturally found in Little Creek, could provide an additional food source for the Gila Trout. When the Gila Trout were checked in 1984 they were doing well and some had grown to 11 inches. The 6000 foot elevation of Little Creek produces warm water and could encourage a good growth rate for Gila Trout.

In 1984 Brown Trout and Gila x Rainbow hybrids were removed from a 1.25 mile headwater section of Big Dry Creek above a 40 foot waterfall which forms a natural barrier. In late 1985, 97 Gila Trout were transplanted from Spruce Creek using pack animals carrying 5-10 fish per pannier. All the fish arrived safely. Big Dry Creek will probably be the best Gila Trout habitat in the Gila Wilderness. The area is characterized by steep, rugged canyons with nearly 4000 feet of relief from mountain tops to the bottom five miles away.

Currently, plans are being made for an additional transplant, with the headwaters of the East Fork of Mogollon Creek the most likely candidate. The headwaters of this stream are deep within the Gila Wilderness about 15 miles from the nearest road. Planning will involve an initial survey of the stream to determine exotic trout populations, length of desirable stream, flow rates, etc. A second trip will be required to chemically remove the exotic trout (since a natural barrier exists, the building of an artificial barrier will not be required). Later a third trip will determine the effectiveness of trout removal and if no exotic trout are found a fourth trip will be made to restock the stream with natural Gila Trout.

If all the transplants are successful, the first phase of the recovery — to duplicate the five existing native populations of Gila Trout — will have been completed. There has been some opposition to the restoration plan by the public, particularly trout fishermen. Their concern is that some prime trout fishing habitat is being closed and sport fish replaced with non-sport fish. However, the ultimate plan of the agencies is to remove the fish from the Endangered list. If the transplants are all successful, it is possible the fish could be down-listed to Threatened in the next 2-3 years. At that time, the New Mexico

Game and Fish Department could open a limited fishing season in streams which would sustain a managed fishery.

Long range plans call for continued transplants and reclamation of Gila Trout habitat, hopefully throughout the Gila Wilderness and beyond. The magnitude of this restoration effort in additional streams will depend somewhat on fishermen's acceptance of this native species. There will still be numerous other streams containing Brown, Rainbow and Cutthroat Trout regardless of the extent of the restoration program.

Hidden within this potential success story lies the ever present potential for disaster. A careless or malicious individual could reverse this restoration process by simply throwing a few Brown Trout or (worse) Rainbow Trout from below one of the barriers up into the Gila Trout habitat. The Brown Trout might out compete the Gila Trout; the Rainbow Trout would interbreed and destroy the pure strains of Gila Trout. As of now, the status of the Gila Trout is considerably better than it was in 1973 at the passage of the Endangered Species Act; however, its status for the foreseeable future remains precarious.

Bob Tafanelli is a zoologist living in New Mexico.

LETTERS (cont)

Yo EF'ers,

Earth First! will be organizing this winter in North Central Washington. Besides the usual abundance of local issues, there are many major wildlands battles to be fought in the region. In the Okanogan National Forest and northern part of the Wenatchee National Forest (an area bounded roughly by the Pasayten Wilderness on the North, the Wenatchee River on the south, the Columbia River on the east, and the Cascade Crest on the west), almost 1 million roadless acres lie unprotected, with one tract totaling over 300,000 acres. This area, along with other large roadless areas to the west and south, is under siege by miners, clearcutters, road-builders, ORVers and welfare grazers. The damns on the Columbia and other rivers; the Mountain Caribou and the Kettle Range; the North Cascades highway and the struggling Griz population are all issues which we should confront. Also, let's not forget the Spotted Owl, and the endangered lands in our bio-region north of the border. In the coming months we'll develop a visionary North and Central Cascades/Canada Wilderness plan, identifying issues, generating publicity for Big Wilderness and plotting direct action in defense of threatened wildlands. To be part of any of the above, contact Fred E. Foiler, POB 3566, Wenatchee, WA 98801.

— Fred

continued on page 26



Day of Protests Against the World Bank: An Overview

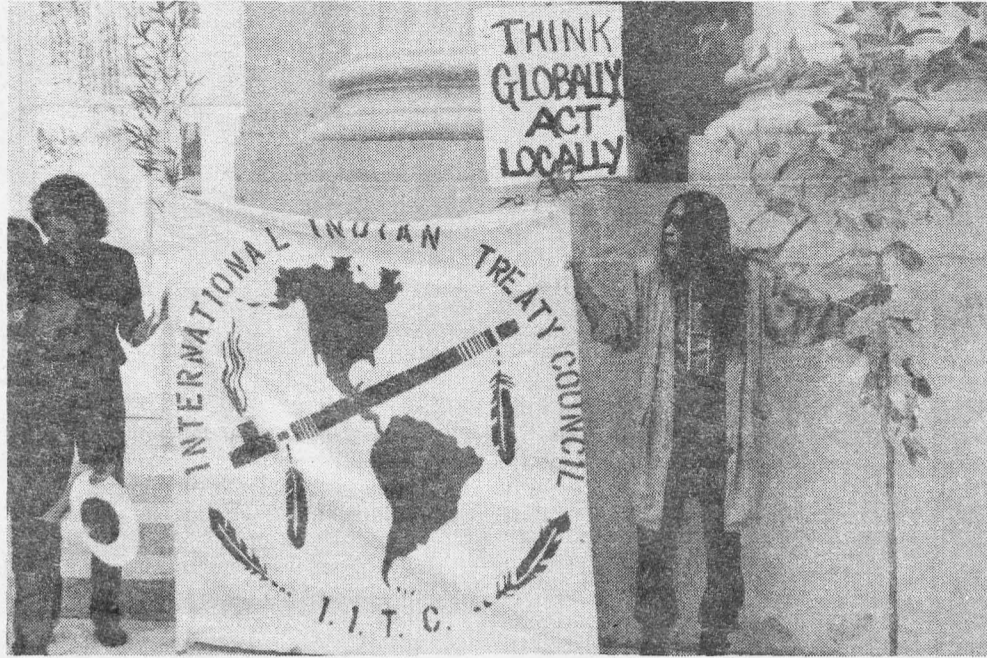
Our Earth First! network worked as well as it ever has on September 30 when activists staged events in at least 30 cities in the US and in 5 other countries, protesting the role of the World Bank in rainforest destruction. Petitions were circulated, letters were written, cities proclaimed "Rainforest Week," banners were hung, and demonstrators hit the streets with the opening of the World Bank annual meeting in Washington, DC. A large rally in DC, which included many international participants, was mirrored in other cities by demonstrations that brought forth street theater and costumes. Many other environmental and indigenous peoples' groups joined us, and media coverage was extensive. Activities ranged from a 1-person picket, to a 200 plus person rowdy demonstration, to the banner hanging at the World Bank headquarters in DC. The effort of everyone working together added up to a much stronger impact than any one group could have. Everyone is to be lauded for their participation. (See Rainforest Action Network supplement in last issue of *EF!* for more information.)

We have elevated the consciousness of many people on the World Bank issue and put it on the agenda of other environmental organizations. The World Bank is on the front burner and we'll keep the flame turned up high.

Protests against World Bank occurred in the following places:

Sebastopol, San Francisco, Santa Cruz, Santa Barbara, Chico, Los Angeles, San Diego, Mammoth, and Arcata, CA; Boulder, CO; Pettigrew, AR; Tucson and Phoenix, AZ; Boston, MA; Bozeman and Missoula, MT; Albuquerque, NM; Setauket, NY; Novelty, OH; Portland and Eugene, OR; Tacoma and Seattle, WA; Marquette, MI; Springfield, MO; Japan; Australia; England; West Germany; and Denmark. Groups participating included Earth First!, Rainforest Action Network, Greenpeace and the International Indian Treaty Council.

30 Cities, 5 Countries in September



San Francisco, California. Photo by Bill Haber.



San Francisco, California. Photo by Bill Haber.



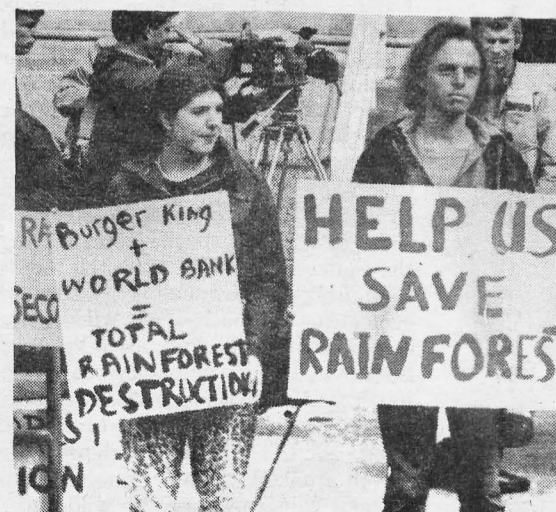
Albuquerque, New Mexico.



Arcata, California. Photo by Darryl Cherney.

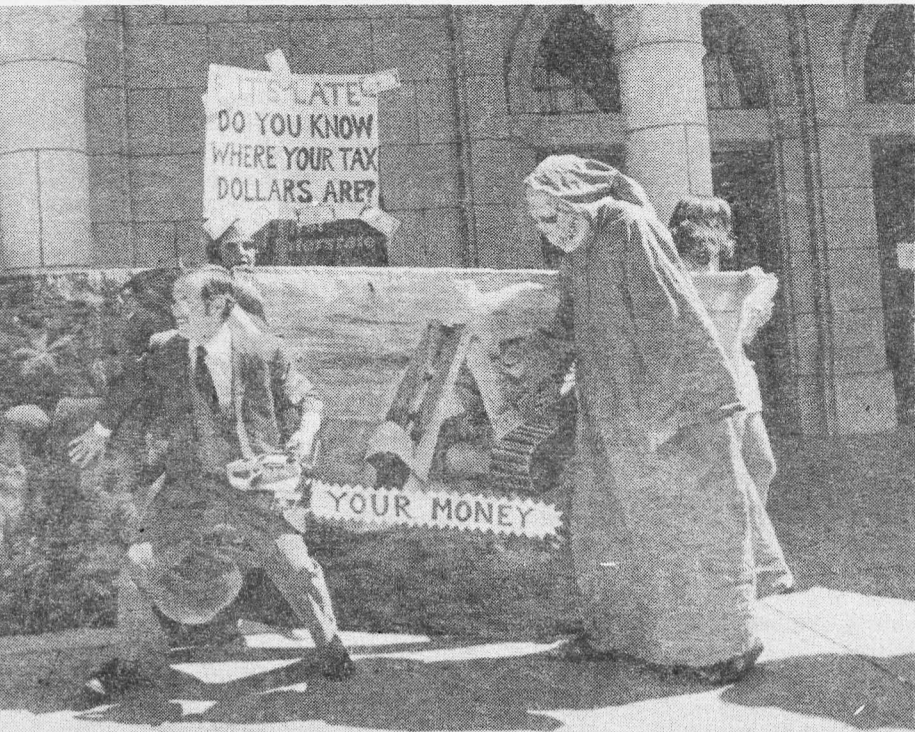


Tucson, Arizona. Photo by Jim Veomett.

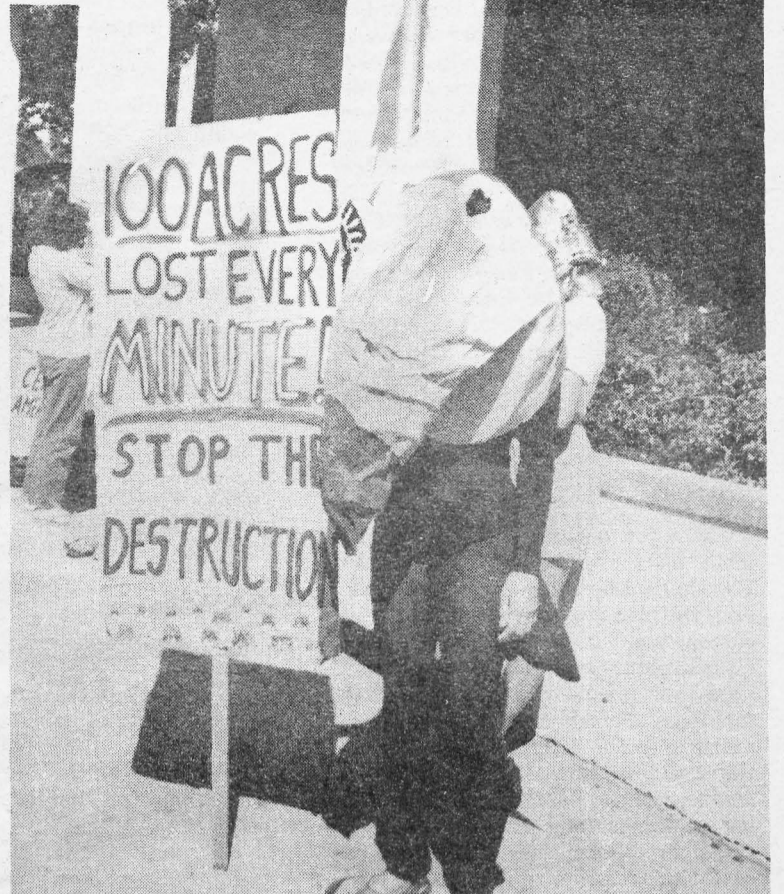


Missoula, Montana. Photo by Grant

30th World Bank Demonstration



Tucson, Arizona. Photo by Jim Veomett.



San Francisco, California. Photo by Bill Haber.



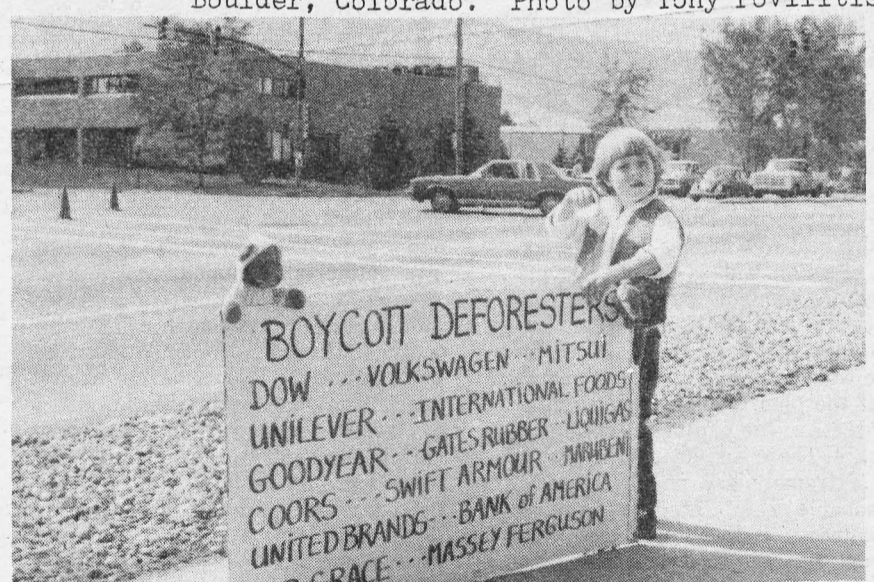
Austin, Texas.



Boulder, Colorado. Photo by Tony Povilitis.



Mammoth Lake, California.



Boulder, Colorado. Photo by Tony Povilitis.



Photo by Sasek/Montana Kaimin.

Photo by Janice Wilson.



Los Angeles, California.

Vision for the Florida Panther

The following letter by Reed Noss, sent to the US Fish & Wildlife Service, is a review of the Technical Draft of the revised Florida Panther Recovery Plan. The draft was officially released Oct. 30, 1986, and comments were due by Dec. 12. A revision will be published, probably in 1987. Readers wishing to support ambitious measures to save the Florida Panther may wish to write David Wesley (address below); and Col. Bob Brantley, Exec. Director, Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, FL 32301. Reed Noss is currently completing his PhD in ecology at the University of Florida, Gainesville, and is a regular contributor to these pages as well as one of the leading ecological visionaries.

To: David Wesley, US Fish & Wildlife Service, 2747 Art Museum Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32207.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Revision of the Florida Panther Recovery Plan. In general, the plan is a good summary of the current state of knowledge about the Florida panther. I could not locate any significant factual errors. The plan suffers from a fundamental problem, however. Given the evidence presented on the steady decline of this magnificent animal, the symbol of Florida's vanishing wilderness and perhaps the most endangered subspecies of mammal on earth, the reader might expect a bold new approach to this crisis. Instead, the plan offers nothing beyond the current "status quo" approach to panther recovery, a strategy that is failing miserably.

I will urge, in these comments, that a much more ambitious recovery strategy be launched on behalf of the panther. If the panther currently existed as a minimum viable population, with viability assured at least in the short term, then a cautious continuation of the current strategy might be justified. We could afford, under such circumstances, to give the current strategy time to prove itself. But such is not the case. With continuing degradation both of present panther habitat in south Florida and of habitat in potential reintroduction sites in north Florida, combined with the high mortality and dismal health status of surviving panthers, we have an emergency that demands an innovative and radical (by prevailing standards) solution.

Certainly an extreme problem demands an extreme solution. The panther cannot afford the luxury of more research on its health, genetics, prey base, habitat, and its reintroduction program without concomitant, radical changes in land use in the last few areas where it survives. As a scientist, I appreciate the need for more research, but such research cannot be at the expense of action. This is one of those unfortunately common situations in conservation where we simply cannot afford to wait until all the data are in before we act decisively. The Introduction of the plan realistically describes the threats to the panther's continuing existence. These well-known threats include extremely low population size, questionable genetic integrity, diseases and parasites, reduced prey base, and above all, the increased presence of humans in panther habitat. That the remainder of the plan does not reflect the urgency of these threats is a serious incongruity.

The survival and recovery of the Florida panther will depend upon the rapid implementation of a strategy much more ambitious than what is recommended in this draft of the recovery plan. The remainder of my comments will address specific issues in the plan, with suggestions for improvements.

ROADS AND VEHICLES

One category of human impacts stands above all others in explaining both the historic demise of the Florida panther and the most immediate threats to its survival in the wild: roads and off-road vehicle use. In many sections of the plan, the direct and indirect threats posed by roads and vehicle access are discussed. As noted (p.15), "the panther is essentially a wilderness animal, incapable of existing in close proximity to people." On the same page it is noted that "roads are being built through areas occupied by panthers and more are anticipated," and "off-road ve-



hicle traffic is increasing and opening up large areas of public lands that formerly had been isolated wilderness." Simply put, vehicles are incompatible with wilderness, and thus, with survival of the panther.

With such a clear relationship between vehicles and panther survival, there is one obvious solution: close roads and prohibit all off-road vehicles in panther habitat. Yet the plan fails to make this logical proposal. Instead, the section on protecting panthers from vehicular traffic discusses warning signs and reflectors, speed lights, emergency veterinary aid for injured panthers, a protocol for handling dead panthers, and physical alterations of the roadway. While such measures might decrease slightly the number of panthers killed by vehicles, there is no assurance that mortality will be reduced significantly. Furthermore, these compromise measures fail to address the most insidious threat posed by roads and off-road vehicle trails: access. As long as panther habitat is readily accessible to humans, it is reasonable to expect that the panther population will continue to decline.

Extensive radio-telemetry studies in Arizona and Utah (Van Dyke et al., 1986; *J. Wildl. Manage.* 50: 95-102 and 102-9) have demonstrated that individual *Felis concolor* avoid roads (especially hard-surfaced and improved dirt roads) whenever possible. Established resident lions, and young that ultimately became residents, selected home areas with lower than average road density, no recent timber sales, and few or no sites of human residence. The authors concluded that "areas where there is continuing, concentrated human presence or residence are essentially lost to the Lion population, even if there is little impact on the habitat itself." The evidence that Florida panthers readily use oil roads and trams as travel lanes and routinely cross highways certainly should not be interpreted as evidence that roads are not a problem for panthers. Obviously panthers cross roads because their habitat has been so roaded that they have no other choice. Evidence for direct mortality (e.g., 10 panthers known to have been hit by vehicles between 1980 and 1985) and indirect mortality (loss of panthers to poachers), along with disturbance related to secondary development along roads, suggests that nothing less than total elimination of vehicles from panther habitat is necessary.

Considering the evidence discussed above, I recommend that the Recovery Plan call for total closure of SR 84 (Alligator Alley) and SR 29 through presently occupied panther habitat, with relocation of all human residents who rely on vehicles in this area. Although the Recovery Plan follows the familiar assumption that "upgrading" of Alligator Alley to I-75, with wildlife underpasses, will eliminate panther-vehicle conflicts, I see no reason for such optimism. Just one of the problems that has been ignored with this assumption is the impacts of I-75 construction on panther habitat-use patterns. Furthermore, Big Cypress National Preserve

and other public lands in this area should be closed to off-road vehicle use. Problems with the panther's prey base, undoubtedly related to over-hunting of deer would be significantly reduced if vehicle access to these areas were eliminated.

These policies may not be popular in some sectors, but I question whether the purpose of an endangered species recovery plan is to pursue only what is politically popular. Considering the general enthusiasm of the Florida public for protecting their "state mammal," I suspect that many people would support road-closings and vehicle access restrictions if they were properly educated about the dangers that roads and vehicles pose to panthers.

REINTRODUCTION PROGRAM

I was disappointed with the superficial coverage of this crucial element of the recovery plan, and suggest that discussion be expanded in the revision. Although not identified in the plan, everyone involved in the panther issue recognizes that the two most likely sites for reintroduction in the near future are the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge-Osceola National Forest complex (if connected by purchase of the Pinhook Swamp corridor), and the Appalachian NF. Not as widely appreciated is the fact that major changes in management of these two sites must take place before panthers could be successfully reintroduced into either of them.

The recently-completed Land and Resource Management Plan for the National Forests in Florida is a disaster for conservation of biological diversity in Florida and, if implemented, would effectively preclude successful reintroduction of panthers. In brief, the plan calls for vastly increased timber production which will involve intensive silviculture, more roads, more people, more machines, and less wilderness. The Forest Service ignored the potential for panther reintroduction in its plan, but that is no excuse for the Florida Panther Recovery Plan to ignore the National Forests. I strongly urge that all parties in the Florida Panther Interagency Committee begin negotiations with the FS immediately to assure that the Land and Resource Management Plan is modified substantially to allow reintroduction of panthers. One obvious recommendation is to close all roads within vast core areas of each National Forest. The Land and Resource Management Plan is currently being appealed in court by several environmental groups. I suggest that the Florida Panther Committee investigate these appeals and become involved in them.

My other concern about the reintroduction program relates to the captive-breeding program. A cautious approach to release of captive-bred offspring containing genes from a non-endangered subspecies, as developed in the plan, is appropriate. But it should be made clear that subspecific hybrid individuals may prove very important in bolstering the genetic variation of the panther population in Florida. Research to determine the existing level of genetic variation and the extent of inbreeding depression in Florida panth-

ers should be expedited. If it is demonstrated that Florida panthers are suffering from inbreeding depression and low levels of genetic variation resulting from genetic drift, which I anticipate, then introducing genes from closely-related subspecies in the captive breeding program has obvious merits. The plan is (implicitly) overly cautious about disruption of local adaptations or intrinsic coadaptations of gene complexes in the Florida population through outbreeding with other subspecies. As Templeton has recently discussed (1986, pp.115-6 in Soule, *Conservation Biology: The Science of Scarcity and Diversity*), outbreeding depression is likely to be only a temporary phenomenon, rapidly eliminated by natural selection and often resulting ultimately in increased fitness. Please give more attention to genetics and the outbreeding strategy in the revision of the Recovery Plan.

Many other factors related to panther reintroduction strategies were neglected in the Recovery Plan. The several reports submitted by John Eisenberg and colleagues to the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission should be discussed, as should the report that I submitted to the Florida Panther Technical Advisory Council (Noss, 1985. *Land-scape considerations in reintroducing and maintaining the Florida panther: design of appropriate preserve networks*). Hopefully, these deficiencies will be corrected in the revised Recovery Plan.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Habitat manipulation, including clear-cutting, selective thinning and food plots to enhance deer populations, does not seem to be the most prudent approach to the prey base problem. Such manipulations require the presence of vehicles, humans, chainsaws, etc., all of which are potential disturbances to panthers. Prescribed burning and other techniques designed to mimic the natural disturbance regime would be preferable under most circumstances. Similarly, release of additional feral hogs (pp.49-50), an alien species that has known negative impacts on native ground flora and fauna, is not consistent with the ecosystem approach to endangered species management, as stressed in the Endangered Species Act. The most prudent solution to the prey base problem is probably a combination of natural or quasi-natural disturbances to maintain browse for deer, combined with strict limitations on access (no roads or ORVs), which would effectively preclude over-hunting.

The plan gives proper attention to the importance of private lands to the panther population. More discussion should be given to the issue of corridors, zoning, easements, etc., much of which I discussed in my report cited above. Also, there should be an acquisition plan to purchase the most critical of these private lands.

The plan also is correct in emphasizing the importance of public attitudes and the need for a comprehensive public education program concerning the panther and its habitat requirements. As noted above, the panther's need for large roadless areas is perhaps the most important fact that should be stressed in any educational program.

One major oversight of the Recovery Plan is the failure to discuss the proposal to change the listing of the panther as an endangered subspecies (*Felis concolor coryi*), to listing all eastern populations of *Felis concolor* as endangered. This change is necessary to allow flexibility in genetic management (e.g. outbreeding) of the panther.

CONCLUSIONS

The Plan in its present form is unambitious and lacking in many important details. As such, it is unlikely to lead to successful recovery of the Florida panther. One immediate requirement is a thorough minimum viable population (MVP) analysis, which I was surprised not to see in this document. What sets the lower limit to panther population viability: genetic stochasticity? environmental stochasticity or deterministic degradation of habitat? demographic stochasticity? Research to answer these questions must be expedited. The proposed cumulative impact model is a good idea, but we cannot wait for the results of simulations to start implementing major changes in land use. In general, when there is uncertainty

Still Wanting a Match

by Jim Marotta-Jaenecke

While it's nice to be criticized by someone concerned about the health of forests for a change (instead of about board feet of lumber consumed by fire or the aesthetics of fire-blackened forests), I stand by my original article on prescribed fire in National Parks. While fire is often misused when the goal of burning is not to return a forest to a more natural condition, the National Park Service has used fire well. Let me elaborate on why I think Mr. Fritz's condemnation of prescribed fire is wrong.

Fritz asks several questions that, contrary to his opinion, have not been shunned but have been answered well as they apply to Sierra forests. How often did lightning burn in Sequoia/mixed conifer forests in the Sierra? In-depth studies of tree rings with fire scars show that fires in Sequoia groves of Sequoia National Park have historically occurred every 8-18 years. Recent studies on the perimeter of Yosemite's Mariposa Grove indicate even greater fire frequency, at least to the edges of the grove, with fires burning through the area every 5-12 years.

For other Sierra forest types, the fire-scar records show fire frequencies of 5-12 years for Ponderosa Pine/mixed conifer, 50-100 years for Red Fir, 150-200 years for Lodgepole Pine (Rocky Mountain Lodgepole fires may be more frequent), and 20-40 years for chaparral.

Contrary to Mr. Fritz's assertion that most studies on fire ecology have been timber industry or US Forest Service spawned, the major studies on Sequoia fire frequency, at least, have been conducted by the National Park Service; which is not in the business of growing certain species of trees for profit, but rather, is in the business of keeping ecosystems healthy and Parks available to the public. Admittedly, Park ecosystems have often lost in the conflict resulting from the NPS view that the two goals must be balanced against each other (ecosystems vs. tourists), but fire managers have fought hard against a misinformed public to gain acceptance of fire. Other than the research done by the NPS itself, most recent research relied upon by the NPS has been and is being conducted by botany departments of universities — not generally the lackeys of lumber interests.

Fritz also claims that the Park Service burns most often in winter when lightning seldom strikes, thus confounding the natural fire adaptations of organisms of the burn area. In Yosemite and Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Parks, it would not usually be possible to burn in winter even if the NPS wanted to try. Most areas over 4000 feet in elevation (i.e., most of the Park lands and all of the Sequoia groves) are under several feet of snow in winter. Lightning in the Sierra strikes most often between June and mid-September, often starting fires where snows have melted and forests have dried out. Such fires historically burned until fall or winter rains put them out.

about a population's requirement for survival, the most prudent course is the correct course. Prudence, of course, must be defined not in terms of economics or other human concerns, but in terms of what is truly endangered: in this case, the Florida panther and its wilderness home.

In conclusion, I recommend that the revision of the Florida Panther Recovery Plan be much more ambitious and emphasize:

- 1) re-creating large roadless areas (wilderness) in the present range of the panther in south Florida, with off-road vehicle use and other access strictly limited;
- 2) restoring wilderness character to large tracts of public land (i.e., National Forests) in north Florida, as an essential element of a panther reintroduction strategy;
- 3) completing an MVP analysis, including an investigation of the current level of genetic variation in Florida panthers, and an optimal outbreeding strategy;
- 4) listing all eastern populations of *Felis concolor* as endangered.

Sincerely,
Reed F. Noss, Ecologist

The NPS in Yosemite and Sequoia/Kings does most of its burning in the late summer and fall — the same times that fires have traditionally burned in California's forests. For the past 8 years in Yosemite, an average of 2,630 acres per year has been prescribed-burned. More than 95% of those acres were burned between August and November. With tens of thousands of acres of the more than 780,000 acre Yosemite Park currently in a managed-fire zone, it will take a while before areas are burned a second time. Park Service fire managers hope to reburn every 10-20 years in the mixed conifer areas of greatest concern, but they aren't optimistic about keeping up with that schedule. Historic fire frequencies are unlikely to be met, contrary to Fritz's belief that NPS burners like to set forests ablaze every 2-5 years.

Fritz also asks how often key species, including Sequoias, need a good seed-crop year. With a tree that lives 2000 years, it might take a long period of study to determine exactly, and the answer would depend on what is defined by "need." Is it the need of a "forester" who wants to rotate lumber-producing trees (outside Parks) for maximum yield? Is it the minimum need of a tree-species to maintain its population? Is it the forest ecosystem's need to maintain species diversity and energy flow? The answers will be different in each case. Rather than grappling with such questions, why not assume that nature knows best — that tree species historically thriving in areas prone to natural fires did well in having a seed-crop year (in the case of Sequoias and others dependent on fire for seed-crop years) whenever fires burned through their forests?

Another question Fritz raises is what the species compositions of the forests were before the arrival of humans (Native American or European, he doesn't specify). There is considerable evidence to show what forests were like in the mid-to-late 19th century when California was being explored and settled by whites: There are early photographs; descriptions by botanists, naturalists, and explorers; ancient trees still standing; ancient logs and stumps on the ground; and knowledge of forest successional stages which allow extrapolation backward from the current scene. If Fritz wants to wait for more definite evidence, the wait might be for a long while. Time travel is not just around the corner, as far as I know, and other evidence isn't getting any fresher.

Meanwhile, the forests continue to change toward more shade-tolerance, disease fecundity, nutrient deficiency, and wildfire hazard. If understory species around such notable trees as Sequoias are hand removed for fire protection while more definite information on the past is discovered, which some have suggested as a burning alternative, considerable damage to diversity and species composition may be done to the forests. Chainsaws, McCloud hoes, and the subjective judgment of people have not been forces of nature to which western forests have adapted over time. Fire has been.

Contrary to Fritz's assumption, fire does not benefit only timber species. Black Oaks and other hardwoods, Knobcone Pines and chaparral species are despised by some in the Forest Service and timber industry precisely because they take up room of which lumber-producers could make "better" use. Such plants depend on fire for seed crops or to thin out the more shade-tolerant conifers.

Fritz also implies that the NPS forces fires through areas that wouldn't burn naturally. In Sierra Parks that I best

know, fires are never forced anywhere, but are allowed to roam where fuel and moisture conditions permit, leaving forest islands and pockets unburned.

Fritz is right, to a point, in suggesting that the NPS artificially starts fires. Drip torches are not natural ignition sources, of course, and they do start fires that might not have occurred in the same places at the same times naturally (similar places and similar times within a few years, yes, but not identical). But in trying to bring fuel levels down nearer to natural ones, and at the same time keeping natural wildfires from raging through currently fuel-filled forests during extreme burning conditions, unnatural ignition sources must be used to produce fires during mild fire weather.

The alternative of allowing all natural fires to burn in all areas under all conditions is not acceptable to most members of the public and would exact a heavy (perhaps temporary) toll on the wildlife and ecosystems of the forests. The other alternative of suppressing all natural fires except those occurring under mild fire weather will not create the needed frequency of fire to mimic natural fires of old, and will not bring fuel loads down quickly enough to reverse damage being done, now, by decades of fire suppression.

Humans have relied on bulldozers, aerial bombers, chainsaws, and shovels to unnaturally extinguish natural fires for much of the past century. Roads, human development, budgets, tourist-industry pressure, and other unnatural limitations have kept fires — prescribed or otherwise — from becoming as large as historical fires were naturally. Until fuel levels are reduced to the point that natural fires burning during extreme conditions will behave like the relatively mild natural fires of old, artificial ignition seems a necessary, if painful, compromise on the ideal.

Fritz criticizes the Park Service for burning in Big Thicket National Preserve and in closed-canopy hardwood-pine forests of the South, stating that the latter forest types are not fire dependent. I am not familiar with these areas, but it is axiomatic that if NPS can get fires to burn in those forests, then there must be enough dry fuel on the ground during those times of the year to carry a fire. All that is needed for fire to occur there naturally is a natural ignition source. Lightning does occur in the summer in many of those areas, so it seems likely that fires have been a natural ecological force at work in such forests.

Climax temperate forest communities are rare in nature. Perhaps the species composition of such a forest does not depend on fire for its continued existence (a debatable assumption). However, that is not to say that the ecology of the forest does not depend on fire to create a mosaic of forest types in various stages of succession which are the bases for diversity and stability of forest ecosystems. Allowing forests to mature, completely and unnaturally, to climax communities of White Fir and Incense Cedar, for instance, where a mixed-conifer forest once stood, harms wildlife that can't utilize White Fir or Incense Cedar for food or habitat. Artificial climax forests are like agricultural mono- or bi-cultures — unstable and nearly sterile relative to the natural situation.

Lastly, Fritz suggests that prescribed fire advocates in the Park Service want to burn forests to create jobs. Wow! What a great idea! If we could get all the unemployed, able-bodied citi-

zens of our country at work restoring fire in a conscientious way to our National Parks and National Forests, we could reverse a great deal of the damage the last century of fire suppression has caused. Natural frequencies of fire could be met. After a couple of fires, fuels would be reduced in many areas to the point that natural fires could take over.

Alas, I suspect it's just an empty dream. Yosemite seasonally employs six prescribed-fire technicians during the burning season, which hasn't created a major job lobby. And, if fuel levels in all the country's forests were reduced to natural levels, there would be much less demand for firefighters in the summer and fewer jobs than ever.

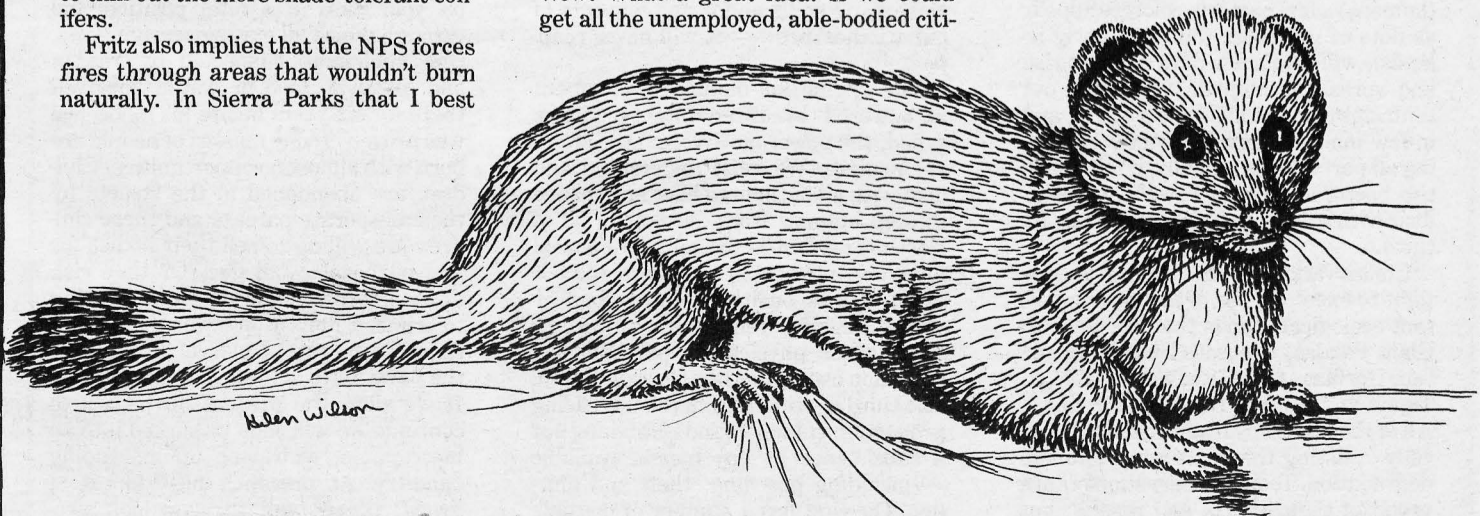
Keep the fires burning. Last summer, bureaucrats in urban Regional Offices knee-jerked to a vocal and misinformed public minority and stopped all Sierra National Park burns, leaving the non-bureaucrats of the Service — the people in the field — pacing the forests in frustration. Most of an autumn with the best burn weather in a decade passed before the ban on fires in non-Sequoia areas was lifted. The burn ban for Sequoia groves remains while the trees stand waiting for the long missed heat of long absent fires.

Jim Marotta-Jaenecke — a California writer and ecologist — wrote this in response to a letter from Ned Fritz and to Ned's article in our Yule issue responding to Jim's earlier article on prescribed fire in the Sierra.

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Islands to Islands to Dust

by Tom Stoddard

This is the tale of how we came from a few islands of human settlement in a vast howling wilderness a few thousand years ago to our current desperate situation of trying to save a few shrinking islands of wilderness.

Only a few minutes ago, in geological time, humans appeared. Their remains date at not more than 4 million years ago. The earliest living things appeared on Earth over 3 billion years ago, or almost 1000 times earlier than humans. In recent times, in the Paleolithic and Neolithic periods, between five and forty thousand years ago, the Han Pao people of China, the Anatolian of the Eastern Mediterranean and the Armenian of the Tigris and Euphrates Valleys created a few isolated societies and settlements in the wilderness.

A few thousand years ago these villages grew into the cities of the ancient world — Alexandria, Athens, Xian, Delhi and Rome. The largest housed a few hundred thousand souls. These were the islands of 2500 years ago. Only a few roads and sea routes connected them and some were linked only by occasional adventurers. The best known example is Marco Polo, who made his famous China trip only 700 years ago. Until a few hundred years ago, the civilized islands were separated by deserts, steppes, swamps, mountains, forests, rivers, and oceans. Only 100 years ago, adventurers were pressing into unknown reaches of Africa. These early islands were small by the modern standards of Sao Paulo (8,493,598), Mexico City (9,373,353), Bombay (8,227,332), Calcutta (9,165,650), Cairo (5,074,016), Tokyo (8,340,177), New York (7,071,639), Shanghai (11,859,748), London (6,851,400) and Los Angeles (2,966,763).

From these islands of 2500 years ago the blanks began to fill with man's works — the new farms, factories, dams, wax museums, pee-wee golf courses, highways, and other artificial products of our modern lifestyle. What were once islands are today spreading conflagrations of humanity and like Los Angeles and Mexico City, they are engulfing everything in their cancerous path. Whatever beauty once brought people to L.A. has long since vanished. Imagine 100 years ago the mountain-top beauty of Mexico City, or Manhattan Island bordered by the Hudson and East Rivers, or L.A. overlooking the pristine Pacific. Today they are concrete, asphalt, and plastic hellholes — an affront to nature where only coughing humans and wheezing sparrows live. Some have wonderfully incongruous names like Buenos Aires (good air) from their island past. L.A., because of its need for water, has spread its desolation hundreds of miles to drain lakes and once verdant valleys, creating the ugly brown haze that has become its hallmark. And L.A. is considered a rose garden compared with New Delhi, Sao Paulo, Cleveland, Shanghai and Cairo.

There is an inexorable process taking place that is bringing all areas under the heel of man. Cities reach higher to block the sun with skyscrapers. Suburbs spread into farmland. Farms reach out to exploit narrower valleys, terrace steeper hillsides and denude forests. This mad process will bring all Nature under man's dominion until we have developed everything. I think of the process in terms of Earth being a huge petri dish: after being exposed to air (humans) a few bacteria colonies appear as dots of gray fuzz (humans' early islands), which in a few days begin to rise and spread as mounds, and send out tentacles (the world a century ago), and in few more days make a network joining all parts (today); finally, if left alone, the bacteria colonies cover the entire dish with rotten gray fuzz (the near future).

Conservationists in the meantime fight to exempt a few of the most important ecological islands that are home to Giant Pandas, Creosote Bushes, Mountain Gorillas, Giant Redwoods, Bengal Tigers and Stream Bank Spider Lilies. All of them are tiny fragile islands heroically resisting the onslaught of human degradation. Today conservationists are proud of their efforts and results, but

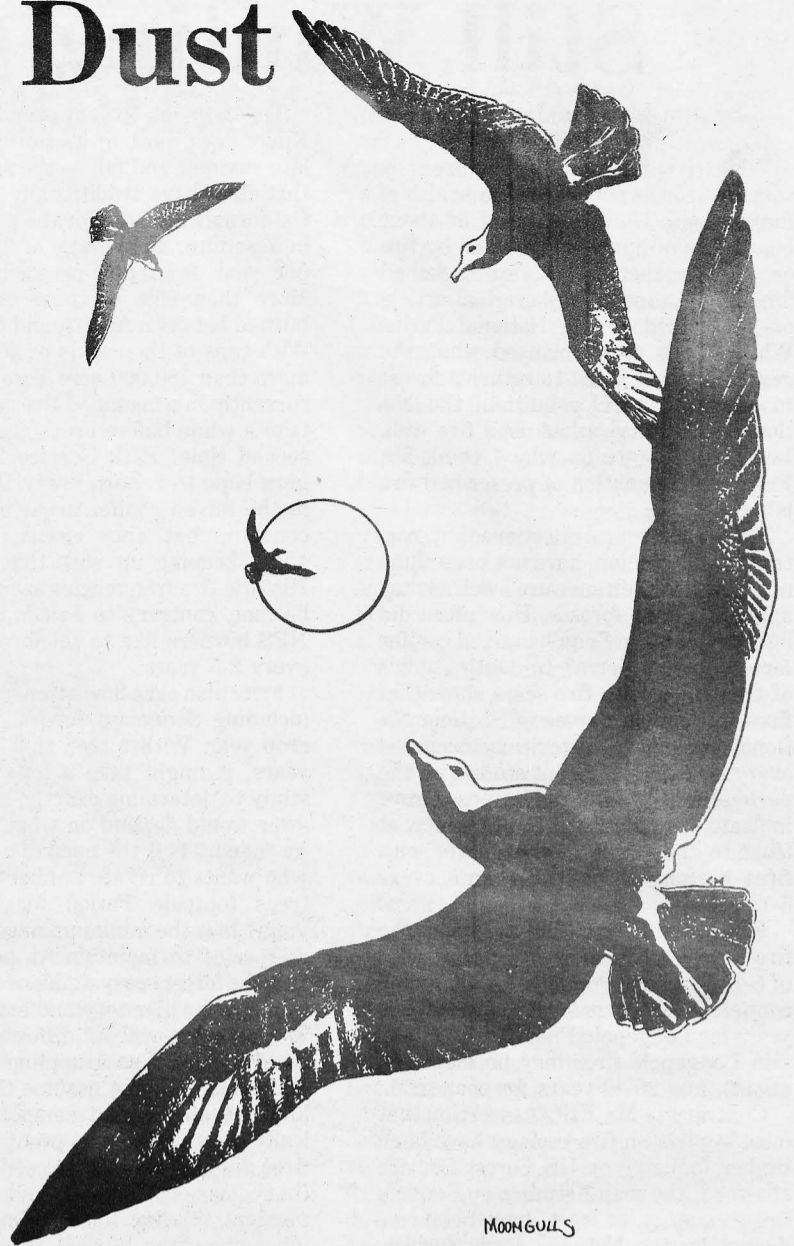
they delude themselves in thinking that battles are being won. What if 50 years from now we've saved the starving Ethiopians and Latin Americans and they've had their eight children per couple? When there are 10-20 billion humans befouling Earth, the real battle will begin.

When only islands of conservation remain, the developers, churches, humanists, unions, politicians, manufacturers and all forces who hold conservation to be a nuisance will turn on conservationists and their island preserves and devour them both. Today, what I call the humanist crowd (dedicated to human needs as the highest good), can shrug off conservationists' efforts to preserve a particular area or species. They could allow conservationists victory after victory without disrupting their present activity, but already they howl when disrupted. Yet they know that when they need to invade the islands of conservation they will meet weak and fragmented opposition. All they need do is ask "what is more important, a human or a snail darter?" Few humans will choose the Snail Darter. The humanist crowd is currently too busy raping the cities, suburbs and countryside to combine their forces and push conservationists aside. Yet they know they can do it any time in the future.

Imagine 20 years from now the Ecumenical Council — with all the forces of the Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish Churches — demanding from politicians the edge of the Golden Gate Headlands to build condos for the disadvantaged. The unions, contractors, developers and suppliers will plead for jobs and human needs. The politicians will succumb and the rush will be on to develop that island. Or imagine the Boys Club needing a piece of Yellowstone Park for a recreation center because theirs was lost to a new office building. The police, athletic leagues, Scouts, President's Fitness Council, recreation departments and other youth oriented groups will stampede over each other to snatch this "small" piece of "unused land" for such a "worthwhile" cause. At the juncture of almost complete human development of Earth, when only small preserves remain undeveloped, the humanist mob — aligned together to develop them — will become irresistible. Already it is difficult to protect the preserve islands from those greedy to exploit them. The inexorable march is already on.

We need a new perspective on the battle to save the rest of Earth from the spreading rotten gray fuzz of humanity. No wilderness is far enough away to resist human encroachment. None is safer than the vacant lot next to your home, or a hillside afflicted with condo creep, or an area paved to make a new animal-spattering lane on the freeway. The battle is everywhere and all the time. When we see a vacant lot being asphalted, a new factory rising, or any other human construction, we must see it as a battle being lost. We are seeing the inexorable process of the human population expanding and with each human wanting a bigger slice of the gray fuzz. All human construction pushes the battle line closer to the islands of wilderness. There is no essential difference between a Disneyland in the Yosemite Valley and condo creep afflicting local hillsides. Some would argue that condo creep has already arrived at Yosemite. When any island of preservation disappears — into the morass of air pollution, toxic wastes, oil spills and other contents of our witches' brew — it will never reappear.

The engine for human development is powered by three mighty forces: greed, the power motive, and the survival instinct. We must understand and deal with all of them to have any chance to stop humans from developing all of Earth. The first is the entrepreneurial force driving most of us toward success at our job or business. The second involves seeking religious, political or some other physical or psychological dominion over other humans and Earth. The third is evident from the increasing proportion of humankind scratching out a subsistence by any means available — including poaching, theft and murder. The first has a number of possible



CHRISTOPH MANGES

MOONGULLS

solutions. Some deep ecologists believe living on roots and herbs in the wilderness and only taking a small amount from Earth will solve the problem. While laudable, it is a solution available to only a limited number of people, not five billion people and their gray fuzz. Limiting the satisfaction of each person's greed to that which they can accumulate from their own efforts would solve much of the problem. Specifically, we should eliminate generational accumulations of wealth — inheritance. There is a large layer of wealthy inheriting families all over the world who keep rolling development forward because they have been programmed for it by their families and are provided with princely amounts of seed money. Often, they enjoy self-serving tax laws they've written for themselves to avoid paying taxes.

Fighting the power motive is difficult. It means convincing political, religious, union and other leaders they could do better ruling fewer people. Unless they're up to their buns in a sea of people, like China, they're likely to want more people to control. They seek more members so as to gain more income and power.

Finally is the survival force, with which each of us is born. We all have an overwhelming drive to keep ourselves alive with food, shelter and covering. The history of humanity is plastered with tales of the danger and depravity that humans will endure to survive. In Warwick Castle in England is a subterranean dungeon furnished with instruments of torture and a set of extremely degrading cells, below which is another cell where you can only lie on your side in a fetal position and through which all exiting sewage flows. One nobleman, suspected of treason and given no food or water, survived there for six years before his innocence was proven. Today masses of people are born with almost no opportunities. Children are abandoned in the streets by their desperate parents and these children are willing to sell their bodies for any purpose to survive. Or they risk dismemberment and death by turning to crime. I don't wonder at the world's rising crime rate; I marvel at how well the haves have held the hopeless at bay. If we allow the present birth pace to continue we will soon be sucked into an inescapable whirlpool of marauding banditry. At present, these forces of greed, power, and survival look awe-

some, irresistible, and inevitable.

The only reason these forces do not overwhelm every scrap of wilderness at present is because they do not need to. When the need arises their forces will materialize. Very few conservationists put wilderness and wildlife ahead of human needs. Few humans even give biocentric notions any thought; and most who do, consider such notions villainous. Most biocentrists I've met belong to Earth First! or Greenpeace. Most humans concerned with conservation consider wildlife conservation a way to enrich the human experience. For instance, many conservationists have forgotten about wildlife to become panhandlers for human victims of the drought gripping equatorial Africa. And note the total absence of discussion in the popular press about wildlife and wilderness devastation resulting from and contributing to the famine. Note that nearly every conservation article and plea for support offers a humanist reason why we should respond. For example, we should save the Brazilian rainforest because it has so many undiscovered plant species and one may hold the key to an athlete's foot cure. If all the plants were discovered, presumably we could safely remove the rainforest. Sad dementia.

The choice is clear. Either we have enough humans or we need more. I say we need fewer. We need more wilderness and wildlife. But my choice means little unless I and others like me can convince many others to join us in the battle. A few minutes at the supermarket checkout watching the boobies buy the *National Enquirer* reveals what a Herculean task that will be. At present, the forces for conservation seem analogous to the virtuous gods of the ancient Viking religion who live in Valhalla and fight heroically against the forces of evil, but are ultimately overwhelmed and fall in defeat. I do not see any way conservationists will win; the forces of doom and evil are too powerful. We must continue to fight anyway.

If we do not, our islands will shrink to nothing. We will scratch out a garbage existence in a barren wasteland. We will watch the swirling dust of desertification; smell the dust of air pollution; taste the dust of acid rain and befouled water; and feel toxic wastes and nuclear power turning all of us to dust.

We need more radical conservationists to save our islands.

Tom Stoddard is a regular contributor to these pages.

On the Death of Dian Fossey

by Jeff Poniewaz

The day after Christmas, 1985, Dian Fossey was found with her face split by a machete. Dian Fossey, guardian angel of the few wild Mountain Gorillas left on Earth — murdered by poachers in Rwanda. [ed. note: Some Rwanda authorities now claim the murder was committed by a former assistant of Fossey]. 1985 was a bad year for eco-guardian angels trying to enlighten the human animal. The Greenpeace *Rainbow Warrior* was blown up and sunk in New Zealand, killing a crew person, the day before Thoreau's birthday in July.

The Space Shuttle disaster was billed as a great tragedy and filled the front page, but the death of Dian Fossey, though buried in a small news item, was a much greater loss to Earth than those unlucky seven. Now who will take Dian Fossey's place; who will hold back the human tidal wave from the Gorillas' last wild habitat, already pushed so high up the mountains they're coming down with pneumonia?

A month and a half after it happened, I found the Death of Dian Fossey resurrected in *People* magazine as I was killing time paging through it in a supermarket check-out line. I was shocked to learn Dian Fossey was a chain smoker — the photo of her in *People* faces an

"Alive with Pleasure" cigarette ad. Laughing lovers in a breakfast cereal ad face the photo of Dian Fossey's fresh-dug grave ringed with stones among the Gorilla graves.

People would have us believe Dian was asking for it. True, she once held a poacher's child captive until that poacher returned the Gorilla child he kidnapped for zoos after murdering that Gorilla child's parents. But only human centrism makes that tactic (which succeeded) seem "vigilante" or wrong. There are billions of humans, and only a handful of Gorillas left. I understand her so-called harshness toward poachers. In 1977 her most beloved and famous Gorilla, Digit, and his whole family were massacred by poachers angry over Fossey's interference.

She had come to prefer being among the gentle Gorillas to being among humans. To her, they had more dignity. Rare are the humans — e.g. Thoreau, Jeffers — who could attain such profound sympathy with, and even preference for, non-human beings. Innocent of the jaded charades of civilization, these primates were to Dian Fossey wiser beings than their larger-brained evolutionary cousins.

When the gawky California girl went to establish her Gorilla observation station in Rwanda in 1967, she initially suf-

fered a feeling of isolation she called "the astronaut blues." But the society of Gorillas soon banished feelings of loneliness. Singlehandedly she overthrew the King Kong myth of Gorillas as terrifying monsters and showed them to be shy and intelligent vegetarians who prefer flight to confrontation, unless their children are threatened.

British wildlife biologist Ian Redmond said, "Dian Fossey was to gorillas what Greenpeace is to the whales." There should be a Dian Fossey for each endangered species, 100 for some. Just as the rainforests need 1000 John Muirs. Unless we speak out to save the other lifeforms from the genocidal Nazism of humancentric blindness, we are like the Germans who tried not to notice the disappearing Jews.

Dian Fossey, the Gorillas' last-chance antidote to Fay Wray, is gone now, her gentle face cleft by a machete. Literally by a machete, and figuratively by the machete of overpopulation that is wiping out the wilderness of Africa the way the broad-axe wiped out the forests of Europe and America. Individually we humans might be nice, but cumulatively we are murdering the Earth. The Pope, preaching against birth control on his 1980 tour of Africa, put a machete through the face of Dian Fossey the day after Christmas, 1985.

It is the human animal that climbs the Empire buildings of the world, endangered species struggling like Fay Wray in our inhumane opposable-thumb grasp. We are King Kong, not the Gorilla. If there is such a thing as "The Beast of Revelation," it's us swarms of humans. The overpopulating human animal is the "rough beast slouching toward Bethlehem to be born" that Yeats prophesied. Cummings called it "that busy monster manunkind."

If God were a giant Gorilla instead of organized religion's Godzilla, his huge hand would tenderly carry us down from our Empire skyscrapers scraping the pure blue from the sky we breathe, and set us down gently in the Garden of Eden, where we and the rest of creation could live together in peace.

The human species is the science fiction monster of creation, not the peace-loving Gorilla, nor even the ravenous shark. Nor could any invasion from outer space surpass in cruelty the human invasion of Earth and its nuclear nightmare extrapolation. In the little time we have before it's too late (if it's not too late already), may we emerge from some chrysalis of enlightenment as some less virulent form of life.

Jeff Poniewaz is a Milwaukee poet, author of Dolphin Leaping in the Milky Way. He urges you to read Dian Fossey's Gorillas in the Mist, published in 1983 and available in paperback from Houghton Mifflin.

The Measure of the Struggle

by Lone Wolf Circles

I thought for awhile to be lonely. To weigh the spirit of truth against contrivance, relationships lost, irrevocable decisions. Weighing the results and rewards. Of my pulling my art out of the prostitute galleries to better devote myself to my message. To the Earth.

Will yours be a middle ground, a placation, a satisfaction that allows you to relax, then quit trying? The "best possible compromise?" Mine will most certainly be pain and ecstasy, alternately, insuring in either case my most vigorous response.

Do you choose ideas like lifestyles, total city or total wilderness, that contrast like black and white? Or ride the marginal zone, stay within ideas like suburbs, a mixing, a greying? For this artist there is no grey on the pallet of life, no static resolution, only color and feeling differentiated on my many walks about.

Many truths are painful. All are wordless, beyond semantics. They are deeper than the surface layer in which man intellectualizes, fitting everything he experiences into a conceptual box, into a digestible vocabulary. I walk to leave words behind. To tap the female energies of wind and water, washing them away. My certainty is a black walnut tossed into the river. I follow it with my eyes until, where the sun's glare blinds me, it becomes light. There went the lyrics, but I continue after the melody.

All day long I walked, touched, felt, smelled the diverse aromas of nature. Pushing sensitive artist's fingertips into the canyons and valleys of roots and treebark. These are the senses modern man would abandon. I absorb the magic he would deny, a gift of the wilderness which he would destroy in his greed.

Touching a stillwarm Bobcat track is like touching the cat. I can sense the bonding. And, next to the tracks, rotting: purple grapes!

A vine clinging precariously on a cliff edge. Each vine bears fruit only every so many years, so that they blossom in rarefied air. And then, their perfect round bodies turn to the sun only a short while before drying down to the seed, or being swallowed by the birds and animals who covet them. They are only really sweet for a couple days, right before falling to the ground. Such was my luck, I could scramble from one wet glistening rock face to the next, clinging like these vines, eating the very last and the very sweetest. The harder to get to, the bigger and better the grapes. On a sheer face was a prickly cholla cactus, and cradled in its toxic spines were the fattest, sweetest, rarest of grapes. It was only at the farthest limits of my courage, my abilities, my strength —

pricked by thorns 70 feet above the boulders below, that I was awarded the best. No other day of the year, no other situation would do right then.

I have at other times strolled through the unchallenging rows in cultivated vineyards, lazily sampling this kind and that kind of easily accessible grape. Like social humans in their social world, I could, without being in any way brave, talented, special — gorge myself. Disin-

terested, I ramble off, leaving this baited simplicity behind. Searching out instead, the wild, diverse, and challenging.

It is through our struggle for Mother Earth that we are made worthy of her, not by the weight of our successes. So, with the barest of handholds, loosened rocks plummeting below, I face the protective arms of the cactus, taste that special reward I must prove to deserve:

the best.

Through it all, thousand year old cliff art figures watch my personal triumph and my latest lesson. My sliding descent.

At the bottom, I press my hand once again into the Bobcat track. It is cooler now, but we still feel our sacred connection. Once freed of thought, I see once again, that we are never alone.

I love you all. . . .

Range Conversion

by Le Chat Noir

What does the term "Range Conversion" mean to you? If it sounds like a religious experience someone might have while cooking a mess of home fries, born-again-in-the-kitchen so to speak, then you're not far off base.

With the zeal of missionaries bringing the word to heathens, range "scientists" are busy justifying the annihilation of certain ecosystems. This holy war is being fought with chainsaws, bulldozers, chains, torches, poison, and, like all wars, lots of propaganda. An entire vocabulary of pejoratives surrounds these efforts at biocide: the Junipers are "invading"; Mesquite trees are "weeds"; Cheatgrass is an "alien" etc. . . . This rangespeak bears as much relation to science as the rantings of the new right evangelists bear to philosophy and logic.

The truth is much more painful. In many cases, these plants have become established where land abuse, usually overgrazing, destroyed existing com-

munities. Thankfully, many of the migrants, such as Mesquite, are nitrogen fixers. They help rebuild soils which have been robbed of their nutrients. The new species hold soil in place, thus preventing further damage.

In addition to causing these changes, we have also systematically selected for woody species through fire suppression. Once upon a time, native grasses provided enough fuel to carry hot fires and burn out woody seedlings. Now, due to the combination of overgrazing and firefighting, this is no longer the case. If invading hordes of aliens are taking over, then Smokey the Bear is really Ghengis Khan, and Woodsy Owl is Attila the Hun. These "good old boys" are leading the charge.

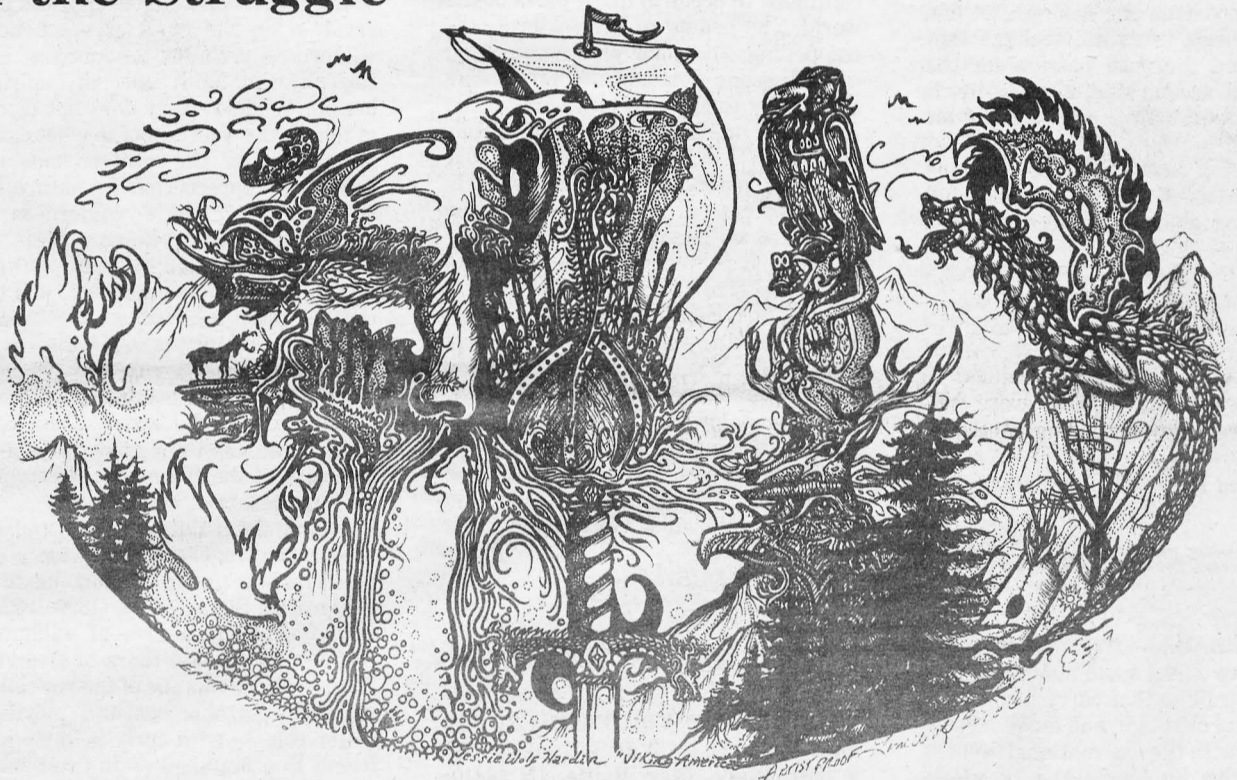
There is now substantial evidence that at least some of the changes that have been observed are due to climatic fluctuations. The so-called Little Ice-Age, which lasted for over 500 years, ended just prior to the turn of the century. There has been a warming in the climate of the Northern Hemisphere

since then. The colder period had more stable weather patterns beneficial to certain grasses and forbs. The warmer period has resulted in increased variability of precipitation which benefits many of the woody species.

As with many of our racial and religious prejudices, then, the victims are largely innocent scapegoats for the inadequacies of the real culprits: greedy livestock producers and ignorant managers. They are working as hard as ever to turn all western public lands into denuded feedlots. And like all good colonialists they do not hesitate to use the tools of death to get the locals down on their knees.

Tebuthiuron is an extremely persistent, highly soluble, and viciously toxic biocide which inhibits photosynthesis in all green plants. Applied indiscriminately (anyone who thinks it will be used any other way is living in a fool's paradise), it can completely denude a landscape. This is now the poison of choice in the war against Mesquite and Juniper. The *Journal of Range Management*, which should more appropriately be termed the *Journal of Chemical Ex-*

continued on page 25



REVIEWS

FULL CIRCLE: The Vision of Lone Wolf Circles; a cassette tape available from EF! in Tucson.

When talking of Lone Wolf Circles' recent tape, *Full Circle*, the key word seems to be "vision." In one of his more stimulating poems presented on the collection he offers,

... gazing out of dark caves in the Mother Earth
out over crackling fires, to the rivers and mountains,
where eyesight fails and vision takes over."

With Wolf, vision has indeed taken over. His tape is a gathering of poetry, mixed with songs of the Earth and music from several fine musicians. The instrumentation is tastefully done, while the sound effects, nature's music, flow through the entire thing like a web linking it all together. And for the most part it works, adding a special touch to this very special work.

Wolf's words touch deeply. They come from his own reservoir of soul, and can strike a familiar chord with those who are close to the Mother. His voice, a whispering wave of power and passion, can both soothe and stir, setting a mood that is at one moment peaceful, the next strong and compelling. And there is even humor, perhaps not in what he says, but how he says it.

Side one is on a very personal level, very mellow; a string of images and dreamlike visions stir a forgotten life, lost memories in us all, feelings that are plucked to rouse passion for the Earth. The second side, my favorite, is more inspirational; a call to arms for Ma Earth.

When Wolf says, "Get up, put good starlight to use," there's no doubt what he's talking about — especially when he adds:

Get up, stalk the destructive machines,
sweet notes from your flute-wrench.
I find myself raising my fist and lettin'
loose a howl! And when he demands:
Let our action be our prayer,
Tierra Prima! Earth First!
all I can say is "yes, Wolf, the time is now!"

Reviewed by Walkin' Jim Stoltz.



can understand the basic conflicts and beliefs that motivate the characters. These can be understood at many levels, but the lasting impression is of a spiritual and humanistic tragedy that continues to occur in many parts of the world. The beauty of the wilderness is compelling; the color and composition of each scene demonstrate Kurosawa's sensitivity to the role of a place in the story that unfolds. The dialogue is Russian, with English subtitles — a fact no doubt partly responsible for its limited success in the US. Still, it was acclaimed by movie critics around the world, and is well worth the effort to see, or to show!

The film is currently available for rent from Films Incorporated, 440 Park Ave South, NY, NY 10016 (1-800-223-6246). The rental fee is \$200, which price comes with limitations on charging admission. Arranging a showing through a college film series or local organization or local EF! chapter would be good ways to make this film more widely appreciated.

Reviewed by Brian Carter.

DERSU UZALA — THE HUNTER

There are only a small number of feature-length films that carry a solid environmental message, and fewer still by a director with the international reputation of Akira Kurosawa, the Japanese film maker best known for *The Seven Samurai* and, most recently, *Ran*. But *Dersu Uzala*, a joint production by Russia and Japan released in 1975, is a classic that expresses the value of friendship, native culture, and environmental respect.

Filmed in the vast wilderness of Siberia, the story recounts the experience of a Russian military officer sent with a small group of men to begin surveying and mapping the northern country. There they meet Dersu Uzala, an old man of oriental descent who has spent his life in the forest. They hire him as a guide and soon begin to recognize how deeply he understands the wilderness that has been his home, a place where the Russian soldiers are complete strangers.

Like a "deer in the forest," Dersu is innocent of ulterior motives, and though not fully understanding the implication of the Russians' work, he repeatedly helps them and saves them from disaster. They, in turn, come to respect him and to understand how every action of Dersu is in harmony with the natural order. But civilization is already encroaching — first in the form of bands of men engaged in political conflict who bring war to the forests. Dersu eventually begins to feel the loss of his finely-tuned senses to age. The Russian officer, now a close friend, brings Dersu to the city to live with the officer's family and to provide a home where Dersu can safely enjoy his remaining years. But he still hasn't understood Dersu's deep bond to his natural home, and the result is tragic.

The story is told simply and subtly, and will mean the most to those who

WILDERNESS VISIONARIES; Jim Dale Vickery; 1986; ICS Books, 1000 E 80th Place, Merrillville, IN 46410; 236 pp.; \$19.95 in US, \$26.95 in Canada, hardback.

Wilderness Visionaries is one of the more enjoyable explorations of the lives of great ecologists ever to appear in print. It is provocative and enjoyable reading not only because it explores the lives of six fascinating and important preservationists, but also because it is written by a wilderness enthusiast who is himself a thinker and ecologist of import.

Vickery's book begins with an account of Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862) and his attitudes toward wilderness. Vickery's description of and quotes from Thoreau make it apparent that Thoreau was one of the first Euro-Americans to appreciate wilderness for its own sake. While Thoreau was closely linked to Ralph Waldo Emerson and the transcendentalists, in terms of his appreciation for nature, he transcended the transcendentalists. They believed that nature is beautiful but that its value is derivative — it is valuable insofar as it reflects the higher spiritual realm. Thoreau recognized the inherent value of nature; it might be said that Thoreau was the original Euro-American deep ecologist.

If Thoreau was the original deep ecologist, Muir was the original deep ecology activist. Vickery's fascinating comparisons of Muir with Thoreau and with John Burroughs show that Thoreau and Burroughs were inclined toward a more theoretical and less experiential appreciation of nature than was Muir. While Muir (1838-1914) admired Thoreau above almost all other writers, Muir, in a sense, transcended Thoreau by actually learning to feel at home in the wilderness and by actively fighting

for its preservation.

Vickery devotes a short chapter to a wilderness visionary whom many environmental historians overlook — Robert Service. Service, writing in the early 20th century, was perhaps the premier poet of the far North, and inspired many adventurers to seek the wholesome life in the wilds of the Yukon area which Service so invitingly described in his books of poetry. Although Service finished his life in Paris, he considered his eight years in the Yukon the most rewarding part of his life.

Vickery's chapter on Robert Marshall (1902-1939) portrays Marshall as something of a second Muir. Like Muir, Marshall had legendary hiking endurance, loved the wilderness, and fought valiantly on its behalf. For Marshall as for the other visionaries, Vickery succeeds in finding fascinating biographical information rarely if ever before printed. For instance, he notes that Marshall (who hiked in sneakers) once hiked 70 miles in a day, in the midst of a 34 hour spell without sleep, and then went to a meeting. Vickery shows that Marshall was, perhaps, the most important wilderness activist since Muir and one of the first foresters to propose leaving some forests unaltered by humans. Vickery explains the arguments on behalf of wilderness which Marshall made in his classic essay "The Problem of Wilderness" (1930, *Scientific Monthly*) and others of his 104 published articles and books. Most of the arguments Vickery cites are anthropocentric but not materialistic; i.e., Marshall — and the other visionaries in this book — tended to make their pleas for wilderness preservation on the basis of the benefits wilderness provides for humans' mental, physical, and especially spiritual health. While Vickery does not discuss at length the question of to what extent Marshall and the others had deep ecological appreciations for nature, one suspects that these wilderness enthusiasts (at least Thoreau, Muir, and Marshall) truly did appreciate the value of nature apart from humans, and that they so often used spiritual-utilitarian arguments simply because these were the most radical arguments people in their times would accept.

In Vickery's final two chapters he returns home, discussing two of the great travelers of the Boundary Waters area of Minnesota and Ontario. Cal Rutstrom (1895-1982) helped popularize wilderness travel with his widely-read books on how to stay comfortable in the wilderness. Sigurd Olson (1899-1982) inspired in many a love of wilderness through his guided tours of Boundary Waters. Olson was one of the key conservationists of this century, playing a major role — with early help from his friend Bob Marshall — in establishing the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Readers may finish Vickery's book wishing he'd written more. Explorations into the lives of other great friends of the wilderness — e.g., Aldo Leopold, Rosalie Edge, Mary Austin, Rachel Carson — might have made this book even more enjoyable. However, this book is not meant to be a complete overview of US environmental history. (Vickery cites other excellent books — such as Stephen Fox's *John Muir and His Legacy* and Roderick Nash's *Wilderness and the American Mind* — for more complete historical overviews.) *Wilderness Visionaries* is meant to give us a taste of American wild areas and six of the men who loved them most; it is a commendable success in this regard.

Reviewed by Australopithecus

THE POPE AND THE NEW APOCALYPSE: The Holy War Against Family Planning; Stephen D. Mumford; Center for Research on Population and Security, POB 13067, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709; \$6.95 hardback, \$3.95 paper; 1986; 82pp.

The theme of Stephen Mumford's startling new book is that Roman Catholic leaders, in an "unholy alliance" with Protestant fundamentalists and the Reagan Administration, are undermining human population control efforts in the US and abroad. While Mumford may at times overstate his case (such as when he implicates the Vatican in the shaping of the destructive involvement of the US in Vietnam, Lebanon, and Central America . . . ? pp.43-5), he seems correct in accusing the RC hierarchy of being an obstacle to the alleviation of one of the world's fundamental (pun intended) problems — human overpopulation. The strength of Mumford's case against the unholy alliance and the general direction of his thinking is best shown by quoting passages from his important book:

The primary energy, organization, and direction of the anti-abortion, anti-family planning, anti-population-growth-control movement in the United States comes mainly from the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church, centered in Rome. (p.3)

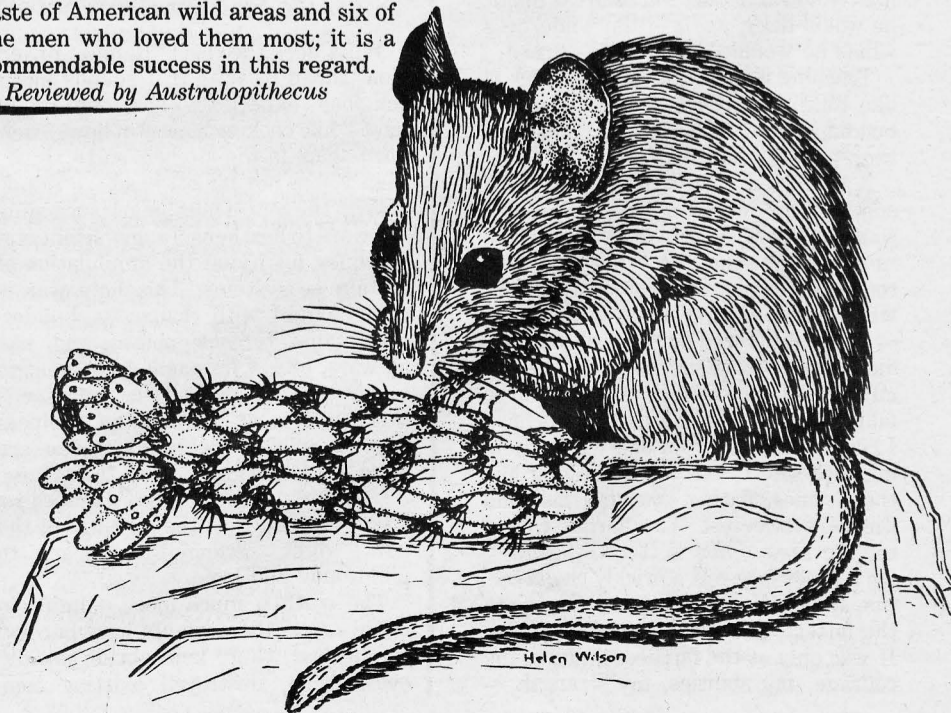
... If the destruction of US Constitutional and representative democracy is found by the Vatican to be necessary to achieve its goals, the Church will not hesitate to attempt this.

... In the present US political environment, the approaches of accommodation and dialog are manifestly inadequate to revitalize and accelerate US family planning and population stabilization programs. Dialog alone has resulted in these programs being severely crippled and held captive. Therefore a sophisticated, integrated confrontational strategy is necessary. (p.4)

... Today there are many points at which the cabal of radical right fundamentalists, the Catholic Church establishment, and the Reagan Administration are tinkering with Constitutional fundamentals. (p.7)

Though recognizing that the rate of world population growth has declined slightly, [retired World Bank president Robert] McNamara pointed out a disturbing fact: The fall-off has come almost exclusively in the developed world, while birth rates in most developing countries are as high, or nearly as high as ever. Within the next century, India's population is projected to climb from 675 million to 1.6 billion, Nigeria's from 85 million to more than 500 million, and El Salvador's from 5 million to 15 million. Worldwide, that [sic] would add up to a total of 11 billion before population stabilizes — more than double its present figure. (p.11)

The solutions to world overpopulation — modern methods of contraception, voluntary sterilization, abortion as a backstop for contraception, illegal immigration control, expanding opportunities for women, sex education, incentives and disincentives for no more than two children — are, I am convinced, grave threats to the survival of the power of the Vatican, at least in its political dimension. Once these solutions have become the law of the land and are integral parts of public policy,



Helen Wilson

the Vatican leadership believes they will seriously undermine the authority of the Church over its communicants. It is from this authority that the Vatican's political power is drawn. . . .

As the above quotations should suggest, Mumford — who cannot reasonably be accused of being an apologist for the Roman Catholic Church — has written a book which is important reading not because it presents innovative solutions to the problem of human overpopulation, but because it helps us recognize obstacles to the solution of the problem.

Reviewed by *Australopithecus*



C. MANES

SHOULD TREES HAVE STANDING?; Christopher Stone; 1974; William Kaufmann, Inc., 95 First St., Los Altos, CA 94022.

In 1972, the US Supreme Court nearly gave legal recognition to the basic principle of deep ecology, namely that natural objects have rights to exist above and beyond their usefulness to humans. The writing that moved three of the seven Justices to vote in favor of biocentric thinking in *Sierra Club vs. Morton* (1971) was "Should Trees Have Standing?," a law review article written by Christopher Stone. Had the Sierra Club's lawyers read Stone's essay before filing suit, we might today see Mono Lake suing Los Angeles, or Cathedral Forest seeking its own injunction against the Forest Service.

"Should Trees Have Standing?" and the text of the Supreme Court's decision are collected into a volume of the same name. In the words of biologist Garrett Hardin, it is "a graceful essay that bids fair to become a classic." This brief work predicts the development of a deep ecology movement, and should be read by all biocentrists.

Stone's main point is that natural objects should be accorded certain legal rights in our society. The fact that forests or mountains may be inarticulate should not deter us, he argues, because we already grant infants, and imbeciles (and in the '80s, the unborn) rights, despite the fact that they cannot speak. How much more "real" is a corporation, Stone asks, than a living tree? Corporations have been granted innumerable rights and powers in the courts, although you can't touch, feel or see one.

Stone explores the development and meaning of legal rights for other groups, such as women, children, students and slaves. He compares a slave-owning society in which a master can sue for damages to a slave to another in which the slave can initiate proceedings (1) on his own behalf, (2) for his own recovery, (3) based on his own pain and suffering. Natural objects have none of the three rights of the latter society.

Stone says that "natural objects have counted for little, in law as in popular movements . . . (Conservationists) want to conserve and guarantee our consumption and our enjoyment of these other living things." This "conservative" attitude, forced upon us by the courts, continues to leave environmentalists open to charges of elitism. Why, for instance, can we not argue in courts as guardians of the rainforests themselves, instead of on the basis of their usefulness as storehouses of undiscovered medicines?

Why not indeed? Stone's arguments were so convincing that Justice Douglas wrote:

Those who hike the Appalachian Trail into Sunfish Pond, New Jersey, and camp or sleep there, or run the Allagash in Maine . . . certainly should have standing to defend those natural wonders before courts or agencies, though they live 3000 miles away. . . . These environmental issues should be tendered by the inanimate object itself. Then there will be assurances that all of the forms of life which it represents will stand before the court — the pileated woodpecker as well as the coyote and bear, the lemmings as well as the trout in the streams. Those inarticulate members of the ecological group cannot speak. But those people who have so frequented the place as to know its values and wonders will be able to speak for the entire ecological community.

Unfortunately, environmentalists

lost the *Sierra Club vs. Morton* case, in part because the Club never asserted a legal right to represent the Sequoia National Forest itself against a \$35 million Disney development. Instead, they had brought suit on the basis that the development would impair the Club's enjoyment of the area. Stone, a law professor following the case in the newspapers, gave a draft of his law review article to Justice Douglas in time to reshape some of the Court's interpretation. Justice Douglas, Blackmun and Brennan voted to consider the case as if the Club were speaking for the forest. Justice White could not construe the suit so liberally. But before joining the 4-member majority, White remarked, "Why didn't the Sierra Club have one goddamn member walk through the park and then there would have been standing to sue?" (*The Brethren*; Woodward & Armstrong; 1979; Simon and Schuster edition, 1230 Ave of the Americas, NY, NY 10020) So the case was lost, and with it, an historic opportunity; for today's Court, the Court which will rule for the next several decades, will not likely be so willing to act on behalf of the environment.

Still, deep ecologists and animal rights activists may be laying the foundations for a more biocentric society. We can only hope that the Court will choose to give legitimacy to the most noble and generous ethical concepts being discussed in our country, as it already has for religious freedom and equality of the races.

Reviewed by *Julia Fonseca*

WINTERKILL; Craig Lesley; 1984; Dell Publishing Co., 1 Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza, NY, NY 10017; 306pp.; \$4.50.

Craig Lesley's first novel, *Winterkill*, has won him great acclaim. It is a powerful story of an Indian, Danny Kachiah, and his friends, and his place. His place is northeast Oregon — Umatilla and Nez Perce country, the land where once salmon scaled the mighty Celilo Falls on the Columbia River, and where Celilo Indians sustained themselves by selectively catching the salmon. Danny is one of the many Indians to have had the fortune/misfortune of having known Celilo Falls before the dammed waters entombed them. Danny is one of the many Indians who tries to live in two realities — the almost forgotten reality of his forebears who lived in harmony with their place, and the warped reality of modern society where place means nothing.

Lesley's is a powerful novel of place, giving Lesley a prominent position among the growing number of quality regional writers. It is also a provocative exploration into the life of a modern Indian. As such, for some of us idealists, the early parts of this book are not enjoyable reading. As with two other recent, excellent novels of place — *Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko, and *The River Why* by David James Duncan — there is a little too much of warped reality in this novel for us fantasizers to read in comfort. Some of us read fiction to escape the warped reality of pickup trucks, hangovers, dirty laundry, hamburgers, etc. If you can stomach a little of this warped reality even in books you read, Lesley's novel (and Silko's and Duncan's) is excellent reading. If not, you might be happier escaping into *The Mists of Avalon* (Marion Zimmer Bradley) or another fantasy which makes you forget our sorrowful society.

Reviewed by *Australopithecus*

THE CHACO COAL SCANDAL: The People's Victory Over James Watt; Jeff Radford; Rhombus Publishing Co., POB 806, Corrales, NM 87048; 1986; 248pp.

While *The Chaco Coal Scandal* focuses on a particular case of governmental-corporate machinations to exploit an area rich in coal, the book is replete with information useful for fighting land exploitation throughout the public lands. Radford lucidly explains how PNM (Public Service Company of New Mexico, NM's largest utility), and James Watt, Garrey Carruthers, and others at the Interior Department, contrived nefarious plans to despoil northwestern New Mexico's Chaco region in the San Juan Basin for its coal deposits. In the process, they would have run roughshod over the wildlife and Native peoples of New Mexico — but they were stopped by New Mexico environmentalists and Indians . . . temporarily. The following passage indicates the setting for Radford's fine book:

Whipped by hot, dry summer winds and killing winter blizzards, the barren, semi-desert landscape in northwestern New Mexico . . . is the most arid of the 12 coal regions nationwide where mining companies hope to secure coal from the federal government. It is the most difficult land to restore after strip mining, which is why a National Academy of Sciences report in 1974, "Rehabilitation Potential of Western Coal Lands," predicted that this energy-rich region may wind up a "national sacrifice area."

Lying within the triangle formed by Albuquerque, Gallup and Farmington, New Mexico's portion of the San Juan Basin is rich in oil, gas, uranium and coal. Its mineral resources are worth hundreds of billions of dollars, and energy companies operating there have already amassed large fortunes. Despite the land's wealth, the people living there are among the poorest of America's poor. . . . (p.14)

The following lengthy quote from the concluding chapter of Radford's book indicates the continuing urgency of the issue Radford confronts, as well as the high quality of Radford's research:

In the San Juan Basin, BLM officials expect the public to lose interest in the coal issue, leaving the program to continue down its old errant path of massive leasing and disregard for adverse impacts on Navajo families, wildlife, cultural resources, fossils, and federal wilderness areas.

Public vigilance is imperative. Despite the public relations assurances of the new programmatic EIS on the federal coal program, it is clear that the program is essentially unchanged from its earlier days under Watt and Carruthers. The underlying philosophy is to turn public mineral wealth over to the control of private industry as quickly and cheaply as possible. For a pro-industry Interior Department, "quick" and "cheap" mean deliberate failure to uphold laws minimizing environmental damage . . .

After all the congressional hoopla and the "reformed" Interior Department's posturing, the following prospects still remain for the Chaco-Bisti region and its inhabitants:

Navajo families in the coal region face eviction from their ancestral homes with little or no possibilities [sic] of any economic benefit from the mining. Typically, they cannot count on the "surface owner consent" provisions of federal law which were intended by Congress to allow local residents a veto over strip mining of their land, or to demand a royalty in exchange for their consent.

. . . The newly-designated Bisti Wilderness Area may be in long-term jeopardy by Public Service Company

of New Mexico's continuing plan to build a smoke-producing power plant nearby. Similarly, the precariously capped rock formations in the new wilderness area face the threat of dynamite and other vibration damage from any coal mining activity approved nearby.

. . . The Ah-shi-sle-pah Wilderness Study Area, recommended more than 70 years ago for inclusion in what became the Chaco National Monument (because its spectacular landforms are such a short distance from Chaco Canyon), is slated to be strip mined, either as a federal coal lease obtained through the PRLA process [Preference Right Lease Application, a process which precludes competitive bidding] or as a Navajo Tribe-administered lease acquired as part of the Navajo-Hopi settlement. (p.232-3)

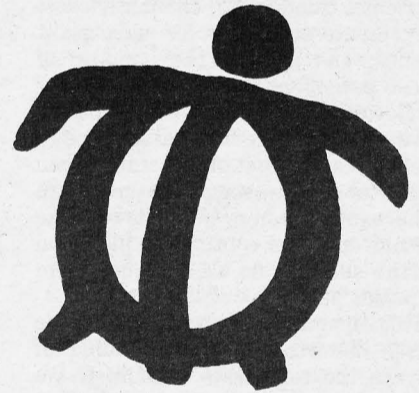
Strip mined land is unlikely to be rehabilitated due to harsh climatic conditions in the Chaco-Bisti area and due to BLM's unwillingness to eliminate from strip mine lease consideration those lands where reclamation is improbable. . . .

The massive leasing levels demanded by Assistant Secretary Garrey Carruthers (and then decreased at the insistence of New Mexico Governor Toney Anaya) could again be reinstated with Carruthers as governor. [ed. note: Carruthers is the new governor.] In the face of widespread criticism and congressional reports detailing the detriments of massive coal lease offerings, Carruthers has stubbornly defended the former ruinous policy, and could be expected to raise the leasing levels again through participation on the Regional Coal Team.

Current BLM plans call for issuance of leases on most of the easily strip mineable coal in the Chaco-Bisti region by 1987, through final determinations on the pending Preference Right Lease Applications. (p.234)

In closing, Radford's book has valuable information, lessons, and warnings which environmentalists need to read and heed. He is a former BLM official in New Mexico who resigned over the Bisti coal program.

Reviewed by *Australopithecus*



Honu (turtle)

KAREN TANNER

RANGE (cont)

cuses, regularly runs stories touting this new wonder weapon. In the Southwest, where Mesquite has migrated onto grasslands, Tebuthiuron is seeing its heaviest use. Look for it in your local watershed soon!

So where is the science (remember, it just means knowledge, nothing more and nothing less) in all this? Nowhere. No one seems to know, for example, what the effects of removing such a large amount of biomass will be on the nutrient base of soils which are already impoverished from years of neglect. Instead, as with much of our society, the emphasis is on instant gratification, the push button solution, the silver bullet. Somebody get up and change the channel please!

Anyone who's followed the history of methyl isocyanate (alias Temik) in the air of Bhopal, India, the wells of Florida, and the watermelons of California, knows that Tebuthiuron could be the last step in an ongoing process of land degradation. Range conversion is just a fancy term for the ultimate answer to all religious wars, genocide.

Why don't we all pay a visit to our local BLM offices real soon and ask to read the labels on the cans in the back room?

Pulsated Equilibrium in Ecological Systems

by George Wuertner

I was out hunting yesterday on Mt. Sentinel behind the University of Montana in Missoula. The area I walked through had burned in July of 1985, leaving many dead blackened snags. The local papers called the event a tragedy. Yet, among the dark, leafless trees left in the fire's wake, I found a chattering horde of woodpeckers attracted by the abundance of beetles and other insects that have recently colonized the burned trees.

Many of these insects, and some woodpecker species that feed upon them, depend upon fires to create new habitat. They colonize these burns, increasing their populations rapidly before crashing or moving on to colonize the next burn. Between burns, both insects and woodpeckers maintain relatively low populations and many small sub-units go extinct. If no new fires create additional blackened snags, few descendants of the woodpeckers I saw in the food rich snags will survive, but the small number will be able to eke out a living until the next catastrophe reduces a green forest to ashes and skeletons.

Natural systems, like the weather, operate between extremes. The amplitude and the frequency of waves varies from ecosystem to ecosystem, but energy pulses through the environment much like a pulse marks the passage of blood through veins. It is the repetition of pulses, or the heartbeat, that keeps us and all biotic systems alive.

The time frames for the pulses of natural systems are often longer than time frames of typical studies and this has led to our distorted view of natural events as catastrophes or epidemics when in fact they are merely pulses that maintain the ecosystem.

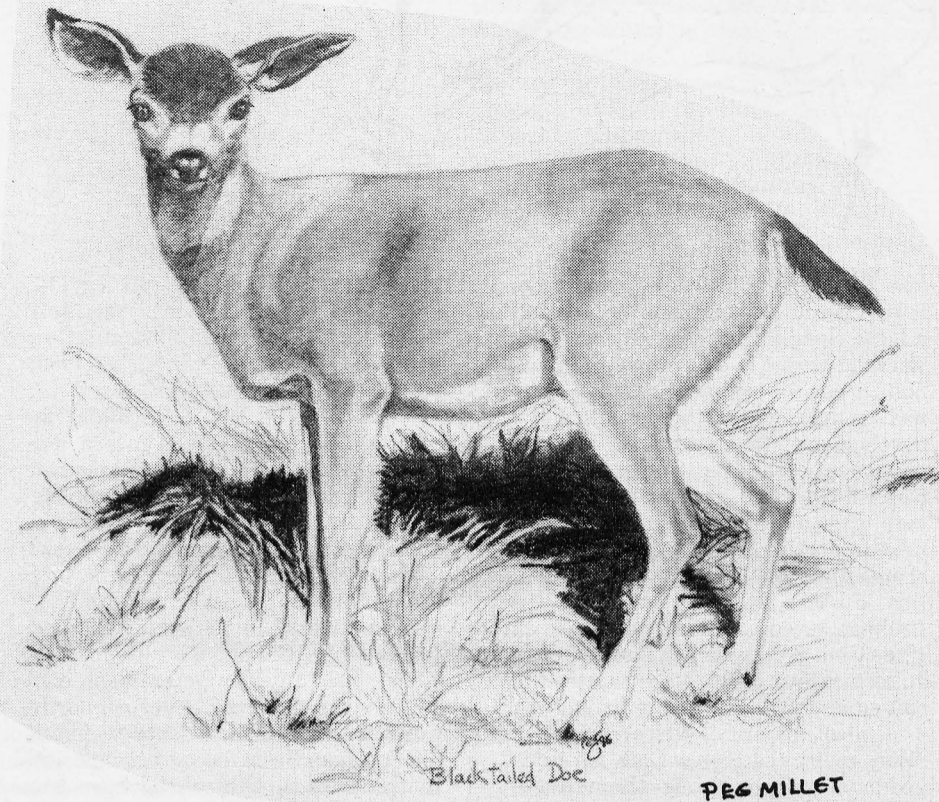
In many western coniferous forests, fire is a natural pulse through the environment. It helps to recycle locked up nutrients, thin forests, eliminate forest duff, create seed beds for some plant species, and prevent the build-up of forest pathogens and disease. In dry Ponderosa Pine forests, these pulses were on an average interval of three to twenty years, a unit of measure we can understand. However, many pulses are either much faster, or much slower (like the movement of continental plates on Earth's surface), so we don't see them as pulses at all.

This inability to recognize these pulses distorts our understanding of fires in the temperate rainforest. We often refer to them as catastrophic fires because their intense blazes frequently incinerate thousands of acres at a time. Yet, even these fires are part of the pulse, although instead of three to twenty year intervals between pulses as in drier Ponderosa forests, they operate on intervals of 200 to 300 years or longer. If we examine the ecological parameters of the old growth forest species, we see how they cope with these energy pulses.

Douglas Fir, one of the species characteristic of old growth forests, is a long-lived species with many adaptations to protect it from fire. Doug Firs have thick, fire resistant bark and branch-free boles which enable the older trees to survive all but the hottest blazes. Because they need adequate sunlight for successful regeneration, Doug Firs will establish themselves on a site after a burn clears away the forest overstory. In 200-300 years, when the next fire roars through the forest, the Doug Firs produced after the previous fire are already large and able to ride out the fire storm. These old survivors provide the seeds for regeneration. Long periods without fires are catastrophic to the Doug Fir.

Unfortunately, from our human time perspective we view such fires as destructive, although in fact they sustain the system much as the annual flood of the Nile provided the nutrients that sustained Egyptian agriculture. Until we learn to see these pulses as natural, we will always mismanage natural ecosystems.

These periodic extremes are what
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shape ecosystems. For example, it does not matter to your garden if in 29 days out of 30 in September freezing temperatures do not occur. The one day of frost is sufficient to stop growth of many plants and hence is the limiting factor in your garden. Averages are meaningless to your garden, as they are to most living organisms.

Many plant and animal populations expand their ranges and numbers periodically; then, when conditions change, merely survive through the "bad times" until the next boom. Many human economic systems follow a similar boom and bust cycle. In the 1970s, Wyoming was booming due to high oil and mineral prices. People flooded into the state to take advantage of this energy pulse (jobs). Then came the crash. Now Wyoming is depopulating; but not all people will leave, and the survivors — especially those with sufficient savings to buy land and equipment — will capitalize upon the next boom when oil prices rise again. The present booming economies in New England, Colorado Springs and elsewhere depend upon government defense spending, which enlarges the federal deficit. Without this stimulus, analogous to feeding hay to starving Elk in winter, these regions might suffer an economic collapse like Wyoming — although due to the greater diversity of their economies, not to the same degree.

In the subalpine forests of the Cascade Range, there was a short period during the 1930s when successive dry winters allowed many conifers to invade subalpine meadows and establish themselves successfully. Before and since that time, snowfall has been too great for the seedling trees to survive, hence the current character of the subalpine forests is the result of a few good years. It may be another 100 or more years before the next successive dry winters occur and the present conifers can successfully replace themselves and perhaps even expand their distribution.

Many wildlife populations regularly fluctuate in numbers. It is during the peak years that new suitable habitat is colonized, genetic exchanges occur, and small populations are augmented with new members. Standard wildlife management sees these peak years as a time of "surplus" animals that can be killed without long-term harm to the populations. In some cases, such a view is probably ecologically supportable. Nevertheless, we must be careful not to overuse this concept of "harvestable surplus."

If we try to make a natural system fit an "average" in terms of population we may destroy these important expansions. As an example of this kind of mistaken sustainable yield philosophy, the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department recently came out in favor of declassifying the Grizzly from its status as a Threatened species in the northern

Rockies. The biological justification for this decision was recent evidence (4 years' worth) of a population increase among Grizzlies in the Northern Rockies Ecosystem. The Department argued for more relaxed regulations for hunting because of this small blip in the bear's numbers. Yet 4 years is not a sufficiently long time to determine a trend in a long-lived species like the Grizzly. In addition, if the population did expand, such an increase is necessary for the long-term survival of the species in the region; for it is during times of population surplus that the bear can supplement declining sub-populations, and expand its range into vacant but suitable habitat. Undoubtedly, for any number of reasons, the bear population will decline again. Perhaps a series of dry summers will produce poor berry crops, or some disease may reduce the populations. If it can maintain high numbers during peak years, a population can survive the low years — which are equally necessary to the internal workings of any ecosystem.

Fire, Elk and Aspen in the Rockies similarly display such fluctuating relationships. Aspen stands typically regenerate from suckers (shoots) after the above ground parts are removed by some event such as fire, avalanche, or even clearcutting. The suckers sprout and thousands of saplings struggle for the limited moisture, sunlight, and space available; with the losers dying out and a few lucky or particularly strong individuals surviving until the next pulse (fire, etc.) washes through the environment.

Elk like to eat young Aspen so much that they will overbrowse a rejuvenated stand if given the opportunity. (Elk, like Indians before the coming of white man, lived in a "natural harmony" because they periodically died off.) If we artificially maintain Elk numbers by winter feeding or reducing predation pressure during harsh winter so that we can have huntable populations, then the Elk will often eat the Aspen into oblivion — at least in areas with high numbers of wintering Elk.

As I wrote in a previous article on Timber Wolf and Moose cycling in Alaska, I believe it will be shown that periodic lows in first level consumers, i.e. Moose, are necessary for plant communities to recover from browsing pressure. Local Moose populations may periodically go extinct, leaving the Moose habitat vacant and relieving browsing pressure for years, perhaps even decades. If the local Moose population declines to a very low level, it will not support breeding populations of Wolves. Wolves also go locally extinct either because they migrate to better hunting grounds or they fail to reproduce and their numbers dwindle because of disease, starvation and inter-pack warfare.

With relief from Wolf predation pressure, the Moose population can rebound

and colonize new habitat. Subsequently the Wolf population will also rebound. If we view these lows and highs as unusual events, we miss the importance of energy pulsation, which provides the equilibrium or steady state we call ecological harmony.

One of the great problems in our present system of natural preserves is that we have not provided room for plant and animal communities to shift over time and space. We find a particular habitat that may be suitable for some species at the time of preservation, but fail to recognize the need for periodic expansion and shifts in populations. We thus fragment habitat and populations and thereby hasten the extinction of species.

We also manage for individual species rather than ecological processes, as the Moose-Wolf-browse example above illustrates. As a result, we are finding that some ecosystem types are becoming extinct because they no longer function as whole ecosystems. The Forest Service does not plan to cut every stand of old growth forest in the Northwest, and some relicts will survive in Wilderness Areas and National Parks like Olympic and Rainier. Nevertheless, when the forest is fragmented into tiny pockets, it no longer functions over time and space as an integrated system; hence it will gradually disappear as random extinction eliminates more and more species.

Time is a matter of perspective and space is a matter of time. We need to expand our view of time, give natural events more space and look for the heartbeats that keep it all running.

Letters (cont)

Dear SFB,

After reading *Deep Ecology* by Bill Devall and George Sessions, I can happily say I agree almost totally with the book. I wish everyone could read and/or understand the concepts.

The one thing I don't understand about the deep ecology philosophy is the emphasis on non-violence. Deep ecology rightly places man as an integral part of Nature, tied into the web of the organic world, yet says man should act non-violently, apparently even if there are threats to that man. I believe I am correct in stating that nearly all known organisms react with what can be called violence toward territorial encroachment and personal attack. Are we above this yet still equal partners in Nature with those creatures and plants that do defend their space? Is my ego, myself, not worth defending? All this going with the flow and oneness sounds great, but what worth and power is attached to the individual to keep itself, myself, yourself from being overwhelmed.

Brothers and sisters, there has always been violence; there will still be violence when humans are not even a memory. As long as there is death and rebirth, there will be violence. We should not pretend there is no time when we need to fight. Writing letters, marching in demonstrations, spiking trees are ways of fighting, yes, but meanwhile the trees, your cousins, still fall at a relentless pace. The roar of the bulldozer and concrete mixer drown out the voices of thousands of demonstrators, while Earth becomes steadily sicker and less habitable.

Corrupt men understand only violence. Perhaps more enlightened people can realize there may indeed be a time for violence, not as a way of life, but as necessary to defend the God of Nature which is also ourselves. Indigenous peoples understand this and have almost always fought for their homeland when forced to do so. Today many sensitive humans feel threatened by dark forces. We know the enemy lies among us, striving to choke us with toxic clouds, cut and bulldoze what we live for. Nuclear annihilation awaits us. Is this not a life threatening situation? Maybe we don't perceive it as immediate because of our isolation from natural forces. Will we poison and bomb each other, and go out with a smile?

What is the reason for the lack of endorsement, by deep ecologists, of whatever means are necessary? Is the need not thought great enough? Or is the underlying hangup the idea that maybe we're destined to pass anyway so why not at least remain noble human beings

continued on page 30

Of Pipedreams, Science and the Wilderness

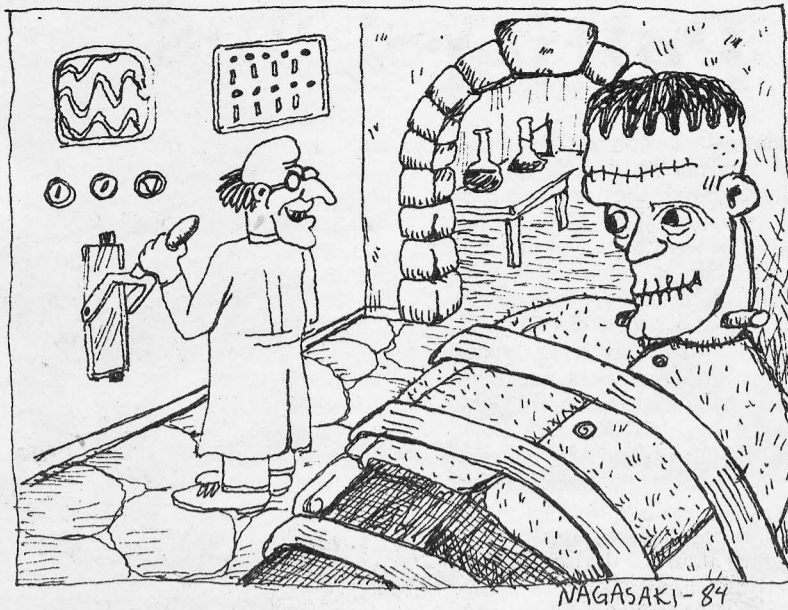
by R.F. Mueller

They've done it again! The technocrats have a new plan to reprogram our world. Consider the age-old dream of our species, the dream of control over nature without any drawbacks. Well, they think they finally have it and it's called "nanotechnology." This was revealed in an interview of MIT zealots on National Public Radio on June 24 of this year. The prefix 'nano' means "very small" and in this case refers to ordering manipulations on an atomic scale. They're not just talking about the natural and spontaneous ordering or disordering of atoms in crystals as a response to temperature and pressure changes (a field in which I once did research) and which has numerous scientific and technological applications in its own right. What they mean is the deliberate multiscale ordering of the world from atoms on up! But there is a catch, the same catch that has plagued all technological megaprojects, yet is almost never mentioned. The catch is that to achieve some megatechnological result, certain scientific principles must be ignored as necessarily as others are assiduously applied. It will come as no surprise that one body of these ignored principles is the science of ecology, but curiously, another is that brainchild of the industrial revolution itself, classical thermodynamics. Of course, thermodynamics is not ignored entirely, because no significant technological device or process can be achieved without taking it into account. The rub is that our technologically optimistic friends always stop with the technology as such and don't include the "externals" (read 'environment') with which the technology necessarily interacts — environmental thermodynamics if you will.

Environmentalists are deeply suspicious of science. But whether science is ultimately good or disastrous for the planet (and I am strongly tempted to believe the latter) isn't a useful question here because science appears to be an inevitable product of a species that the planet is stuck with temporarily. So we might as well make the best of a bad situation by at least insuring that critical rules of the game like those of ecology and thermodynamics aren't disregarded.

Thermodynamics as represented by its first and second "laws" is the science of the possible and the impossible, a discipline that sets severe limits as well as serving indispensably in the development of technology. It is also well grounded in experience so that we know that no proposed industrial chemical reaction or physical process for which unfavorable thermodynamic numbers are obtained is possible unless it is driven by some external process; and these external processes are usually prohibitively costly in monetary and environmental terms. To illustrate, the frequently proposed use of water as a source of hydrogen chemical fuel would require a fearsome input of energy from another source, such as nuclear fission, to separate the hydrogen from oxygen — much more energy would be required than the hydrogen could ever yield.

Some will recall the first law as the rather prosaic statement that energy can't be created or destroyed as long as its equivalence to mass is recognized. The second law, which is more mysterious and pertinent to our problem, states that the disorder or "entropy" of any isolated system always spontaneously increases. In practical terms this means that although we can create technolog-



ical order in local parts of the environment (e.g. an industrial site) there will be created a concomitant greater quantity of disorder, inevitably not only at that site, but in external regions from which ordering elements such as energy and materials are drawn. This is a game that can't be won (as I have argued in past articles: *Thermodynamics of Environmental Degradation*, NASA document X-644-71-121, 1971; *Science* 196, 261, 1977, etc.) Similar conclusions were reached by Nicholas Georgescu-Roegen with respect to economics (*The Entropy Law and the Economic Process*, Cambridge, MA, 1971, and other publications). However, the whole topic of environmental thermodynamics has been shunned by the technocrats because they consider it a "Bad News Science." From this we can infer that thermodynamics can be as powerful an ally for us as is ecology. It is, in fact, the purely physical basis for the so-called "laws of ecology" and is equally applicable to every aspect of society in which energy is involved.

In a not too remote tomorrow the dreamers of nanotechnology would attempt to order large segments of our world from the atomic level on up, to create unprecedented control of chemical, mechanical and biologic systems by fitting every individual atom into a pre-designated framework to achieve a technological paradise. To get a feel for the magnitude of such a program consider our everyday experiences, in which the same thermodynamic forces are at work. We all know how difficult it is to order our lives, simply to keep our dwellings neat, our personal effects in place. Note that we're talking here of our familiar macroscopic world. Imagine then trying to reduce the underlying microscopic world, vibrant and nascent, to this same brand of preconceived anthropocentric order!

We've seen that by the second law every ordered region we create calls into being an even greater region of disorder as a result of the increased energy flux. In environmental terms this technological energy, no matter how benign its origin, is synonymous with pollution. Even the most advanced microelectronic and solar energy systems, which were once regarded as "pollution free," are subject to the same energy degradation as are the crudest factories and mines except the degradation may take different forms (Mueller, *Environmental Action* 10, 15, 1978). If then by any chance — and this chance is small — the technocrats were able to order our entire planetary surface to create the wonder world of their dreams, the

energy required and the resulting pollution might well be enough to disorder much of the solar system!

I won't tire you with the familiar and dreary litany of technological failures — all of them touted as examples of our "control" over nature — that are devastating this beautiful planet. However, it's useful to note in passing a few familiar cases that may not strike everyone as offensive. Consider current attempts at supercontrol in the medical profession in which ever more "sophisticated technologies," such as organ transplants and complex life support systems, are being developed. Then be aware that burgeoning material requirements and costs of these technologies are driving up the costs of ordinary health care beyond the range of those people (externals!) who will never need the new technology. Or consider the practice of "advanced societies" and particularly the US of keeping thousands of square miles of terrain in a technological straight jacket at enormous cost in labor, energy and materials. This applies not only to the monotonous monocultures of agribusiness, but particularly to the trimmed, herbicide and pesticide-saturated yards, roadsides and other artificially vegetated areas that are dedicated to nothing more than a perverted esthetic ideal willed to us by English lords. Add to these the inefficient estates of hobby agriculture that destructively enslave more thousands of square miles (Mueller, *EF!* Litha, 1986) as well as the large expanses of public land devoted to deficit timber, grazing and mining operations by the federal government. Finally, wonder that even the most nature-alienated MIT technocrat, confronted seasonally by his own crabgrass, could consider nanotechnology seriously.

What we have here is luxury feeding on necessity, the long term consequences of which may be illustrated, according to Georgescu-Roegen, by the production of Cadillacs which will inevitably preclude the availability of plowshares to future generations (*Southern Economic Journal* 41, 347, 1975).

All this allows us to see wilderness in a new light. Wilderness, it appears, is the manifestation of harmony between order and disorder, both of which are necessary to maintain it. (Perhaps it is also nature's paradigm for the resolution of the contradiction between order and anarchy so frequently discussed in this journal!) The natural dispersal of seeds, for example, is a disordering process, as is the chemical diffusion of nutrients (positive change in entropy on mixing), but there is no better example of order than the adaptive survival of seedlings in specific sites. In this scheme without a schemer, the life order created spontaneously through evolution as a response to geologic conditions and the solar flux is always exceeded by the sum of the disordering effects of decay, heat dissipation etc.; and it is this surplus disorder which drives the entire process. Part of this spontaneously expressed scheme, which is inherent in the chemistry of the system, is the enormous biologic di-

versity, the place-identity mosaic, which confers stability to the biosphere. However, this stability is threatened when any species becomes dominant and attempts to exert its own form of order, usurping the environmental mosaic and decreasing diversity. In the case of our species, this usurpation, acting through both excessive numbers and high energy technology, creates disorder of the type which clashes with natural order. Consequently the interaction of technology and nature is only a vulgar parody of the preexisting harmony.

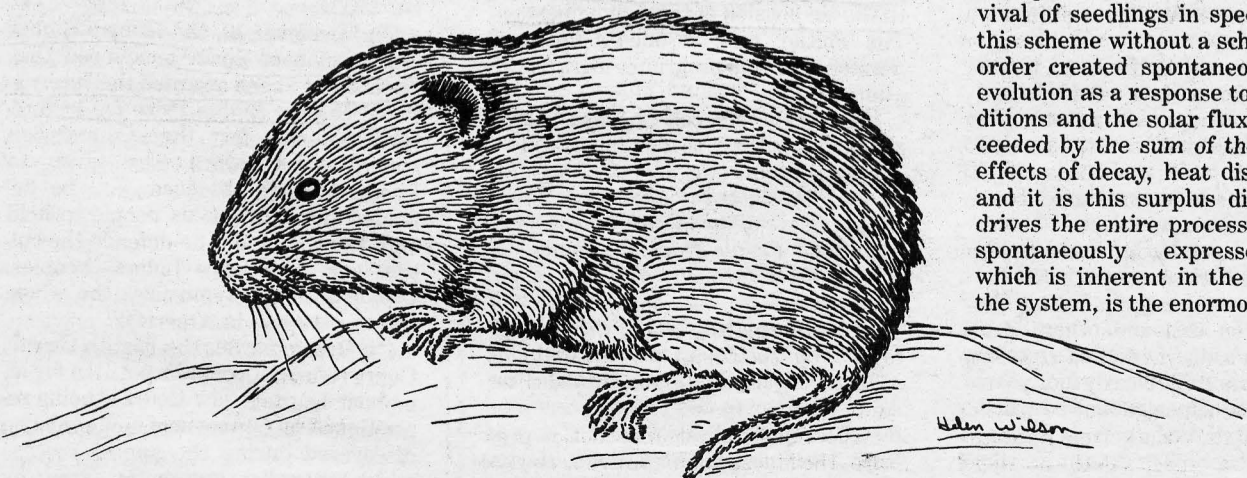
It is obvious that pure wilderness terrain requires no inputs of technological energy or materials to maintain it. Using an analogy from physics, wilderness may be regarded as an energy "ground state." The technological energy required to deviate greatly from this state, even to accommodate existing human numbers under minimal living standards, let alone the flaunting of luxury, places in peril our long term survival and that of all other species.

Modern cities and agriculture necessarily displaced wilderness to accommodate the needs of excess population. However, it is becoming increasingly apparent that large tracts of wilderness — larger than those presently existing — are themselves more necessary than ever as reservoirs of environmental amenities needed to support civilization's artifacts.

The foregoing is one of a number of possible "scientific" interpretations of the planetary dilemma, although one that is unlikely to be embraced by the scientific establishment with its demands for upbeat predictions of the conquest of nature. But at best science is only one facet of the real world — which is certainly mystical and poetic at its core. Yet given the inevitability of its presence in our lives, our efforts must be directed toward elevating science to a new analytical level, to a systems approach that recognizes the great panorama of biology, the limits set by thermodynamics and above all the unity and parity of all life forms. At present wilderness is still regarded as basically inhospitable to the human intellect, the great chaos out of which we are elevating ourselves to unlimited heights of technological grandeur. Contrarily, central to the new level of scientific consciousness is the recognition of the wilderness source of our intellect and the continuing dependency of our intellect on wilderness, a dependency that all our high energy ordering schemes, our gleaming spaceships, cannot supplant. Finally, the new scientific consciousness also recognizes that wilderness is the life sustaining environment.

At this new level we give up the old pipedream of technological control over nature and see that what we now think of as control is only interaction and impact and that for each impact we direct at nature we are impacted in return. Only by accepting as our standard of reference the natural regimen of harmony between order and disorder — as best represented by the wilderness — can catastrophe be avoided.

R.F. Mueller is a former NASA scientist who writes regularly for our journal.



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AMERICAN GULAG: Leonard Peltier

by Jim Vander Wall and Eric Holle

Conflict between exploiters and defenders of Earth goes back at least as far as the Roman Empire's invasion of the lands occupied by the Celtic Druids and other tribal Europeans. Invading and/or dominant cultures have maintained control through ruthless suppression of those who resist; the price of defending nature has often been enslavement or death.

In the Western Hemisphere the extermination of indigenous peoples has been occurring since the European nation states first "discovered" their lands. The most blatant examples today occur in South and Central America, often in tropical rainforest areas, but no country or region has a monopoly on brutal repression of resistance to the dominant power structure.

Within the last two decades, increasing numbers of non-Native North Americans have become aware that we are living out of balance with nature, cutting off the biological limb we stand on and ensuring our future material and spiritual impoverishment. Although the growth of the environmental movement is necessary and encouraging, it is essential to understand who we oppose and the possible consequences of their wrath. The death of Karen Silkwood, attempts on the lives of anti-nuclear activists, and the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior indicate that environmentalists may pay dearly for their convictions. To Native American activists, such willfulness of governments and multinational corporations to play "hardball" with dissenters comes as no surprise.

Since the late 1960s, the US national energy policy has been directed toward the development of large-scale coal-fired and nuclear power plants. While nukes are currently "on hold," moves by the Reagan administration to facilitate their licensing procedures and remove them from public scrutiny indicate they are not dead. Most of the uranium and easily stripable coal in North America lie beneath the lands of indigenous peoples. The potential profits for multinational energy corporations from the coal alone are trillions of dollars. About the only thing standing in the way is the growing resistance of Native peoples to the destruction of their sacred lands and ways of life. To the extent that American Indian Movement (AIM) has become a voice of that resistance, it has become the target of repression. Just as we have much to learn from indigenous peoples about how to live in balance with Earth, we also have much to learn from them about the nature of repression. Perhaps no one understands that subject better than AIM activist, Leonard Peltier.

Peltier is currently serving two life sentences for two alleged murders he did not commit. The episode which led to his imprisonment occurred in the summer of 1975. A small group of AIM people had gathered at a spiritual camp on the Oglala Lakota Pine Ridge Reservation (in South Dakota). Their tipi, tents and sweat lodge were set up among the cottonwoods and willows which grew along a creek, about half a mile from a group of houses and buildings known as the Jumping Bull Compound near the village of Oglala.

Since the Wounded Knee occupation in 1973, Pine Ridge had become a focal point of the struggle between AIM and the US government represented by Tribal Chairman Dick Wilson and his private army known as the "goons." More than 60 AIM supporters and traditionalists (Native people who endeavor to follow traditional Indian spiritual ways) had been killed and hundreds assaulted by the goons during that period. The FBI, responsible for the investigation of murders and armed assaults on reservations, did nothing to stop this activity. Violence was particularly intense around Oglala, and the traditional leaders invited in AIM to protect their community.

On the morning of June 26, camp members were awakened by the sound of gunfire coming from the Jumping Bull Compound. Believing themselves

to be under attack, they grabbed their weapons and ran to the Compound. When they arrived, they saw two men standing next to their cars in the meadow below the Compound firing at the houses. Almost immediately BIA police, FBI agents, and goons began arriving and a full-scale firefight developed, eventually involving nearly 200 "law enforcement" personnel. The two men who initiated the firefight, FBI Special Agents (SAs) Jack Coler and Ronald Williams, and AIM member Joseph Stuntz Killright were killed in the fight. Miraculously, the rest of the AIM camp members escaped across open country in broad daylight.

In contrast to the FBI's *laissez-faire* attitude when AIM supporters were murdered, the deaths of agents Coler and Williams sparked a massive manhunt involving hundreds of agents. Eventually, warrants were issued for three AIM members, Darelle Butler, Robert Robideau, and Leonard Peltier. Butler was arrested in an FBI helicopter assault on the residences of the Crow Dog and Running families on the Rose Bud Reservation on Sept. 5, 1975. Robideau was arrested a short time later in Wichita, Kansas, when the car in which he and other AIM members were riding caught fire and exploded. Peltier, believing he would find no justice in US courts, fled to Canada.

Butler and Robideau stood trial in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in June, 1976, before Judge Edward McManus. McManus allowed the jury to hear testimony about the atmosphere of terror on Pine Ridge and FBI misconduct. That testimony, combined with lack of evidence, led the jury to find the defendants not guilty on the grounds that they acted in self-defense; the violent situation on Pine Ridge fostered by FBI misconduct had made it reasonable for them to shoot back when they believed themselves under attack.

Peltier was extradited from Canada in December of 1976 on the basis of fraudulent affidavits. The FBI, disappointed with Judge McManus' policy of allowing the jury to hear the whole truth, sought a more cooperative judge, whom they found in the person of Judge Paul Benson in Fargo, North Dakota. Peltier stood trial before Benson in the spring of 1977. The trial was characterized by extensive misconduct on the part of the prosecution and the FBI, including intimidation and coercion of witnesses, perjury and the presentation of falsified evidence. Benson refused to allow the jury to hear any testimony relating to the atmosphere of terror prevailing on Pine Ridge or concerning FBI misconduct. Peltier was convicted on two counts of murder and sentenced to two consecutive life terms.

Peltier's conviction rested on a weak chain of circumstantial evidence, the strongest link of which was forged by FBI Firearms and Toolmarks expert, Evan Hodge. His testimony linked a .223 caliber cartridge casing found in the trunk of agent Coler's car to an AR-15 rifle alleged to be Peltier's. Peltier's conviction was upheld on appeal by the Eighth Circuit Court. The Court noted that the government had falsified affidavits used to extradite Peltier and that "if they are willing to do that they must be willing to fabricate other evidence as well." Yet the Eighth Circuit agreed with the prosecution that the ballistics evidence was the most important in the case.

In late 1980 and early 1981, 12,000 pages of FBI documents were released to Peltier's attorneys as the result of a Freedom of Information Act suit. (At least 6000 more pages remain classified for, among other reasons, "national security.") Among those released was a teletype from Evan Hodge to the Rapid City FBI Office which contradicted the crucial testimony he gave during the trial. Based on this and other documents, Peltier's attorneys filed a motion for a new trial in 1982. Nearly four years of hearings and appeals followed which featured Hodge committing perjury during a hearing held to determine why his teletype contradicted his testimony,

and prosecutor Lynn Crooks admitting, "We can't prove who shot those agents." Peltier's bid for a new trial was supported by 55 members of the US Congress, 51 Members of the Canadian Parliament, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Bishop Desmond Tutu, and millions of supporters on six continents.

On Sept. 11, 1986, the US Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals refused to grant Leonard Peltier's request for a new trial. The court noted: "We recognize that there is evidence in this record of improper conduct on the part of some FBI agents, but we are reluctant to impute even further improprieties to them." William Kunstler, one of Peltier's attorneys, termed the decision "so lacking in integrity that it shocks my conscience as an American lawyer."

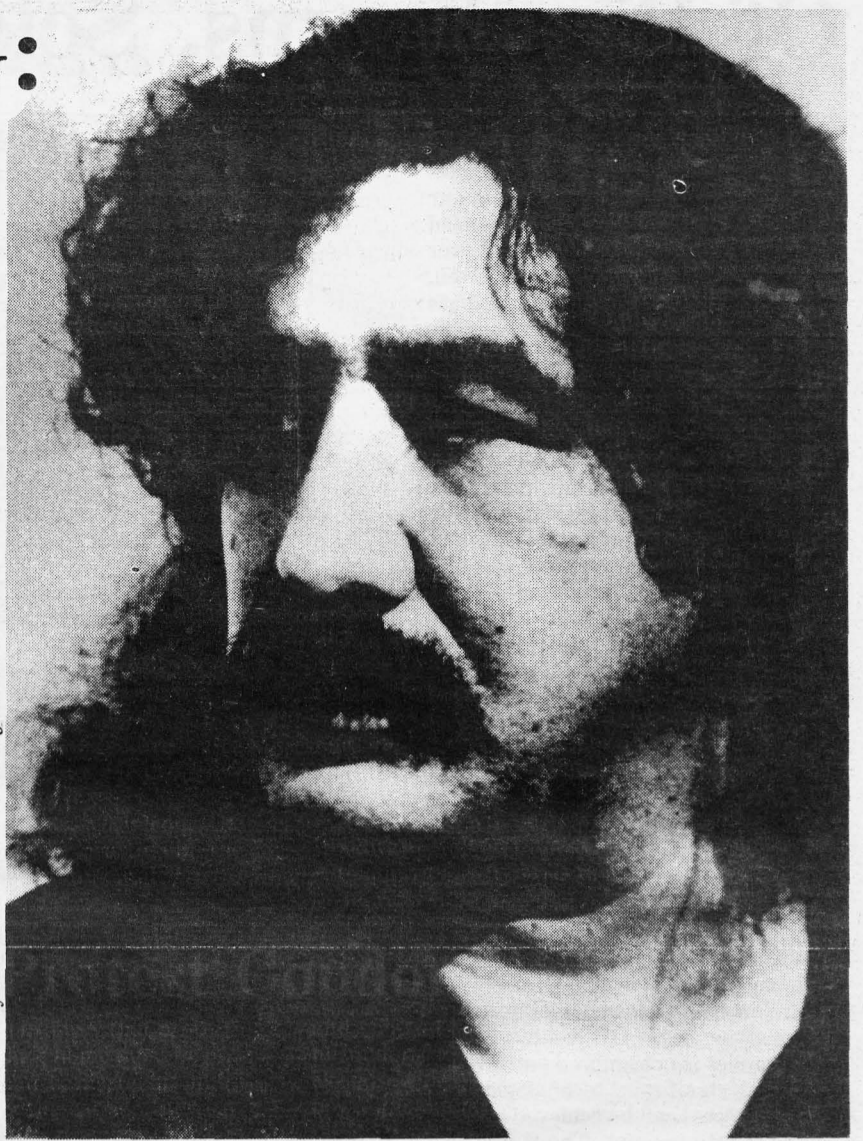
The Peltier case represents a profoundly dangerous precedent. It is not a matter of "improper conduct on the part of some FBI agents," but of a full-scale covert campaign to neutralize the political/spiritual movement that AIM represents. In the Peltier case, the FBI lied in court, manufactured false evidence, and coerced witnesses to obtain false testimony. It used the aegis of national security to conceal its grossly criminal activities. Since the judiciary has now lent its stamp of approval to legitimize such actions, we can expect them to become standard procedure for dealing with dissidents.

The media nowadays is replete with images of "terrorism," with the rhetoric of counter-terrorism . . . desperate measures are called for, civil liberties must be infringed upon. Union Carbide murdered more people in one night at Bhopal than all the so-called terrorists in Europe and the Middle East have killed in the last 20 years, yet no one in government calls for the suspension of polluters' "rights" to conduct business as usual. The disproportionate size of the reaction to the threat is the clue needed to understand that "counter-terrorism" is simply the Right's program for persuading Americans to acquiesce to the suspension of their civil liberties. The Peltier case is one of the cornerstones of this program's legal foundation.

From his prison cell Leonard Peltier sends this message to his supporters:

I am grateful that my case and situation have helped make many more people aware of the major issues facing all Native People today — we are all at a crisis of survival. With love, hope, prayers and an immense amount of hard work, putting all of our energy together in solidarity, we can and will make a difference. I am thankful we stand together in this struggle and that the effort to get a new trial is a part of the overall struggle for peace with justice in this country.

Photo of Leonard Peltier courtesy LPSG.



Peltier's attorneys have requested an en banc hearing from the Eighth Circuit Court (i.e. a decision from the full 11 judge court rather than the 3 judge panel which heard the appeal). You can support Peltier's request by writing to the Eighth Circuit in support of the request for an en banc hearing and a new trial: Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, 1114 Market St., St. Louis, MO 63101. In addition, Peltier supporters are calling for a Congressional investigation into the FBI's covert program to neutralize AIM and into the use of the courts as tools of political repression. Write your Congressman, urging such an investigation. You can also support Leonard Peltier by supporting what he is fighting for: the struggles of indigenous peoples always and everywhere to preserve their ways of life and to protect Earth.

For more information, write: The Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, POB 6455, K.C., KS 66106; or Leonard Peltier Support Group, POB 18717, Denver, CO 80218.

POSTSCRIPT: In late November Leonard suffered a partial loss of vision due to a blood clot which blocked circulation to the retina of his left eye. The condition might be improved by laser surgery but the prison has no such equipment and they are refusing Leonard access to medical treatment outside the prison. The longer such treatment is delayed, the higher the probability that the vision loss will be permanent. It would be good if people wrote to the warden and to the Federal Bureau of Prisons director and reminded them that they are responsible for the safety of prisoners and the denial of medical treatment which a prisoner urgently requires is a violation of internationally recognized human rights conventions. Write to: Jerry O'Brien, Warden, US Penitentiary, Box 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048; and Norman Carlson, Director, US Federal Bureau of Prisons, 320 First St. NW, Wash., DC 20534.

On December 10, the Human Rights Commission of Spain announced that Leonard had been awarded the International Human Rights Prize for 1986. A spokeswoman for the Commission stated, "The award was given to Leonard Peltier because . . . he defended the right of his people to hold onto their land and he defends the culture of American Indian Peoples. Leonard Peltier symbolizes the whole Indian struggle in America."

On December 30, the Eighth Circuit Court refused Leonard's petition for an en banc hearing. The Court is being repetition on the basis of new evidence discovered during the appeal process which contradicts assumptions made by

Sea Shepherd Saga

by Christoph Manes

There was a man named Paal, son of Wat, son of Muir, son of Ludd the deep-minded, son of Conan the Barbarian. In winter Paal lived on the Isle of Vanir-cover, but summer he was a sea-king and viking who warred against outlaws of every tribe with his long-boat the Sea Shepherd, which Aegir, the sea god, had given him. That was a good ship.

One year Paal heard that a chieftain named Halldor the Lawbreaker, son of Asgrim, son of Abech, had assembled a great fleet to kill whale-fish sacred to Aegir, troubling the sea spirits and defying the decree of the Malmo Althing. Halldor said he needed the whale-fish for his wizards to wax learned in fish-craft. But people said the wizards turned them into gold.

In his great hall on the isle of Vanir-cover, Paal spoke to his retainers: "What warrior will win the favor of Aegir and hew Halldor's warlock fleet?"

Two hearth companions, good men both, arose. Davith the Breton, son of Howitt, was one. Ronard, son of Coronado, a Vinlander, was the other. Both were berserkers.

A fair wind ferried them to Halldor's chieftaincy in Iceland. They made land at Keflavik and from there roamed the countryside, wearing cloaks, seeking information about Halldor's fleet. On Suthurnes they came to the hall of Halldor's wizards. The sorcerers were chanting over slaughtered whale-fish. "Yapan, Yapan," they sang, and Aegir's horses turned to gold.

"It is time for Halldor's whale-gold to purchase recompense," said Ronard.

"Fate goes always as it must," said Davith.

They rode to Halldor's hall at Whale Fjord. The berserker's rage was upon them. They destroyed the door, hewed hoses, felled freezers, crushed computers. Othin gave them victory. But Halldor was elsewhere, holding council with his landed man Kristjan Whale-Bane, son of Loft. He was a rich man.

But he was the less rich when Davith and Ronard rode south to where the fleet was harbored. Two ravens accompanied them on their journey and Davith said it was good sign. They entered the town at dawn and found the fleet drowsing at anchor. They quickly pierced the hulls of two of long-boats. The dark sea poured in.

"Shall we acquaint the third with the murky sea-bottom," said Ronard.

"No," said Davith, "for an old serf is keeping watch there and warlike visages may bring the apoplexy upon him."

And so they rode back to Keflavik, exalting in their triumph. But on the way one of Halldor's retainers stopped them. He wanted to know if they had been drinking ale. They said they had tasted no ale in Iceland.

"Nor is it likely you will," said the retainer. "For Halldor and the chieftains have tyrannously banished ale from the isle. Now go in peace."

Thus Ronard and Davith returned to the realms of refuge and beer. Paal was well pleased with his retainers, and their fame spread far and wide, and they held Aegir's favor from that time forward. But Halldor was wroth when he heard his hall was ruined and his fleet halved. He vowed revenge and sent messengers to the kings of Vinland and Angleland. But people found it difficult to take Halldor's vows seriously.

Some of Halldor's enemies were envious of the Sea Shepherds' glory. They sent Halldor runes saying they would never raise sword against the chieftain; no, not even if they quarreled with him at the Malmo Althing. Nor was it difficult for them to keep their rune-oaths. But the names of these lawspeakers and swordless warriors are nowhere recorded. Here ends the saga of the Sea Shepherds.



Christoph is back in the States now, and we look forward to publishing an increasing number of his philosophical essays.

Roadkill

by Nagasaki Johnson

The Icelandic whaling incident has raised interesting questions within the ranks of the so-called radical environmental movement. And at least on the surface, it has exposed bitter feelings between various entities involved in the protection of whales. Words like 'wimps,' 'sellouts,' 'mercenaries,' and 'terrorists' are being used to describe people whose main concern, it would seem, is to prevent these great creatures from entering the ranks of the extinct. This deserves a little examination.

At the center of the controversy, of course, is the illustrious Captain of the Sea Shepherd, Paul Watson. Watson's recent ranting and raving in the *Earth First! Journal* has targeted Greenpeace with language usually reserved for heinous despoilers of the environment. One gets the impression that the "G word" is not to be mentioned at the Captain's table, under risk of being made to take a long walk on a short plank. One is inclined to ask, "Is all this really necessary?" After a little investigation, my answer is, "No."

I've no quarrel with Mr. Watson. The good captain has certainly earned his right to be heard in these pages. Paul Watson is a pioneer in the ecological resistance movement, and one of our few bona-fide heroes. I, for one, truly hope he sends a few more pirate whalers to the bottom. But let's not take Mr. Watson's lambasting of Greenpeace as a reason to unduly attack an organization that has done so much good. The article

the Court in their decision refusing his appeal. Letters to the court supporting the petition for an en banc hearing are still needed.

Jim Vander Wall is an activist within the Peltier Support Group; Eric Holle is a Colorado Earth First! leader.

Roselle Replies to Watson

in the Yule 86 issue contained a few misleading statements, and I wish to address them.

Watson gives the impression that Greenpeace is openly hostile to him. I talked with several GP staffers and canvassers, examined press clippings and telexes, but never found evidence that anyone within the organization had called him a terrorist. There are Greenpeace offices in 15 countries, and each one, I'm sure, held a press conference. The Argentina office, for instance, must have assured the newly elected dictatorship that they have an official policy on the sinking of ships. While many readers of this paper will disagree with the Greenpeace position that the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior was no different than the sinking of the whaling vessels, it should not be hard to understand why they feel that way. Remember, the French too said they had it planned so no one would get hurt.

Greenpeace, like Sea Shepherd, has a non-violent code of ethics. But the destruction of property clearly lies outside that code. Not so with the Sea Shepherd. But before you call Greenpeace a bunch of wimps for that, remember that Earth First! does not "officially" endorse the destruction of property, and the Foundation does not even "officially" endorse civil disobedience. Some EF!ers have even publicly deplored the spiking of trees by groups like the Bonnie Abbzug Feminist Garden Club. Does that make us "wimps"?

For Greenpeace to even seem to support what can only be described as sabotage would do much to discredit their often-stated position on non-violent direct action. One must remember that a central theme of non-violent direct action is the willingness to be on the receiving end of any aggression; and to undergo suffering rather than inflict it.

Regardless of your own position on non-violence, you can respect the right of others who hold a different viewpoint. Greenpeace is a recognized leader in the field of direct action in

defense of the whales, the seas and the Earth. Let's not let a disagreement on tactics become a bone of contention. There is plenty of room on the high seas for environmental activists, and plenty of room in the movement for different approaches to the ecological crisis at hand.

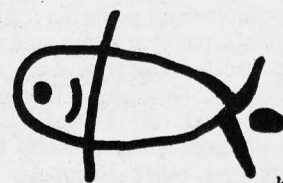
Now, does anyone out there really feel that the Greenpeace canvass staff is nothing more than a bunch of Fullerbrushmen? I personally feel that it takes a great deal of courage to interrupt a family's viewing of "Knott's Landing" in their own living room to alert them to the ecological perils that threaten the Earth. When was the last time you had a door slammed in your face? The fact is that Greenpeace canvassers do much more than raise money and bother people. They collected thousands of signatures for the anti-toxics initiative that just passed here in California, resulting in a law that will allow victims to sue large chemical companies for polluting their groundwater. And several canvassers are even circulating the EF! Mountain Lion petition as they trudge from door to door. CFAG has done canvassing in Oregon on the old growth issue, and we even have a genuine EF! canvasser here in the Bay Area. None of the canvassers I've met are doing it for the money, because the pay is not very good and the work is hard. Onward.

Does anyone think that sharing a beer with a whale killer is a crime? Is anyone really surprised that the crew of the GP ship, Sirius, did not welcome Watson aboard? Last summer I had a few beers with the Supervisor of the Bridger Teton National Forest, a bear killer if ever I met one. Do you think I kissed his hiney? I did buy the beer. I spent a few days aboard the Sirius when I was in Amsterdam, and met the crew while we were scrubbing and painting the boat. A dozen more ships like her would be too few. It is a ship, like Watson's, that we can all be proud of, with a rich history of confronting injustice

at sea, and with more than a few victories to her credit. How many ships has she sunk? None.

Mr. Watson's remark about the anti-whaling movement was below the belt. Is it true? It seems ludicrous to accuse Greenpeace and others of being in the movement for the money. Earth First! was accused of the same crime by the timber industry in Oregon during the Bald Mountain Road Blockade. We were actually accused of picking on a small local contractor, who had more gross tonnage on the road than Greenpeace has on the high seas. The fact is, no matter how big an environmental group is, the other side is always bigger, and always has more money. There is plenty of work to do without having to milk any issues.

The Sea Shepherd's actions by themselves did not cripple the Icelandic Whaling Fleet. The water was pumped from the ships' hulls and they are floating today after a very brief period on the bottom. Even the extensive damage to the rendering plant can be repaired. But the Sea Shepherd may have delivered the final blow to Iceland's attempt to continue operating outside international law with their whaling by the tremendous outcry they have caused in the international community. If this is so, then the Sea Shepherd's actions take on a primarily symbolic character, not unlike the action Watson did with Greenpeace against the Russian whalers years ago, when they stood between a whale and the harpoons and made conservation history. The whale was slaughtered moments later.



For the forest, against nukes — ROBIN WOOD

ed. note: The name 'Robin Wood' comes from the legendary woodsman and activist better known to Americans as 'Robin Hood.'

by Wolpertinger

In the early morning hours of August 8, 1986, five men approached a shut-down nuclear power plant at Niederaichbach, a rural Bavarian town northeast of Munich. They advanced to the base of a tower that served the purpose of air circulation. One of the men climbed up the lightning rod to a platform about 100 feet above ground. He attached a rope ladder for the others to follow. One by one they climbed the tower and settled down on the platform. From there, they unrolled a sign with the message: "One ruin is enough! Stop Ohu!" Having completed their feat, the five waited for the media and the police to arrive.

The five climbers were members of Robin Wood, a West German environmental organization which frequently resorts to nonviolent direct action in defense of the environment. With this particular action, Robin Wood's Munich group drew attention to two controversial issues: the proposed dismantling of the plant at Niederaichbach; and the Ohu 2 project, a nuclear power plant nearby, which, upon its completion, would produce electricity for metropolitan Munich, a city of 1.5 million people. The reactor at Niederaichbach, a pressurized water reactor, was completed in 1972, and during the next two years operated for a total of only 18 days. Incidents occurred frequently; much repair work had to be done. The plant was shut down permanently in 1974. Present plans to dismantle the plant have stirred up considerable controversy. Niederaichbach would be the first nuclear power plant in the world to be dismantled, and therefore it is difficult to assess the risks involved. Furthermore, a site for the safe disposal of the radioactive material in the reactor is not available. In addition to the problems of the plant at Niederaichbach, environmentalists fear that the Ohu 2 plant will be a similar failure.

Meanwhile, at the occupied tower at Niederaichbach, daylight had arrived. Spectators gathered below. Questions from a TV crew were answered by the four members of the Robin Wood support group who were posted at the gate to the fenced-in site. Police arrived at the scene, but did not interfere with the action.

The occupation lasted all day without direct intervention by authorities. Then, around midnight when the Robin Wood members had gone to sleep, police officers climbed to the platform. There was no confrontation; instead, the cops were friendly and greeted the occupants with a cheerful "Guten Morgen" (good morning). They even congratulated them for the successful action. Then one police officer said: "Sorry, guys, it's all over now."

In the summer of 1982, 30 Greenpeace activists from northern Germany decided it was time to start a new environmental group. They were dissatisfied with Greenpeace because of its hierarchy and centralization. On November 12th, 1982, Robin Wood was officially founded, with local groups in four major northern German cities, and in January, 1983, a chapter was added in West Berlin. Today, there are local groups throughout Germany, with a total of about 500 members.

Although disillusioned with Greenpeace, the people of Robin Wood did not want to interfere or compete with, but rather complement Greenpeace. Since the activities of Greenpeace mainly focused on fighting the pollution of the North Sea and rivers in northern Germany, Robin Wood decided to address different issues.

Due to intense air pollution from coal power plants, motor vehicles, and industry, the forests of Germany are dying a slow death. The destruction of the forests by acid rain is perhaps the biggest environmental problem facing Germany and other European countries. Despite the urgency of the situation, the governments of the concerned

countries, bogged down in the quagmire of narrow-minded national politics, have failed to reach a consensus of how to tackle the problem. By 1983, the time was right for a new group that would be unafraid to take an uncompromising stand on the issue, and back it up with radical actions.

Since 1983, Robin Wood activists have captured the attention of the West German media and public with spectacular actions, such as climbing and occupying the stacks of coal power plants. On October 3, 1986, members of the Munich Robin Wood group demonstrated in an action what would happen if the Alps were deforested. They blocked the Alpenstrasse (Alpine Highway, a major access route to a scenic part of the Bavarian Alps) with an artificial landslide. With this action, Robin Wood pointed out that the destruction of the mountain forests would lead to soil erosion and landslides.

There is one essential shortcoming in this otherwise excellent group. Unlike Earth First!, Robin Wood does not articulate ideas within a deep ecology context. In their fight for the forests, and against nuclear energy, they often use anthropocentric arguments. For example, in one Robin Wood information sheet titled "Rettet den Wald" (Save the Forest), it is argued that, among other important reasons, the forests should be saved because they have an economic value, since there are about one million jobs related to the forest industry in Germany. It seems that Robin Wood is still trapped in the mainstream belief that environmentalists must appear credible and rational within the mindset of technocratic modern society. I believe, however, that deep inside, most members of Robin Wood feel that nature has a right to exist regardless of its value to humans, and that some of their arguments are merely tactical. Radical EF!ers would be wrong if they dismissed this group as just another mainstream environmental organization. Robin Wood is a valuable group, probably the best of its kind in Germany. They have been very successful in drawing public attention to important issues, and their actions are carried out with wit and creativity.

Wolpertinger is an elusive animal — part squirrel, part jackrabbit, part deer — that lives in the forests and mountains of southern Bavaria.

Germany Cracks Down on Monkeywrenching

The following report is reprinted from WISE News Communiqué (available in English for \$35/yr, bi-weekly, airmail from: WISE-Amsterdam, PO Box 5627, 1007 AP Amsterdam, The Netherlands) 12-19-86. WISE (World Information Service on Energy) is a network which publishes international information in 5 languages and "was set up by safe energy activists in 1978 to function as an international switchboard for local and national safe energy groups around the world who want to exchange information."

The prohibition of the last national meeting of the anti-nuclear movement in Regensburg, Bavaria after 10 years of undisturbed meetings has to be seen as an anticipatory application of the new anti-terrorist laws which the conservative-liberal majority in the Bundestag finally passed at the beginning of December. The Bavarian government under Minister-president Franz Josef Strauss was one of the loudest voices behind these new strong laws introduced as a response to the resistance against the planned first commercial reprocessing plant in Wackersdorf in the Bavarian administrative district.

Under the new measures, damage by radical anti-nuclear activists to electricity pylons and attacks on nuclear industry supply trains will be defined as acts of terrorism, drawing stiff prison sentences. Although the demolition of pylons and railway tracks has increased sharply this year, legal and

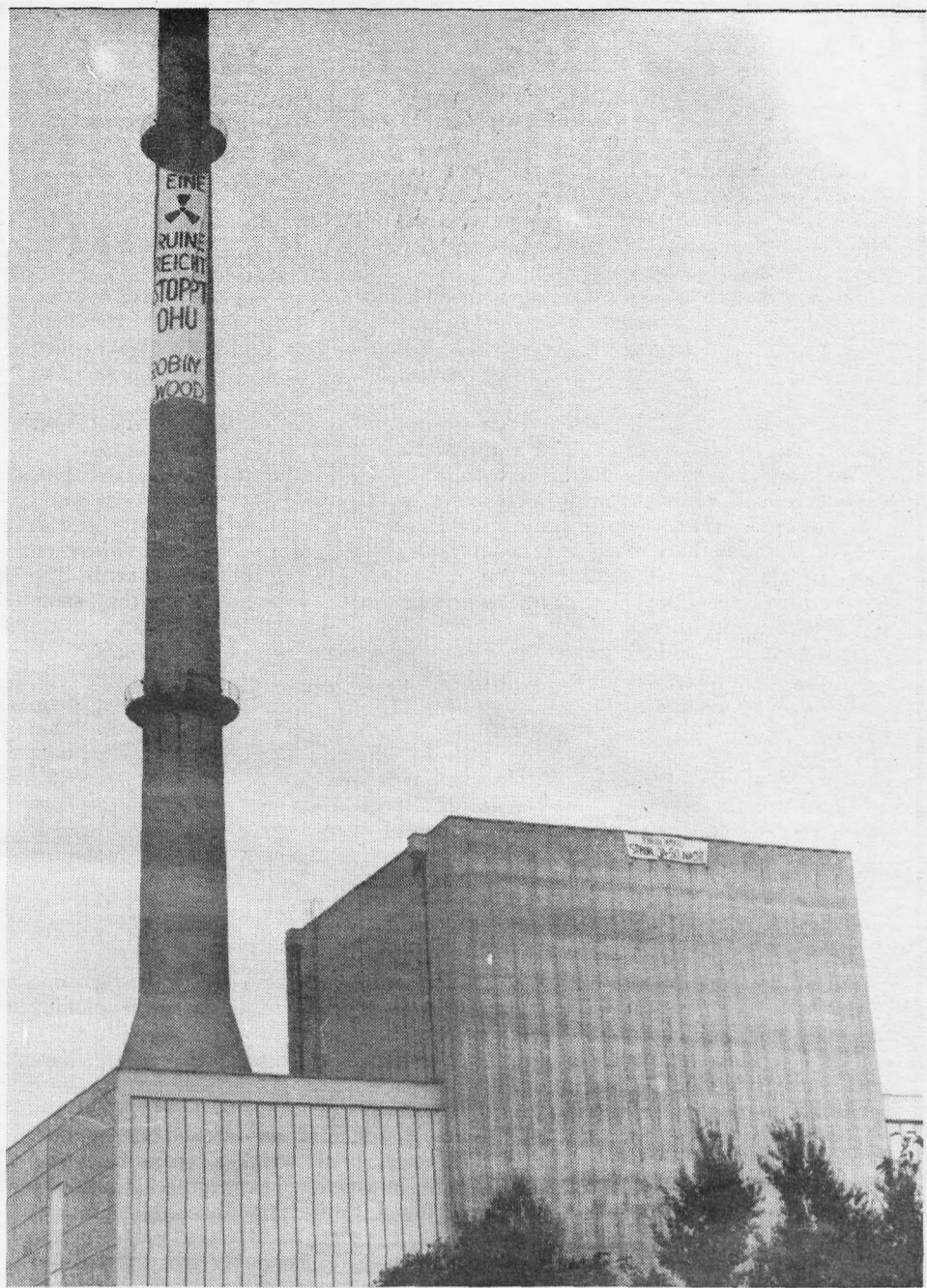


Photo courtesy of Robin Wood.

intelligence experts have warned against softening the line between hardcore Red Army Faction (RAF) terrorists and militant anti-nuclear groups.

... The association of Book Publishers and Sellers are also concerned by the new laws. They protest against a part of the package which makes the "distribution of written material inciting violence or giving instructions in acts of sabotage" a punishable offence.

The opposition parties have focused their criticism on another provision giving the police and the intelligence services access to a data bank in which the personal details of the country's 30 million car-owners are registered. While the government maintains that this measure will help in the search for terrorists, critics have said that it gives the police direct access to data on half of West Germany's population.

As can be intuited from a perusal of the foregoing report, translation of Ecodefense into German may now be fraught with hazards. West German friends planning to translate the 2nd edition for use in their country will not now be able to do so safely. We fear that French friends, also hoping to translate Ecodefense, may likewise soon be hindered by such "anti-terrorist" laws in their country.

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Letters (cont)

who don't have to kill, etc. As I see it, humans should only restrict themselves to non-violence if we're not the same as other organisms, but higher more discriminating cats.

Must I totally give up my individuality to fit into deep ecology? I think the whole idea of the "individual" depends on violence to some extent. To maintain space, promote identity, exploit a niche. Can we totally denounce individuality in favor of oneness with everything? Or must we somehow balance the two? How much detachment do we need to cultivate or allow? How can individual being exist in the long run without some kind of violence?

I am not advocating violence, necessarily. I would love to believe there is no such thing. But my understanding of the Natural World tells me it's a delusion to try to eliminate violence. What organisms will survive without demonstrating some form of violence?

I aim to stimulate more discussion so deep ecology can be more finely tuned. We must come up with something that works soon.

Feels The Wind

EF!ers,

I am writing about your story on Freddie pot cops in your latest issue. As a member of EF! and proud of it, I want EF!ers to know that a story ran in the *Cincinnati Enquirer* a few months ago on marijuana cultivation in the Wayne National Forest in southern Ohio. In the story, the Supervisor said that marijuana cultivation is on the rise because some of the park's locations are hard to reach and are good growing locations. He said that this year (1987) they will crack down on these growing locations they found last year. So be careful in your monkeywrenching.
sincerely undercover

Hello,

I read the following in *National Wildlife*, June-July, 1986. Mark Twain once said: "Thunder is good. Thunder is impressive. But it is lightning that does the work."

John Muckraker

DEAR NED LUDD

DEAR NED LUDD is a regular feature in *Earth First!* for discussion of creative means of effective defense against the forces of industrial totalitarianism. Neither the *Earth First!* movement nor the staff of *Earth First!* necessarily encourage anyone to do any of the things discussed in DEAR NED LUDD.

Ask Ned Ludd

Dear Ned Ludd,

I have some thoughts on tree-spiking which I'd like to share with the readers of the *Journal*. First of all, if you're planning to spike, *know your enemy*. I would seriously suggest that all forest monkeywrenchers put on their redneck garb and pay a visit to a sawmill. Call around until you find one that gives tours — most will do so, gladly. When you visit the mill, don't ask foolish questions about spikes; simply observe. The size, speed and power of many saws makes it unlikely that small ceramic or metal pins could do more than minimal damage — a larger pin is called for.

Here are some suggestions for spiking with non-metallic pins which, unlike most others described in these pages, require neither expensive hardware (rocksaws, kilns, cordless drills) nor esoteric skills to implement.

First, choose your spike material. Among the possibilities are the following:

ROCK CORES FROM TEST DRILLING. These can be found anywhere test drilling is done, particularly around mines, bridges, dams and energy plants. Since this drilling is done in order to analyze the underlying rock strata, the core samples are often kept for reference. But since more drilling than necessary is usually done, there's bound to be waste material lying around. By posing as a geology student or rockhound, and asking around at mines or drilling sites *far, far* away from your home, you may be able to acquire discarded cores. Test cores usually measure 1" to 2" in diameter.

PETRIFIED WOOD. This is common throughout the west. Rock shops can give suggestions on where to find it in your region. Of course they'll probably be happy to sell you some, also. Agatized limbs (agate is a form of quartz with equal hardness) up to 2" in diameter are fairly common and make superb

extra-hard pins. Petrified "splinters" can be found in all sizes and work well. Questions on the ethicality of removing petrified wood will be left up to the individual.

GLUED ROCKS. A previous writer suggested filling a section of PVC pipe with quartz chunks and epoxy. When the glue has dried, the pipe is removed leaving a usable "spike." A 1" to 2" diameter size is probably optimum.

CERAMICS. Large (1" to 2") kiln-fired pins are probably quite effective at damaging blades. But it may not be necessary to make one's own pins. Industrial ceramics are used for a wide variety of purposes, and with a little imaginative sleuthing, monkeywrenchers can probably find a readily-available form suitable for spiking (crock sticks? electrical insulators? other suggestions?).

Once you have decided on the material, there remains the actual spiking. Since 1" and 2" diameter holes are generally out of the range possible with cordless electric drills, an old-fashioned hand brace is required. Several types of large-diameter bits are available. Long (12" and upwards) ship auger bits are good, though difficult to locate and quite expensive. Extra-wide auger bits are occasionally available at well-stocked hardware stores and can be used with an extender for deep holes. Unfortunately, these extenders are hard to find for standard tapered-shank bits. Several models of "micro-dial" bits are available for holes up to 3" wide. These cost around \$15 and allow the hole width to be adjusted according to the varying diameters of the pins used. If a tapered-shank bit extender can be found, use that with the standard-length (about 8") auger bits. If you can't find a tapered-shank auger bit, there is another possibility: find a micro-dial



bit with a square (i.e., for a power drill) shank. This may have to be special ordered; Irwin Tool Co. *does* make them. With this bit, you can then use readily available power-drill bit extenders (\$3 each, lengths up to 18"). The power-drill bit extenders do require a special set of jaws in the hand brace, but most newer models accommodate both square and tapered shanks anyway.

Avoid the temptation to use too long an extender. A total length of 18" (bit plus extender) is maximum; any more length will make your set-up too unwieldy. As always, stick to only the best tools and check second-hand stores first. With a little searching and luck, a set-up as described above can be had for as little as \$15! And second-hand shops are the best low cost sources for hard-to-get items like tapered-shank extenders and extra-wide auger bits.

Remember, drilling holes in trees with a bit-and-brace is hard work. You will need to be in shape for this.

A few suggestions on concealment of your work: Carefully cut away a chunk of bark several inches square from the drilling area and save it. Use a small drop cloth and whisk broom to catch and remove all drill shavings. Push

"spikes" deep into drilled holes with a metal rod or similar tool. The remainder of the hole should be filled with a mixture of drillings and glue or a broken piece of branch to avoid leaving a tell-tale hole which may show up after the de-barking process at the mill. Glue the original bark chip back in place and disguise any marks with dirt or moss. Use a type of glue that will bond permanently to damp or rough wood for long-term concealment.

It is possible that the maximum effectiveness of "super pins" can be achieved by sending a warning letter and a pin sample (so they will believe you!) after the spiking. This in itself may be enough to deter logging in the spiked area; if not, at least the mills will know precisely what is behind the destruction of their expensive blades and won't make the same mistake again.

Happy spiking!

—The Phantom Driller

Dear Driller,

There are some very good suggestions here. However, I'd strongly recommend that anyone contemplating putting any of these suggestions to a field test read the section on "Security" in *Ecodefense* first.

—Ned Ludd

Billboarders Busted

by Corp. X. Torsion

What began as a peaceful, routine monkeywrenching mission turned into disaster in Corvallis, Oregon, last May. A midnight action intended to aid an unsightly cigarette billboard in its natural progression along the path of entropy resulted in the arrests and convictions of two *Earth First!*ers, Beau Saw and C. Nic View (neither of whom is a member of the non-violent Cathedral Forest Action Group). The ecomandos were accompanied on the action by Lois Lane, a journalist for a now bankrupt prominent national magazine. Charges against Ms. Lane were dropped due to controversy over the constitutionality of police inspection of her press notebook.

Beau plead guilty to felony Criminal Mischief charges and served one month in the Benton Co. jail in June and July, with time away from jail to attend an important national environmental conference somewhere in Idaho (while concurrently serving jail time!) during the week of July fourth. C. Nic plead guilty to Criminal Mischief with misdemeanor status and served 7 days in January.

The two sawyers, who allegedly were only collecting wood fuel for the approaching winter, were also sentenced to perform community service and to pay an inflated restitution to the victim, a small local business called 3-M International. "But, hey," Beau commented, "at least we got the sign down before they caught us."

The 3 suspicious looking characters were apprehended and detained after being spotted by officers in an unseen squad car parked on a dark backstreet near the felled sign. The group had incriminating evidence in their possession, including tools and a press notebook containing a record of the details of the evening's ritual; and were unprepared to put up much resistance during the arrest or in court. Mr. View, when asked if he would do anything different if he could relive the action, simply quaked a belligerent "Shut up."

Beau Saw advises taking all midnight missions seriously and covering your ass in every way possible at all times. For, "Getting caught with your pants down," he states, "is a good way to get screwed."

Editor's note: The above story is true, only the names have been changed to protect the careless.

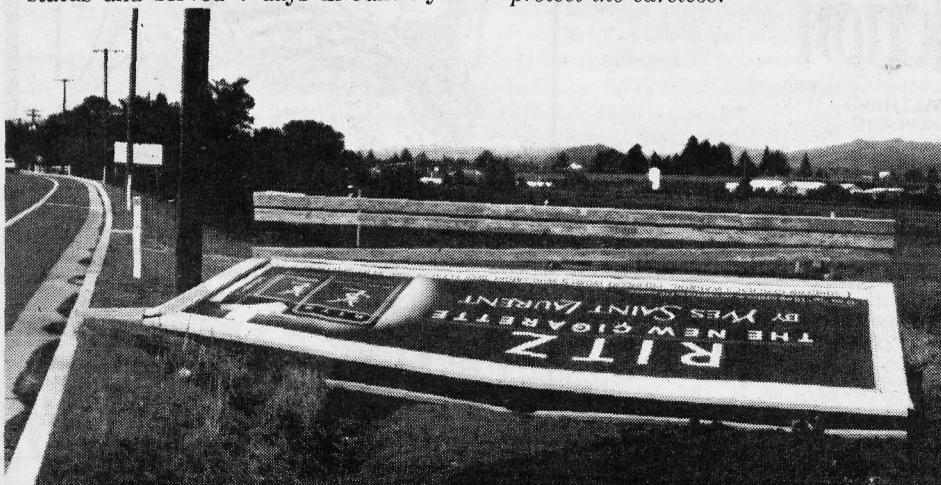
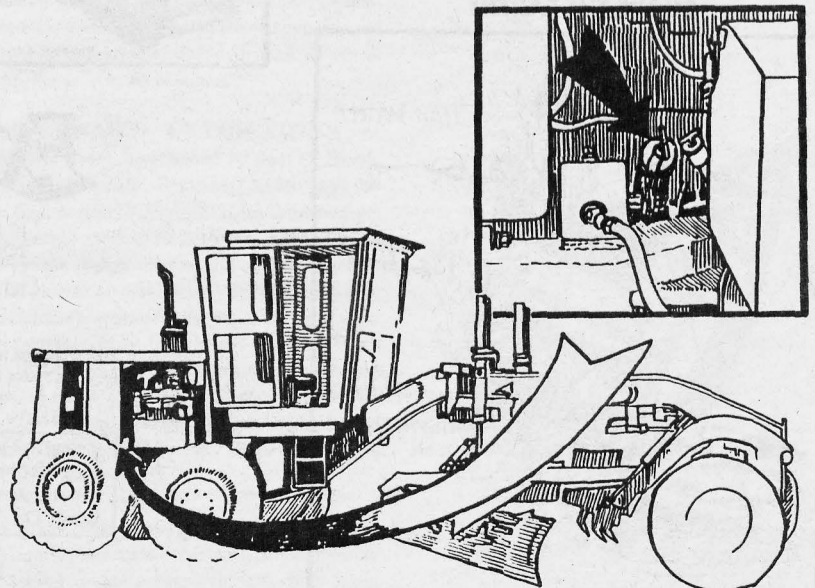
ECODEFENSE A Field Guide to Monkeywrenching The Second Edition

Available April 1, 1987

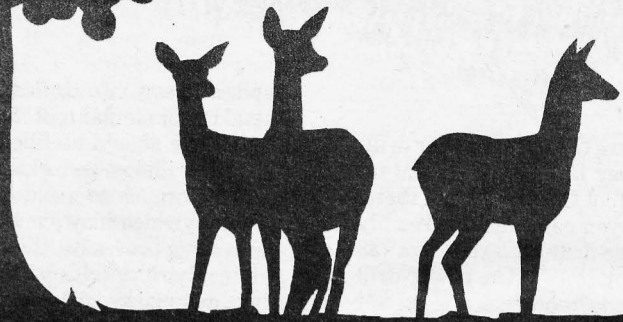
The 2nd Edition of *ECODEFENSE* has been sent to the printer. Considerable additional material has greatly expanded and improved the book. Entirely new sections include Destroying Heavy Equipment (21 pages with over one dozen detailed illustrations), Computer Sabotage, Condo Trashing, Urban Monkeywrenching, and Mining Ecotage. Chapters on Tree Spiking (including the Blade Ruiner cartoons), Survey Stake Pulling, Security, and Trapline Sabotage have been greatly expanded. All the original material has been retained in the 2nd Edition although it may be revised. While the first edition of *ECODEFENSE* had 186 pages, the second edition has 308.

Because of the great expansion in the 2nd edition, all readers of *ECODEFENSE* should update their copy of the book. To encourage *Earth First!* subscribers to do that, we are offering a special pre-publication sale on *ECODEFENSE — THE SECOND EDITION*. The 2nd Edition will sell for \$12 plus \$1.50 shipping (\$13.50 mail order), but if you 1) are a subscriber to *Earth First!* and 2) have a copy of the first edition of *ECODEFENSE*, we will send you a copy of the 2nd Edition for only \$9 postpaid (a savings of \$4.50) if we receive your order before April 1, 1987. Along with your \$9, you must send your mailing label from *Earth First!* and page 185 from the first edition of *ECODEFENSE*. We will mail you your copy of the Second Edition by April 1. Sorry — only one copy per person on this special price, but we are happy to take orders for additional copies at the full postpaid price of \$13.50.

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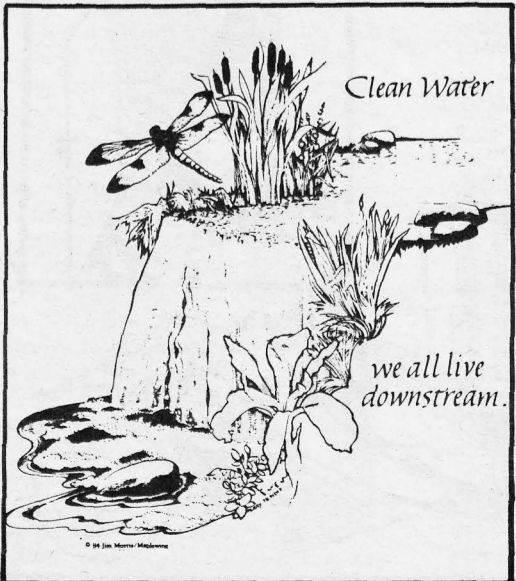
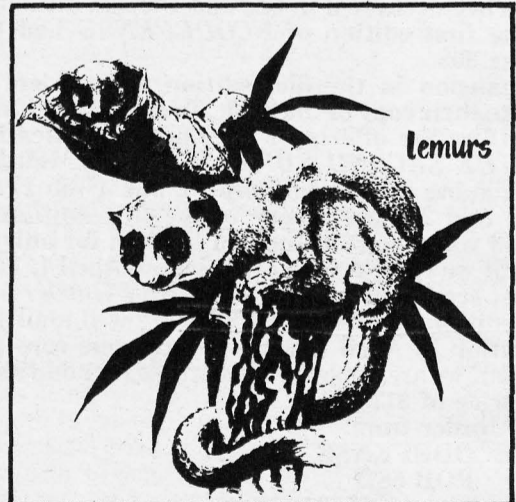
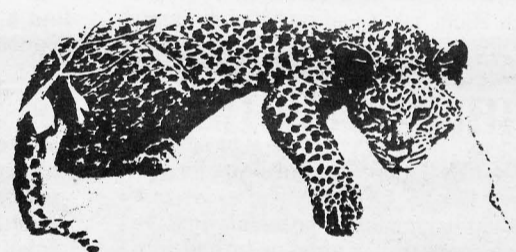
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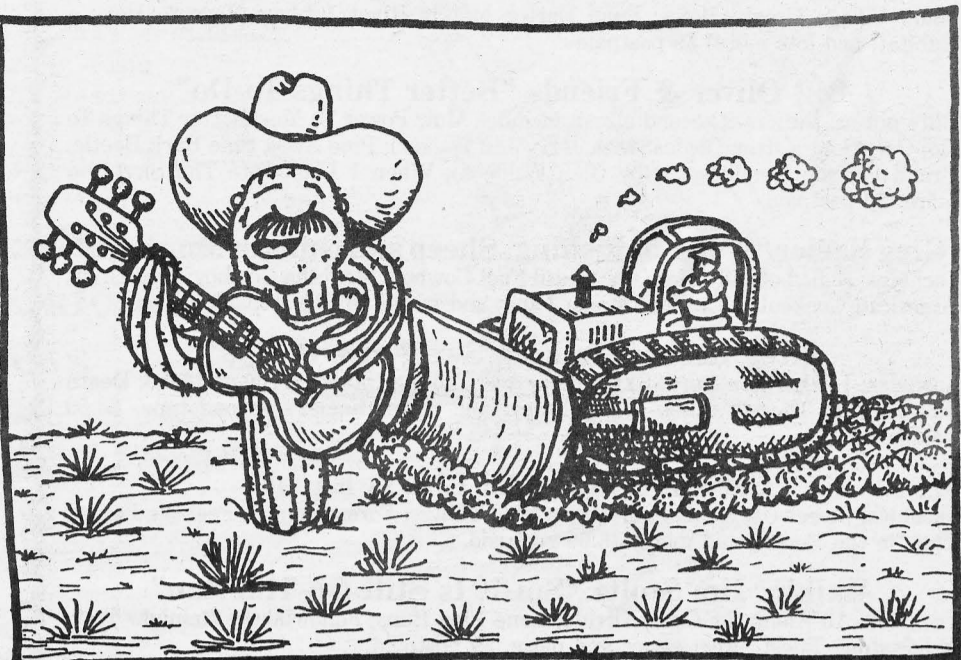
FULL CIRCLE "The Poetry and Vision of Lone Wolf Circles." Early poetry and prose from Earth First!'s Lone Wolf Circles. Includes 10 full page prints of shamanistic wilderness art by Wolf. Almost out of print. 58 pages, paperback. \$5 postpaid.

BEAR MAGIC A chapbook by the National Grizzly Growers featuring poems by Gary Lawless, Leslie Marmon Silko, James Koller, and Kate Barnes; art by Stephen Petroff; and interviews with Doug Peacock, Dave Foreman, and Lance Olsen. All proceeds to the Bear. \$3.50 postpaid.

A SAND COUNTY ALMANAC By Aldo Leopold. This environmental classic was selected by more reviewers in *Sierra* magazine's recent overview of significant environmental books than any other. Dave Foreman, in that article, called it not only the most important conservation book ever written, but the most important book ever written. Paperback, \$9.50 postpaid.

THE GIFTING BIRDS "Toward An Art Of Having Place And Being Animal" by Charles Jones. This excellent volume of essays from Dream Garden Press deals with that most important need of our modern world — a sense of place. Reviewed in March 1986 *Earth First!*. Hardcover, 158 pages, \$16 postpaid.

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American southwest." This important study examines groundwater depletion in southern Arizona and the Oglalla aquifer by European cultures and the earlier efforts by the Pima/Papago and Comanche to live in harmony with their dry lands. Reviewed in this issue. Paperback, 206 pages, 36 photos, 6 maps, \$9 postpaid.

BLUE DESERT By Charles Bowden. Just published by the University of Arizona Press, this is an eloquent and penetrating study of the darker side of the Sunbelt. One chapter, entitled "Foreman," is about — guess who? Belongs on the shelf next to Abbey's "Desert Solitaire." Hardcover, 178 pages, \$18.50 postpaid.

WALDEN By Henry David Thoreau with a major introductory essay by Edward Abbey — "Down The River With Henry Thoreau." Paperback, 303 pages, \$6.50 postpaid.

THE AMERICAN CONSERVATION MOVEMENT "John Muir and His Legacy" by Stephen Fox. Both a history of the conservation movement and an important new biography of John Muir, this book is recommended as absolutely crucial to understanding the environmental movement. Well-written, heavily footnoted, with photographs, now in paperback, 436 pages, \$16.50 postpaid.

OF WOLVES AND MEN By Barry Holstun Lopez. An unprecedented blending of natural and social history, Lopez explores the world of the wolf and where it touches the world of man, with a poet's eloquence and understanding. One of the finest natural history books ever written. Illustrated, 309 pages, paperback, \$14.50 postpaid.

THE SNOW LEOPARD Peter Matthiessen's extraordinary journal of his fall journey in the Himalayas with zoologist George Schaller in search of the elusive and endangered Snow Leopard, and in search of himself after the death of his wife from cancer. Paperback, \$5 postpaid.

QUATERNARY EXTINCTIONS "A Prehistoric Revolution" edited by Paul S. Martin and Richard G. Klein. Whodunit? 12,000 to 10,000 years ago, dozens of genera of large mammals and birds became extinct. In this extraordinary book, 38 scientific papers discuss and analyze whether climate change or overhunting by humans caused the demise of mammoth, mastodon, smilodon, cave bear, cave lion, giant beaver, and others in North & South America, Australia, Oceania, Eurasia, and Africa. A book of crucial importance in understanding the impact of our species on the rest of nature. Hardcover, University of Arizona Press, 892 pages, \$67 postpaid.

JAGUAR "One Man's Struggle to Establish the World's First Jaguar Preserve" by Alan Rabinowitz. An outstanding book of conservation and adventure about the author's attempts to save the Jaguars

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PARABLE OF THE TRIBES By Andrew Bard Schmookler. A provocative and original thesis on the origin of war and aggression in human society, with special application to environmental problems. Reviewed in Mabon '85 and followed with replies from Schmookler and various replies to Schmookler on the question of anarchy. Paperback, \$11 postpaid.

PROMISED LAND "Adventures and Encounters in Wild America" by Michael Frome. A wonderfully inspiring book by America's foremost environmental journalist on his encounters with people and wilderness: Mark Dubois on the Stanislaus, Martin Litton in the Grand Canyon, Sig Olsen in the Boundary Waters, Mayor Mitchell in the Rockies, William O. Douglas in the Cascades, and more. Reviewed in Litha '86. Hardcover, 312 pages, special low price of \$12 postpaid.

THE BHOPAL TRAGEDY — ONE YEAR LATER A 235 page detailed report on the Bhopal disaster which killed more than 2,000 people was published by Sahabat Alam Malaysia (*Friends of the Earth Malaysia*) because the disaster "has not called forth the angry, militant response it should have" and "to call for an international condemnation of transnational corporations who put profit before human lives." \$10 postpaid.

CRY WOLF! By Robert Hunter and Paul Watson. A stirring report from two of the founders of the original Greenpeace about the courageous efforts of Project Wolf in British Columbia to stop the demented wolf extermination campaign of the BC government. Reviewed in Nov. '85 *Earth First!*. 130 pages, paperback. \$9 postpaid.

More titles to be added.



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Page 34 Earth First! February 2, 1987

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REDNECKS FOR RAINFOREST

REDNECKS FOR WILDERNESS

RESCUE THE RAINFOREST

RESIST MUCH, OBEY LITTLE

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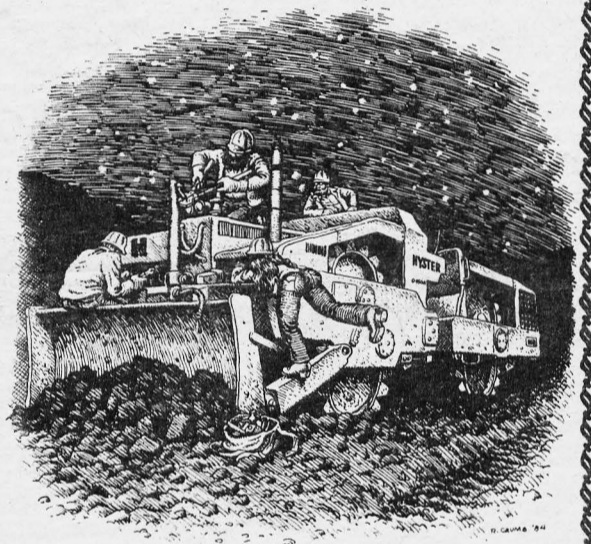
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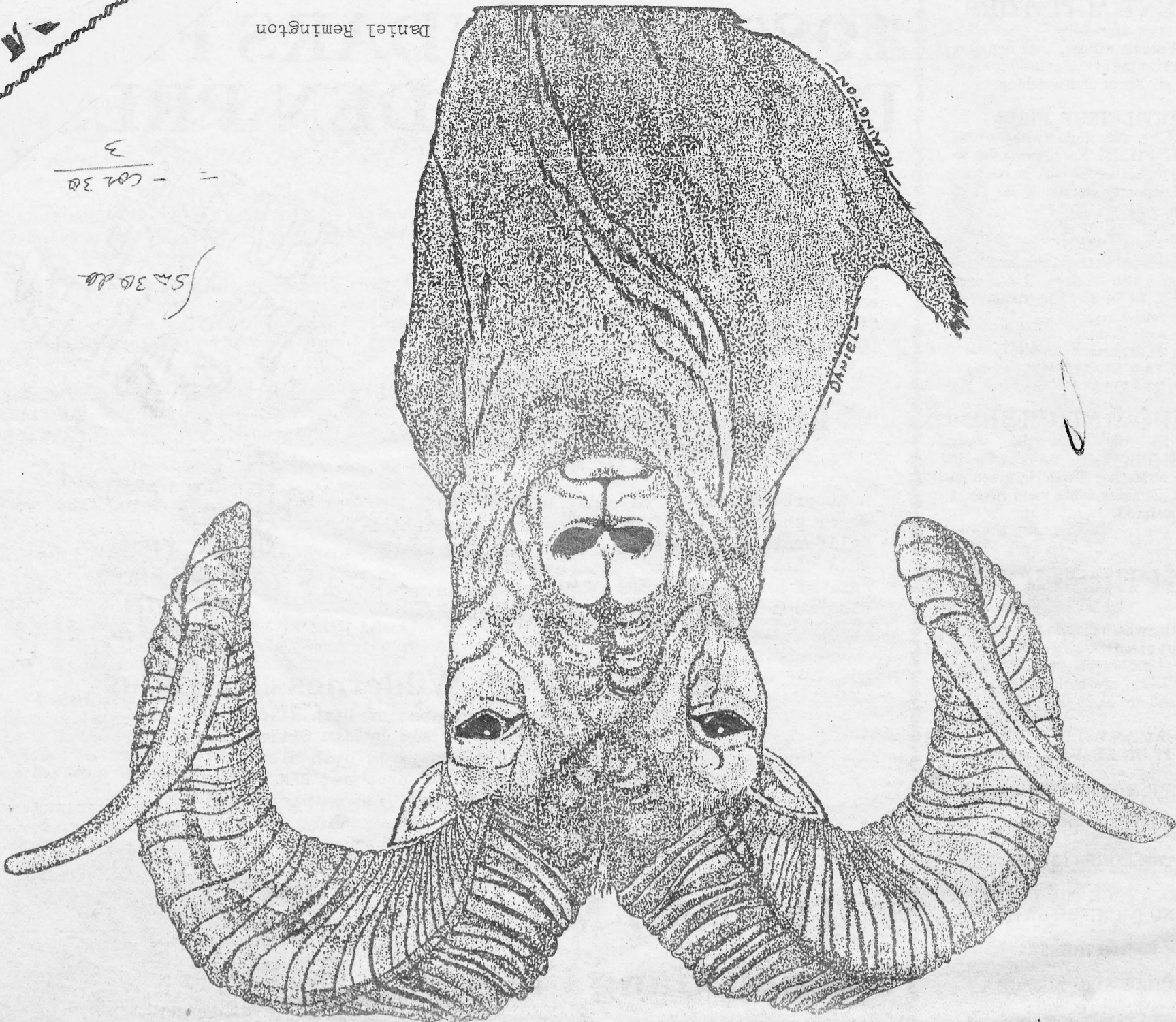
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