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# Earth First!

Brigid

Vol. XVII, No. III

February 2, 1997

THE RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL

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## The People vs Woody Harrelson

BY SORREL AND SQUAT

In the ancient redwoods of Headwaters this fall, the resistance was waged both on the ground and off. The shift from clearcutting to salvage logging of downed trees, however, brought the air force's activities to a halt. Activists had put forth a fierce set of demands, including one that will be met this year: the establishment of an independent Citizen's Review Board to investigate allegations of police brutality on the part of the Humboldt County Sheriffs. Nonetheless, the Ewok Village, a 19-day tree sit in Owl Creek, left some of us of the aerial persuasion thirsting for more. There was, after all, still gear to be confiscated.

As the direct action season wound down, over 1,300 had been arrested and nearly 300 had done a few days or even weeks in the rapidly expanding Earth First! wing of the Humboldt County Jail. There weren't many of us left who were arrestable, and we wanted a climbing action.

A supreme PR spin out of Senator Dianne Feinstein's office had the mainstream media convincing much of the public that Headwaters really was "saved" by the shady deal which Maxxam's Hurwitz orchestrated. To the press, the story had its happy ending, and we were a bunch of wingnuts, or worse, whiners (after all, even the national Sierra Club endorsed the deal.)

*continued on page 23*



Woody Harrelson climbing for the redwoods on Golden Gate Bridge, November 23, 1996

## The Forest Service Chief and the End of the Forest Service

BY RANDAL O'TOOLE

I do not usually make political prognostications, but I feel safe in predicting that the USDA Forest Service will not survive the next decade. I expect that the next Secretary of the Interior will propose to combine the Forest Service into the Department of the Interior and rename it the Department of Natural Resources. The plan will succeed, and soon after the Forest Service will be recombined with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and other Interior agencies, completely losing its identity.

In the past, when similar proposals came from Interior secretaries such as Harold Ickes in the 1930s or Cecil Andrus in the 1970s, they were met with stiff opposition. Environmentalists, timber companies, ranchers and other national forest users all saw the "independence" of the Forest Service as something that was valuable to them.

Gifford Pinchot founded the Forest Service with the idea that the forests should be managed by experts, not by politicians. Leaving the agency in the Department of Agriculture helped insulate it from meddling by the president because the Secretary of

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## First Minnesota Logging Blockade Nets Victory

BY WILD WILLY

On December 9, 1996, at about 4:30 a.m., a group of seven wet-behind-the-ears forest defenders met on Forest Service Road 200 in northern Minnesota just a few miles from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. They called themselves Earth First! Big Woods. Sure, some of these folks had been involved in anti-war or anti-nuke protests, and some of them had even been arrested for their actions. But none of them had ever done what they were going to do that cold morning: stop loggers from cutting one of the last old white pine stands left in the Superior National Forest.

The would-be tree huggers decided to make their stand near the bottom of a steep hill, at a narrow point in the road where a stream washed away any hopes of driving around the blockade. By about 6 a.m., a fire in the middle of the road was sporting healthy five-foot flames, and they knew that at any moment loggers would be coming over the hill.

The Forest Service named the sale Little Alphonie. There was much internal argument at the agency about the sale of this area. The protesters had acquired internal Forest Service paperwork that said that the sale "is a compromise between wildlife and silviculture vs. timber driven targets." The activists also had a copy of another document marked "Do Not File in Public File" that said, "We are very

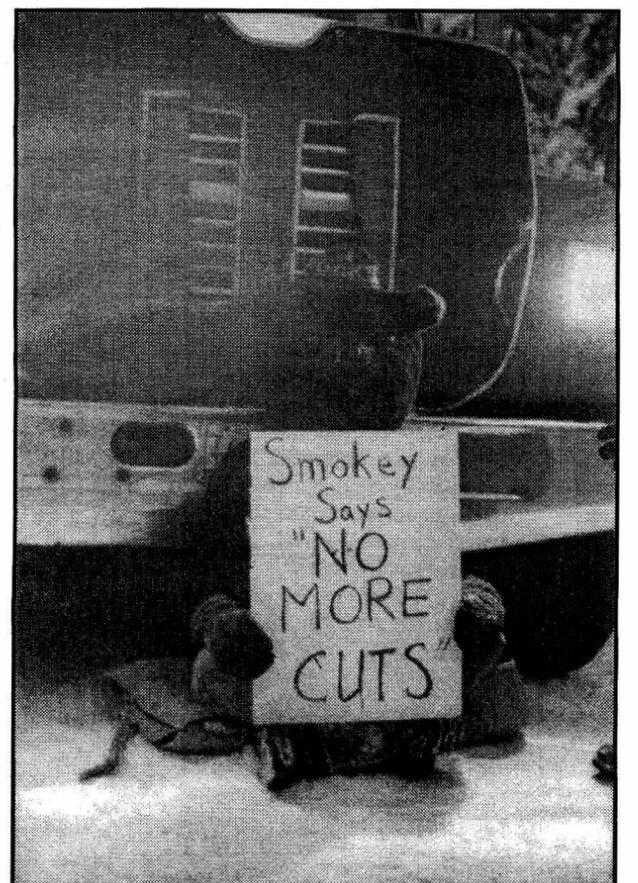
concerned about NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) documentation and the silvacultural soundness of the decision."

Armed with the dirty Forest Service documents and cardboard signs, the protesters waited for the work crew. At around 6:30 a.m. the waiting was over. The lead truck containing the logger and his spouse came to a halt just feet from the bonfire. Behind him was a semi trailer with a feller-buncher on it. Directly behind that came a van with five more protesters and a video camera.

The standoff began, them in their trucks and the activists around the fire, holding signs lit only by the logger's headlights. After about an hour, Smokey the Bear joined the activists at the fire and told them, "I used to do public relations work for the Forest Service, but this has gone way too far." Smokey told the activists that if they helped him, he would show them just how much he cared about the forests. So, with the help of a diversion and a lot of luck (the truck driver needed to relieve himself), Smokey chained himself to the front bumper of the running semitrailer hauling (as Smokey called it) the raper-butcher.

It is probably safe to say that if the video camera had not been there we might be talking about the late Smokey the Bear. The truck driver, upon realizing his own bad sense of timing, got very angry. He

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# EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH

POB 1415 • EUGENE, OREGON 97440 • (541) 741-9191



## IN SERVICE OF THE WILD

*In wildness is the preservation of the world.*

—HENRY DAVID THOREAU

Note here that its wildness, not wilderness that is our salvation. Thoreau defined wild as the past-participle of to will; to be wild is to be self-willed. To be wild is to be autonomous.

This dictum, though famous (and often misunderstood), has been transcended in the environmental movement to a large degree by scientific rationalizations, especially the field of conservation biology. While I appreciate the contributions that conservation biology has made, I think it has sidetracked the environmental movement in a direction that is ultimately harmful. It's not that conservation biology is bad, per se, but that it has diverted our attention from the fundamental issues we need to address if we are to heal our relationship to the planet. Under the banner of preserving biodiversity we continually allow the mundane and the ordinary to be extinguished—because we are unable to justify its defense. Doing triage—focusing attention on the most critical situations—is one thing. Sacrificing the rest of the world because it fails to meet an arbitrary standard of endangerment is unacceptable. Just as the thought of sacrificing some segment of humanity as long as a minimum viable population is maintained is unthinkable, so should the now-commonplace slaughter of non-human entities be unthinkable.

I think it is time to return to Thoreau's dictum, and with that return we embrace a philosophical viewpoint that is both holistic and inclusive in its vision. The following is a brief outline of what I think that vision entails.

To value the wild in the Thoreauvian sense of the word, that of being self-willed, is to recognize the inherent right and beauty of self-determination. This idea of self-determination must include the ecological context that allows an individual (person, plant, microbe) to flourish or die. Thus this right can and should be extended not only to indi-

vidual people and animals but also to cultures, species and entire ecosystems, including even the water and rocks contained therein.

The corollary of self-determination, or wildness, is freedom from slavery. Thus, the defense of wildness necessarily entails the process of liberation. It is the process of liberation from oppression in all its forms. It is to fight especially against those oppressions that are structural in nature, and thus responsible for putting entire ecosystems, peoples and species to death. It is an inherently political stand. It entails a radical departure from things as they are.

The defense of wildness is liberation for a world free of those nasty "isms" that act to enslave. It is a liberation that seeks a world that recognizes the fundamental interconnectedness of all matter and promotes a concept of "self" that includes all the constituent parts (air, water, wildlife, previous and future generations). The defense of the wild then becomes an act of self-defense.

We often get so caught up in our day-to-day activities that we tend to neglect the preeminent subject for liberation: ourselves. To do justice to the wild "out there," we must also cultivate an internal wildness, the "wild within." Our actions can only be as bold as our vision, so our vision must be uncluttered by imposed notions of political feasibility and instead see clearly the moral imperatives of the times we live in.

With this issue I conclude my stay here at the *EF!* *Journal*. No doubt, the last three years have been the richest in my life. I heartily encourage anyone with strong editing skills to consider coming to Eugene and joining the staff as a long-term editor.

—CRAIG BENEVILLE

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

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

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*Fauna. n. animal life.*

*Cabala. n. an esoteric, secret matter or mysterious art.*

The dwarf mongoose (*Helogale undulata rufula*) forms a foraging community with yellow-billed (*Tockus flavirostris*) and Von der Decken's (*Tockus deckeni*) hornbills in the Taru desert of Kenya. This thornscrub habitat has a large termite population, the mounds of which are used as mongoose refuges and foraging group staging areas. The carnivorous dwarf mongoose eats insects (beetles, termites, grasshoppers) and occasionally small vertebrates. When foraging, the mongooses fan out a meter or less apart and generally walk in a straight line, thus covering as much ground as possible. The hornbills (whose diet, except for fruits and herbs, overlaps completely with their companions) follow on foot, eating the jumping and flying insects that the mongooses disturb.

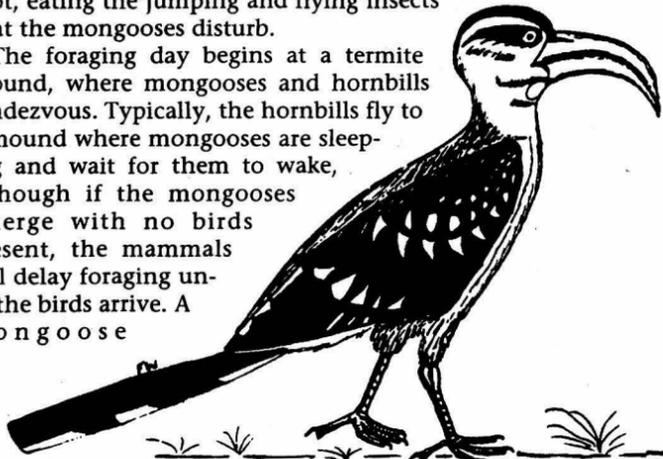
The foraging day begins at a termite mound, where mongooses and hornbills rendezvous. Typically, the hornbills fly to a mound where mongooses are sleeping and wait for them to wake, although if the mongooses emerge with no birds present, the mammals will delay foraging until the birds arrive. A

mongoose

lookout emerges first, followed by the rest of the group (3-32 animals). After 20 minutes or so of stretching, grooming, sunbathing and playing, the group sets off, with the hornbills in tow. If, however, the hornbills wait extraordinarily long (over an hour) for the mongooses to emerge, they fly to the mound, peek down a ventilation shaft and wake the sleepy mongooses with loud, squawking "woks."

The hornbills benefit from this mutualistic relationship by increased foraging efficiency, particularly of prey that would be difficult to find if it were not flushed out by mongooses. In return, the mongooses benefit because the hornbills are able to detect and warn of predatory raptors earlier than the mongooses are able to. The more birds in a group the fewer mongooses need to take up the dangerous job of lookout. Furthermore, hornbills and mongooses make several concessions to each other. Hornbills warn mongooses about predators even if the particular raptor does not prey on hornbills. Hornbills also refrain from consuming mongoose young, who are the same size as the rats in their diet, even though they have plenty of opportunities to do so. When competing for food, mongooses do not attack the hornbills as they do other species. Instead, they growl and hip-slam, responses normally reserved for fellow mongooses.

In other areas of Africa, the dwarf mongoose and yellow-billed and Von der Decken's hornbills live without each other's aid. Their relationship in the Taru desert is the tightest known mutualism between social vertebrates that usually live independently.



# Walking the Back Forty: The Land Ethic and Private Property

BY DONALD WORSTER

In the midst of confusion and uncertainty, when signs of the times are discouraging or hard to read, one turns back to holy word. I don't mean the Bible, as useful as it may be. For most conservationists, the holy word still comes from Aldo Leopold, the prophetic voice of the modern conservation movement, author of *A Sand County Almanac*. He was, it is important to remember, himself uncertain about the overall direction of history, and for good reason. He lived in even more troubled times than our own: the 1930s, the era of the Great Depression, and the 1940s, an era of world war and atomic bombs, of fascism's rise and defeat. Faced with so much global tumult, Leopold stayed focused on the fate of conservation, particularly in rural areas of the Midwest, far from the centers of world conflict, power and concern. What he saw there was not encouraging. "Despite nearly a century of propaganda," he wrote, "conservation still proceeds at a snail's pace... On the back 40 we still slip two steps backward for each forward stride." Most Americans of his day were not interested in the back 40, the uncharismatic lands just down the road, but for him it was where the long-term struggle for conservation must be won or lost. And it was being lost, he feared, more or less.

Yet Leopold was, on the whole, an optimist who found in the long course of evolution a reason to hope. Evolution is more than biological, he believed; it is also cultural and ethical. People do learn from their past, and they do acquire, however slowly, new knowledge and new attitudes. Even on the back 40, we may expect cultural change to go on, and some of that change may be enlightenment. Hope in the potentiality of human evolution can counterbalance feelings of despair over the pace of change or darker premonitions of doom.

Leopold went on to give us as clear a way to evaluate progress as anyone has done. When we have "quit thinking about decent land-use as solely an economic problem," he wrote, when we have begun to examine our relations with nature in terms of "what is ethically and esthetically right, as well as what is economically expedient," we will be succeeding. And then he added that famous, often quoted line, the best standard we have ever had for evaluating our behavior: "A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community." He called that standard a

"land ethic" and added that it is an ecological necessity and an evolutionary possibility.

The biggest obstacle standing in the way of a land ethic is not our scientific knowledge but our economic values. We still think about the land as a commodity rather than a community... No ethic, social or environmental, can ever flourish in a climate of unrestrained economic self-interest. A land ethic comes at a cost. Are we willing to pay it?

An ethic, Leopold wrote, is a "limitation on freedom of action in the struggle for existence." Freedom of economic action may be taken as his meaning. A land ethic takes away some of our economic freedom. Are we willing to give it up?

Land, Leopold observed, "is still property. The land-relation is still strictly economic, entailing privileges but not obligations." We have to begin putting some obligations into place.

Now, I realize that I am picking at some highly sensitive nerves. The idea of private property is, in the eyes of many citizens, a sacred truth, first inscribed in that other tablet of stone that Moses brought down from Mount Sinai, the one that reads, "Thou shalt not interfere with my rights. Thou shalt not even speak harshly to me, the property owner. Thou

must pay me, and pay me well, for any obligation I am expected to meet." The institution of private property in land, however, did not come down to us from Moses or from any other religious authority. It is a modern secular invention, not much older than the steam engine, and it was invented for one compelling reason: money. Privatizing property was supposed to increase the incentive of people to produce wealth from the land. It was not invented for the conservation or the protection of nature. It was invented as part of an economic revolution that was completely modern and fundamentally materialistic. Make no mistake about that. Turning the earth into private property was done to promote the wealth of individuals and of nations.

Over the past few years the institution of private property has been more stridently defended than ever, as various private property groups have organized to fight regulations imposed on them for environmental protection. They insist that almost any kind of restraint is morally wrong. Nowhere is this argument made more fiercely than here in Kansas, where certain agriculturists and land developers have made common cause. They do not want a land ethic imposed on them. In fact, they do not want a land ethic.

Sixty percent of the nation's land is owned privately; 98 percent of Kansas is. But only a very small group of people own that land. They are a minority but different from all other minorities. They either have had enough money to buy land or they have inherited it. Many have bought out their neighbors—enthusiastic winners in the "free enterprise" system. Put another way, little of our land heritage these days is in the hands of small-scale, traditional rural farmers, nor even in the hands of ex-urbanites looking for solitude. The vast portion of the land is held by those who seek, with varying intensity, to use property to improve their wealth.

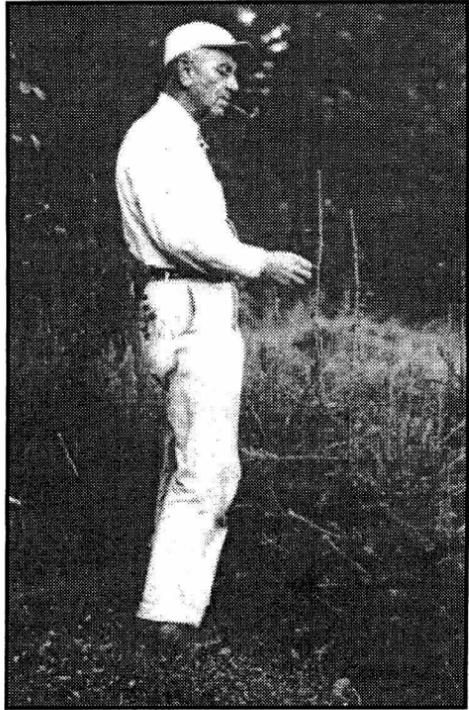
The inescapable fact is that a land ethic must either emerge spontaneously among such owners, which is highly unlikely, or it must be taught, encouraged, and enforced by others, by non-landowners. Finally, when methods of persuasion fall short, and at some point they will, a land ethic must be imposed by law. Progress toward conservation, in other words, requires nothing less than a reinvention of the institution of private property. Property must be seen as a social as well as an individual good, a community concern rather than simply private. Before I turn to how we might do that, I want to look at a couple of alternatives and show why they are not practical or sufficient.

First, there is the alternative of complete and final termination of all private property in the United States. That would be our equivalent to emancipating all the slaves of the Old South. Nothing like that is going to happen in our lifetime or our children's lifetime. The only way would be for government to buy up the entire 60 percent of America that is not already in its hands, which for obvious political or financial reasons is not possible. If we cannot find enough money to fund a handful of artists through a national endowment or to pay for Medicare, then we are unlikely to find enough money to buy up nearly a billion and a half acres of private land.

The second alternative is the back-to-the-land ideal, redistributing land among more individual owners. Rather than a mere two or three percent of the population, some say, we should have five or 10 or even 20 percent of the people living on the land, owning their own property. How exactly that is to happen remains a mystery. The market has been working precisely in the opposite direction for most of our history. If government now steps in to try to change that pattern, then what is it supposed to do? Take land away from the biggest owners and give it to the little people? Fat chance.

Even if we managed some redistribution of land, so that only 90 percent instead of 97 percent of us were left living in cities and suburbs, we would not necessarily have attained Leopold's ideal of a land ethic. We could very easily go on thinking about land as property, entailing privileges but not responsibilities. To move beyond that attitude we

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Aldo Leopold

## Letters to the Editors

### True Love

Dearest editors and readers:

Now that I am retired as a columnist (but not as an activist) and no longer have a professional image to maintain, I can publicly admit the truth—I am in love with Loba! I feel blessed in every issue her dear face graces the page. Seeing Loba smash the state always sets my heart aflutter. Gracious me, Loba is the eco-activist of my dreams!

Affectionately yours,

—MISS Demeanor

P.S. Don't you think we would make a lovely couple?

### ELF

hey elf!

We have noticed that the *elf* journal is not printing actions done by our brothers and sisters

associated with earth liberation front. Interested activists should check out the december issue of the *no compromise* paper for a list of elf actions. write *no compromise* at p.o. box 240655 apple valley, mn 55124 for info on getting a paper. As the "radical environmental paper" the *elf* journal should be listing elf actions. what ever happened to the earth night news section? We hope the *elf* is not becoming a liberal greenpiss type paper. in struggle,

—OREGON GREEN ANARCHISTS

Editor's response:

*ELF* is not submitting articles. We would like to print Earth Night news and Dear Ned Ludd submissions, but have received no submission in a long time. If those of the wrenchin'

inclination have new tactics, please share.

—LP

### BNELF Communique

(Butt Naked—Earth Liberation Front)

From the front lines of the Eco-Liberationists here in Wisconsin came a communique from a vital faction of ELF—bnELF is the true naturalists amongst the radical elements in Wisconsin. Their motto—"NO COMPROMISE WHILE DEFENDING MOTHER EARTH!" They see clothing and all "Human" technologies as compromising and restricting their goals, freedoms, and anatomy. One of their sayings are: "Go Natural while Fucking Shit Up!" or "only the Tough Wrench in the Buff!" If you want

camouflage or body covering use mud or leaves—be creative while functional.

This is easily applied as a mode of action in the summer, spring and fall, but the truly committed carry their dedication to the winter months, and considering the intensities of -60 that Wisconsin experiences on those exceptional eves. Warning: JUST AS A SPONGY TONGUE ADHERES TO METAL SO DO OTHER FLESHY BODY PARTS. Nothing is harder to explain to a security guard when your genitalia is bonded to the innards of a dozer. Try the cult excuse, it sometimes works.

This is a challenge to all warm climate ELF cells to get naked or get out! One must make certain sacrifices and comfort is the



highest sacrifice a butt naked Earth warrior can give. (Our hats, and everything else, are off to LOBA!)

From the Frigid Members

—WISCONSIN CELL

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# NO COMPROMISE IN DEFENSE OF LILLY-PILLIES

## Blockades for Aussie Old-Growth Tree Ferns

BY "LOCK-ON LIZ" INGHAM

The news from Australia is that forest activists in East Gippsland have stopped trying to talk sense into politicians and gone back to sitting on bulldozers, which is what we should have been doing all along.

Blockading down-under is often a relaxed affair. There is a base camp set up in an idyllic warm temperate rainforest area of East Gippsland, where a resident sooty owl calls and a pristine river flows. There are tree ferns 35-feet high, older than science can guess but as slender as saplings. The light through their latticed umbrellas makes enchanting dapples on the leaf litter. Nearby in the rainforest, under the vines, lilly-pillies drop their edible fruit. Along the river there are ancient granite boulders like the cracked eggs of a huge serpent, with tree root twisted through.

Like many such areas, it is unprotected from the woodchippers.

In this location of heart-breaking beauty, activists rest up and regroup to launch surprise blockades on nearby clearfelling operations. Here we set up our characteristic wooden tripods, attach ourselves to the machinery with thumb cuffs and metal sleeves, and peacefully refuse to move until the police move in and figure out how to cut us free.

### Signs of the Times

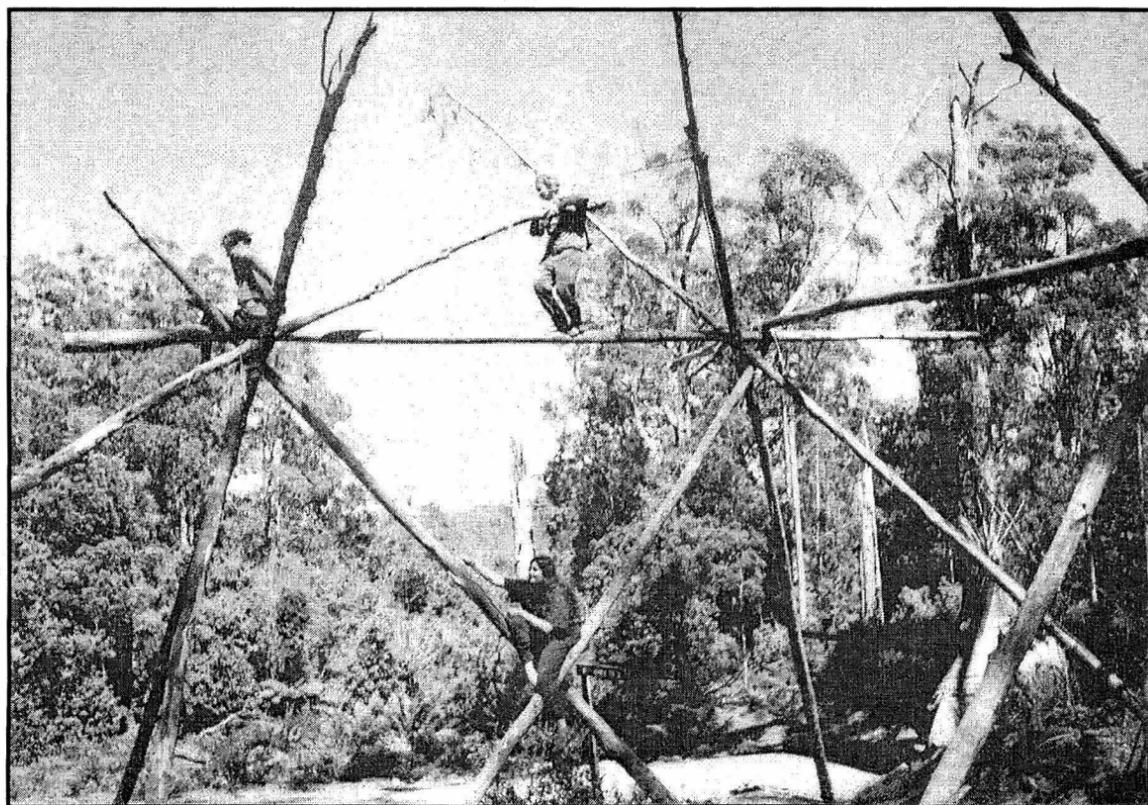
Our protests follow strict rules of nonviolence, including no damage to logging equipment. We don't need to monkeywrench. With the native forest timber industry going down the gurgler and a dog-eat-

dog climate in local towns, desperate workers are sabotaging their own and each other's machines. It has reached the stage that even timber-union leaders and senior police admit that the loggers here probably damage the equipment. The standard joke is that your machines are never so safe as when a load of greenies is crawling all over them.

The company at the root of the problem will be familiar to American readers—good old

Daishowa, which operates an export facility across the border in New South Wales. In East Gippsland's old-growth forests about 90 percent of what is logged ends up either as chips or as waste on the forest floor. Some areas yield up to 50 pulp logs for every saw log. The exports to Japan are used for paper pulp.

The federal and state governments are poised to sign agreements both in New South Wales and East Gippsland that will lock land-use practices in place for the next 20 years. The progressive New South Wales state government looks sure to reduce the amount of forest available for woodchipping near the border of Victoria, and the



Gippslanders casually blockading in Victoria with a typical tripod village

photo by Cam Walker

log-now-and-think-later Victorian government looks set to do the opposite. When this occurs, with a stroke of a pen, export woodchip limits will be abolished and Daishowa will be free to plunder in East Gippsland at will to make up for its New South Wales reductions.

### Clearfelling for Chips

As Daishowa has made inroads into Australia, we have seen timber jobs decrease by 40 percent. It only takes seven seconds to chip a tree. Despite the desperate situation, the underpaid workers in East Gippsland remain defiantly pro-clearfelling, at least publicly, even while their jobs are axed. In towns like Orbost, the local tourist information shop boasts a glossy, reassuring display produced by a million-dollar industry front group called the Forest Protection Society. The display proclaims to tourists that forests grow back, while along the highways acres of uniform, hand-planted eucalypt monocultures tell their own story.

The local towns are becoming more and more violent towards those with dissenting voices. It is like they are fighting with their backs up against a wall, hoping that if they stave off the truth for another year the glossy brochure fantasies of a sustainable woodchipping industry will magically come true. Most locals have parents and grandparents who were loggers before them, and chest-thumping declarations about being "third generation loggers" abound in the local press. What their grandparents would have thought about clearfelling for woodchips is another question. In the case of East Gippsland's small towns, the hand that feeds them—the multi-million dollar export woodchip industry—is also the hand that takes their livelihoods away. And it does not respect hereditary occupations or workers' rights.

So why are the unions silent about restructuring into more labour-intensive, less environmentally destructive logging methods and products? Perhaps big business has them by the short and curlies.

This situation exists in an area that is not bereft of alternatives. The forests being cleared would be an ideal base for a sustainable tourism industry. Right now the Australian government is spending millions of dollars on advertisements to lure Americans to Australia for their next holiday, while simultaneously allowing the destruction of pristine natural beauty that most developed nations envy.

### And So? Direct Action!

It seems to me that the only people displaying any common sense are the good souls who spend their summer holidays sitting on bulldozers. We are the people putting the horse before the cart, as the saying goes. We know that the only way to secure both our forests and those damned jobs they keep going on about is to establish a healthy, low-impact tourism industry.

If that can't be done, it's time for a re-think. A powerful owl or a sugar glider cannot be valued in economic terms because they exist for themselves, not for humans. You can't measure how many hectares of forest, or how much animal life, a human job is worth. No matter how embattled the community, we have no right to plunder nature, to exchange an ecological community for a human one. Our underlying and little-questioned arrogance needs to be checked.

Activists needing a holiday of sorts are welcome to come, lend a hand and be part of the growing ecotourism industry. Just contact Friends of the Earth—Melbourne at CROEG, Bonang Highway, Goongerah Vic 3888, Australia; (03) 9419-8700; fax (03) 9414-2081.

## 94 PERCENT OF WORLD'S FORESTS UNPROTECTED

Only six percent of the 3,300 million hectares of forests left in the world are formally protected, according to new data released by World Wildlife Fund For Nature (WWF).

The information gathered in the WWF World Forests Map, a digital overview of the Earth's remaining forest cover produced with data from over 80 countries, shows that only a very small fraction of the world's remaining forests has been set aside for conservation within protected areas such as national parks and nature reserves.

To identify forests under threat around the world, WWF, in collaboration with the UK-based World Conservation Monitoring Centre, gathered

national and international forest data covering the last 20 years. The data analyzed shows that there has been a 34-percent increase in deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon since 1992; an area equivalent to the size of Belgium has been lost. Also, countries like Cambodia, Russia and Cameroon, where large areas of forest still remain (many of them exploited by commercial loggers), have yet to establish representative networks of protected areas to ensure adequate protection for all their different types of forests.

WWF is making available to the public a simplified version of the World Forests Map over the Internet. This can be seen on the WWF Global Network Website at <http://www.panda.org>.

# Clearcut Landslides Devastate West Coast

BY SUSQUE HANNAH

Clearcuts Bring Killer Landslides—*Earth First! Journal*, Dec. 21, 1996

Blame it on Logging—*The Oregonian*, Jan. 5, 1997

Clear-Cutting Blamed for Many Mudslides—*San Francisco Chronicle*, Jan. 9, 1997

The Wild West's Not-So Natural Disasters—*New York Times*, Jan. 10, 1997

have been trying to stop it for years. Reporters and photographers who, as usual, only visited areas where slides had damaged private property or public roads, indicated in their articles that they had reached the same conclusions the environmentalists had. The dramatic aerial photos of clearcuts, mile-long landslides and demolished homes that accompanied the articles would tell the rest of this tragic story about the relationship between forest management practices and landslides.

In northern California, landslides closed more than 40 roads in Humboldt County. Seven homes were destroyed in the small village of Stafford by a mile-long, 100-yard-wide landslide. The authorities evacuated families just 10 minutes before their homes were buried in six to eight feet of mud. The Stafford Road slide—certainly one of the most spectacular and photogenic—was just one of many in a watershed where clearcutting takes place continuously. Local forest activist Jesse Noell had the opportunity to fly over the areas impacted in Humboldt County soon after the slides occurred. Noell said he found one previously healthy eight-foot-deep stream, that once teemed with steelhead and coho reduced to a muddy run now eight inches deep. "Logging is ruining every stream in the headwaters of the Stafford Creek watershed," said Noell. "It is tragic."

The *San Francisco Chronicle* reported that "...the people living in the Stafford area where the slides occurred and the environmentalists say many of the slides are happening because lumber companies have completely stripped the mountains of trees." An interview with a local resident produced the following insight: "I'm not a rabid environmentalist," said Michael O'Neal, a mobile home hauler. "I've worked as a logger myself. When you look up that slope, though, you can see that (loggers) have overdone it.... It's really steep up there, and there's nothing left to stabilize the

soil." Yes, Michael, it really is true; the contention that clearcutting causes landslides never did seem anything but self-evident to us, and we can't understand why it is taking the Forest Service and the timber industry so long to acknowledge the simple facts of forest ecology.

The land above the Stafford slide is owned and logged by Pacific Lumber, the same company the Headwaters activists have been battling for years. The residents of Stafford who feel the timber company is responsible for their losses are ready to demand restitution, prompting a Pacific Lumber spokesperson to declare: "That's an unstable area anyway. To point the finger at this point is premature." So what about the California Department of Forestry (CDF) who regulates the cutting? Jesse Noell refers to the "scientist" in charge of signing off on timber cuts in this area of ancient Redwood groves as Jim "No Problem" Falls. Noell asserts that the residents of communities like Stafford throughout the county "have a death warrant approved by the CDF hanging over their heads."

The last issue of the *EF! Journal* reported on a landslide in Oregon that killed four

when the house they were in was broadsided by tons of mud and debris from a clearcut slope. People living in small communities at the bases of mountains throughout the Northwest have no say about whether or not the huge stand of trees uphill is going to be clearcut or not. Ron Luras, a resident of the McKenzie River watershed near Eugene, recently came to a forest activists meeting to ask Earth Firsters if we could help stop the clearcutting that threatened his and his neighbor's homes. He prefaced his statements by saying that he had never been involved in activism or been particularly interested in environmental issues before, but now he was desperately seeking help in light of the logging industry's blatant disregard for the safety of his family. One resident of Humboldt County described his situation to reporters as being like "living in the barrel of a gun."

The forest products industry apologists face a daunting task whenever these natural seasonal floods occur and the spotlight of public attention shines on their handiwork like the blazing sun on the southern exposure of a clearcut mountainside. Arguments defending their indefensible position were even more difficult to present this year because human life was lost. The best the Oregon Department of Forestry could muster was a "forest engineer" who argued, "Clearcutting may cause increases in stream flows, but to say it causes damaging floods is a pretty big leap of faith." Their rhetoric, however, is not convincing environmentalists, or anyone else who has seen a clearcut, that the relationship between logging and landslides is anything but clear cut. Such rhetoric is designed to counteract the growing public opinion against the timber industry, and it is failing miserably.

An Oregon geological study found that 71 percent of slides originate in areas that have recently been logged, and another 23 percent start in older cuts. Armed with these statistics, photographs of slides, press clippings and firsthand accounts of the devastation from victims, the forest activists in Oregon are continuing their campaign against unsustainable forest practices with the introduction of a new state initiative calling for a ban on clearcutting. And the folks at the Environmental Protection Information Center in northern California, who in no way advocate doing anything illegal like trespassing, say they could sure could use some photos of clearcuts, landslides and ruined streams on Pacific Lumber property for their files.

We can only hope that the media attention on forest management issues that Earth Firsters have been trying to bring into the realm of public debate for two decades will help our cause. The results are already in, and the message is clear: Mother Nature bats last. How many more of the majestic mountains of the Coast Range and Cascades will lose their protective forest covers and end up in masses of displaced soil on the valley floors and floodplains before reason prevails?



Mile long Stafford slide in Northern California

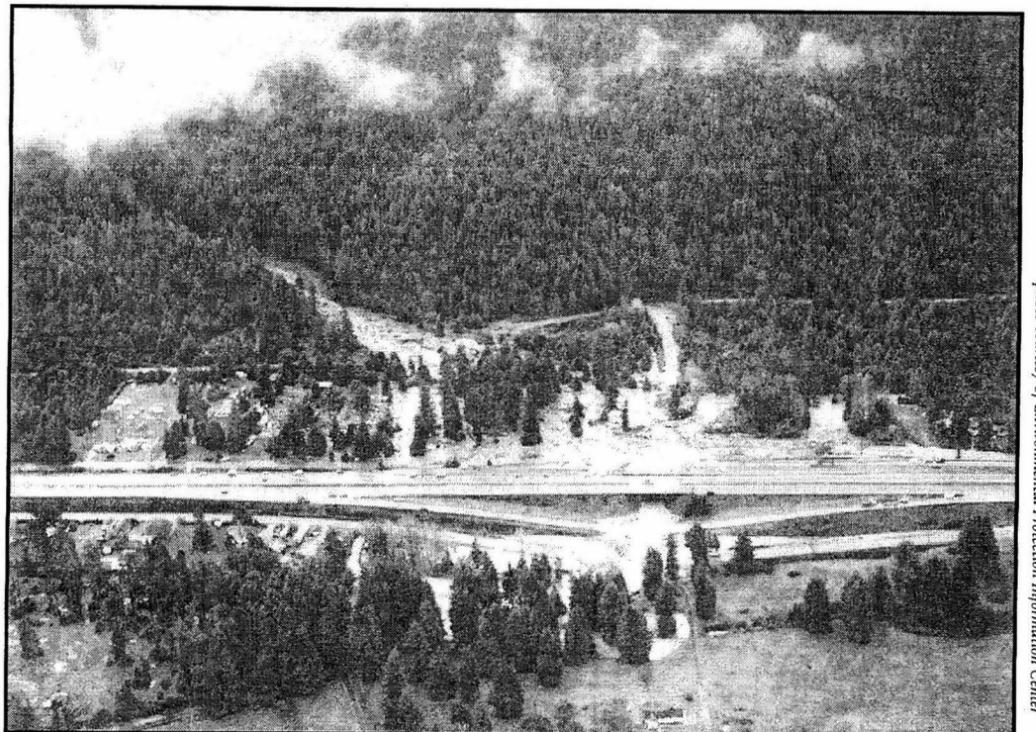
photo courtesy of Environmental Protection Information Center

Following the lead of the *Earth First! Journal*, bold headlines like these appeared in newspapers throughout the country as the Northwest experienced a succession of cold, rainy days at the beginning of the winter season. In Oregon, one of the states hardest hit by landslides as a direct result of odious forest management practices, residents wondered if the country would recall that the same headlines were making the national news exactly one year ago. Would people remember, be shocked to hear it was happening all over again and share Oregonians sense of *deja vu*?

It was in February of 1996 that terrible flooding in the watersheds of Oregon and Idaho provoked a similar deluge of stories with headlines like "Swollen Streams Tied to Logging" and "Clearwater Mudslides" (see *EF! Journal*, Brigid '96). Native Forest Council Board Member Victor Rozek's editorial in Eugene's *Register-Guard* detailed the horrors of the floods of '96: "...in the freshly-logged Mohawk watershed near where I live is Parson's Creek. This creek, which is usually no more than 15-foot wide, became a 57-yard-wide torrent of brown muddy water. In some areas as much as five feet of silt, mud and logging debris settled around the homes of lowland residents. Much of the flood damage is human caused, a direct and inescapable result of clearcut logging."

It is estimated that this winter's floods in Oregon caused \$76 million dollars worth of damage. In a recent letter to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber announced, "State and local resources have been exhausted." He requested seven counties in the state be declared disaster areas so that federal funds would be made available to cover the costs of cleanup and repairs. But as the *New York Times* headline notes, these are actually "not-so natural disasters" the taxpayers will be paying for.

Here in the Pacific Northwest, where enclaves of activists are continually waging war with the forest products industry and their servants the Forest Service, everyone knows what is going on because they



Major slides, like this one in Stafford, closed highways in Washington, Idaho and Oregon.

photo courtesy of Environmental Protection Information Center

# Feds conceal damning dump data

BY CRAIG BENEVILLE

An environmental group has discovered that the highest levels of the US Geological Survey (USGS) have apparently been involved in a cover-up to conceal information damning to the proposed radioactive waste dump in Ward Valley, California.

Documents obtained by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) indicate that USGS

Director Gordon Eaton and other top agency officials suppressed information about leakage of radioactive waste at a dump site in Beatty, Nevada. The documents also reveal strategic planning by USGS to withhold the information from the public, while at the same time briefing US Ecology, the company licensed to operate the Ward Valley dump, on the

details of their findings. This constituted a major conflict of interest, as the USGS scientists also sought funding from US Ecology to monitor the dump when it opened.

The planned Ward Valley dump calls for radioactive waste to be buried in unlined trenches near Needles, California, 18 miles from the Colorado River. For the project to go forward, the federal Department of the Interior (DOI) must transfer management of the land to the California Department of Health Services (CDHS), which would then own the waste facility and lease it to US Ecology. In early 1993, amidst a political maelstrom, incoming Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt put the land transfer on hold, calling for additional studies to look at the safety issues surrounding the dump.

Babbitt called on the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) to establish a panel to examine the issues surrounding the dump (most notably concerns raised by two USGS scientists later terminated by the agency). Central to the discussion was the claim by dump proponents that rainfall will not penetrate deeper than 10 feet in arid climates and that no moisture will reach the waste for millennia.

In environmental documentation and legal findings, Ward Valley dump backers have repeatedly claimed that the radioactive waste dump in Beatty is a good model for Ward Valley because of similarities in climate, site design, soil and other characteristics. The NAS panel relied heavily on such models because data provided by US Ecology in its license application was severely deficient.

The recently released FOIA documents reveal that USGS not only failed to disclose evidence of leakage at the Beatty dump to the NAS panel, but also

actively concealed this failure to provide results of their surveys.

The documents show that measurements from an April 1994 study found highly elevated tritium levels at a survey spot outside the Beatty dump. This was reported to USGS staff scientists David Prudic and Robert Striegl on June 20. Prudic and Striegl immediately concluded that the contamination was either from radioactive fallout from bomb testing or from leakage at the dump. Either conclusion would

be deadly to the safety claims of Ward Valley dump proponents.

On July 7, 1994, Prudic testified to the NAS panel that all evidence from the Beatty site indicated that radioactive migration could not occur there or at the Ward Valley site for tens of thousands of years. He did not volunteer evidence of migration having already taken place, and when asked if he had taken any mea-

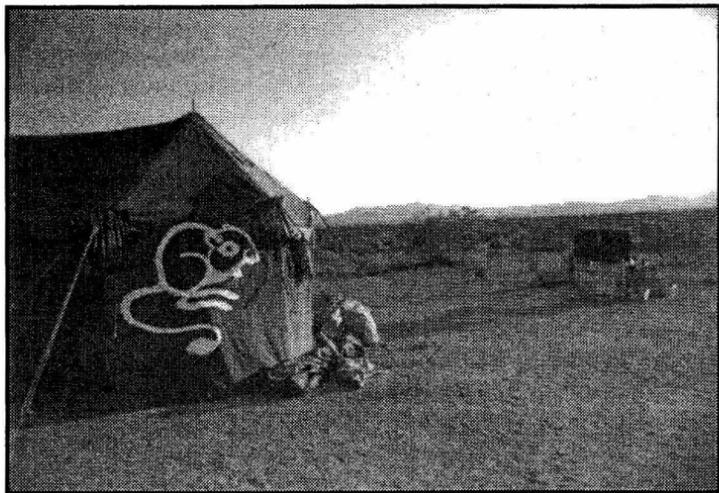
surements for tritium he conceded he had, but claimed that no results were available. Despite the clear interest of the NAS panel, Prudic never subsequently informed the panel of the tritium findings. Nearly two months after the first NAS meeting, Prudic submitted a paper to the NAS panel reiterating his claims that the data indicated no water would penetrate more than ten feet into the Ward Valley or Beatty sites for tens of millennia.

Based on the representations by Prudic and other USGS employees, the NAS panel eventually gave the Ward Valley project a qualified endorsement.

On May 31, 1995, Babbitt announced he would transfer the Ward Valley land, indicating the NAS report had concluded that such sites would not leak. Striegl sent an e-mail message a few days later to Robert Hirsch and John Fischer, the USGS Chief Hydrologist and Associate Chief Hydrologist, respectively. Striegl said "the results [of Prudic and Striegl's research] point toward contamination from the Beatty low-level waste site." He then told Hirsch and Fischer, "Neither of you need to be informed of the can of worms that this will open if we are actually seeing [leakage] from an arid radioactive waste disposal site."

On June 9, USGS notified the two primary Ward Valley project proponents, US Ecology and CDHS, of the findings, despite USGS rules prohibiting disclosure to private parties without a concurrent release to the general public.

Chief Hydrologist Hirsch responded to Striegl's e-mail with one of his own, and sent copies to various high-level USGS officials. Hirsch thanked Striegl for informing him of the contamination and said, "I have spoken to Newell Trask about the situation and asked him to develop the strategy with all of you."



The Ward Valley Coalition has established a permanent encampment at the proposed dump site.

Thus, at least within days of the NAS report and Babbitt's preliminary decision to transfer the Ward Valley land, the highest levels of the Survey were aware of the importance of the findings, yet did not inform the DOI. Instead, there was concern for developing a "strategy" and getting their "story" straight, given the "can of worms" that the findings would open if made public.

This frightening cover-up is compounded by an extraordinary financial conflict of interest involving the USGS staffers who suppressed the data in the first place.

On August 17, 1995, Hirsch, Trask and others were informed that additional samples taken outside the Beatty dump confirmed extensive contamination coming from the facility. Nonetheless, USGS notified neither the public nor the DOI. However, on September 8, USGS staffer Prudic did notify US Ecology of the findings.

US Geological Survey documents obtained by PEER shed light on the motivations of USGS staffers to keep the data secret. The documents memorialize a September 18, 1995, meeting between USGS, US Ecology and CDHS. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the dump proponents of the information about Beatty and to solicit funding from them for further surveys at Ward Valley. The current funding had been "zeroed out," and USGS was seeking alternate sources of revenue. Thus, while Prudic, *et al.* were keeping the damning dump data secret from dump critics, they were informing dump proponents about it and asking for funding.

It was not until 16 months after the leakage at Beatty was discovered that USGS Director Gordon Eaton notified DOI of the findings. He began his memorandum with the misleading statement that investigators "recently measured" contamination at the Beatty site. Amazingly, he goes on to state not that this information may play a role in the land-transfer decision, but that, "The purpose of this memorandum is to alert you to the fact that this discovery may be used by opponents of the proposed new low-level radioactive waste disposal facility at Ward Valley, California, to attempt to block construction of the facility and to challenge the transfer of land for the site...."

A few days after the Eaton memo, inquiries and intervention by the activist group Committee to Bridge the Gap forced the USGS to make the data public. The DOI promised to investigate the matter, and delayed the land transfer until a supplementary environmental impact statement examined the issues raised by the USGS data.

USGS was ordered to prepare an independent evaluation of the data Prudic and his colleagues allegedly suppressed. USGS proceeded to hand that task to the man accused of suppressing the data in the first place, Dave Prudic. Of course, asking those involved in the original suppression to evaluate whether the data they suppressed was significant is an abuse of authority by the USGS.

Meanwhile, US Ecology has threatened to sue the NAS scientists chosen by the DOI to prepare a report for the supplemental environmental impact statement on how quickly a Ward Valley dump could leak. The company warned the scientists that, "Should you continue your participation in Interior's ill-advised project, please do so based on the knowledge that US Ecology intends to seek compensation from any persons or entities whose conduct wrongfully injures its interests in this manner."

The two NAS hydrologists have stopped their work until the federal government agrees to pay their potential legal costs. The scientists' fears are not unfounded: American Ecology, the parent company of US Ecology, filed a SLAPP suit against the Texas grassroots group Mothers Organized to Stop Environmental Sins, which is fighting to close the firm's toxic dump operations in the Lone Star state.

Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility asks that you contact Deputy Secretary of the Interior John Garamendi and press him to conduct a full investigation into the rad waste cover-up. Please tell Garamendi that the investigation needs to extend beyond the technical issues to determine personal culpability. Deputy Secretary of the Interior John Garamendi, 1849 "C" St. NW, Washington, DC 20240.

## Dioxin Free Pulp Effluent

In the next few months the EPA will be finalizing effluent standards for pulp and paper mills. For years, environmental and social justice organizations have supported standards that are based on Totally Chlorine-Free (TCF) technology. This is the only way to end devastating dioxin and other organochlorine pollution from mills.

Dioxin is a chlorinated, chemical compound—a by-product of chlorine—that has been linked to reproductive and developmental disorders in wildlife and humans. Higher cancer rates and endocrine system disruption have also been attributed to high levels of dioxin in the environment.

Unfortunately, the pulp and paper industry is fighting tooth and nail to ensure that the standards are based on the cheapest option. Currently, more than 65 mills worldwide use TCF technologies (mostly in Europe) and are moving towards ending all wastewater discharges. If it is good enough for European mills, which have remained competitive

in our global marketplace, why are mills here fighting so hard to keep us from breathing cleaner air, drinking cleaner water and eating dioxin-free food?

This is an urgent appeal. If the EPA does not choose a standard based on chlorine-free technologies, legal statutes will be locked into an extremely toxic technology for another 20 years. There is already plenty of evidence from wildlife studies and human health trends to make the right decision now.

Please mail, fax or e-mail a letter to the President as soon as possible so that we can start putting our health on equal footing with economic progress: President Clinton at The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, DC 20500; (202) 456-1111; fax (202) 456-2883; e-mail president@whitehouse.gov. If you need more information contact Laurie Valeriano at (206) 632-1545 or e-mail lvaleriano@watoxics.org.

—ZERO TOXICS ALLIANCE PULP AND PAPER ACTIVISTS

# SUPPORT DINEH DEFENSE OF SACRED LAND

BY MEDIA ISLAND INTERNATIONAL

The largest forced relocation of Indian people in the 20th Century has been underway in northeastern Arizona for nearly 20 years. Congress passed Public Law 93-531 in 1974, which authorized this relocation, after the OPEC oil embargo pushed the US and multinational corporations towards "energy independence." Over 14,000 traditional Dineh (Navajo) people have been severely impacted by this law enacted with virtually no public discourse. The largest coal field in North America sits under Black Mesa, an area where the Dineh people have resided for hundreds of years. Uranium and oil shale further the resource wealth of this land sacred to both Dineh and Hopi people. One-hundred Hopi and over 10,000 Dineh were relocated, destroying their self-sufficient lifestyle. The 3,000 people remaining on the land are resisting relocation; many have vowed to leave only when dead.

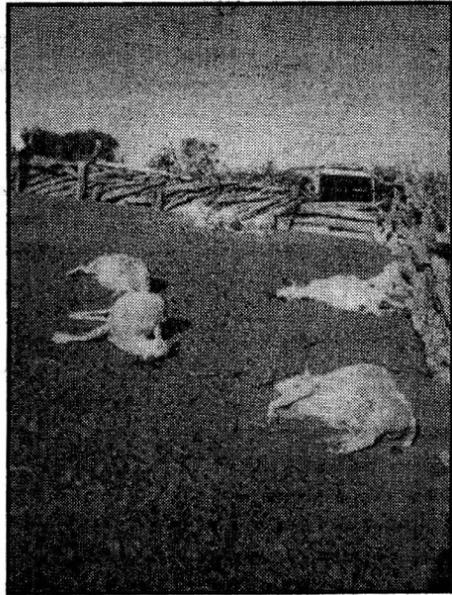
Currently, Dineh resisters have been told that if they do not sign an "Accommodation Agreement" by April 1, 1997, they will face Bureau of Indian Affairs paramilitary police and US Marshals. The agreement is a shameless compromise allowing elders to remain on three acres with one horse, one cow, one sheep and one goat for 75 years, not to be passed on to their children.

On July 6, 1986, the Dineh faced a similar threat, and had prepared for the National Guard to move in against them. Hundreds of supporters were present to witness the spiritual stand of Dineh elders and their children. Although force was not used to remove them, a policy of slow motion, low intensity warfare was enacted using fighter jets, Hughes Apache helicopters, BIA livestock impoundment crews, tool and firewood confiscation and other means of torturing Dineh resister families. Thousands of Dineh, worn down by harassment, starvation conditions and loss of traditional survival means, were placed in cluster housing tracks.

One of the most notorious tracts is known as the

"New Lands." It was the site of the largest nuclear spill in US history in 1979 when 97-million gallons of highly radioactive waste broke through United Nuclear's Churchrock dam and contaminated the Rio Puerco River. The radioactive water source has induced chronic illnesses and birth defects. Many other relocatees have died of broken hearts or suicide and others are homeless.

The stand at Big Mountain and the other resisting communities is a spiritual, nonviolent one based within the teachings of the Dineh. The Creator has instructed them to remain within the four sacred mountains where they were born and where their umbilical cords are buried. The entire culture is centered around ceremony and daily life reflects this. Dineh resisters say they obey the laws of the Creator and not those of the white man. Sarah Begay, Dineh elder and resister from the start, said to the Navajo Tribal Council, "The appearance of the Dineh deities and the message that they gave to us make it clear that we must stay on The Land. This is our identity as Dineh. Without The Land, we are no longer The People."



These Dineh sheep died after drinking from a spring near a Peabody mine.

The spiritual practices have kept resisters strong, but laws passed by the US government-backed Hopi Tribal Council (both Navajo and Hopi Tribal Councils were established by the Feds) are destroying shrines, burial sites

and herb-gathering areas in the name of economic development.

Peabody Coal is the main perpetrator of destruction, giving a fraction of the profits to the Tribal Councils that sanctioned the largest coal strip mine in North America. Grave sites have been destroyed, water contaminated, sheep killed and air polluted since Peabody began operations in the 1960s. Though a recent permit challenge succeeded for the first time in forcing Peabody to be accountable to this genocidal disregard for traditional residents, it was overturned, leaving the mining operations uninterrupted.

This major atrocity must be halted with unprecedented actions of support on the part of white

activists who comprehend the nature of this genocide. In this racist war zone, anyone who is not dark skinned has a level of protection that can be utilized as conscience necessities.

One of the most immediate needs for Dineh resisters in this remote area of northeastern Arizona is for shepherders to graze their sheep and protect them from BIA impoundment crews who target Dineh refusing to sign the Accommodation Agreement. Activists who can walk 15 to 20 miles a day with the sheep, live self-sufficiently in high desert conditions, have a deep concept of cultural sensitivity, awareness of racism and a willingness to forego alcohol are of utmost value. It would be most helpful to have as many such people as possible before February 10 so that Dineh elders will be free to travel to the Federal Court House in Phoenix for a so-called "Fairness Hearing." This is also an opportunity to get a firsthand feel for the land and the urgency of this situation. Cameras and recorders to document harassment are crucial as well.

It is vital at this time for people to become aware of the Bureau of Indian Affairs offices in their areas and begin a dialogue that shows the government the Dineh are not alone in their struggle to defend Sacred Land. These dialogues would be followed by lockdowns and occupations if force is deployed against the Dineh. What could emerge would be the most visible, solidified force of white Americans of conscience to ever emerge in support of indigenous people in the sad history of colonization. Those considering confronting the BIA are being asked to behave in an absolutely peaceful, respectful way, reflecting the spiritual stand Dineh elders have taken. Anyone who is willing to risk arrest must have witnesses and a solid support system. Document what you do.

Support groups for the Dineh resisters are being revived across the country. Hook up with them in your communities or form one yourself. Those coming to the land should bring food, warm clothing, tents, sleeping bags, mud-boots, small four-wheel-drive pickup trucks and radio gear. Please contact one of the following to become more informed: Sovereign Dineh Nation—Dineh Alliance, POB 2889, Window Rock, AZ 86515; (505) 371 5551; or Media Island International, POB 7204, Olympia, WA 98507; phone/fax (360) 352 8526; e-mail mii@olywa.net.

## Brazil sets stage for massive Amazon land grab

In December 1996 Brazilian Justice Minister Nelson Jobim and President Fernando Henrique Cardoso ordered Brazil's National Indian Foundation (FUNAI) to cut an area the size of Rhode Island from the traditional land of the Macuxi Indians to benefit the ranchers and gold miners who have invaded. The decision flouts constitutional protection of Indian land rights, in an apparent trade of Indian land for Congressional support of Fernando Henrique's re-election bid. Jobim's order, if carried out, would signal open season on Indian land across Brazil and particularly the Amazon, as miners, ranchers and loggers use the decision in court to overturn prior government action to ensure Indians' constitutional rights and to prevent future protection.

The anxiously awaited decision on the 1.6 million hectare Raposa/Serra do Sol indigenous area in the Brazilian Amazon calls for FUNAI to give about 200,000 hectares of Indian land to some 14 ranchers. The ranchers were issued title to the land by the National Institute for Colonization and Agrarian Reform (INCRA) which has been creating enclaves of non-Indian land in the middle of the indigenous reserve since 1982.

Reducing the area creates a potentially disastrous precedent for other indigenous lands across Brazil. The Constitution of 1988 explicitly states that private titles on lands traditionally occupied by Indians are null, prioritizing indigenous land rights codified by Brazilian Constitutional law in 1934. Legally and anthropologically, Raposa Serra do Sol is among the best-documented indigenous lands in Brazil. By using anthropological reports, FUNAI determined in 1992 that the Raposa/Serra

do Sol area was traditionally occupied by the Indians. These reports have been upheld by the Federal Attorney General's Office as well as by legal counsel to the Justice Ministry. Consequently, excluding private claims from the indigenous area subverts the Constitution in favor of INCRA's titles. By this logic, any of the hundreds of land titles issued by public agencies on Indian land can also take precedence over indigenous land rights. This is precisely what the constitution intended to prevent in considering titles on indigenous land null.

Worse still, the Minister ordered FUNAI to exclude five gold-boom towns from the indigenous area to be demarcated leaving these as foci of permanent conflict. This is an invitation to violence. The economic activity on which the towns depend for their existence—gold and diamond placer mining, or garimpagem—is explicitly prohibited by law in the indigenous land surrounding the towns; the towns become non-indigenous enclaves in the midst of the reserve. Rather than resolving the chronic conflicts and human-rights abuses that plague the region, the Minister's decision would worsen them and ensure their perpetuation. The decision further upholds the state government's recent creation of a new county (or municipio) in the decaying boom town of Uiramuta, legitimating the gold-mining invasion stimulated by local politicians in the hope of preventing demarcation of the area. This constitutes a clear incentive to further invasions in hundreds of other indigenous areas not yet fully demarcated.

Minister Jobim has radically subverted indigenous land rights as defined in the Constitution of 1988. Where Indian lands have been invaded through the omission of the federal government and the avarice of local elites for their natural resources, Jobim proposes that the Indians bear the cost by giving up their lands. The effect, for hundreds of other indigenous areas, and the tens of millions of hectares of forest they comprise, will be disastrous.

International public opinion, however, has had an effect. Without continued manifestations of concern and alarm from around the world (and particularly from Northern governments and parliamentarians) it is likely that Raposa/Serra do Sol would already have been reduced by more. The state government has stated that it plans to appeal Jobim's decision because it wants more of the area. The Environmental Defense Fund also plans to take legal action against the decision. Your fax or email can make a difference.

Only the president can reverse this decision, but it is already being processed by FUNAI. Please fax or e-mail Sr. Fernando Henrique Cardoso, Presidente da Republica Palacio do Planalto, Brasilia DF 70160-900; fax 55-61-226 7566; e-mail : pr@crdf.rnp.br

Express your serious concern with Minister Jobim's December 20 decision to reduce the Raposa Serra do Sol indigenous area in favor of ranchers with private land titles legitimating miner's invasions. Respectfully urge the President to suspend the Minister's decision and demarcate the entire Raposa Serra do Sol indigenous area, as identified by FUNAI in 1992.

—ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND



# Forest Service *foot fetish*

BY JIM FLYNN

You could say it all started one night in October of 1993 when four people drove nails into some downed trees on a log deck and then graffitied, smashed and torched a bulldozer, skidder and yarder. Or you could say that it all started when the Flathead National Forest planned the Challenge Blowdown timber sale in Montana's northern Rockies. Some might say it began 505 years ago when Europeans first laid eyes on the trees in blah, blah, blah...

Suffice to say, in December 1993, US Forest Service Special Agents J. Deist and Mark Stanley entered a restaurant in a small tourist town in Montana and detained the dishwasher. Meanwhile, 50 FBI, Forest Service and local law enforcement agents sealed off the town and searched the dishwasher's house. What were they looking for? Well, just a pair of boots. While in the dishwasher's house though, they helped themselves to some of his books, public Forest Service wildlife management plans, EF! literature and ALL OF HIS SHOES! (They even took the shoes off his feet while he was still at work.)

Two days later, the dishwasher finished his job and took a bus to Arizona. Four hours after he arrived at his partner's mom's house, Deist, Stanley and an EF! "expert" (Steve Sallis, FBI) knocked on the door looking for more footwear. They were accompanied by 50 agents who closed down a whole city block in Phoenix to ensure no boots escaped their dragnet.

Over the next two years, the Forest Service and the

FBI made this guy's life hell and dragged him through endless court hassles. They required numerous appearances, changed court dates on short notice, provided no travel expenses, etc. The federal judge in the area snatched up the case from the local magistrate and practically wrote a new constitution. Turns out, the feds had an agent (John Edwards, Yellowstone National Park cop) living in this guy's house, drinking beer and sniffing around in the closets. Edwards testified during his court appearance that he "accidentally found" a bag of tools while illegally sampling boots. The judge did not have a problem with the illegality of this search. The suspicion that the dishwasher-turned-defendant was a local Earth First!er was enough for the judge to determine that the search warrant and investigation were legal.

The boot prints turned out to be the only material evidence "linking" the defendant to the monkeywrenching, even though the "Boot Print Expert" couldn't testify to the certainty of the match. To hear the Forest Service tell it, the monkeywrencher left four sets of prints by changing shoes in the middle of his operation. However, the Forest Service hasn't been able to find any of these shoes... They are sure, however, they have their man since they found a copy of *Hayduke Lives* at his house.

Forest Service special agent testifying: "A copy of the book *Hayduck Lives* was found at the defendant's house, and this book contains..."

Defense Attorney: "Objection, your Honor. Agent So-and-So, have you ever read *Hayduke Lives*?"



FS special agent: "No, I have not."

Judge: "Objection overruled."

And so it went that our hero was denied his rights and convicted of misdemeanor tree spiking for allegedly putting two four-inch nails in some dead trees. Sentence: one year in jail, one year on probation, 500 hours of community service and suspension of his 2nd and 4th Amendment rights while on probation.

After being locked up for six weeks, awaiting a release hearing that should have taken two days, the defendant was released pending appeal. He is now home with his family where he belongs, and the case is out of the crooked judge's hands and into the 9th Circuit Court's in San Francisco, where it belongs.

The score: Federales—intimidation of tourists and locals, six weeks of jail time and a great selection of new shoes. Defendant—new friends in government, six weeks free meals and lodging, no felonies and freedom (pending appeal).

## The FS Chief and the End of the USDA Forest Service cont.,

*continued from page one*

Agriculture, unlike the Secretary of the Interior, is not very interested in forest policy. When Ickes proposed merging the Forest Service into his department, he was effectively stopped by an aging Pinchot.

This insulation worked to a great degree. When Presidents Nixon, Carter, and Reagan ordered the Forest Service to accelerate timber cutting, agency officials just laughed. The Forest Service wrote its own rules, set its own policy and made its own decisions. If the agency was not as sensitive to environmental issues as environmentalists might like, it was much more responsive to environmental concerns than the BLM, Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation or even the Park Service.

Contributing to the insulation was the lifetime tenure of the chief. Between 1910, when President Taft fired Pinchot and lost his reelection bid because of it, and 1993, when Clinton fired Dale Robertson, no chief was ever fired by a president. When chiefs retired, they played a major role in picking their replacement—almost always someone from within the agency.

Clinton effectively changed that tradition when he replaced Robertson with Jack Ward Thomas. Thomas was a lifetime Forest Service employee, but he lacked the rank and experience that would previously have been required of a Forest Service chief. As chief, he failed to provide effective leadership, partly because he was unable to prevent meddling by administration officials.

When the administration fired Robertson, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Jim Lyons claimed that it was not "politicizing" the office of the chief. In fact, they were taking the first step down the proverbial slippery slope. The next step has now been taken.

Jack Ward Thomas announced his resignation as chief of the Forest Service

in October. Apparently, he had agreed to take the position of director of the Boone and Crockett Research Center in Missoula, Montana, as long ago as last spring. He did not want to announce this change until he could get the Clinton administration to agree on an acceptable replacement.

But then he bought a house in Missoula, which was a matter of public record, and rumors began to fly. He was forced to make his planned retirement public. Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman insisted on his right to pick a new chief without interference by the old one. "I get to pick the director of all my other agencies," he said. "Why not the Forest Service?"

Glickman picked Mike Dombeck, who had been acting director of the Bureau of Land Management. Although Dombeck had worked for the Forest Service from 1978 to 1989, his "defection" to the BLM would formerly have ruled him out as a potential chief. (As it turned out, Dombeck had Thomas' support, which may show how out of touch with reality Thomas is.)

Dombeck has a PhD in fisheries biology, and his work for the Forest Service was in fisheries. But he also spent a year working as a legislative fellow for a US senator. With the help of that experience, he is now more politician than biologist. When he moved to the BLM, he worked not in fisheries but in lands and minerals management—in other words, as a bureaucrat who spent much of his time as a liaison to people on Capitol Hill.

As acting director of the BLM, he focused on providing that agency with a "vision" and with streamlining the Washington office. He made almost no effort to improve on-the-ground management and no effort at all to change the incentives facing resource managers. Instead, he has allowed the agency to get bogged down with "advisory councils" and more planning.

Dombeck brags that "BLM lands gen-

erate more revenue than they cost to manage." But he doesn't say that virtually all of that "revenue" is earmarked to the BLM or some other agency. Actual returns to the Treasury are only a small fraction of the costs to the Treasury. This suggests that he will fit right in with the Forest Service, which is fond of using similar arithmetic.

The first step down the slippery slope of politicizing the Forest Service was in



*The new Forest Service Chief Mike Dombeck*

firing a chief. The next step was appointing a chief who is more politician than civil servant and who was not a lifetime Forest Service employee. The step after that will be to appoint someone who has never been in the agency. The final step will be to merge the Forest Service into the Department of Interior.

That final step will take place in the next administration because there is no one left who cares enough about the Forest Service to defend it anymore. The agency itself is completely demoralized and user groups, including environmentalists, are so alienated by it that they won't fight a merger. After all, environmentalists supported, and hardly anyone opposed, the Robertson firing.

In fact, Gifford Pinchot was right: politicizing the Forest Service will be bad for the national forests and all their users. The flaw in Pinchot's design was that he effectively insulated

the Forest Service from the president, but he did not insulate the national forests from Congress—in particular, from the appropriations committees. For at least the last 50 years, appropriators have made it plain that they funded the national forests for one purpose and one purpose only: pork, mainly timber pork.

Chiefs Thomas and Robertson both complained that, whenever they testified before the appropriations committees, the only question they were ever asked was why didn't they cut more timber. When Robertson's predecessor, Chief Max Peterson, told Oregon Congressman Les AuCoin that if they cut more they would run out of timber by the year 2000, AuCoin replied, "But chief, neither you nor I are going to be here in the year 2000."

Assistant Agriculture Secretary Jim Lyons believed that by politicizing the agency—that is, appointing a new chief and other top officials and then micro managing the forests from his DC office—he could effectively counter the political meddling by Congress. Even if Lyons were a true-green environmentalist, which he is not, this strategy is doomed to fail. For one thing, Congress has far more power over the agency than the secretary, as the Salvage Rider demonstrated. The reason for this is that Congress has a power that Lyons lacks—the power over the budget, which effectively shapes the agency's incentives.

Gifford Pinchot's idea of management by experts, rather than politicians, still makes sense, but only if the experts are given good incentives. Rewards for cutting timber at a loss or overgrazing at a loss are not good incentives. Neither are rewards for following the whim of whatever president happens to be in office. Those who want to fix the Forest Service should focus on incentives, not personalities.

Randal O'Toole is a forest economist for the Thoreau Institute. More information about the Forest Service is available on the Institute's website at <http://www.teleport.com/~rot/>.

# THE TAO AND BIOCENTRIC ANARCHISM

BY CHRIS KORTRIGHT

In approximately 770b.c.e. (before common era), Chinese philosopher Lao Tzu wrote what is now the central writing of Taoism, the *Tao Te Ching*. It is a very mystical document and one of the most brilliant philosophical books ever written. Taoism is a spiritual ideology that teaches both biocentrism and anarchism. Whether one believes in a god, goddess or neither, there is much to be learned from Taoism.

First and central to both Taoism and radical environmentalism is the natural world. What is natural?

To the Taoist the answer is simple: whatever existed before human interference, "...horse and oxen have four feet. That is the natural. Put a halter on a horse's head, a string through a bullock's nose—that is artificial." Taoism teaches that, in ancient times, nature was in balance and humans were a part of the natural cycle. Humans then adopted technology, started civilization and threw the universe out of balance. We entered into dark times from which we still haven't emerged.

Taoism is strictly biocentric. Compassion is not merely felt towards other humans but felt towards all creatures; it is anti-humanist in the sense that it has no favorites. It teaches that the universe is not human-hearted: "Heaven and earth are ruthless. It follows that if a person wishes to be in harmony with the universe, he or she will not be human-hearted. The wise are ruthless."

This does not mean you should harm other people or the natural world. Taoism teaches that, in nature, death and suffering have their role, and we need to understand this to enter back into the cycle of life. "The wise person will not interfere with nature, but let it be. They are not aggressive or assertive." Taoism repeatedly speaks of how essential it is to go back to nature to end the separation between the true natural world and the human world. "If the wise abandon prejudice and study nature they will be able to increase general well-being" and "community with nature is not therefore a form of escapism, but direct contact with reality, a state in which the observer and observed are no longer felt as separate."

The Taoist has no need for technology. The Taoist views technology and civilization as destroying the natural cycle and alienating people by separating them from nature. When Lao Tzu and Chuang Tzu addressed the issue of technology they were talking

about well-sweeps and other simplistic machines. So it can be inferred that modern technology is a hundred times worse and needs to be abandoned that much more. "A small country has few people. Though there are machines that can work ten to a hundred times faster than a man, they are not needed."

Although technology is timesaving, it also creates artificial desires for wealth, materials and fame. Moreover, it is unnecessary to transcend natural scarcity—a notion that only developed once people became dependent on the fertility of the land surrounding cities. Nature left to itself is abundant and overflowing. In taking from those who have too much and giving to those who have too little, nature is constantly trying to balance itself and achieve equilibrium.

Another central belief of Taoism is *wu-wei*, the principle of non-action. *Wu-wei* is not a defeatist or submissive reaction to the power of civilization but a negation of the ethic of work. It is not an argument for inactivity but instead a call for work without effort or complication.

The Taoist believes the work that is done should not go against nature. Nature will provide for you whether you grow food in a garden or gather food from the wilderness. Either way, the food you need will be given to you by nature and it will come from the earth. "Natural forms are not made but grown."

Taoists have a reputation for being pacifists, an idea originating in a particular interpretation of *wu-wei* and inferred from comments like "force is followed by loss of strength" and "a violent man will die a violent death." At the same time Taoists are conscious of the constant struggle for natural balance and explain this in a metaphor comparing struggle to water: "Under heaven nothing is more soft and yielding than water. Yet for attacking the solid and strong, nothing is better; it has no equal. The weak can overcome the strong; the supple can overcome the stiff." Wasting energy is avoided. Energy is saved until needed to fight, with the goal to win every fight. Strategy is essential.

Hopefully, to realize that plants thrive following their natural course is to realize people also thrive with minimal interference. This is what separates Taoism from all other spiritual beliefs—the idea that there should be no religious or governmental control. "That the conditions of life are violated, the will of god does not triumph, that the beasts of the field are disorganized, that the birds of the air cry at night, that blight reaches the trees and herds, that destruction spreads among creeping things—this,

alas, is the fault of government." To try to govern people by artificial laws and make them obey regulations

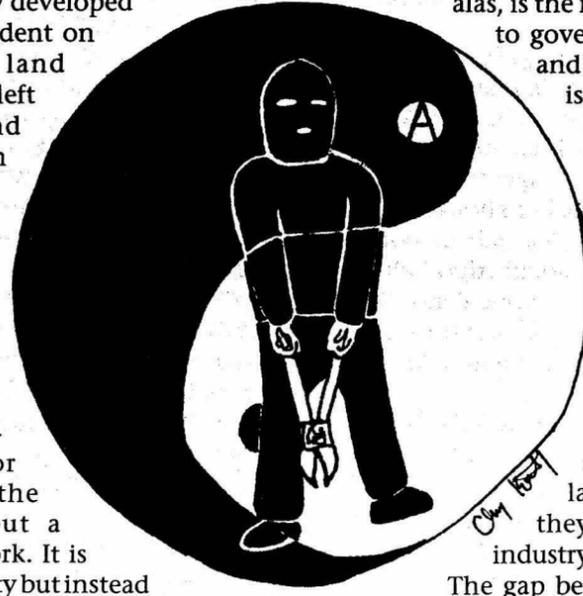
is like having a mosquito fly away with a mountain: "the more laws and restrictions there are, the poorer people become. The sharper men's weapons, the more trouble in the land.... The more rules and regulations, the more thieves and robbers." We see daily how this is true.

The government is enacting stricter and more repressive laws, while simultaneously they are making it easier for industry to destroy the natural world.

The gap between the rich and poor is huge, violence runs rampant in city streets, and people are becoming more and more cunning in the ways they steal from nature and each other.

The Taoist believes that the more individuality and diversity there is, the greater the overall harmony. The spontaneous order of society does not preclude conflict, but there is an identity of opposites. Such a spontaneous society would deal with conflict with as little violence as possible, but it would promote and protect diversity of all life. After studying many religions, I have concluded that Taoism is the most biocentric. Until I studied the Tao I was a devout atheist but my experience as a biocentric anarchist made me challenge some of those beliefs. I feel EFlers could learn a lot from Taoism.

If Taoism sounds interesting and you would like to look into it, I recommend a few books: the central writing of Taoism, *Tao Te Ching* by Lao Tzu; *The Tao of Ecology*; anything by Chuang Tzu; *The Turning Point* and *The Tao of Physics* by Fritjof Capra.



## 22 New Federal Highways Planned Nature and the Taxpayers to Pay the Bill

A taxpayer-environmentalist coalition has called for a halt to 22 wasteful and environmentally destructive road building projects planned in 15 US states, Washington, DC, Panama and in numerous US national forests. According to the coalition, putting the brakes on these unneeded projects would save \$10 billion in federal tax dollars, protect the environment and help preserve local communities.

The 22 projects are detailed in *Road to Ruin*, a new report by Taxpayers for Common Sense, Friends of the Earth and US Public Interest Research Group.

The projects include:

- **Red Rock Crossing (Sedona, AZ)**

To shave minutes off the drive to a popular golf course, a proposed bridge would spoil the historic and popular Cathedral Rocks. The *Arizona Republic* called the rocks "a symbol of the American West." Former Senator Barry Goldwater, who lives nearby, says, "There is no earthly reason why any attempt should be made to put a bridge at Red Rock Crossing."

- **Carolina Bays Parkway (Myrtle Beach, SC)**

Dubbed by its supporters as "Nature's Road," this \$750-million project would actually pave some of coastal South Carolina's last bottomland hardwood forests and more than 300 acres of pristine wetlands.

- **US Route 220/322 (State College, PA)**

This project would cost \$288 million for 17 miles of extra lanes to reduce traffic jams after Penn. State

football games on a few fall Saturdays. Perhaps by coincidence, it is located in the congressional district of Congressman Bud Shuster (R), chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. This highway expansion would impact springs and disrupt water supplies. The resulting forest fragmentation would also adversely impact wildlife preservation efforts.

- **Grand Parkway (Houston, TX)**

This would be the fourth freeway loop around Houston. Drawn up in the 1980s, the plan no longer reflects the needs of the city, a former boomtown now losing its tax base to the suburbs. The Parkway would fill wetlands on the Katy Prairie, winter home to the densest concentration of migratory waterfowl in North America. It would also slice through Lake Houston State Park and destroy some of the last bottomland hardwoods near Houston. The US Fish & Wildlife Service stated that the Grand Parkway would result in "tremendous secondary impacts through induced commercial and residential development."

- **Outer Perimeter (Atlanta, GA)**

What started out as a \$1-billion project has ballooned into a \$5 billion behemoth, by far the most expensive project in the report. This unneeded budget-buster would be the second beltway around Atlanta and has little support from local governments. Atlanta has some of the poorest-quality air in the

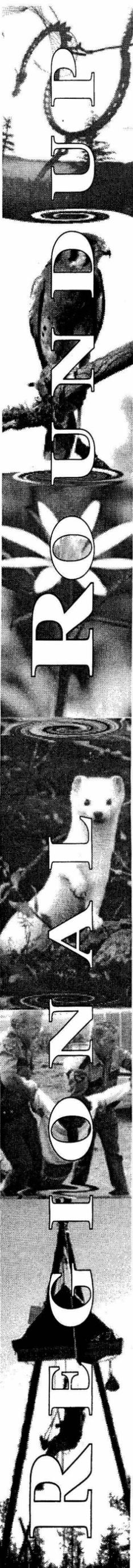
nation and the new loop would make it worse. Also, the project would promote sprawling forms of development that would increase soil erosion and polluted runoff into area rivers and streams, adversely affecting trout streams in neighboring counties.

Many of the proposed roads described in the report face significant local opposition from neighborhood groups and local governments. The report says that highways are "poor neighbors," divide communities, hurt Main Street businesses, and shift residents and the tax base elsewhere.

Instead of building the new road projects as proposed, the report recommends exploring cheaper, less destructive alternatives to deal with transportation problems over the long term. Many of the projects are intended to relieve short-term traffic congestion, but the 22 new or enlarged highway projects could encourage more development and urban sprawl, which eventually would draw even more traffic.

New highway projects are planned in the states of Arizona, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin. Join the campaign, and stop the project nearest you.

The report is available from Friends of the Earth at 1025 Vermont Ave., NW Suite 300, Washington, DC 20005; (202) 783-7400; e-mail [foe@foe.org](mailto:foe@foe.org); <http://www.foe.org>; and the Taxpayers for Common Sense at 651 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, 2nd Floor, Washington, DC 20003; (202) 645-8500; e-mail [staff@taxpayer.net](mailto:staff@taxpayer.net); <http://www.taxpayer.net>.



## KENTUCKY PAVES THE WAY FOR ORVs

BY ANDY MAHLER

On December 20, 1996, the US Forest Service (USFS) filed a "Notice of Intent" in the *Federal Register* proposing an amendment to the forest plan for the Daniel Boone National Forest in Kentucky. The amendment proposes a policy for off-road vehicle (ORV) use within this national forest.

At present ORVs on the Daniel Boone are only restricted from driving in Wilderness Areas, Wildlife Management Areas and a few postage stamp-size areas. The existing regulations allow ORVs to drive cross-country through the forest and to drive in streams or almost anywhere else they want. There are no true regulations at this time. These old, out-of-date policies must be changed to protect the forest ecosystem and rare species. ORVs are severely impacting the land and resident endangered species and causing user conflicts.

The lack of restrictions has made the Daniel Boone so appealing to the ORV drivers and clubs that they come from as far away as Michigan to ride here.

The Forest Service has given in to corporate interests again and is seeking only to restrict ORVs to trails—the least restrictive policy they think they can get by with. There are only 11 USFS law enforcement officers on the Daniel Boone, which contains 700,000 acres with over 2,300 miles of listed roads. This proposed policy is not workable for the protection of rare species or their habitats. It does nothing to reduce ORV noise or conflicts with other forest users.

The comment period for the proposed ORV amendment is now open. The deadline for writing comments is February 14, 1997. Please write to the USFS stating that restricting off-road vehicles to trails is not enough. Tell them that the only workable solution is a total ban on ORVs on the national forest. ORV bans have taken place in other national forests. This is everyone's chance to do something to protect the forest from the damage and problems these motor vehicles are causing.

Send your comments to the Daniel Boone National Forest at 1700 Bypass Road, Winchester, KY 40391.

For more information contact Kentucky Heartwood by calling Bob House at (606) 864-6331, e-mail [KyHeartwood@juno.com](mailto:KyHeartwood@juno.com), or write to Chris Schimmoller at 660 Mount Vernon Ridge, Frankfort, KY 40601.

## KILLING COYOTES IN COLORADO

BY NICOLE ROSMARINO, ROCKY MOUNTAIN ANIMAL DEFENSE

It is open season on coyotes in Colorado with no bag limit, and state businesses are sponsoring a coyote killing contest on public and private lands. In fact, there are prizes for the hunters who collect the most coyote left ears and take them to their local gun shop. Responding to a coalition of local environmental and animal rights groups, the Colorado Wildlife Commission has agreed to start the rule-making process to change the regulations on contest killings.

The ubiquitous coyote is, of course, not suffering from a population decline. Though targeted for over a century, the coyote population remains stable. Dr. Bob Crabtree, a specialist in coyote research, has found that intensified hunting of coyotes causes surviving coyotes to have larger litters as a response mechanism. The more the coyote is targeted, the more it increases reproduction. In addition, Crabtree's research indicates that when coyotes are killed their social structures are disrupted, leading to coyote colonization of new territories. Displaced coyotes are more likely to resort to predation of livestock. Therefore, killing coyotes is not a rational management tool.

Both Animal Damage Control and many ranchers recognize that only a fraction of coyotes actually attack livestock. Killing coyotes indiscriminately will not solve the problem of livestock depredation. Those wily, cow-killing coyotes may be more likely to outfox armed ranchers.

Contest killings in the state target prairie dogs as well as coyotes. Prairie dogs, however, are suffering from perilously low numbers and fragmented populations. Over 160 vertebrate species are directly dependent on prairie dogs and prairie dog habitat for their survival. Consequently, the sanctioned killing of prairie dogs imperils species dependent on prairie dogs and their towns. The coyote slaughter can be halted and pressure taken off prairie dog populations if contest killings are outlawed.

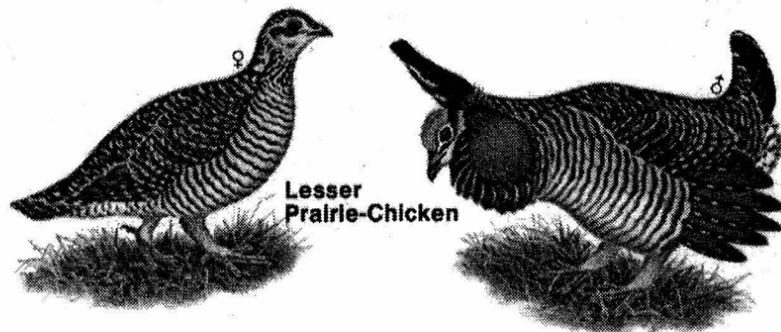
Fortunately, opposition to contest killings has wide support in Colorado. Several years ago a hunter's group, the Coalition for Responsible Hunting, formed over the issue. The Colorado Wildlife Federation, another pro-hunting group, also opposes contest killings on ethical grounds. With such broad-based opposition from hunters and animal rights advocates, contest killings are clearly a violation of the public trust.

Please contact the business sponsors of the contest and tell them what you think:

- Del's Gun Shop, POB F, Clifton, CO 81520; (970) 434-9594
- Bill Marchand Taxidermy, 278 29 Road, Grand Junction, CO 81503; (970) 241-7930

## FEWER LESSER PRAIRIE CHICKENS ENDANGERED SPECIES IN THE SOUTHERN PLAINS

On December 23, 1996, the Biodiversity Legal Foundation (BLF) of Boulder, Colorado filed suit in Federal District Court in Denver against Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for failing to issue a ruling on a petition to list the lesser prairie chicken under the federal Endangered Species Act. According to the complaint, these agencies failed to issue a 90-day ruling on the merit of the petition within the time frame mandated by the Act. The decision is now almost a year overdue.



While the Department of the Interior and the USFWS drag their feet in responding to the petition, prairie chicken numbers have continued to decline due to drought and deteriorating habitat conditions in the southern Great Plains.

The lesser prairie chicken historically occupied a large area of arid grasslands with half-shrub vegetation or interspersed dwarf oak and shrubs. They were formerly abundant within their range, an extensive area from eastern New Mexico and the panhandle of Texas northward across western Oklahoma, southwestern Kansas and southeastern Colorado. In 1980, it was estimated that the distribution of lesser prairie chickens had decreased by 92 percent and the population had declined by 97 percent. Further range reductions have taken place since that time. Lesser prairie chickens are listed as threatened in Colorado and a species of "special concern" in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas.

The decline of lesser prairie chickens has been attributed to a number of factors. Overgrazing of rangelands by livestock reduces nesting habitat and makes lesser prairie chickens more susceptible to the mortality factors caused by drought. Brush control to increase cattle forage (which eliminates food and summer thermal cover for prairie chickens) and conversion of grasslands to croplands (which reduces the amount of available habitat for prairie chickens) has destroyed precious habitat. Lesser prairie chicken populations are also threatened by many agricultural practices such as burning of crop stubble and "clean farming" which tend to eliminate or reduce food sources for chickens. Intensive livestock grazing, application of herbicides and the use of center-pivot irrigation have also contributed to the bird's decline. Surprisingly, the lesser prairie chicken is still hunted in three states.

This court case is necessary because the lesser prairie chicken may not survive USFWS delay tactics and the inadequacy of federal and state conservation programs.

—BIODIVERSITY LEGAL FOUNDATION



- Nucla True Value, POB 770, Nucla, CO 81424; (970) 864-7424
- The Buck Stop, 13 W. Main St., Montrose, CO 81402; (970) 249-0867
- Jerry's Outdoor Sports, 2524 Hwy. 6 and 50, Grand Junction, CO 81505; (970) 245-1502

Please also contact these state officials and let them know that they are responsible for what happens on public lands:

Arnold Salazar, Chairperson, Colorado Wildlife Commission, 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216. (Pressure on the Commission will be most effective because they have already commenced rulemaking procedures to change contest killings.)

Governor Roy Romer, 100 E. Colfax Ave., Room 136, Denver, CO 80203; (303) 866 2471; e-mail [romer@governor.state.co.us](mailto:romer@governor.state.co.us).

For more information contact Rocky Mountain Animal Defense at 2525 Araphoe #E4-335, Boulder, CO, 80301; (303) 449-4422; <http://www.envirolink.org/orgs/rmad>.

# MAKE MY GOLF COURSE! CLINT'S CRIMINAL DEVELOPMENT

The hills straddling Carmel Valley and the Monterey Peninsula are one of California's most unusual habitats. Rare native grasslands, endangered Monterey pine and oak savanna roll over the slopes of this largely hidden world. Golden eagles, wild turkeys, peacocks, boars and bobcat are among the diverse wildlife roaming these mountains. Recently, Clint Eastwood rode onto this pastoral scene. He wasn't starring in a movie or campaigning again to become mayor of Carmel though these prominent titles did help to expedite his mission. He came there to build a golf course!

Prior to Eastwood's plan for the Canada Woods North (CWN) golf course, which would be the 19th golf course on the Monterey Peninsula, development of the surrounding area had been stalled by costly water-quality and wastewater issues. The CWN plan proposes to take wastewater from several as-yet-built developments (three of the properties are owned by Eastwood) and use it on his private golf course. Doing so involves a complicated water system linking the developments in all aspects of water generation and usage—potable, agricultural and landscape irrigation. This plan paves the way for potential development.

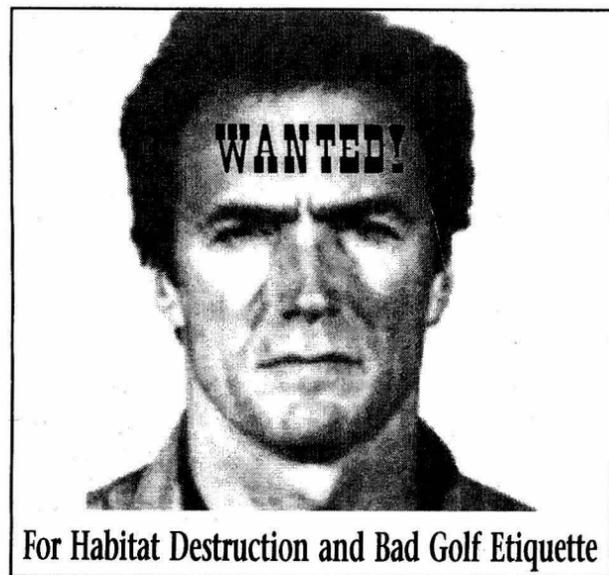
The CWN plan also calls for transferring Carmel River water from agricultural wells near the river. Regardless of the propriety of this water maneuvering, the CWN Environmental Impact Report acknowledges that pumping the bedrock wells of the developed areas will impact the already overstressed Carmel River public-water resources. After the Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club and others raised this issue, the developer's consultants and the county reanalyzed the data and concluded the impact was actually "much less than they had previously thought." While this reanalysis is dubious, the issue remains that cumulative impacts to the aquifer have

not been addressed. The neighboring September Ranch subdivision is expected to be developed next. It is expected they will claim a need for an additional "insignificant" amount of water for its needs. What the overall effect will be on the aquifer from such incremental pumping no one knows.

The Ventana Sierra Club and members of the public have raised many other concerns. There is a lack of adequate enforcement of mitigation measures meant to protect special habitat. Also, the project design allows for major reconfiguration after the public review process is closed. Many simply cannot justify building another golf course on one of the few remaining stands of rare, coastal terrace prairie grasslands. These concerns have not been taken seriously by the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors. Often, the county's responses have been misleading, evasive or inaccurate.

The county denies that Eastwood got the red carpet treatment for his project, yet the approval process has been distorted and compressed to rush this development through on a fast track. The shortened time-frame and shifting project description have kept the public off balance and always behind in analyzing the proposal. A similarly truncated process was used successfully when Eastwood wanted to get his adjacent Canada Woods East subdivision rushed through the system. There, the county removed a "permanent" scenic easement on the land to allow its development. That project also had impacts to biotic resources and mitigation was inadequately addressed.

Special treatment for Eastwood extends beyond Monterey County. As reported December 15, 1996 in the *Los Angeles Times*, when Eastwood wanted water for his Canada Woods subdivision, he got help from a powerful friend, the chair of the State Water Resources Control Board, who moved Clint's



For Habitat Destruction and Bad Golf Etiquette

application quickly through the process. One water board staff member recalled a "conference" with Eastwood concerning his project application, "It was 'Come meet the movie star.' It's the first time I've ever seen that happen and the message was clear: 'Give this guy what he wants.'"

One thing is certain, developers in Monterey County (especially those with money or a big name) are virtually escorted through the approval process by many county representatives. Developers are apt to do whatever it takes to get their projects approved, but county government is expected to act as a guardian of the public interest, neutrally examining the facts. The CWN review process reveals a painful failure to meet this expectation.

The Ventana Sierra Club is currently seeking to determine if legal challenge is warranted. A development can be environmentally and morally wrong and not be open to legal challenge. If you have questions, suggestions or would like to get involved please contact the Ventana Chapter, Sierra Club at POB 5667, Carmel, CA 93921.

Compiled from information submitted by Gillian Taylor, Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club, and an article from the *Los Angeles Times*.

## CATTLE ORDERED OFF DIAMOND BAR

After five years, three lawsuits and much pushing by the environmental group Gila Watch, a federal judge ordered the removal of 900 cattle illegally grazing on the Diamond Bar allotment of the Gila and Aldo Leopold Wilderness areas. The Judge also threw out the cattle rancher's lawsuit claiming "rights" to wilderness streams. Federal District Court Judge Howard Bratton issued the first definitive court victory in the Diamond Bar saga on December 5 by dismissing the Diamond Bar suit and ruling that ranchers do indeed need permits to graze their cattle on federal lands.

Cattle rancher and former Diamond Bar permittee Kit Laney sued the Forest Service last April claiming that federal regulations "interfered" with his cattle business. Laney refused to sign his 1996 grazing permit after the Forest Service wouldn't let him build 33 massive earthen stock tanks in the wilderness with bulldozers and dynamite. The Forest Service disallowed the construction of the 33 tanks after Gila Watch successfully sued the agency for violating the Wilderness Act. However, the Forest Service did authorize construction of 15 stock tanks in a 1995 decision. That decision was struck down by Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas who concurred with arguments made in a second lawsuit filed by Gila Watch, Wilderness Watch and the Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited that alleged the tanks violated the Wilderness Act.

By the time Laney had refused to sign the grazing permit for the Diamond Bar allotment, which spans 145,000 acres of the Gila and Aldo Leopold Wilderness areas, he already had a long history of flouting federal regulations. During the ten years he held the permit Laney continually grazed his cattle in pastures scheduled for rest and allowed them to trespass on adjacent areas of the wilderness closed to livestock.

Throughout 1996, Laney ran 900 illegal cattle, more than three times the number the Forest Service permits, destroying miles of fragile riparian areas and endangered Gila trout habitat. Although Forest Service reports cite "irreparable harm" to the ecosystem, the agency did not impound the cattle because Laney had threatened to meet any attempt to do so with "100 people with guns."

As Laney locked horns with the Forest Service, both on the ground and in federal court, a coalition of environmental groups brought in a third lawsuit to force the Forest Service to protect the land. Finally, the agency moved for an injunction against the cattle. Even now, however, the Forest Service has announced it has no plans to impound and will wait for the judge to order removal of the cattle.

Gila Watch may have to file yet another lawsuit against the Forest Service to compel the agency to comply with the injunction. The cattle, will however, eventually be impounded.

Judge Bratton's decision is one in a series by federal judges across the West which reaffirms that national forests do indeed belong in the public domain.

New Mexico ranchers and bankers have formed an organization called the Paragon Foundation to fight federal regulations on public lands. Paragon's first meeting in October, which drew 300 ranchers, featured wise use luminaries such as attorney Karen Budd Falen, Nevada rancher Wayne Hage and Kit Laney. Paragon announced it will file a class-action suit challenging government authority on the Diamond Bar, naming all public lands ranchers in New Mexico as plaintiffs.

Reprinted from *Barbed Wire*, a monthly report by Gila Watch, POB 309, Silver City, NM 88062.



## JET BOAT SCUM

One of America's premier wild areas is the Snake Wild and Scenic River (SWSR). This river flows through Hell's Canyon, the deepest gorge in North America. Currently, jet boat lobbyists are trying to kill the Forest Service's SWSR management plan, which seeks to implement the first-ever limits on jet boat use.

The 1975 law that designated the SWSR specifically requires that the use and number of both motorized and non-motorized (floater) river craft be regulated. Incomprehensibly, the Forest Service has controlled floater use, but to this day has never controlled motorized use. Jet boat use has thus escalated fivefold since 1975.

The Forest Service began development of a new Snake River plan in 1988. This plan would set a 21-day non-motorized period on 21 miles of the section of the river designated "wild." Private float clubs, conservationists and outfitters have filed lawsuits and expect implementation this year. Meanwhile, jet boaters are pressuring the Forest Service to void aspects of the plan which would limit jet-boat use.

Unfortunately, the minuscule non-motorized period is the only concession to floaters. The overall plan actually shows preference to jet boats. The plan maintains jet boat launch levels (41 per day on summer weekends) and increases restrictions on floater use. Jet boaters can secure a permit at any time while floaters must enter a winter lottery to obtain a summer launch permit.

Jet boats pose a safety hazard to other recreationists and ruin the river experience. They also heavily impact the ecosystem with their noise, fumes and wakes. In order to protect wilderness values and the "primitive vestige" of a beautiful wild and scenic area, jet boat use must be restricted.

Please write a from-the-heart, to-the-point letter to Bob Williams, US Forest Service, POB 3623, Portland, OR 97208; fax (503) 326-7577.

For more information contact the Hell's Canyon Preservation Council at (541) 432-8100.

# FOREST RAPE, ECOSYSTEM DESTRUCTION DEFENDERS, INTERROGATORS & ENFORCEMENT SLEUTHS

BY JON DOE-NUT

Most of us radical ecologists in the US don't get paid to track timber sales or run campaigns. As a result, our only interaction with the Forest Service (USFS) is likely to be when they send their law enforcement to remove us from a road or chase us out of a logging area. When a road blockade or direct action campaign gets going, many supporters come out of the woodwork to get involved; often they lack experience with the Forest Service or a good base of knowledge to work from. Non-violence trainings are essential, but civil disobedience that actually stops resource extraction requires technical skills and specialized knowledge beyond this. It is important to know about Freddie's training, tactics, gear and special closures procedures.

In 1994, the USFS Law Enforcement & Investigations branch (LEI) was completely separated from the National Forest System (NFS) in a "stove-piping" reorganization. The line of authority runs from the USFS Chief to the LEI office in Washington, DC. Local Forest Supervisors have very little authority over the law enforcement agents in their office. The LEI branch has three program areas: Cooperative Law Enforcement, Drug Enforcement and NFS Law Enforcement. The 1997 budget for LEI is \$60 million. LEI asked for an additional \$409,000 in their budget this year to counter environmental activities, county supremacy and white-collar crimes, among other transgressions.

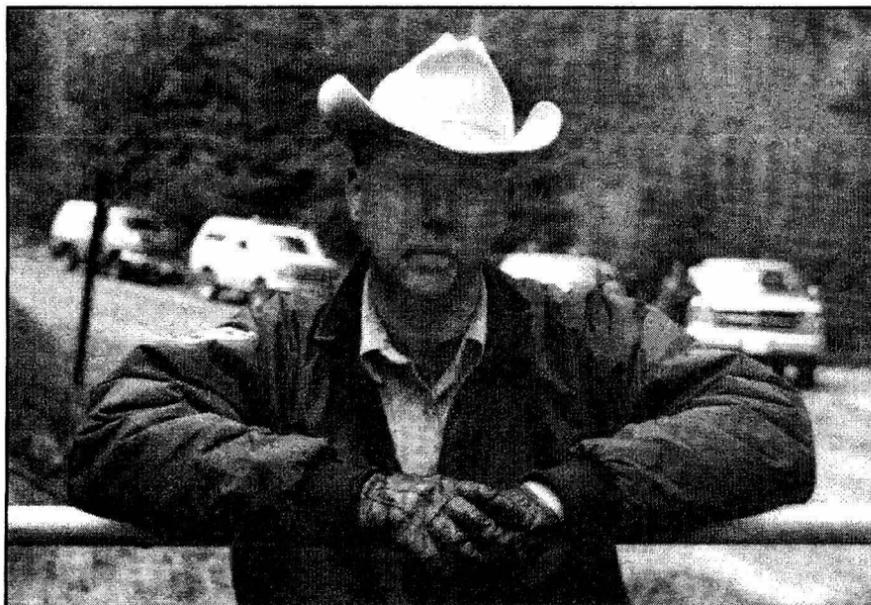
LEI employs approximately 570 uniformed Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs) and 150 criminal investigators called Special Agents. LEOs spend 11 weeks in police training focused on federal law. Special Agents train for an additional seven weeks. Most of the training time is spent on constitutional law and search-and-seizure techniques. There are also specially designed natural-resource courses about crimes relating to archaeological sites, timber theft and wildfire arson.

There are reportedly no courses on how to deal with environmental protesters. This type of training may happen at a lower level with experienced LEOs and EF! "experts." Bureau of Land Management (BLM) officers from other regions who claim vast experience with protests worked at closures in Oregon last summer. Experienced LEOs may do training circuits to share such knowledge.

LEOs are trained to use mild torture tactics, the most notorious being pain compliance holds, on people who physically resist arrest or refuse to leave an area. Many of these holds originate from the martial art Aikido and involve pressing the fingers on nerve bundles or twisting parts of the body in ways they shouldn't move. Pain compliance holds usually won't result in permanent damage unless resisted or used malevolently. Tom Lyons, Region 6 Special Agent in Charge has denied that these holds are used on people who lockdown, but this has reportedly happened on at least two occasions in the past year. LEOs try to make protesters as uncomfortable as possible, especially when locked-down or in small groups. They have been known to make protesters hypothermic by taking off excess layers of clothes, denying them food and water and "hog-tying" them, i.e. handcuffing their free limbs to their feet and twisting them into the most uncomfortable positions possible. They also use scare tactics like holding mace up to protesters' faces, saying it will be very painful to be removed, threatening felony charges or long jail sentences and claiming they will cut down trees to make a temporary road around a blockade. Before an action, activists should prepare to be dehu-

manized, manipulated, threatened and lied to.

Some LEOs have training on the slow process of tracking people in the woods. When they initially detect people in the woods, they radio to "operations" for instructions on how to proceed. They are known to track in groups, often dressed in camouflage with small radios on their collars so they can communicate and maneuver as a team. When they



Ten-gallon hats are not regular Forest Service issue.

spot a protester, they radio their location to the team and attempt to stealthily approach. If activists think they have been detected and the LEOs may track them, they should get out of the area quietly, leaving as little trace as possible. One activist escaped a team of LEOs by running out of sight, hiding in a nook and covering himself with moss and ferns. LEOs will rarely follow activists into the woods at night.

A K-9 unit may be used to track scents in the forest. Most dogs are trained to attack people who are running or acting aggressively and to guard scared, calm or passive people. If activists are trying to hide or evade LEOs without trekking too far from a site, they should carry cayenne powder (red pepper) to leave on their trail. This will interfere with the dog's scenting capabilities.

Along with an advanced, full-range radio/scanner system, high-level LEO vehicles have cellular speaker phones. In the middle of the dashboard, video cameras are often mounted. The Freddie's often have noise-activated flood lights on vehicles stationed at the boundary of closures. They have been known to use night vision and long-distance audio mics for covert surveillance and to put gels on their car headlights for stealthy patrols.

USFS officers are typically heavily armed. Most carry a semiautomatic 9mm handgun, and many also carry a .38-caliber revolver as backup. Most LEI and sheriff vehicles tote a 12-gauge shotgun as well as a Ruger Mini-30 semiautomatic carbine assault rifle, which shoots a .30 caliber similar to those used with AK-47s and M-60 machine guns. Many agents also have access to AR-15 rifles, the semi-automatic version of the M-16 which shoots .33-caliber.

The LEI Cooperative Law Enforcement program provides reimbursement to state and local law enforcement agencies that cooperate in enforcing the law on USFS land. For larger operations, such as enforcing huge closures on timber sales that bar the public from entering an area, specific cooperative agreements outline how other agencies will be compensated for their help. LEI Congressional budget requests for '97 indicate continued support for approximately 520 cooperative law enforcement agreements. This is why you may see a variety of law enforcement at a protest. Often there will be state police, sheriff's deputies from various counties and BLM officers alongside the Freddie's. It is an exciting yet easy way for them to make \$33 to \$38 an hour, or

\$46 to \$54 an hour overtime (using Lane County, OR as an example).

Increasingly, USFS uses special closures to bar protesters from being on large swaths of public land near a timber sale. The '97 budget request states: "Environmental activities which include protests of timber sales and other controlled forest activities are increasing and requiring more law enforcement presence by the agency. These increased public safety closures on the forests and large group (Rainbow) gatherings must be managed and enforced." This strategic use of "public safety" closures to prevent protest brings up several issues: First Amendment free-speech rights, legal justifications for special closures and the rights of media.

In many cases, LEI "public safety" closures are used more as a tactic to prevent the public and media from witnessing the ecological destruction of industrial resource extraction than out of a legitimate concern for safety. These closures often restrict the citizenry miles from actual logging sites. Legally, however, closures should only be used to protect the citizenry, not to silence it. When a district ranger was asked in court about the possible hazards to public safety from a logging site miles away, he mumbled something about logs rolling downhill. USFS even used a closure at a protest held on Saturday, when there was no harvest activities and no particular dangers to public safety from logging. One sheriff said that his sole reason for being at the protest was to "protect the civil rights of protesters" (with handcuffs?). However, this wasn't mentioned as an objective of "managing" the protest. A Freedom Of Information Act (FOIA) request of the LEI protest response plan for the Red 90 timber sale protest in Oregon revealed five objectives, one of which stated, "Prevent/reduce unlawful demonstrations, criminal acts and/or acts of civil disobedience that would delay harvest operations." Such use of closures is a clear violation of the Constitutional rights of protesters.

According to case law, government agents must be very careful in restricting activities that limit First Amendment free speech rights. Expressive activity must be tolerated to the maximum extent on National Forests. Regulations cannot be applied to suppress First Amendment activity or out of hostility to a particular group; speculative injury or law breaking is not sufficient reason to restrict expressive activity. This does not mean that the courts will always rule accordingly. Earlier this year, however, the closure at the Rocky Brook sale in Washington was ruled "unconstitutionally overbroad" because it covered "an excessive area and burden(ed) more speech than is necessary to serve significant government interests."

In many cases, LEI will not allow the media in closures so they can't get footage of trees falling and protesters locked-down or perched in tripods. In August 1996, two reporters from the Eugene Register-Guard entered a closed area in the Willamette National Forest via a back country route and were arrested trying to report on the raid of the Warner Creek blockade. LEOs confiscated their notebooks and cameras, copied the reporters' notes and developed their film. Now the FS is dealing with a civil suit from the Register-Guard based on special privilege laws relating to media.

Just in case anyone isn't irked enough about the taxpayers' \$1 billion subsidy to fund the planning, administration and execution of public timber sales each year, recent FOIAs reveal a rough estimate of how much LEI spends to suppress citizen protest against this legalized theft of money, biodiversity, clean water, serenity and our future. Since the passage of the Salvage Rider in July '95, the USFS and BLM in Oregon and Washington have spent approximately \$1.8 million administering special closures at over 15 protests.

Photo by Marlowe Knipes

# A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE FOREST SERVICE

BY HOW KUFF

The US Forest Service (USFS) was established in 1905 under the direction of President Theodore Roosevelt and headed by Gifford Pinchot. The stated goals of this agency, according to the Organic Act of 1897, were to "improve and protect the forests... securing favorable conditions of water flows and to furnish a continuous supply of timber." Though the Forest Service is a bureau within the Department of Agriculture, it has traditionally functioned fairly independently. The primary focus of the Department of Agriculture has been farms, while the focus of the Forest Service has been trees.

The initial national forest lands were generally in the Western states. In 1911, however, the Forest Service was authorized to purchase more land and began acquiring various unclaimed and unused lands in Eastern states. Many of the Eastern lands had been cut over by large timber companies toward the end of the 1800s. Until recently it was assumed that this virgin forest was essentially clearcut, but new evidence has shown that the early loggers took only the big, straight trees that were not too difficult to access. Many of the smaller, crooked or hard-to-access virgin-forest trees were left standing.

After WWII, a boom in construction and other wood-product uses caused the timber industry to doggedly pursue the forest resources in the National Forest System. Concerns over large-scale cutting in the 1950s and 1960s eventually led to the adoption of the Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act (MUSY) of 1960 and the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (NFMA). This legislation was designed to protect multiple uses of the forest and to manage lands for an even flow of resources in an environmentally sound way. NFMA, however, has proven to be relatively ineffective at protecting resources because of the broad interpretations of its text.

Until the 1970s, the Forest Service left many of the Eastern forests primarily on their own to recover from earlier land abuses. Some small-scale logging by local workers continued in selected areas. In the 1970s, pressure from the timber industry opened up more national forests to massive abuses, and timber sales increased in size. Clearcutting and the use of herbicides emerged as preferred management practices. Large industrial skidders replaced small tractor or horse and mule logging; watersheds began to suffer.

During the 1980s, public concern over USFS timber management practices began to really expand. People all over the country reported devastation to local natural resources from USFS timber sales. Environmental groups and concerned citizens began documenting the extent of the damage and organized to modify many of the projects that the USFS proposed. Many of the more remote headwaters areas still had forests of mixed virgin hardwoods and healthy, century-old, second-growth hardwoods. The Forest Service inventoried those areas and has been attempting to cut out the last remaining unprotected Eastern forest areas as fast as possible ever since.

As timber resources become more difficult to obtain from the national forests in the Western states, the timber industry has moved fiercely to expand its operations in the national forests of the Eastern US. Because of the deep timber industry influence in politics over the last 150 years, the USFS has consistently and aggressively proposed large annual harvests from our public lands—often to the detriment of the resources it is charged with managing for the public good. Many USFS practices of the past few decades have focused primarily on "getting out the cut," providing raw resources for the

hungry timber industry.

As more folks became aware of the abuses occurring on their public lands, USFS was tasked with resolving conflicts arising from citizens alarmed about their forests. USFS trains its employees in techniques of engaging the public. The objective is to create the appearance of dialogue by soliciting comments and input, while continuing to satisfy the timber industry.

Concerned citizens throughout the US have been appealing Forest Service decisions consistently for over 15 years. Recently, almost every single appeal across the country has been rejected, effectively ending the administrative process for affecting USFS decisions. Frustrated citizens have been forming and joining forest protection groups. There are now public land advocacy groups working on nearly every national forest in the country. National and regional gatherings of "forest activists" are held regularly.

Meanwhile, USFS PR folks have been rushing to build a good image for the agency. They always claim that the USFS is following all environmental and procedural laws and that the uproar comes from a small group of disgruntled citizens. However, public land and forest management issues are now moving into the consciousness of the average American, and people are becoming increasingly concerned. After all, most of the destructive management practices only benefit small special-interest groups within our society, i.e. the timber, mining and ranching industries. Most Americans have no ties to these groups, but are, in the light of widespread environmental crises and stressful industrial expansion, becoming very concerned about the protection of their watersheds, biological habitats and recreational opportunities. In many cases the USFS operates in direct violation of the law and the will of the American people with complete arrogance and impunity. The PR folks portray a nice glossy picture with their multiple use ideals, while the on-the-ground destruction left in the wake of their timber operations is quietly left out.

All around the country, citizens witnessing the death of watersheds and extinction of wildlife are frustrated by the lack of administrative relief and have turned to the federal court system. The courts have returned mixed judgments, sometimes supporting forest activists and sometimes supporting the Forest Service. In almost every case against the Forest Service, a timber industry group has intervened. Court proceedings usually focus on the possible harm to the resources, as alleged by the forest activists, and the dire harm the timber industry claims it will suffer if not allowed to cut down the forest. In the federal court it becomes clear that the Forest Service and the timber industry sit together as one and the same, and the Forest Service quite often does the bidding of the timber industry. In the courtroom, the deck is stacked in favor of the Forest Service because all court proceedings are generally limited to the

administrative record of official documents. Because the Forest Service is charged with making decisions about these public lands, deference is given to the professional agency of record.

Frustration with a court system that heavily favors the timber industry has led forest activists to develop other strategies. Direct actions to stop or stall timber sales are becoming common throughout the country. People have been blockading roads with their bodies, climbing into trees and refusing to leave, and organizing protests, rallies and demonstrations. The Forest Service responds to citizens attempting to protect public natural resources with extreme force, bringing in dozens of enforcement officers with automatic weapons and dogs. They close off public lands to all but industrial interests and forcefully arrest hundreds of citizens.

Our tax dollars totally support this agency which is rushing headlong to sell off America's greatest resources. If the Forest Service were a business it would have closed its doors long ago. In 1995, a typical year, the Forest Service received \$5 in tax money from every man and woman in the US (\$1.3 billion/260 million people). The agency returned about \$.25 per person to the Treasury from all national forest revenues (\$61 million dollars/260 million people).

We have a renegade agency, serving the interests of big business, costing American taxpayers billions of dollars each year. It is time for some extreme change. An agency that so arrogantly scoffs at the wishes of the public must be redirected. The outdated laws, guidelines and administrative procedures governing the USFS focus primarily on the role of public forests in the past century, when logging was the "king" of American industries. We need a forward-thinking agency, one that manages our resources with a close eye to the future. One that works to insure that healthy watersheds, rich habitat and wild lands will be here for generations to come. One that can see the forest for the trees.

*How Kuff works with the Newton County Wildlife Association in the Ozark Mountains of Arkansas.*



U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service

86-CFFP-29

State Forestry Department  
U.S. GPO: 1985-000-872/0111

# SHELL TO DRILL ON PERUVIAN INDIAN LAND

Unless it can be stopped, Shell Oil will be drilling for natural gas this July in a rainforest area that Peru's government set aside as a reserve for indigenous peoples. The 40-year, \$2.7-billion project will be one of the largest gas operations in South America. Should Shell's crews expose the isolated Indian groups to Western diseases, the impact could erase these peoples from the Earth.

Based on Shell's shameful disregard for indigenous people in Nigeria, international human rights organizations expect the worst. In November 1995, Nobel Peace Prize nominee Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight fellow Ogoni tribesmen were executed for opposing Shell's Niger Delta operations. Oil pollution destroyed the traditional Ogoni fishing and farming life, and as the *Wall Street Journal* put it, turned the region into "a ravaged environment."

Peru's Nahua and Kugapakori Reserve is a 2,200-square-mile area in the Urubamba River valley bordering Manu National Park, about 300 miles east of Lima. The Nahua and Kugapakori Indians are semi-nomadic hunter-gatherers whose cultures honor their natural surroundings. Their own well-being is inseparable from the well-being of the rainforest; it is their source of food, shelter and the focus of their spiritual life. The Nahua and Kugapakori's survival depends on their continued stewardship of a clean, intact rainforest ecosystem.

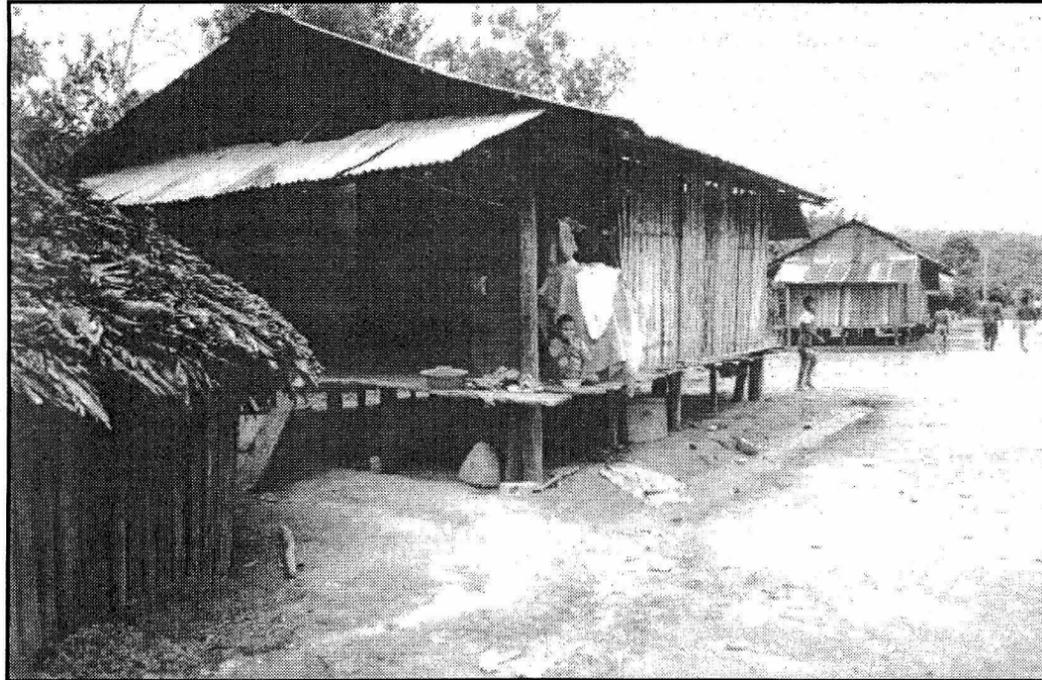
Shell's plan to drill on the reserve will force the Nahua and Kugapakori to compromise their traditional way of life, robbing them of their basic human right to determine their own future.

When Shell Oil conducted preliminary exploration of the region in the mid-1980s, opening the rainforest to outsiders, certain Nahua groups were exposed to a whooping cough and influenza epidemic that killed off an estimated 50 percent of the

population. Local Indians believe the surviving Nahua have fled deep into the rainforest.

Shell acknowledges the consequences of its planned drilling operations, stating in information prepared for its field staff that "due to their geographic isolation [the Nahua and Kugapakori] have no antibodies against common Western diseases like flu, whooping cough and small pox/chicken pox. This means that a common flu could easily turn into pneumonia and become fatal."

Shell's operations will also create havoc with established Indian communities. Future roads into well sites will open the region to loggers and settlers. Shell's first gas well will be drilled inside the Machiguenga village of Cashiriari. Dozens of other Machiguenga communities are located alongside the rivers inside Shell's area of operation, each one facing the likelihood that drilling waste will contaminate its water supply. The Machiguenga Indians are organizing in response to Shell's project and have formed "watchdog brigades" to keep an eye on company activities and to stand up for their rights.



Shell will drill its first well in the Machiguenga Indian community of Cashiriari.

Photo by Shannon Wright

## What You Can Do

Since some of the gas Shell will pull from Peru's Nahua and Kugapakori Reserve will be exported to the United States, we in the industrial North have an obligation to let Shell know that we hold them responsible for the Indians' survival. Send letters of protest and concern to Mr. Alan Hunt, Shell Prospecting and Development (Peru), Av. Nicolas Arriola No. 740, Lima 13, Peru; fax 011-5112-242-037. Postage to Peru is US 60 cents.

—RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK

## Nepal, India Give Go-Ahead for World's Highest Dam

BY ALETA BROWN

Just one year after anti-dam activists in Nepal celebrated the cancellation of the Arun III Dam, they are now faced with a fight to stop the proposed Pancheshwar Dam. At 315 metres, it would be the world's highest. On September 20, 1996, the Nepali Parliament ratified the Integrated Mahakali River Basin Development Treaty, giving a green light to the Pancheshwar Dam even though no detailed project report has been made available to the public and no environmental or social studies have been conducted.

The Mahakali Treaty commits India and Nepal to build the Pancheshwar Dam and two smaller dams on the Mahakali River, which forms the border with India in westernmost Nepal. As established in the Treaty, the water and electricity to be provided by the dams, and the estimated \$12 billion cost of building them, will be divided between the two countries. The dams are to be built within 10 years.

The Nepal-based International Institute for Human Rights, Environment and Development (INHURED) intends to launch an international campaign against Pancheshwar. Among INHURED's concerns are: there has not been any comprehensive study of the Mahakali Basin and the possibilities for building smaller projects on the river; the detailed report on the Pancheshwar project has not yet been made publicly available; no environmental or social impact studies have yet been conducted; and no resettlement plan been drawn up.

INHURED has also criticized the role of the US government in lobbying Nepal to ratify the treaty. The US Ambassador in Nepal reportedly pressured the country's main opposition party to support the treaty, arguing that the treaty is necessary to preserve Nepal's "credibility" with foreign investors. The arrival in Kathmandu in early September of US Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs Robin Raphel was believed to be linked to US support for the treaty. Raphel was quoted in a Nepal government daily on September 7 as saying that the "Mahakali Treaty is important and it opens the market for power sale (sic) which will be key to international financing in hydro power in Nepal."

The Berkeley-based International Rivers Network voiced their

opposition to the State Department's involvement. In a letter to Warren Christopher, IRN's Campaign Director Patrick McCully stated that, "Because it is inconceivable that a dam of this size could now be built in the US due to public opposition on environmental and economic grounds...we believe it is highly inappropriate for the State Department to be lobbying Nepal to commit itself to this massive project. Lobbying for this massive dam without any detailed knowledge of its technical and economic viability, safety, or social and environmental impacts is, we believe, irresponsible."

## THAI GOVERNMENT APPROVES DAM

BY LYNDY WORSHAM

In November 1996, at their final Cabinet meeting, the outgoing Thai government approved construction of the controversial Kaeng Sua Ten dam in Phrae province in Northern Thailand. The dam's reservoir will flood a large portion of Thailand's richest and largest remaining golden teak forest, in Mea Yom National Park, and displace more than 600 families.

Geological experts have found seismic activity near the area. The proposed dam is close to a fault line and the construction is bound to be expensive, since builders will have to ensure that the dam be earthquake proof. This will be difficult, since the increased water will create more underground pressure.

Villagers opposed to the dam carried out a ceremony to curse the government officials who approved the construction, including former Prime Minister Banharn Silapa-archa. Villagers assert that nobody came to their villages to explain the project, give any information about the dam or conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment.

Environmental groups plan to sue the government for allegedly violating provisions of the 1993 Environmental Act, which prohibits major infrastructural projects until an Environmental Impact Assessment has been completed and approved.



GLOBAL NEWS

# DREDGING PROJECT COULD SPELL DOOM FOR WETLANDS

The Bolivian government has begun dredging a grain port in Puerto Aguirre, Bolivia, owned by Cargill, the world's largest agricultural trading company. The dredging is the first part of a mega-project to alter the natural channel of the Paraguay and Parana Rivers to construct an industrial waterway for barge convoys called the Paraguay-Parana Hidrovia.

The dredging of Cargill's port is designed to open the Tamengo Channel to convoys of up to 16 soybean- and soy-meal-carrying barges. The Tamengo Channel is Bolivia's eight-kilometer link with the Paraguay River, which flows downstream into the Parana River and onward to the Atlantic Ocean. Dredging in Puerto Aguirre port is supported financially and politically by Cargill, and is being carried out without environmental safeguards and against the recommendations of environmental impact studies funded by both the Inter-American Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme.

In addition, serious doubts have been raised by technical experts from the region and by internationally-renowned hydrologists as to whether the alterations of South America's second most important river system are advisable. Independent studies indicate that even small changes in the level of the Paraguay River may cause irreversible damage to the Pantanal, the world's largest remaining wetlands ecosystem.

The official studies for the Hidrovia plan say that no dredging should take place in the Tamengo Channel until

additional sediment samples are taken and an adequate waste disposal plan is implemented. They recommend that the planned 16-barge access be reduced to two or four barges in order to limit the environmental impacts of the undertaking.

Preliminary tests have indicated the presence of heavy metals, hydrocarbons and pesticide contamination in channel sediments. Disturbing these sediments may contaminate the drinking water of four cities that get their water directly from the channel, including Corumba, Brazil, a city of 90,000 only a few kilometers downstream. A saline aquifer close to the channel bed may also contaminate drinking water if disturbed. Of additional concern is the fact that the Bolivian military plans to remove rock outcroppings in the channel, possibly using explosives.

Until now, the only plan for disposing of the dredged materials entails dumping them in the Pantanal wetlands, contaminating wide areas, blocking fish migratory routes and changing flow patterns in the Tamengo Channel in an unpredictable manner. An alternative would be to use the dredged matter for landfill, but given that plans are to dredge nearly four million cubic meters of clay sediments, this is likely to be written off as too costly.

The Puerto Aguirre grain terminal was originally built with partial funding from the US Agency for International Development. Cargill bought a controlling interest in 1996 and took over operation of the terminal in September. With Bolivian soy ex-

ports growing as more land is converted to soy monocultures, Cargill is in a position to profit handsomely if the Hidrovia moves forward. It will lower the costs of exporting soy to Europe at the expense of the Bolivian people, who are paying most of the cost of altering the channel.

For more than three years Rios Vivos, a coalition of environmental groups, human rights groups and indigenous peoples, has pressed for public participation in the Hidrovia studies. The city of Puerto Suarez recently staged a general strike in protest of the planned dredging and rock removal in the channel.

In 1996 the Bolivian foreign minis-

try made a public commitment to not proceed with Hidrovia until all environmental studies were completed. Now it appears as if the interests of multinational grain exporters are preempting a fair and rigorous analysis of whether the inadequate studies truly justify moving ahead with the destructive Hidrovia scheme.

Please fax letters of protest to His Excellency, Mr. Gonzalo Sanchez de Losada, President of Bolivia, fax (591) (2) 39-1216; and Mr. Ernest Micek, Chief Executive Officer, Cargill Corp. fax (612) 742-6027.

—FOOD FIRST INFORMATION ACTION NETWORK

## TONS OF TREES IN TINY RAINFOREST

Ecologists have found that a small patch of the Brazilian rainforest contains 476 tree species, more than any spot of similar size ever studied. All 476 species were confined to a 2.5-acre plot, a Brazilian ecologist reported during the Atlantic Forest Ecological Corridors Workshop held recently in the Brazilian state of Bahia. The study area, about 300 miles northeast of Rio de Janeiro, is part of a rainforest ecosystem frequently cited as one of the world's most endangered.

Ecologists estimate that about five percent of the original Atlantic coastal forest remains. A study conducted by Luciana Dias Thomaz of Brazil's Universidad Estadual Paulista, found 104 tree species that had never been seen in the area before and five that are completely new to science. That number could increase as study results are analyzed more completely, according to Wayt Thomas, an ecologist at the New York Botanical Garden who has done similar studies in the Atlantic coastal forest. Thomas was the first to try cataloging the number of species in small plots. His 1993 study of a 2.5-acre section in the Brazilian state of Bahia found 458 species, 15 of them previously unknown. The same year a similar study of the Amazon rainforest, which is distinct from the Atlantic coastal ecosystem, found 473 species within the same area. A similar patch of North American temperate forest contains only two to 20 tree species.

—THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# WHY I WAS BANNED FROM A CONGO RAINFOREST

BY KORINNA HORTA

A demonstration of how much power a transnational company can wield in a poor African country hit close to home recently. I was visiting the Congo to participate in a meeting that brought African governments and non-governmental organizations together to discuss the fact that the Central African rainforest, the second-largest expanse of rainforest in the world, may soon disappear unless some concerted action is taken.

Following the meeting and at the recommendation of Congolese environmentalists, I had planned to visit the northern part of the country. About 45,000 square miles of rainforest, an area about the size of New York State, was destroyed between 1980 and 1990—and with it many plants and animals that can be found nowhere else in the world.

My plans were unexpectedly thwarted by a private German logging company, Congolese Industrielle des Bois, which decided I wasn't a welcome visitor where the company is running a logging concession occupying land about the size of Delaware. While my entry visa into the Congo was good for the whole country, the company had such clout that a simple fax sent from its headquarters to the travel agent in charge of my transportation led to the cancellation of my visit.

The fax said for certain reasons, which weren't

specified, that no help should be given to me to reach this remote area, 600 miles from the capital. This was enough to intimidate those who had been ready to assist me.

"Logging is an ugly business," explained a foreign official. "For every tree that is taken out, many more are destroyed and left to rot, and entire areas are turned into wasteland. Had you gone to that area, you would have seen the carcasses of dead gorillas and other endangered wildlife dangling down from the logs being transported on company trucks, and that would have been bad public relations for the company."

The same company banned other people it believed were environmentalists from the northern Congo. In researching the company, I discovered a trail leading back to Washington and the World Bank. The company has received development aid from a World Bank branch that supports private-sector enterprises, the International Finance Corporation.

This is important because the World Bank is preparing a strategy for the Congo Basin rainforest, which covers about 80 percent of Africa's remaining forest. The proposal assumes forestry operations of multinationals will be handled in a sustainable and responsible manner, although none of the companies involved has a record of protecting the forest and its wildlife or of contributing to sustainable development.

Ironically, the company with the best reputation in the Congo is the same German firm that tries to keep environmentalists out of the area of the country where it operates. The World Bank's proposed strategy doesn't deal with the environmental and social

aspects of the forest, promising that these will be taken care of later.

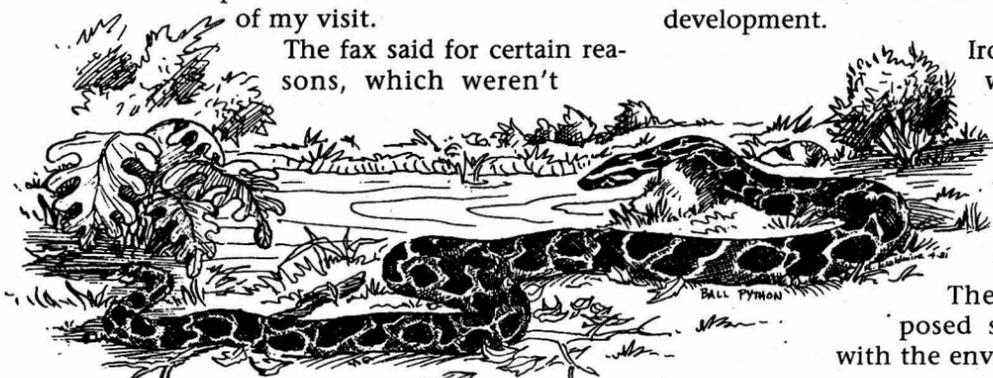
This has a familiar ring to those who have looked at the past and ongoing World Bank forestry projects in Africa and elsewhere. In case after case, the timber production components of the projects have moved ahead, while promised environmental and social safeguards for the people living in and around the forests were delayed or never got off the ground. An example from the northern Congo is a sawmill project funded by the World Bank several years ago with the goal of expanding logging and wood processing in the area. It was supposed to include a study on how the Pygmy population could be protected and benefit from the project. But a later World Bank report found out that the study was never done.

Many of the multinational forestry companies in Central Africa logged the now depleted forests of West Africa. Typically, the companies log the best timber and leave the rest of the forest damaged from the careless use of equipment. Previously inaccessible areas are opened up through logging roads that attract game poachers, as well as farmers that convert the remaining forest to agricultural uses, though the soils are too poor to support permanent agriculture.

In Central Africa, the logging companies and those that follow in their tracks are likely to displace forest-dwelling communities whose knowledge of the forest ecosystems allows them to obtain food, shelter, clothing and medicines without disturbing the delicate ecological balance.

If poverty alleviation and sustainable development are at the core of the World Bank's mission, then it should focus on helping companies create conditions under which forests can be protected.

*Korinna Horta is an environmental economist at the Environmental Defense Fund. Reprinted by permission from the Christian Science Monitor. Copyright 1996 The Christian Science Publishing Society. All rights reserved.*





# THE POLITICS OF EXTINCTION

## LEGISLATING THE FUTURE OF THE COHO SALMON

BY DIANE VALENTINE

On October 25, 1996, after a three year struggle by salmon advocates, the Clinton administration finally protected coho salmon in central California under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Due to political pressure, however, endangered coho in northern California and Oregon remain unprotected.

### Background and Chronology of Events

Coho salmon, once a mainstay of the commercial fishing industry, have declined precipitously, largely because of habitat destruction from irresponsible logging and other land management activities. Though coho fishing has been virtually shut down for the past three years, these habitat-damaging practices continue relatively unabated.

In 1993, two petitions were filed with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) asking that coho be protected as a threatened or endangered species. Together these petitions covered coho in California, Oregon, Washington and Idaho. By law, once a petition is filed the agency has one year to make a proposal and another year to make its final listing decision. Unfortunately, in the coho's case, court action was needed to force a proposal, which was finally issued in July 1995, a year late.

The agency divided coho into six "Evolutionarily Significant Units" and proposed to list the southernmost three (in California and Oregon) as threatened. This formal proposal got the attention of Oregon and California, which began designing state-level coho recovery plans in the hopes of avoiding a federal listing.

By the fall of 1995, Oregon's effort was underway. From the beginning, salmon advocates were skeptical that Oregon's Coastal Salmon Restoration Initiative (CSRI) would become a strong protection plan. First, the agencies and industries opposed to federal protection were expected to also oppose meaningful protection at the state level. Second, the Department of Fish and Wildlife had already rejected a petition to protect coho under Oregon's ESA. The state of Oregon continued to harm salmon as though nothing whatsoever had changed.

While Oregon's CSRI fell predictably short of the mark, California's Coastal Salmon Initiative (CSI) never really got off the ground at all. Governor Wilson did not consider salmon a priority and failed to provide the resources and support necessary for serious planning. The timber industry walked out after the second meeting, leaving the fishery and conservation participants highly frustrated and the planning process largely stalled.

In the meantime, salmon advocates and NMFS argued over the listing deadline. Conservationists wanted a coho listing immediately, in October 1995, since the two years allowed by the ESA had already elapsed. However, a court ruling went in the agency's favor, giving it a full year from its belated July 1995 proposal and an extra three months to make up for the congressional moratorium on ESA activities, extending the deadline to October 25, 1996.

As that deadline drew near, Governor Kitzhaber released Oregon's draft CSRI and asked the federal government to delay its listing decision for another six months. Despite California's lack of a plan, Governor Wilson also requested a six-month delay using language taken almost verbatim from a timber industry letter! Fishing and conservation participants in California were so angry they threatened to withdraw from CSI if coho were not listed.

On October 25, 1996, NMFS did list Central California coho as "threatened" but took advantage of a loophole in the ESA to postpone its decision on northern California and Oregon coho for another six months, thus pushing the deadline to April 1997.

### Inadequacy of Oregon's Plan and the Need for Federal Protection

Conservation and fishing groups agree that Oregon's salmon plan is inadequate to protect and recover coho. What's more, the plan is unlikely to improve

significantly since its flaws are not accidental or incidental but rather the result of deliberate decisions based on Oregon's political realities.

From the outset, Governor Kitzhaber made it clear that Oregon's CSRI would avoid new regulations favoring instead voluntary measures, one of the plan's greatest shortcomings. Voluntary actions are simply not dependable enough to ensure recovery of a species already in danger of extinction. Kitzhaber knows, however, that a plan unacceptable to the timber and agriculture industries stands little chance of success in Oregon's legislature. It's no surprise that Oregon's plan fails to substantively address the impacts of irresponsible logging and livestock grazing. Instead, it is largely a list of existing mechanisms and a promise to better fund and enforce them.

Indeed, there's no guarantee the state plan will be funded at all, despite its concessions to industry. With a price tag of \$30 million, it will face tough competition for budget dollars, especially since the recent passage of an Oregon measure cutting property taxes. Kitzhaber hopes to fund salmon and state parks via a new tax on beverage containers, but if such funding fails to materialize, so will most of the CSRI measures.

### Importance of ESA Protection

It's clearly unrealistic to expect much improvement in Oregon's salmon plan given the current political situation. It's also unrealistic to expect Oregon's plan to prevent extinction and recover coho. Such limitations at the state level make a strong case for federal protection. A state-federal partnership, under the authority of the ESA, offers the best opportunity to provide both the enforceable safeguards and the financial resources needed for salmon recovery.

Governor Kitzhaber has criticized salmon advocates for supporting what he characterizes as a "top-down, command and control approach." He contends that the Endangered Species Act is useless or even counterproductive on private lands, claiming that voluntary efforts will do more for salmon than an ESA listing. Not surprisingly, private industries whose activities harm salmon have threatened to not cooperate if coho are listed.

In addition to the inadequacy of Oregon's plan, there are two other important reasons to list Oregon's coho. First, a substantial portion of coho habitat falls on federal land. Even an excellent state plan would

have little authority over such areas. Second, coho in northern California, which have been grouped with southern Oregon's for listing purposes, are beyond the reach of Oregon's plan and would fall between the cracks without federal protection.

Though NMFS did not propose protection, Washington state also hopes to prevent federal listing with its own salmon plan. Unlike Oregon's CSRI, Washington's Wild Fish Policy contains surprisingly strong protections. Unfortunately, the draft plan enjoys little support and has come under attack from many quarters. Salmon advocates are currently working to build support among fishing and tribal constituencies.

### What's Next for Coho?

Though ESA protection is clearly warranted for coho salmon in Oregon and northern California, that's not enough to ensure a listing in April. NMFS has been quite critical of Oregon's plan but has also shown itself to be susceptible to political pressure. The Clinton administration would certainly prefer not to cross Kitzhaber, a popular, Democratic governor. On the other hand, failure to list would leave the administration legally vulnerable, given the inadequacy of Oregon's plan and the lack of a California plan.

Salmon advocates hope Governor Kitzhaber will accept the fact that federal protection is fairly likely despite his best efforts. It's in Kitzhaber's best interest to soften his anti-ESA rhetoric, lest he be deemed a failure and Oregon's CSRI a waste of time. He should exercise leadership by reassuring industries and landowners that an ESA listing will not throw Oregon's efforts out the window or prevent their involvement and influence in recovery planning.

Between now and April, conservationists will be working to solicit and demonstrate support for ESA protection. Concerned individuals in Oregon and California are urged to contact their governors and express disappointment at efforts to prevent ESA protection. Wilson should instruct California's agencies to cooperate with the federal government to design a 4(d) rule for California's listed coho populations. In addition, NMFS must be encouraged to ignore political pressure and exercise its legal obligations to salmon. The decision this April is important not only for coho but also as a precedent for many other troubled salmon species awaiting protection.



# POWER TO THE PEOPLE



## Doomed to Extinction

Corporations are social dinosaurs. Beneath the plush feelgood exterior, Barney™ is really Tyrannosaurus. On today's battle-torn capitalist moonscape, no one needs to bother with democratic freedom, social justice, ecological integrity, or even the dignity of life when the only law of the land is "might makes right." Or at least that's what the pea-brained, stone-hearted behemoths of Mammon want everyone to believe as they strut their bloated brawn about.

**Dateline Tembagapura, West Papua - March 1995:**

**- In three days of popular outrage, thousands of villagers destroy buildings, vehicles, computers, laboratories, and offices of Freeport McMoran™ to protest genocidal mineral extraction.**

Fortunately, those now condemned to dwell in the shadow of the corporate nightmare still hold the power to hasten its extinction. These monsters are just cultural constructs - fictional entities that can be cast away by popular will if the community determines they no longer serve a useful purpose. One late 19th century NY State Supreme Court judge succinctly stated - "the life of a corporation is worth less than that of the humblest citizen."

**Dateline Central Minnesota - August, 1978**

**- Farmers furious with Cooperative Power Association™ (CPS)'s high voltage powerline form the "Bolt Weevils" and inflict over \$6 million worth of damage - toppling towers and shooting insulators.**

When the industrial juggernaut first got underway in western Europe, both people and nature were perverted into "resources" to feed the voracious industrial beast. Yet in 19th century England, luddites under the symbolic command of General Ludd, people fought back against "machinery hurtful to commonality" and destroyed the looms, factories, and agents responsible for this unprecedented exploitation. Today, luddism has even more potential powerful as people recognize the corporation, itself, as a heinous destructive contraption fit only for the trash bin.

**Dateline Southern Sudan - Feb. 1984**

**- Herders opposed to the Jonglei Canal and agribusiness join rebels to attack Campagne de Constructions Internationales™ (CCI)'s operations, destroying the world's largest dredger, market valued at \$8 million U.S.**

## What's left for Direct Action? *Democracy!*

In-between blockades, lockdowns or demos, we mutate into conventional activists and write letters, go to hearings, organize boycotts, file lawsuits. We try to convince government officials and corporate CEOs to do things that they have no intention of doing and no incentive to do. We urge them to do something slightly less bad, we beg them to enforce a law.

As we leave the realm of Direct Action and cross the threshold into "going through channels," the sovereign citizen, resolute and grounded, disappears, and a blubbing supplicant appears in her stead.

Unspoken, but implicit in this scenario is the deep awareness that nothing in our current "democratic" system comes even close to being Direct Action. Direct Action includes many things but it does not include voting, writing letters to the Forest Service or your elected "representative," or testifying at an agency hearing.

This "working within the system" is not Direct Action. It is a diversion — a Democracy Theme Park where domesticated citizens can go to pretend they are affecting policy. We waste our time doing things that don't work just so that we can say that we tried. This willingness to go through the motions just reinforces the impression that Something Is Being Done.

We don't have time — the earth doesn't have time — to waste on a fake democracy that at best offers tiny, fragmentary, temporary improvements. Corporations don't waste their time on such cosmetic crap. We shouldn't either.

If we're committed enough to submit ourselves nonviolently to the wrath of state-subsidized corporations, we should be committed enough to work to make the democratic process a form of Direct Action.

And the first step toward that goal is removing corporations from the process. Government may be partly about corporations, but it is of, by, and for the people.

If we're serious about this, we're going to have to learn corporation law as well as we know the Forest Service, superglue, erosion patterns, the BLM, and duct tape. Corporation law is not quite as fun as banner-hanging, and there's less singing. But unfortunately, the very last people we would want to write the law are exactly the ones who are writing it now.

Every few years, corporation lawyers quietly get together and rewrite corporation laws, and legislatures dutifully adopt their changes. Meanwhile, we wage high-profile campaigns to get a chemical or a kind of bird added to some list buried in the bowels of the regulatory tract.

The first step in joining this movement is to awaken from the "technological somnambulism" and "commodity fetishism" that pervades our mass culture. If babies at six months old are already forming mental images of mascots and logos, then we need to launch a fullscale campaign to cleanse our public space of corporate propaganda and educate ourselves and each other in intellectual self-defense. With shit detectors fully engaged, no worker, student, farmer or consumer will knowingly accept the likes of Channel One™, downsizing, Round Up™, or greenwashing ever again.

**Dateline Bangalore, India - December 1992:**

**- One week after a 500,000 person strong march, irate peasants ransack the office of Cargill™ in protest against GATT's "free trade" provisions and corporate expropriation of indigenous biodiversity.**

Autonomy reclaimed, modern luddites can effectively challenge the myth of corporate power in their own communities. Hackneyed reformist approaches that "regulate around the edges" are not good enough, since they end up being diverted and coopted by the forces of "business as usual." More useful strategies include strikes, sabotage, and boycotts - such direct action not only undermines corporate legitimacy and profitability, but also empowers real people. Of course, the worst threat faced by corporations is a real democracy in motion that takes the bold step to terminate corporations altogether.

**Dateline Gersthofen, West Germany - August, 1994:**

**- Activists opposed to runaway biotechnology destroy \$6 million worth of laboratory crops in a test plot owned by AgrEvo™ - a joint corporate venture of Hoechst™ and Schering™.**

Achieving a world free of corporate capitalism should be the goal of ALL grassroots movements, and therefore we must also be proactive by building the democratic community-based institutions necessary to cleanup the mess left by the dinosaurs. In some farflung corners, these "alternatives" have always been - elsewhere, they need to be (re)created. They include landtrusts, cooperatives, local currencies, info shops, community media, etc. If the meek shall inherit the earth, let it at least be luddites who have the vision, strength and unity to craft a better life without the former master's moronic tools. Ludd Lives!

by T.G. Tomson

Even if we do succeed in getting our entry onto (or off of) a list, (and we usually don't), we don't change the process to make it easier or more democratic the next time. Nor do we change the fact that regulatory agencies, for their century or so of existence, have functioned to shield both corporations and government officials from the wrath (and input) of ordinary citizens.

We need to work for something real like corporations do. Here are some starter ideas.

Work to prohibit corporations or their agents from playing any part in the political process — via elections, campaigns, donations, advertising, or any other means, direct or indirect. Just Say No. Sound too radical? It used to be law in several states — look under "Offenses Against Public Justice."

Prohibit a corporation from owning stock in another corporation. Period. This is a yes-or-no question, and you don't need a regulatory agency to "enforce" it. This takes care of subsidiaries, parents, and takeovers, and tells you who is responsible or liable, as the case may be. Unrealistic? Used to be law in most states.

Require that all corporation records be open to the legislature, and that all corporation management, employees, and stockholders answer questions under oath at any time. Too shocking? Used to be law.

Make all stockholders liable for debts incurred by a corporation during their time as stockholders. This one isn't new, either — it was common in early corporation laws.

Require each corporation to have a specific purpose, and prohibit any and all activities that are not an integral part of that purpose. Grant corporate charters for a fixed number of years only, like ten or twenty. Revoke charters if the corporation either fails to fulfill, or exceeds, its chartered purpose. All these were common, taken-for-granted features of previous corporate law.

So why aren't they even discussed today when we talk strategy? Because somewhere along the way corporation apologists have convinced too many people that corporations have rights to do this or that.

Corporations no more have intrinsic rights than wheelbarrows do. They are created by a legislature to serve the public interest. They have no existence, much less rights, unless we the people say they do. This in a world where living beings are treated as if they had no rights at all.

Corporations have gotten themselves declared to be "persons," and they now play the governance role that sovereign citizens should play in a democracy. If we rewrite the laws that DEFINE corporations, we won't have to waste so much time in futile attempts to REGULATE them.

Defining the corporation, now that's Direct Action. We could include singing.

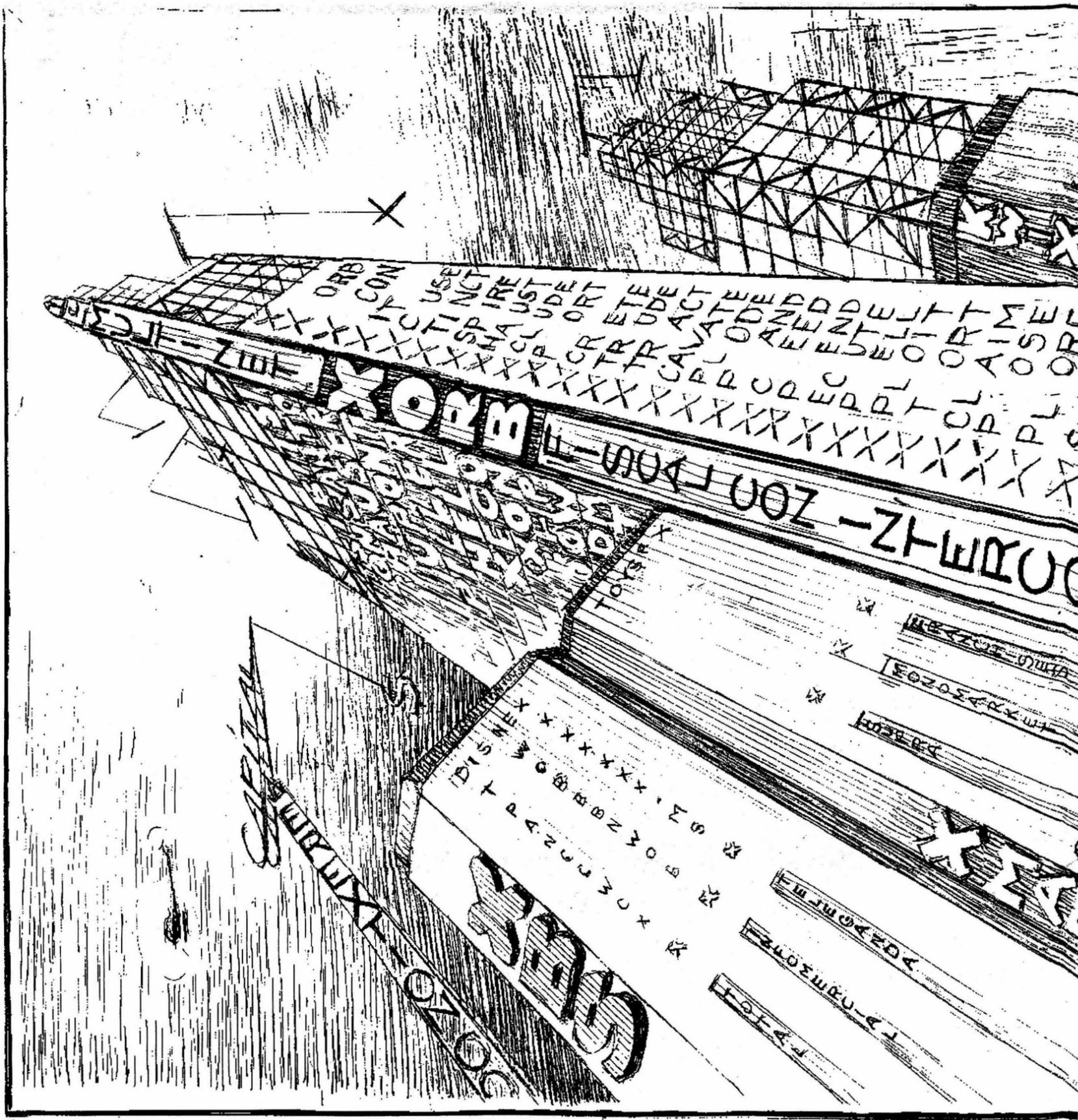
**After all, we are the sovereign people.**

# END CORPORATE RULE

**"I am convinced that if we are to get on the right side of the world revolution, we as a nation must undergo a radical revolution from a "thing-oriented" society to a "person-oriented" society.**

**When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, materialism, and militarism are incapable of being conquered"**

**- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.  
*in memory***



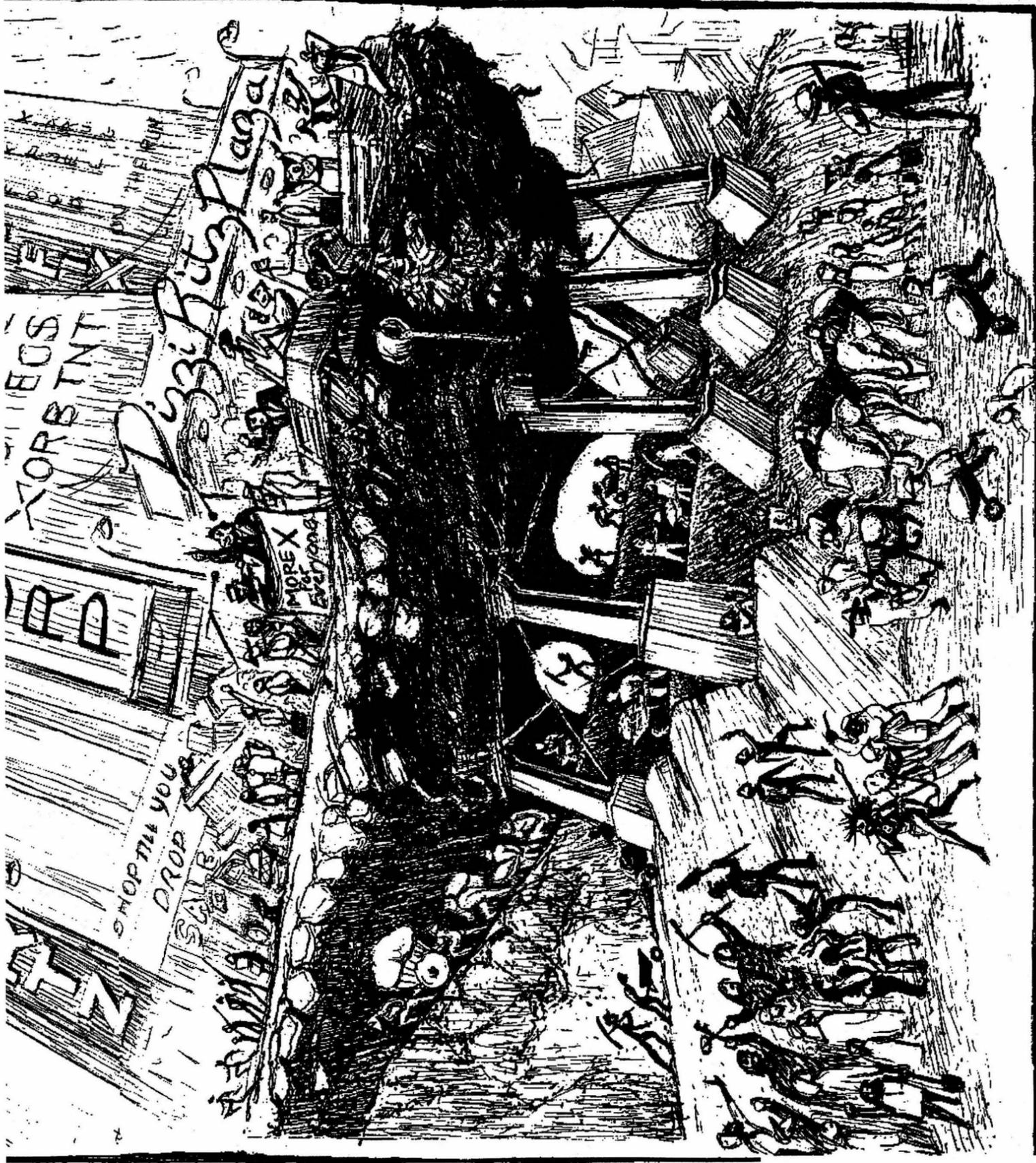
# JOIN THE Democratic Resistance

" There is a time when  
the operation of the  
machine becomes so  
odious, makes you so  
sick at heart, that you  
can't take part.

And you've got to put  
your bodies upon the  
levers, upon all the  
apparatus, and you've  
got to make it stop."

- Mario Savio

*in memory*



"CULTURAL DOWNIZING"

Green Warrior ©

A PRODUCTION OF THE DEMOCRACY TEACH-IN CLEARINGHOUSE - 731 STATE STREET - FOUR LAKES MADISON, WISCONSIN 53703

# POWER TO THE PEOPLE

# Resources for Democratic Revolution

## Periodical Resources:

**Action News.** Action for Corporate Accountability  
910 17th St. NW #413, WashDC 20006 Quarterly  
critique of the baby formula industry. 1st copy free.

**Adbusters** - Quarterly, \$18 a year, 1243 West 7th Ave  
Vancouver, BC V6H 1B7 Canada 604-736-9401

**Against the Current.** Center for Changes  
7012 Michigan Ave., Detroit, MI 48210 Bimonthly  
magazine of Solidarity. Sub. \$20/year.

**Auto-Free Times.** Alliance for a Paving Moratorium  
P.O. Box 4347, Arcata, CA 95518 707-826-7775  
Bimonthly. Sub. \$30/yr (\$15 low income)

**Bankcheck Quarterly.** International Rivers Network  
1847 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94703 Quarterly  
critique of the World Bank, individual sub. \$25.00/yr.

**Boycott Quarterly**  
POB 30727 Seattle, WA 98103-0727 \$18/4 issues/year

**Breakthrough.** Quarterly: Prairie Fire Organizing  
Committee (PFOC). John Brown Education Fund,  
POB 14422, SF, CA 94114 pfoc@igc.apc.org subs: \$10  
individuals/\$15 institutions.

**Covert Action Quarterly.** Covert Action  
1500 Massachusetts Ave. NW #732, Wash DC 20005  
tel#202-331-9763 Quarterly - sub \$22/yr

**Democratic Culture** Teachers for a Dem Culture  
POB 6405, Evanston, IL 60204 312-743-3662  
jkw3@midway.uchicago.edu Quarterly, \$5-25  
http://student-www.uchicago.edu/users/jkw3

**(Dis)Connection** Toledo A-Zone  
Domicile of Decontrol, 1720 Jefferson, Toledo, OH  
43624 419-244-1443 A networking journal for radical  
collectives & counter institutions. Donations.

**Dollars and Sense.** One Summer St., Somerville, MA  
02143 tel#617-628-8411 An excellent bimonthly  
review of "what's left in economics." Sub. \$18.95/yr  
(\$15 for students) Sample issue \$3.50.

**Earth First! Journal.** POB 1415, Eugene, OR  
97440 541-741-9191. Flagship newspaper of NA Earth  
First! movement - eight issues. Sub. \$25/year.

**Gene Exchange.** Quarterly biotechnology critique  
published by the Union of Concerned Scientists - Sub  
free - write: UCS Agriculture and Biotechnology  
Program, 1616 P St. NW, Washington, DC 20036. The  
newsletter is also on the web (see below) & via the  
conference ENV.BIOTECH in econet.

**In Context** Quarterly journal dedicated to  
sustainability and social/cultural change. Context  
Institute, POB 11470, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110  
206-842-0216 ci@context.org Subs. \$24/year.

**Independent Politics** POB 55247, Hayward CA 94545  
Bimonthly magazine of the Solidarity socialist-feminist  
organization. \$2.00 per single issue.

**Infusion** Quarterly newsletter of the Center for  
Campus Organizing (CCO), P.O. Box 748, Cambridge,  
MA 02142 sub \$25 (\$15 students, \$10 low income)

**Love and Rage** POB 853 Stuyvesant Station, NYC  
10009. Revolutionary anarchist newspaper (available in  
both English and Spanish) bimonthly - sub \$13.

**Multinational Monitor.** Essential Information Inc.,  
POB 19405, Wash DC 20036 Bimonthly \$25.00/yr.

**NACLA Report on the Americas** Bimonthly  
coverage of events in Latin America and the Caribbean  
from a critical perspective. NACLA, POB 77, Hopewell,  
PA 16650 212-870-3146 \$27/year

**New Internationalist.** Great monthly report on issues  
of world poverty and social inequality. New Interna-  
tionalist, P.O. Box 1143, Lewiston, NY 14092 tel #905-  
946-0407 Subs are pricey - \$36/year.

**People's Tribune or Tribuna del Pueblo.** League of  
Revolutionaries for a New America, PO Box 3524,  
Chicago, Illinois 60654-3524. Single copy free.

**Praxis** Grassroots Collective, Reeve Memorial  
Union, 800 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh, WI 54901.  
Newspaper uniting theory and praxis from UW -  
Oshkosh. Monthly - sub. only \$7 per year!

**PR Watch** 3318 Gregory St. Madison, WI 53711-  
1725  
608-233-3346 74250.735@compuserve.com  
Quarterly - Center for Media & Democracy - excellent  
investigative reporting on PR industry. Sub. \$35/yr

**Rachel's Environment & Health Weekly**  
Environmental Research Foundation, POB 5036,  
Annapolis, MD 21403-7036 410-263-1584 Strategies  
on reducing corporate power \$15/year student rate.

**Student Insurgent** Erb Mem. Union #1 UOR Eugene  
OR 97403 503-346-3716 insurgent@gladstone.uoregon.edu

**Synthesis/Regeneration** WD Press, P.O. Box 24115  
St. Louis, MO 63130 Periodic magazine of green  
social and political thought. Single issues \$3.93 each.

**Threshold.** Student Env. Action Coalition - Monthly  
520-903-0128 - POB 248 Tucson AZ 85702 - \$20/yr

**Z Magazine.** Institute for Social and Cultural Comm.  
18 Millfield St., Woods Hole, MA 02543. Monthly  
(except for July-Aug.) - subscriptions \$26/year.

## Speaker Resources:

**Center for Campus Organizing Speakers Bureau**  
PO Box 748, Cambridge, MA 02142 617-354-9363

**Democracy Teach-In Speakers Bureau**  
731 State St. Madison WI 53703 608-262-9036

**Global Exchange Speakers Bureau**  
2017 Mission St., Rm 303, SFCA 94110 415-255-7296

**Speakout! - Institute for Social and Cultural Change**  
POB 99096, Emeryville, CA 94662 510-601-0182  
speakout@igc.apc.org http://www.vida.com/speakout

**Speakers for a New America**  
People's Tribune POB 3524, Chicago, IL 60654-3524  
email: speakers@mcs.com

**"Truth to Power" Speakers Bureau**  
c/o C. Ehrenberg New Party/Progressive America, 227  
W. 40th St. Suite 1303 NYC 10018 212-302-5053

## Audiovisual Resources:

**"Banking on Life and Debt"** - documents the impact of  
World Bank/IMF/GATT policies of structural adjust-  
ment, free trade, and debt repayment upon poor people  
in developing countries.  
\$17.95 from: Maryknoll World Productions, POB 308  
Maryknoll, NY 0545-0308 tel #1-800-227-8523

**"Deadly Deception - General Electric, Nuclear Weapons  
and Our Environment"** - award winning documentary on  
GE role in military/industrial sphere.  
\$15.00 available from: INFAC 256 Hanover St., Boston,  
MA 02113 tel. 617-742-4583

**"Drilling Fields"** - a shocking documentary on destruc-  
tion and oppression in Ogoniland by Royal Dutch Shell  
and the Nigerian dictatorship, leading up to the  
execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other Ogoni  
activists in Nov. 1995.  
available from: Greenpeace USA 1436 U St. NW,  
Washington, DC 20009 tel. 202-462-1177

**"Manufacturing Consent"** with Noam Chomsky.  
Available at video stores everywhere

**"Mickey Mouse Goes to Haiti - Walt Disney and the  
Science of Exploitation"** - a pathetic film about  
sweatshop labor in Haiti and the U.S.-based corporations  
responsible for the misery there.  
available from: National Labor Committee  
275 7th Ave. NYC 10001 212-242-0986

Various videos of public presentations by Richard  
Grossman from POCLAD and Jane Ann Morris from  
Democracy Unlimited (see POCLAD and Democracy  
Unlimited under organization resources)

## Internet Resources:

<http://www.essential.org/monitor/monitor.html>  
This is the homepage for the **Multinational Monitor**

<http://dolphin.envirolink.org/action/eda.html>  
This is an excellent direct action web page.

<http://www.ratical.com/corporations/networking.html>  
Your best web site for literature on corporations and  
democracy. Check it out. Good links.

<http://www.geocities.com/rainforest/4101>  
Midwest Headwaters EP!, info on EP! Rendezvous

<http://condor.depaul.edu/ethics/inc.html>  
ten part series on corporate hijinks that originally  
appeared in *Spy* magazine by David Shenk.

[http://hoshi.cic.sfu.ca/adbusters/Corporate/  
AbsolutNonsense.html](http://hoshi.cic.sfu.ca/adbusters/Corporate/AbsolutNonsense.html) courtesy of **Adbusters**

[http://bcn.boulder.co.us/environment/earthfirst/  
befstone\\_cold.html](http://bcn.boulder.co.us/environment/earthfirst/befstone_cold.html) Info on Stone Container Corp.

<http://www.corpwatch.org/home.html>  
The corporate watch homepage. Get the dirt on  
hundreds of corps.e, great links, hefty graphics.

## Organizational Resources:

**Alliance for Democracy**  
Alliance dedicated to direct mutual aid between all  
peoples suffering exploitation by corporations, & to  
creating sustainable, democratic, equitable economy,  
<http://www.igc.apc.org/alliance/> PO Box 683, Lincoln,  
MA 01773-0683 or email to peoplesall@aol.com

**Center for Campus Organizing**  
POB 748, Cambridge, MA 02142 617-354-9363, Fax#  
617-547-5067 (National clearinghouse dedicated to  
promoting political activism and progressive journalism  
on college and university campuses.)

**Center for Media and Democracy Institute for  
Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP)**  
1313 5th St. SE, Suite 303, Minneapolis, MN 55414  
612-379-5980 fax#612-379-5982 iatp@igc.apc.org  
Excellent resources and speakers on the impact of free  
trade, agribusiness, etc. They also have a great series of  
factsheets on intellectual property rights.

**Center for Study of Responsive Law**  
POB 19367 Wash D. C. 20009-1076 202-387-8030  
fax# 202-234-5176 Nader-associated organization.

**Democracy Teach-In Clearinghouse**  
731 State St - Madison, WI 53705 608-262-9036

**Democracy Unlimited of Wisconsin Cooperative**  
29 E. Wilson St. Madison, WI 53703 608-255-6629

**End Corporate Dominance!** - Earth First! Campaign  
POB 7292, Austin, TX, 78713 512-320-0413

**Fifty Years is Enough Campaign**  
1025 Vermont Ave. NW Suite 300, Wash DC 20005  
202-879-3187 Coalition of grassroots citizens  
organizations challenging the increasing power of the  
World Bank, the IMF, and GATT worldwide.

**Infact**  
infact@igc.org 256 Hanover, Boston 02113 617-742-4583

**Media Foundation** -1243 W. 7th Ave, Vancouver, BC  
V6H 1B7 Canada 604-736-9401

**Program on Corporations, Law & Democracy**  
c/o Charter Ink., POB 806, Cambridge, MA 02140

**Rainforest Action Network (RAN)**  
450 Sansme St. #700, SF, CA 94111, 415-398 4404,  
rainforest@ran.org <http://www.ran.org/ran/>  
Active in defending forest ecosystems and indigenous  
peoples from multinational corporations - lead group  
for anti-Mitsubishi campaign.

**Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC)**  
POB 10510 Atlanta, GA 30310 tel# 800-700-SEAC  
Activist coalition with hundreds of campus affiliates,  
with a strong record of combatting corporate anti-  
environmentalism & campus eco irresponsibility

**Unplug.** - 360 Grand Ave. Box 385 Oakland, CA  
94610-4840 tel#510-268-1100 Dedicated to removing  
the corporate-sponsored "Channel One" television  
program from public schools.

**Working Group on Electoral Democracy.**  
70 Washington St., Brattleboro, VT 05301  
802-257-5644 mjazer@igc.apc.org  
Working for democratically-financed elections  
compared to current "one dollar-one vote" system.

## Printed Resources:

**A Healthy Business? World Health & the Pharmaceutical  
Industry.** Andrew Chetley, Zed Books: NJ '88

**Against Empire - An Expose of the Brutal Realities of U.S.  
Global Domination.** Michael Parenti.  
City Lights Books: San Francisco, CA 1995 \$12.95

**All Consuming Passion - Waking Up From the American  
Dream.** New Road Map Foundation.  
Q.T.S., P.O. Box 15352, Seattle WA 98115 \$1.00@

**Amusing Ourselves to Death - Public Discourse in the Age  
of Show Business.** Penguin, New York, NY 1985

**Campus Ecology: A Guide to Assessing Environmental  
Quality & Creating Strategies for Change.** April Smith  
SEAC. Living Planet Press: LA, CA 1993

**Chicken Little, Tomato Sauce and Agriculture - Who Will  
Produce Tomorrow's Food** Joan Dye Gussow  
Bootstrap Press: New York, NY 1991

**Communist Manifesto & Declaration of Independence  
& U.S. Constitution & U.N. Charter & GATT - latest round**

**Corporate Welfare & Power Action Guides**  
Center for Campus Organizing, PO Box 748, Cambridge,  
MA 02142 Tel# 617-354-9363 \$1/5

**Corporation's Gonna Get Your Momma** K. Danaher  
Global Exchange: SF, CA \$18.00

**Dismantling Corporate Rule: A Set of Working Instructions  
for Social Movements.** Tony Clarke/IFG  
Council of Canadians, 904-241 Laurier West, Ottawa,  
Ontario K1P 5J6 Canada 613-233-6776 coc@web.apc.org

**Dying from Dioxin: Citizen's Guide to Reclaiming Our  
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Global Exchange: San Francisco, CA \$14.00

**For the Common Good: Redirecting Economy To  
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**Greenpeace Guide: Anti-Environmental Organizations**  
Odonian Press: Berkeley, CA 1993 just \$5.00!

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Jerry Mander. Sierra Club Books: SF, CA 1991

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Common Courage Press, Monroe, ME 800-497-3207

**New Field Guide to the U.S. Economy.** Nancy Folbre  
Center for Pop Econ New Press, NYC \$12.95

**New Money for Healthy Communities** Thomas Greco  
P.O. Box 42663, Tucson, AZ 85733 \$15.95

**New Resource Wars: Native and Environmental Struggles  
Against Multinational Corporations.**  
Al Gedicks. South End Press: Boston, MA 1993

**Not in My Back Yard: The Handbook.** Jane Ann Morris  
Silvercat Pub: San Diego CA 1994, 800-776-9119

**Organizing for Social Change - A Manual for Activists in the  
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**Resisting the Virtual Life - The Culture and Politics of  
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City Lights Books: San Francisco, CA \$15.95

**Risky Business - Private Management of Public Schools.**  
Craig Richards, Rima Shore, & Max Sawicky  
Economic Policy Institute, 1660 L St. Suite 1200, Washing-  
ton, DC 20036 tel#202-775-8810 \$19.95

**Shattering - Food, Politics, and the Loss of Genetic  
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Tucson, AZ 1990

**Sultans of Sleaze: Public Relations & Media** J. Nelson  
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Tom Barry South End Press: Boston, MA '95

## It's Our Revolution . . .

In this global struggle between falling corpocracy & rising  
democracy, our most useful resources are at our fingertips:

- Local, democratic institutions such as coops, worker collectives,  
community-supported agriculture, infoshops, and free schools.
- Indigenous, regional knowledge of local culture, ecology, politics,  
and of the history of local resistance to corporate rule.
- Numbers. There are always more of us than there are of them.

**what are you waiting for?**

# The EF! Activist Conference Comes to San Bernardino

This year's Earth First! Activist Conference will be held February 21-23 (Friday-Sunday) near the town of Arrowbear, located in the biologically diverse San Bernardino Mountains of southern California. The conference will begin with lunch on Friday, and the first meeting will begin at 1 p.m.

The conference site is a family-owned summer youth camp bordered on two sides by national forest. Facilities include a dining hall/meeting space with a kitchen, two barrack-style dorms and a few smaller cabins.

Arrowbear is near the town of Running Springs, California, 6,500 feet above sea level. It is accessible from California Highway 18 and is between the towns of Big Bear and Lake Arrowhead.

Parking space is limited, so carpool if you can. We're asking people to park in camp and keep the road clear so local residents can get to their homes and the snow plows can get through if necessary; as of this writing there is two feet of snow. We also need to park facing the front gate (fire regs) and pack 'em in like tofu dogs.

We will be picking people up from the Amtrak and bus station in San Bernardino (nearest city) on Friday morning. If you need a ride, please arrange one in advance by contacting us at the numbers below. We will also pick people up from the Ontario, CA airport and the Los Angeles International Airport. To make shuttle accommodations easier, please try to arrive on Friday morning (no later).

We're asking for a \$20 donation per person to go towards renting the camp and paying for food.

Weather—yes, this is So Cal, but it's also the mountains. Hopefully, we'll

miss the harshest part of the winter weather, but be prepared for anything. It's milder than most parts of the country, but we can get lots of snow. February usually has freezing nights and cool days.

Vehicles need to carry snow chains (Four wheel drive vehicles usually don't need them, but the Highway Patrol often won't let you travel without them). Pretty much the

whole mountain is

## A Night to Howl!

The third Warrior Poet's Night to Howl will begin 8:30 p.m., February 20 (the night before the Activist Conference) at Sam's Book City, 5245 Lankershim Ave., N. Hollywood, CA; (818) 985-6911. Expect poetry, music and a rollicking good time!

designated national forest, but call California Transportation for last-minute weather information and road conditions at (800) 427-7623.

Due to the cost of heating, water, etc. the camp will only be open from Friday morning until Sunday night, so if you plan to arrive early you need to either camp out or arrange to stay with someone in the area; call LA EF! (818) 569-5592.

If you can get to San Bernardino, but not up the mountain, the prearranged meeting place is the Rose/Walmart parking lot on Highland off of Highway 330. They won't tow your vehicle and there are plenty of pay

phones. If you need a ride from there, you can either call the camp pay phone at (909) 867-9995 or page Cyhndi at (800) 255-8188 pin #73076. (The pager range is only from about Fresno to Vegas, so if you're calling from another state or for general information it's better to call LA EF! at (818) 569-5592 or call Cyhndi at (909) 336-5853.) There won't be anyone near the camp pay phone until the conference starts.

There's also a bus that runs into Running Springs (the nearest town to Arrowbear) from San Bernardino. You can call the bus company, MARTA, for a schedule; it will take a couple of weeks to get to you. Their schedule is pretty sparse but they usually run the route twice a day on weekdays. Their number is (909) 338-1113. If you need route information for freight hopping, please write to POB 3223, Running Springs, CA 92382.

So, now that you have every info number you could possibly want...

Issues we are planning to address include: EF! effectiveness and new ideas, Habitat Conservation Plans, roads, global warming, overpopulation, animal liberation, urban activism, networking with indigenous movements, media/technology, legal/political issues, the *EF! Journal*, social agendas as they relate to environmental movements, Fund For Wild Nature/fundraising/grant writing, bioregional updates... Mail any further agenda topics to: AAC, POB 3223, Running Springs, CA 92382 or e-mail [mojaveef@envirolink.org](mailto:mojaveef@envirolink.org).

Please bring: sleeping bags, musical instruments/poetry, possibly snow chains, your own vices (coffee, beer, laptops, etc.) and \$20 for three delicious meals per day and a heated meeting space.

## Road Removal and Restoration in Southern California

Southern California is famous for its maze of roads. The Peninsular Ranges Biodiversity Project (PRBP) seeks to change the region's reputation by blocking the construction of new roads and by removing and restoring old ones.

PRBP is heading a campaign to block construction of the Southern Foothill Tollroad, identified as one of North America's "terrible twelve" road projects. The road will slice through sensitive habitat from south Orange County across Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base and into San Diego County. The road project is currently in the Environmental Analysis preparation stage.

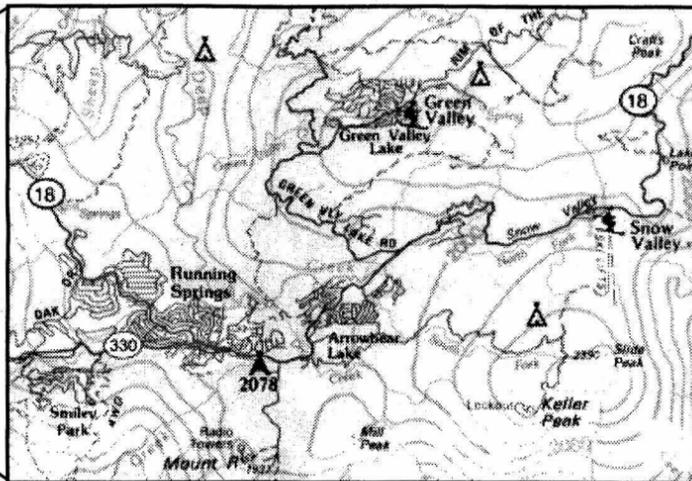
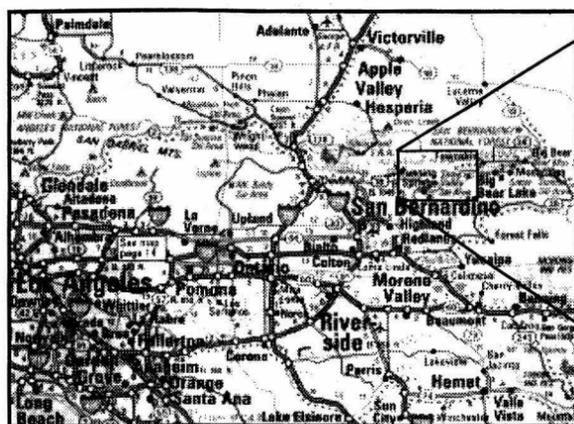
In what is probably the only program of its kind in the country, PRBP will be closing and restoring roads on the Cleveland National Forest. After following the simple steps of the *Road Ripper's Guide to the National Forests*, PRBP succeeded in adding several roads to the Trabuco Ranger District's list of planned closings. Due to budget problems, however, the roads could not be closed for years. In a cooperative agreement with the Forest Service, PRBP is planning to direct the obliteration and restoration of the roads using volunteer labor. The first road rip of the project will take place in late winter or early spring.

For information on either of these campaigns please write to Peninsular Ranges Biodiversity Project at POB 6145, Santa Ana, CA 92706.

## Vehicle Directions:

*From the north and I-15, turn southeast on Highway 18 at Victorville. Go past Lake Big Bear 13 miles to Arrowbear. In the town of Arrowbear at a boarded up restaurant, turn left on Arrowbear Drive. If you keep left, this road turns into Music Camp Road. Take Music Camp Road till the end, park and recreate.*

*From San Bernardino and I-10, go northeast on Highway 18 to Arrowbear and turn right on Arrowhead Drive...*



## Home Savings of America

Home Savings of America plans to bulldoze over 1,000 heritage oak trees, destroy 400 acres of native grassland and forever remove endangered golden eagle habitat on Ahmanson Ranch, a 5,000-acre, oak woodland adjacent to the San Fernando valley near LA. This development will nix one of the last air-sheds of LA and obliterate the upper Malibu Creek Watershed with 3,050 homes, two golf courses and commercial space. The whole deal was "fast tracked," approved and tied to a public land rip-off of \$26.5 million that the newspapers keep "misprinting" as a donation. We need your help. Mark your calendar for April 19-22, when indigenous people will link two of the last open places near LA, Ahmanson Ranch and the Ballona (pronounced buy-o-na) Wetlands with a peaceful four day Trek. Boycott Home Savings of America, and find out more information by contacting the Earth Trust Foundation at (310) 456-8300 or [aveahmanson.com](http://aveahmanson.com).

THE WARRIOR POETS SOCIETY PRESENTS:

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# ECOSYSTEM MISMANAGEMENT'S REVOLVING DOOR

BY JUSTIN TIME

Since last we looked, the rosters of the national groups at Green Central in DC and the extraction-lackey federal agencies have gone through quite a bit of change. (Haven't noticed much in the way of policy change, however.) As usual, the Peter Principle that one rises to one's highest level of incompetence holds sway.

Green Central's golden boy turned owl assassin, Jack Ward Thomas (JWT) has resigned from his woeful tenure as chief of the Forest Service. It was on his watch, first, as head of the Forest Ecosystems Management Assessment Team (FEMAT) and later as chief that the ridiculous extinction plan known as Option 9 came about.

The FEMAT team of science all-stars met for weeks in 1993 trying to come up with a Northwest Forest Plan that would allow the Forest Service to continue liquidating old growth, yet let Clinton claim that he had saved the same—a daunting task. At the end of the meetings, the scientists came up with eight options, none of which was rapacious enough to satisfy the timber beast. So JWT sequestered the team in a hotel and told them they could not leave until they came up with a plan that cut more big trees. So, under the resulting Option 9, we're told it's perfectly acceptable to log off the habitat of half of the surviving spotted owls, as 150 years from now all the plantations in the Late Successional Reserves will have grown into habitat, and any owls that still might be around will move there, procreate and the species will rebound. Yep. That's the "science" JWT left us.

It couldn't get any worse, could it? Well, look who's at the helm now. Mike Dombeck has now been anointed without dissent from the same defeatists who praised JWT's ascension. The Wilderness Society notes: "He's a former fishing guide," and "he knows the grazing issue." Dombeck moves over from a stint as acting director of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Not one Big Green opposed his plans for "collaborative stewardship."

His main credentials? On his watch at BLM, every single timber sale prepared and sold was done illegally. Under cover of the Salvage Rider, every sale ignored public notice, riparian constraints and habitat issues in the rush to "get out the cut." Dombeck's long-stated dream is to "balance the federal budget by selling off surplus federal lands." Both reactionary Rep. Bob Smith, R-OR and Oregon's Democratic Gov. John Kitzhaber (Clinton in blue jeans) both endorsed this lunatic proposal recently at a "Forest Health" summit in eastern Oregon.

As for JWT, look for him to move on and join his two predecessors and numerous other high-level Freddie's in their sinecure as advisors to the Global Forest Resources Group's plans to level and export the Taiga forest of eastern Russia.

## Green Central

Keeping pace with the change in bureaucrats in the federal agencies, 1996 saw lots of changes at the top of Gang Green. Gone is G. Jon Roush, the Wilderness Society (TWS) chieftain who clearcut his hobby ranch in Montana. Peter A. A. Berle is now gone from Audubon, back to his job as a high-powered NY lawyer. Jay Hair drove off in a limo from his \$250,000 per year job at the National Wildlife Federation and went to Seattle, where he surfaced as a PR flack for Plum Creek Timber Co., pushing their woeful owl-killing Habitat Conservation Plan.

And, one of the few national leaders to actually protect any forests in the last few decades, Brock Evans, has left National Audubon and now heads an outfitters' lobby group. Despite a terminal case of incrementalism, Brock, much to his credit, was the one national-group leader who came to grassroots gatherings and fielded the flack quite correctly directed at the failed policies of Gang Green. Hell, Brock even had the courage to admit to mistakes. He, unlike the others, will be missed.

Conversely, there's the strange case of William

Cronon who, through Weyerhaeuser's publishing arm, has authored numerous treatises maligning the entire concept of Wilderness. What was Green Central's response to this threat to wild lands? Astoundingly, Cronon now has been appointed to TWS' Board of Governors, joining timber CEO Walter Minnick, oil baroness Caroline Getty, Rockefeller heir Christopher Elliman and assorted venture capitalists, Wall Street tycoons, wealthy ranchers and real estate developers.

## The Nature Conservancy— "The Real Estate Company That Cares"

All these years of wondering why The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has never bought and set aside any functioning stands of old growth were answered recently. TNC, the nation's wealthiest Big Green with over \$1 billion in assets, recently came into possession of 280 acres

cluding Walt Minnick) Clinton hand-picked to run for the US Senate last Fall.

## The Green Revolving Door

Self-proclaimed Alpha Male of the environmental movement Andy Kerr and executive director of the spectacularly failed Western Ancient Forest Campaign (W AFC) Jim Jontz have decided that the ancient forest/Repeal the Rider funding well is dry and therefore have proposed "a new national environmental entity based in Washington DC," the Public Trust for Natural Resources.

Despite claims that it will be a democratically run coalition, Kerr will be the first chair of the board and Jontz will leave W AFC and be the first executive director (if the funders take the bait). The list of proposed member groups is nothing more than the same old Pew-funded, co-opted regionals and the most outspoken of the anti-zero-cut groups, the Texas Committee on Natural Resources—creators of the Bryant "Better Logging on Public Lands" Bill. In each and every case, the real local grassroots groups (like the Alliance for the Wild Rockies) are left out in favor of sell-outs (the Greater Yellowstone Coalition). Talk about the Peter Principle—there's the \$200,000+ spent on the wildly-successful Repeal the Rider campaign (squawk). We need results on the ground, not in some organizational checkbook.

## Good Changes

At least we now have a chance to further the rehabilitation of the Sierra Club as five great activists are on the ballot for election to the national board: Chad Hanson, who with David Orr helped push through the Sierra Club's historic zero-cut initiative, is joined by Kailee Kreider, Betsy Gaines, Rene Voss and Michael Dorsey. The writing is on the wall as even Daves Brower and Foreman have dropped their ill-stated opposition to zero-cut and are now urging the Club's board and staff to do the right thing and implement the membership's vote. Also, Earth First! co-founder Mike Roselle and Heartwood's Andy Mahler were elected to Greenpeace's board of directors. They've already begun an effort to reform a board and staff that have done the organization more damage than the French government ever dreamed of. Greenpeace may yet return to its former role of outspoken, no compromise activism.

## "It's All Done With People"—Wavy Gravy

As always, it's the individual activists and their dedication that stands between corporate greed and ecosystem collapse. From Judi Bari pursuing justice from the Oakland Police and FBI to the Headwaters warriors, from the unsung activists that daily put it on the line to those that do the mundane things like planning and carrying out rallies, we are a movement of dedicated, courageous, good-hearted, intelligent people. And, boy, does that scare the corporados.

There's one individual I want to cite, an activist who took full advantage of a great media opportunity he was presented with. Woody Harrelson not only scaled the Golden Gate Bridge with seven other heroic folks to carry on the Headwaters cause, he used the entire time he was recently on the Letterman show to speak out for the forests. Ostensibly there to promote his latest movie, Woody took Headwaters forest into the living rooms and bedrooms of Middle America, despite Dave's attempts to silence him. Woody also spoke eloquently about the need for hemp fiber production.

It really is up to us. No matter what changes occur at the top of the political parties, the agencies or the Big Greens, official policy remains a pell-mell rush to extinction. All positive change has come and will only come through the efforts of impoverished, dedicated bands of idealists. That's what most environmental groups started out as—it's what EF! always has been and must remain. In the Clinton/Dombeck era of corporate assault on our remaining wildlands, it's more imperative than ever that we stay the course. No Compromise. Compromise has never worked. It never will.



of old growth through a strange land swap with the BLM. As soon as this forest in southwestern Oregon's Siskiyou Mountains came into TNC's hands, it was sold for logging to Lew Krauss, owner of Rough and Ready Timber of Cave Junction. Rough and Ready enjoys a deserved reputation as one of the sleaziest, eco-unfriendly companies of all. And, that, obviously, is saying something.

## The Democrats' GOPAC

We've heard all about the Newtster using tax-exempt money for political purposes through GOPAC. Well, while the Republicans were setting up their non-profit funnel, the centrists in the Democratic Party weren't exactly asleep at the switch. They were completing the takeover of the board of the always-lame League of Conservation Voters (LCV). Their plan was to trump Newt and use LCV as a conduit for shuttling tax-exempt dollars to the corporatists in the Democratic Party.

Somehow this astute insider group identified a congressional "dirty dozen." They then spent over \$2.5 million on an "independent expenditure" campaign to oppose these foes of the environment. Yet they overlooked the Alaska delegation, preferring instead to go after freshmen Republicans with little clout.

When you look at the board of LCV, it's easy to see why they're such weenies when it comes to taking on the real corporate anti-environmentalists. It's made up of the same foundation hacks who, in their own words, "broke the back of the green resistance." Deborah Tuck, head of the Mott Foundation (GM money), Michael MacIntosh of the MacIntosh Foundation and Theodore Roosevelt IV from the stock brokerage firm Lehman Bros., among others, now set policy for LCV, which supported each and every one of the five defeated Democrat millionaires (in-

# DISASTROUS SABLE ISLAND GAS PROJECT

BY DAVID ORTON

Of all the energy available to sustain all the species on Earth, Homo Sapiens take almost half. Humans consume 40 percent of net primary productivity on land; that is, the total energy trapped in photosynthesis worldwide, minus that required by plants for their survival. The Sable Island Gas Project is about humans consuming more and more of this available primary energy. It would extract and transmit over three trillion cubic feet of natural gas from six gas fields feeding 30 production wells over the next 25 years. Gas is supposed to start flowing to the American market, via approximately 558 kilometers of pipeline through Nova Scotia and New Brunswick by November 1999. Public input into the regulatory process has been undermined by the government of Nova Scotia which has invested in the project.

In scoping meetings of the Joint Public Review Panel for the Sable Gas Project, there has been a minimum of public participation and discussion, given the seriousness of what is at stake. Many people have read some but not all information about this project, yet our opinions are supposedly sought. We must stand up at a floor mike with a few notes in hand and speak, without being able to refer directly to the mountain of literature on the Sable Gas Project. Public hearings are hollow and insulting in this situation where contracts are being awarded before the panels to which we speak have made their recommendations.

Many exploratory oil and gas wells have already been drilled on the Scotian Shelf and on Sable Island, some by Mobil Oil. Wells have been drilled right up to the edge of the Gully, a famous submarine canyon home to many marine mammals. In 1984 there were two well blowouts off Sable Island. One which blew in September took about ten months to permanently cap and abandon.

The Sable Island Gas Project demonstrates how the corporate path forward includes the following assumptions: the market is supreme, and what is needed is more industrial growth and more consumerism. The destruction of Nature is seen as "unfortunate" but necessary for human well-being. The corporate rhetoric of the Sable Gas Project sponsors emphasizes that natural gas is a "clean, environmentally-friendly" fuel and that there will be "no significant adverse environmental or socioeconomic impacts." But is this true?

Some mainstream environmentalists emphasize that natural gas is preferable to "dirty" coal and oil. Sometimes mainstreamers and the natural gas industry seem to be on the same team when both speak of a particular fossil fuel as a "bridging" fuel leading to a more environmentally-friendly world, but natural gas is not an environmentally-friendly,

clean fuel. If we only consider combustion, then natural gas does contain less carbon than oil or coal with less sulfur emissions. (The carbon content, by weight, is approximately one-third of oil and one-half that of coal.) Yet natural gas is not replacing oil or coal, but merely adding to fossil fuel consumption and the expanding industrial/consumer economy. Natural gas therefore contributes massively to the release of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide (from combustion) and methane leakage. The use and promotion of natural gas indicates a fossil-fuel dependent, industrial growth ideology. The International Panel on Climate Change, a scientific panel of experts on greenhouse gases, has called for a 60 to 80 percent reduction in their use merely to stabilize their concentrations. An increase in any such gases is truly criminal behavior.

To speak of natural gas as environmentally-friendly is to totally disregard the environmental degradation that will result from the production of natural gas off Sable Island and the impacts of distribution by an on-shore gas pipeline crossing Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Maine, and New Hampshire into Massachusetts. For example, in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, research shows that in the kilometer-wide corridor there are 229 watercourses, 10 lakes and a large number of wetland areas. 90-95 percent of the corridor passes through forested areas. The 56-kilometer section between Goldboro and Point Tupper will impact 34 permanent watercourses, including the Strait of Canso. In this particular corridor, the use of herbicides will be permitted. The on-land environmental destruction for this gas pipeline will be cumulatively massive.

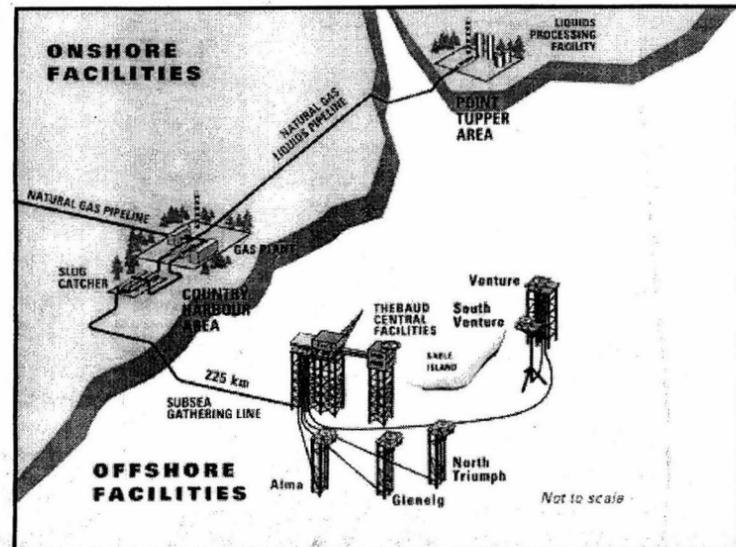
The Nova Scotian government is a six percent "partner" in the Sable Offshore Energy Project through Nova Scotia Resources Limited and should not be sitting in regulatory judgment on the merits of this project. At least two provincial government departments (Natural Resources and Environment) are supposedly responsible for reviewing the project's environmental impact. The situation is analogous to one in British Columbia, where the government had shares in the giant

forest products company MacMillan Bloedel and gave it cutting rights in the old-growth rainforests of Clayoquot Sound.

Intervention by activists on the US side of the border is needed to stop this massive, destructive project. Many of the American companies that are registered consumers of the gas will be susceptible to pressure. Mobil has reserved a very large volume of this gas. Boston Edison Company, Trigen-Boston Energy, Trigen-Baltimore Energy, Valley Gas, Essex County Gas Co. and PanEnergy Trading all have reserved rights to buy some of the natural gas. If any of these companies service your area, please contact them immediately. In addition, global foes like Champion International, Georgia-Pacific Corp., Lincoln Pulp & Paper, Great Northern Paper, Kimberly-Clark and James River Paper Co. will be buying natural gas from this project.

In April of 1997, highly structured, formal public hearings will be convened in Halifax, Nova Scotia and Fredericton, New Brunswick. While such hear-

ings have been embraced by mainstream environmental groups like the Conservation Council of New Brunswick, the Clean Nova Scotia Foundation and the World Wildlife Fund; the North Shore Anti-Pipeline Group, Green Web and a number of rural residents organized into grassroots groups that oppose tak-



ing part in the formal hearings.

Raising public awareness and bringing to light the complexities of the Sable Island Gas Project is the focus of the organizing work of the North Shore Anti-Pipeline Group and Green Web. Getting tied up in the process set up by the National Energy Board, essentially a front of the oil and gas industry, can only lead to defeat.

To contact the North Shore Anti-Pipeline Group write to, Citizens Against the Sable Island Pipeline, POB 874, New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, Canada B2H 5K7.

To contact David Orton or the Green Web, write R.R.3, Salt Springs, Nova Scotia, Canada BOK 1P0; e-mail greenweb@fox.nstn.ca.

## WOODY FOR THE REDWOODS!

continued from front page

Thus, it had been a challenging few months for those of us who spent too much time crammed into the media collective's one-room office, attempting to untangle the truth from the garbled crap the politicians were so cleverly slinging.

We had taken to groveling hard, even picking up Fed Ex tabs to get photos and video out to the disinterested media outlets. Relieved that OJ's civil suit was in full swing, the press shunned the ancient redwoods, telling us the story was dead. Unless Bonnie Raitt and Don Henley showed up again to play an acoustic set down in Yager Creek, they had seen enough of Headwaters for the year.

About this time, the dust was settling after Woody Harrelson's first act of civil disobedience in Kentucky, where he was arrested for planting industrial hemp seeds. Woody and his attorney

sped across the country toward Headwaters and sent word: no symbolic line crossing for Mr. Harrelson, he was ready for direct action.

The idea started out as a simple late night joke around the campfire. A local mused, "you could bungee jump, or do it naked, or hang it off the Golden Gate Bridge."

As we pondered the potential of climbing a national monument, we concluded that it would take Greenpeace two months and \$20,000 to do. We had one week, Woody Harrelson and a lot of good karma. Two previous attempts to hit the GG bridge had failed, but they say the third time is the charm. It seemed so outrageous that it was almost possible.

We had a crazy week of organizing. The giddiness of the idea was displaced by the stress of its realization. We ran circles all over the Bay Area keeping track of each other and the many tasks of training, scouting, plan-

ning and banner making.

Action day was actually several sleepless days and nights. Details were worked out on the fly. The banner was dried hours before it had to be packed. Despite the lack of time (or maybe because of it), we got it together.

Saturday morning came: the clouds parted and the winds ceased. We hung the banner. Helicopters swarmed. The cops arrived and blockaded traffic. We were arrested. Woody posed for mug shots with every on-duty booking officer at the station. We were released. We partied at the Ritz-Carlton.

The action stirred up some serious controversy, but it created a venue to take the story of Hurwitz's greedy grip on the ancient redwoods international. The media coverage continues to build; newspapers across the country, major magazines, prime-time newscasters, David Letterman and San Francisco talk-show circuits continue to talk about the Headwaters forest, week after week.

Woody and the rest of us have spent many interviews "bridging" from traffic related questions back to the messages of the falling redwoods and the many brave forest defenders who offered their bodies in this season's efforts to stop the madness.

While the criminal case will probably result in lots of community service, we also face a class-action civil suit. Ads are out in Bay Area papers urging anyone who was stuck in bridge traffic that day to share their tales and join the lawsuit.

We never expected it to get to this point, where so many people, as Woody says, "can't see the forest for the traffic" (or maybe for the settlement check?). One can only hope that Hurwitz will get his day in court and time in jail for robbing the American people of a national treasure. Maybe we should take out an ad urging anyone who feels "inconvenienced" by the clearcutting of ancient forests and is angry about it to join a class action against Charlie!



# Walking the Back Forty: The Land Ethic and Private Property

continued from page 3

would still have to reinvent the idea of property. We would still have to move seriously toward a limitation on freedom of action on the back 40.

The only effective way to do that, and our only plausible hope at this point in our nation's history, is to mobilize the majority of Americans, which is to say urban Americans, into a movement that will change the package of rights and responsibilities pertaining to property. Such a mobilization would bring together people who may not own land but want to see it used in an ecologically sensitive manner. That is to say, it would rely on the engine of politics.

Here is what mobilizing public opinion to limit freedom of action on the land would mean. The public would begin to say to the property owner, you cannot drain that wetland; we forbid it. You cannot destroy the habitat of a threatened species. You cannot let chlordane or atrazine run off your crops and into the river. You cannot allow the soil to wash or blow away. As you use land, you must try to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. Failure to do so will bring penalties. You may have to pay higher taxes or heavy fines. You may even lose your title.

Put this way, it is clear that the burdens of an ecological conscience would fall disproportionately on those few Americans who are the owners of private property. There is no other way. They would have to bear costs and obligations that the average citizen does not. They would have to forego profit in many cases or they would have to incur costs that they may not want to pay. Most of these costs can and will be passed on to the consumer; in the end, the whole public is going to have to pay more for food and fiber if we are going to achieve a land ethic.

Where owners are not able to pass on the costs, and cannot afford to pay them themselves, they will have to have direct help from the taxpayer. Incentives and subsidies can make change less painful. But make no mistake about it; a land ethic is going to be an expense that in most cases the holders of private property will have to pay and, in some instances, pay severely. They may lose by taking land out of production, by harvesting forests differently, by giving up prospective rents and gains from putting in a golf course or mall. Either that, or we will never achieve a more ethical relation to nature in this nation or any other.

So here is what conservation is going to have to mean in the future: applying ecological knowledge to the use, and to the non-use, of land through the

democratic political process. I have talked about costs; here is an important gain: a reinvention of property can, if we work it right, involve people in land decisions who have never been much involved before. More women can be included as well as men. People of color can be there along with whites, poor folks along with the rich. When that happens, and only when that happens, will land truly become a community possession and a community responsibility.

The federal government will have to enact legislation that will make land ownership more of a public responsibility. On the other hand, a new ethic toward land can also come through organized political action on state and local levels. In fact, the best chance we have for a truly effective, sensitive and informed land ethic is on those lower levels of governance, in the halls of the state legislature or in the meeting rooms of the county commission. It is there in particular that we must get people together to rewrite the rules.

I have indicated that it is necessary for a land ethic to grow and spread across America. Are we gaining or losing ground? Read the daily newspapers, and you will see lots of bad news as more and more of our best farm land goes under concrete, as legislators try to strip away whatever small protection the land has. But there is some good news here, too. We have created a political and cultural movement that is unprecedented in American history, and that movement is still gathering momentum. It is not finished nor is it defeated. Increasingly, it is spreading beyond the national scene and the big public land and health issues down to the local and the near at hand. It is changing the conversation over all this country about land and nature. It is bringing committed scientists, humanists and artists into the halls of policy makers to contest the rule of outmoded economics. It is putting traditional property attitudes under scrutiny and challenge. Slowly, in the teeth of much resistance, it has begun changing the ethics that govern our relation with the natural world.

Can we say that we are doing better than Leopold thought? I think we can. We are taking at least one and a half steps forward for every one step back. That is not much to claim. But that, after all, is exactly how evolution works.

Excerpted from a talk given at the Prairie Festival 1996. Reprinted from The Land Report: 20 Years with permission from the author.



PORTLAND BIRD AND SPOTTED OWL ACQUIRE THEIR OWN CORPORATE CHARTER TO BIRTH CASCADIA FORESTRY INDUSTRIES, STIRRED BY TOO MANY SUB-DIVISION TRACTS HACKED WELL OUTSIDE URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARIES. THESE BIRDS SET THEIR SIGHTS TO FAN INTO FLAME THE SPARK OF WHAT ONCE WAS WILD...

WE SHOULD KNOW-WE LIVE HERE!

TEH! LOOK AT ALL THAT FOREST ROT AND URBAN BLIGHT!



CASCADIA INDUSTRIES SOLVES THE PROBLEM OF DEPLETED RESOURCES FOR PULP AND PAPER MILLS WITH THE CASCADIA WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION...



PARKING LOTS ARE CONVERTED TO SPAWNING BEDS FOR SALMON AS WETLANDS ARE RESTORED TO THEIR FLOOD ABSORBING AND ABATEMENT POTENTIALS...



PORTLAND BIRD IS A GREAT BLUE HERON WHO LIVES THROUGHOUT THE CASCADIAN WATERWAYS, AND ENJOYS A COMMITTED RELATIONSHIP WITH A SPOTTED OWL...



CASCADIA INDUSTRIES CREATES JOBS AND A HEALTHY ECONOMY BY BARGING WHOLE UNCUT SUB-DIVISIONS OVERSEAS TO JAPAN.



AND USING FEDERAL MONEY TO UNDO THOUSANDS OF MILES OF DESTRUCTIVE LOGGING ROADS.



THE SALVAGE RIDER LAW IS USED TO REMOVE DEAD AND DYING MECHANIZED EXTRACTION MILLS FOR A SYSTEM MORE SUSTAINABLE AND WORK-FRIENDLY.



AND WHEN OUR HOUSE SIDINGS SPROUT MUSHROOMS AND FUNGI, THAT'S EXACTLY AS WE PLANNED IT!



# LAST WILD BISON HERD AT RISK IN YELLOWSTONE

BY JAMES BARNES

Despite long-standing evidence that the disease brucellosis will not transmit from bison to cows, the bison of Yellowstone National Park are being unnecessarily slaughtered by the Park Service, as a subsidy to public and private-lands ranching interests who don't want to share any grass with the native wildlife.

Even though Yellowstone National Park staff have stated that the park's boundaries do not reflect the natural range of bison, they are enforcing this imaginary line with lethal force. In tough winter conditions, bison move in search of better forage. As Park staff members confess, this movement of bison out of the park and into southern Montana is facilitated by the park's policy of keeping roads cleared for snowmobiles.

This winter, conditions are so harsh that bison have been massing on the northern border of the park in an attempt to find pasture. Park biologist Mary Meagher has expressed fears of a major die-back, as bison have been reduced to eating pine needles and bark—signs of starvation. If they step across the park boundary line, the guns of Montana's livestock department await them.

As a result of a lawsuit filed by the state of Montana against the federal government, Yellowstone National Park and the state have been capturing bison to send them to slaughterhouses. This is being done in response to the concerns of Montana ranchers about the transmission of brucellosis, a disease that bison allegedly carry to cattle. However, there is no evidence that brucellosis can be transmitted in the wild; park staff have admitted this. According to an attorney with the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, the one known case of transmission of brucellosis from bison to cattle occurred in Texas, where bison and cattle were penned together.

The cattle industry-controlled, test-and-

slaughter program has devolved into a complete fiasco. Hay can't be found for love or money due to the wretched winter, and there's nothing to bait the bison into corrals with. It's also just plain dangerous to get out to the testing sites, so the Montana Department of Livestock (DOL) has reverted to shooting any bison they see. This makes sense, as DOL head Laurence Petersen has compared their bison extermination mission to the Vietnam war, lost, he claims, by a liberal, treasonous press and bleeding-heart, faggot longhairs back home. This time they intend to win.

All this together means the nation's only truly wild herd of bison, unmanaged, unfenced and thriving, may face serious decimation. Winter kill is winter kill, but the ongoing, century-old extermination of the buffalo by cattle ranchers and the federal and state governments has got to stop.

The Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, on behalf of several local organizations, took legal action to try to prevent the slaughter, but the initial ruling went against the Fund. New lawsuits will be forthcoming. In the meantime, however, it is essential that individuals and organizations mount an immediate and vocal protest. Please contact the following officials stating your opposition to this policy of extermination:

Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior, 1849 "C" St. NW, Washington, DC 20240; fax (202) 208-6956.

Roger Kennedy, Director, National Park Service, Interior Building, 1849 "C" St. NW, Washington, DC 20240; fax (202) 208-7889.

Michael Finley, Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park, POB 168, Yellowstone, WY 82190; fax (307) 344-2005.

Governor Marc Racicot, Governor's Office, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620-0801; fax (406) 444-5529.



Photo by Ritchie Doyle/Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers

700 bison have been killed by the Yellowstone Park Service this year.

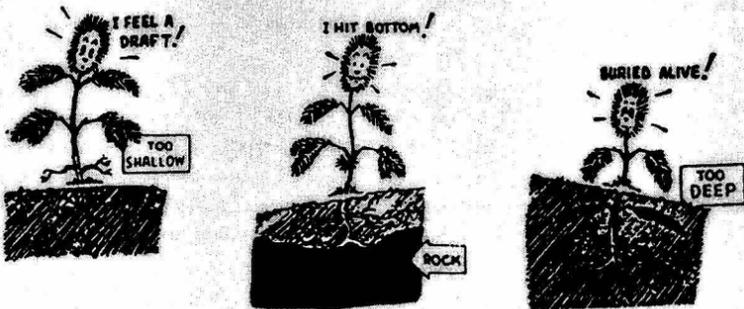
## AERODYNAMIC REFORESTATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology doctoral candidate Moshe Alamaro is organizing an international consortium to airdrop billions of young trees in aerodynamically shaped penetrator containers. The effort targets rugged and remote areas that can support vegetation but where ordinary reforestation methods are impractical. Funding would likely come from power companies eager to earn pollution credits to offset new CO<sub>2</sub> taxes, a tariff quickly spreading through Europe, Alamaro said. An acre of pine trees can absorb up to 10 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> a year. As envisioned, penetrator containers would be

biodegradable and carry a single 6-12 inch seedling as well as water and nutrient packs that rupture on impact. Upper parts of the trees could be swathed in biodegradable cloth, subject to results of planned wind tunnel tests.

A terminal velocity of about 200 mph is required to penetrate existing ground cover and associated root systems, Alamaro said. Conventional cargo aircraft as large as the Russian-built Ilyushin IL-76 are being evaluated to perform the mass drops.

—AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY



## Minnesota Victory...

continued from front page

wrapped the loose end of a chain around the bear's neck. The logger went for some kind of tool on an ax handle and threatened to use it to get "that damned thing off my truck."

After three hours and more traffic than Forest Service Road 200 had seen in the last week, the lead ranger negotiated with Smokey the Bear to unlock. She promised him (in writing) that she would order the logger to turn his equipment around and not return that day.

Smokey unchained himself, but some of the protesters, out of a basic sense of mistrust, refused to leave the road to let the beast turn around. It took the logger about an hour to back his truck up the hill. At one point, he had to unload the feller-buncher and use it to pull the semi up the hill.

The protesters had done what they didn't think was possible—stood between the logger and the trees and won. The logger was ordered to leave by the district ranger.

The blockade was held for a total of 12 days. The camp was home to about 30 people at one time or another. While on the road, our heroes were visited by journalists, curious locals, a gun-toting preacher, the sawmill owner, a man who drove about 180 miles to give groceries and a check for \$100 and an alien hunter named Dr. Sanstead. During the 12 days of crispness (actual temperatures of 30 degrees below zero), the blockade got awesome newspaper

coverage. The "no compromise" stance not only resulted in the education of people all over Minnesota about national forests and their plight, but also created a platform for other organizations to use legal means to stop this dastardly cut.

The headlines went from "12 activists block forest road to prevent logging of old pines" to "US suspends sale of trees in National Forest" in ten days.

On December 20, under threat of legal action, the US Forest Service suspended the sale of Little Alphonse pending an Environmental Assessment (EA). It turns out the only paperwork the Forest Service had done was over six years old and did not specifically list the white pine stands in this area. Forest Service officials were afraid that a lawsuit would cost someone their job.

Our heroes now wait for the EA (as required under NEPA) which should take about six months to prepare. Because the sale area must be logged during the winter, this stand of old white pines gets at least one more year to offer shelter to the wolves, and we have at least one more year to call attention to the greedy destruction of the last of the wild.

It is important to point out that this blockade would not have been a success if it were not for the help of people representing many groups, including Arise Bookstore, Earth First! Big Woods, Earth Protector, Food Not Bombs, Greenpeace, Loaves and Fishes Too, the Seward Cafe, SWAN, the Twin Ports Greens and many others.

An old-growth forest, for example, may have an overstory averaging 180 feet and an understory 75 feet. Clearcuts are designated by the phrase

# OVERSTORY: ZERO

BY BOB HEILMAN

The mercury-arc lamps light up the mill with a weird, hellish orange glow. Steam rises from the boilers and there's a sour rotting smell everywhere. The huge metal buildings bristle with an improbable-looking tangle of chains and belts and pipes. There's a constant whistling, clanging, and screaming of saws and machinery coming from them. Bugged forklifts and log loaders crawl around the half-lit yards, mechanical insects scurrying to keep up.

Through the huge, open doorways you can see the millhands at work in their T-shirts, sorting out an

unending river of lumber and veneer into neat stacks. The mill workers sweat like desperate dwarves. They make more money than you and stay dry, but you feel pity and

contempt for them. The poor bastards stand in one spot all night, moving to the computerized lightning rhythm of conveyors instead of their own human speed. The cavernous interior of the mill shed seems as cramped as a closet compared to the open mountain slopes.

You work for the mill but not in the mill, on a company reforestation crew. Most of the company land is planted by contract crews, but the mill runs a crew that plants land the contractors won't touch—too steep or too ravaged, too old or too brushy.

Acres away, beyond the log pond, past the five-story-tall walls of stacked logs, next to the hangar-sized heavy equipment repair shop, is a small refrigerated trailer full of seedling trees in waxed boxes. Each box contains 600 trees in bundles of 50.

Mudflap and Sluggo are helping Jimboy load tree boxes into the back of a four-wheel-drive crew-cab pickup. They are young, straight out of high school and eager to get a promised job in the mill come spring—if they "work hard and show up every day," of course. We spend a large part of our lives roaring up and down river, powered by the Suburban's monster 454 V8. Of course, none of this travel, or crummy time, as it's called, is paid time. Only the 40 hours per week on the slopes earn us money. The other ten to 20 hours of crummy tedium are not the company's concern. Together with the half-hour lunch, also unpaid, we spend 11 to 13 hours a day together for our eight hours' pay. All winter long we see each other more than we see our wives and children. We know each other intimately after so many cramped hours.

We bicker and tease each other halfheartedly, like an old bitter couple, out of habit more than need.

## Arithmetic

The ten of us plant about 7,000 seedling trees every day or about

700 "binos" apiece, enough to cover a little over an acre of logged-off mountainside each. It gets depressing when you start adding it up: planting 700 trees per day comes to 3,500 per week or 14,000 per month, which amounts to 56,000 trees in a season for one man planting one tree at a time.

Maybe you've seen the TV commercials put out by the company: helicopter panoramas of snow-capped mountains, silvery lakes and rivers, close-ups of cute critters frolicking, 30-year-old stands of second growth all green and even as a manicured lawn, and a square-jawed, handsome woodsman tenderly planting a seedling. The commercials make reforestation seem heartwarming, wholesome and benevolent, like watching a Disney flick where a scroungy mutt plays the role of a wild coyote.

Get out a calculator and start figuring it: 700 trees in eight hours means 87.5 trees per hour, or 1.458 trees per minute—a tree punched in every 41 seconds. How much tenderness can a man give a small green seedling in 41 seconds?

Planting is done with an improbable-looking tool called a hoedag. Imagine a heavy metal plate 14-inches long and four-inches wide, maybe five pounds of steel, mounted on a single bit ax handle. Two or three sideways, hacking strokes scalp a foot-square patch of ground, three or four stabs with the tip and the blade is buried up to the haft. (Six blows 700 times amounts to 4,200 per day. At five pounds each, that comes to 21,000 pounds of lifting per diem, and many planters put in 900 to 1,200 trees per day.)

You pump up and down on the handle, breaking up the soil, open the hole, dangle the roots down there and pull the hoedag out. The dirt pulls the roots down to the bottom of the hole, maybe ten or

12 inches deep. You give it a little tug to pull the root collar even with the ground and tamp the soil around it with your foot. Generally, what's left of the topsoil isn't deep enough to sink a 'dag in, so you punch through whatever subsoil,

rocks or roots lie hidden by the veneer of dirt.

The next tree goes in eight feet away from the last one and eight feet from the tree planted by the next man in line. Two steps and you're there. It's a sort of rigorous dance, all day long—scalp, stab, stuff, stomp, and split—every 41 seconds or less, 700 or more times a day.

The ground itself is never really clear, even on the most carefully charred reforestation unit. Stumps, old logs, boulders and brush have to be gone over or through or around with almost every slash-hampered step. Two watertight tree bags, about the size and shape of brown paper grocery bags, hang on your hips, rubbing them raw under the weight of the 30 to 40 pounds of muddy seedlings stuffed inside.

Seven hundred trees eight feet apart comes to a line of seedlings 5,600 feet long—a mile and some change. Of course, the ground is never level. You march up and down mountains all day—straight up and straight down. Although nature never made a straight line, forestry professors and their students are quite fond of them. So you climb a quarter-mile straight down and back up. Then you eat lunch and do it again.

It's best not to think about it at all. The proper attitude is to consider yourself as eternally damned, with no yesterday or tomorrow—just the unavoidable present to endure. Besides, you tell yourself, it's not so bad once you get used to it...

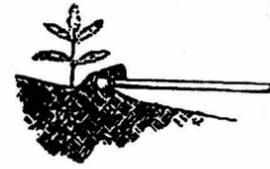
## Cumulative Impact

It's best not to look at the clearcut itself. You stay busy with whatever is immediately in front of you because, like all industrial processes, there is beauty in the details and ugliness in the larger view. Oil film on a rain puddle has an iridescent sheen that is lovely in a way that the junkyard it's part of is not.

Forests are beautiful on every level, whether seen from a distance or standing beneath the trees or studying a small patch of ground. Clearcuts contain many wonderful tiny things—jasper, agate, petrified wood, sun-bleached bits of wood, bone, and antler, wildflowers. But the sum of these finely

wrought details adds up to a grim landscape, charred, eroded and sterile.

Although tree planting is part of something called reforestation, clearcutting is never called deforestation—at least not by its practitioners. The semantics of forestry don't allow that. The mountain slope is a "unit," the forest a "timber stand," logging is "harvest" and repeated logging "rotation."



5. Use hoe to pack soil at top of hole.

On the work sheets used by foresters, a pair of numbers track the layers of canopy, the covering of branches and leaves that the living trees have spread

out above the soil. The top layer is called the overstory, and beneath it is a second layer, the understory. An old-growth forest, for example, may have an overstory averaging 180 feet and an understory 75 feet. Clearcuts are designated by the phrase "Overstory: Zero."

In the language (and therefore the thinking) of industrial silviculture, a clearcut is a forest. The system does not recognize any depletion at all. The company is fond of talking about trees as a renewable resource, and the official line is that timber harvest, followed by reforestation, results in a net gain. "Old-growth forests are dying, unproductive forests—biological deserts full of diseased and decaying trees. By harvesting and replanting we turn them into vigorous, productive stands. We will never run out of trees,"

the company forester will tell you. But ask if he's willing to trade company-owned old-growth forestland for a reforestation unit of the same acreage and the answer is always, "No, of course not."

You listen and tell yourself that it's the company that treats the land shabbily. You see your frenzied work as a life-giving dance in the ashes of a plundered world. You think of the future and the green legacy you leave behind you. But you know that your work also makes that plunder seem rational and is, at its core, just another part of the destruction. More than the physical exhaustion, this effort to not see the world around you tires you. It takes a lot of effort not to notice, not to care. You can go crazy from lack of sleep because you must dream in order to sort out everything you see and hear and feel during the day. But you can also get sick from not being truly awake, not seeing, feeling and touching the real world.

When the world around you is painful and ugly, that pain and ugliness seeps into you, no matter how hard you try to keep it out. It builds up like a slowly accumulating poison. Sometimes the poison turns to venom and you strike out, at work or at home, as quick as any rattlesnake but without the honest rattler's humane fair warning.

So you bitch and bicker with the guys on the crew, argue with the foreman and snap at your wife and kids. You do violent work in a world where the evidence of violence is all around you. You see it in the scorched earth and the muddy streams. You feel it when you step out from the living forest into the barren clearcut. It rings in your ears with the clink of steel on rock. It jars your arm with every stab of your hoedag.

This essay is excerpted from *OVERSTORY: ZERO, Real Life in the Timber Country*, by Robert Leo Heilman, published by Sasquatch Books, in Seattle. For more information about the author or the book, call (800) 775-0817.



1. Swing hoe to get full penetration.



3. Place seedling while using hoe to hold back soil.



2. Lift handle and pull to widen hole.



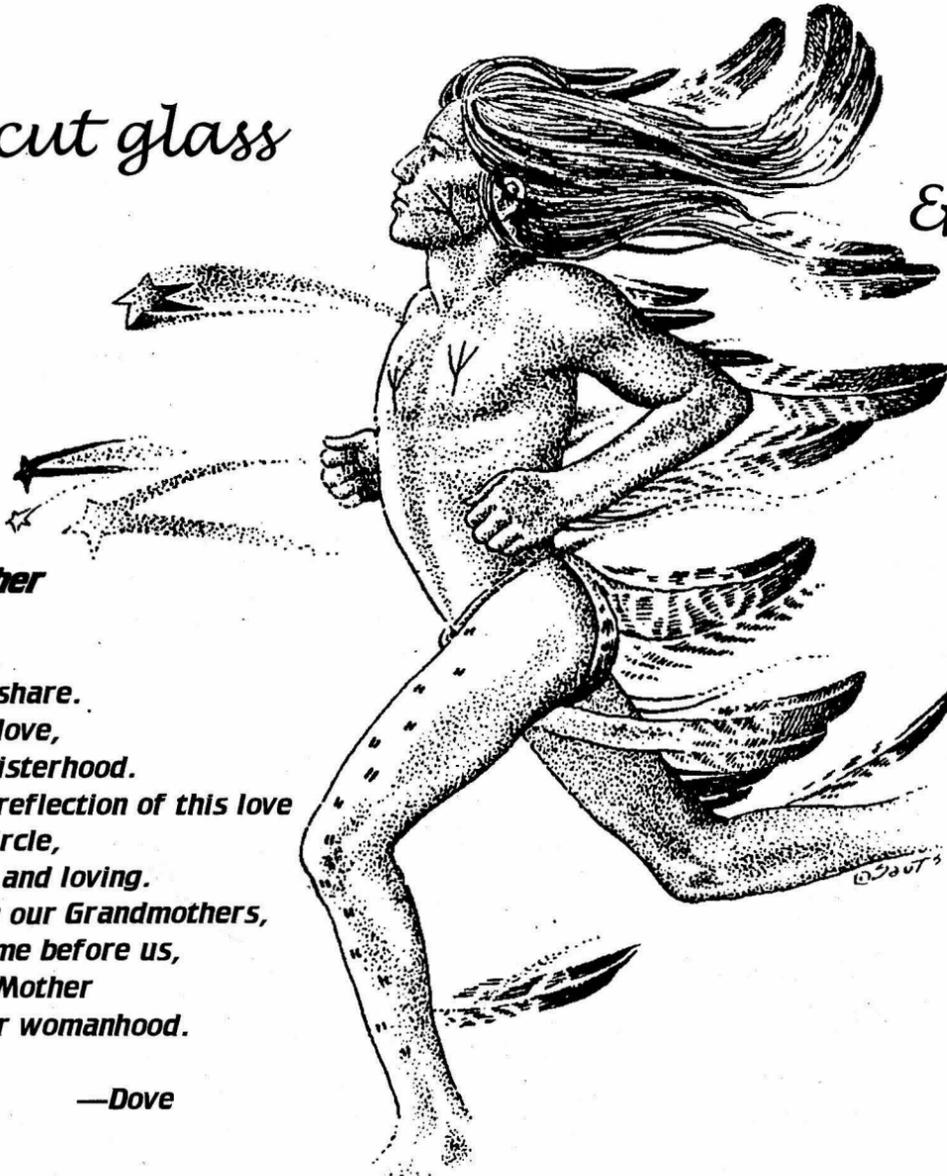
4. Use hoe to pack soil at bottom of hole.



6. Firm soil around seedling with feet.

clear  
as  
cut glass

& just as dangerous



### **Honoring the Mother**

To all Grandmothers.  
the ones that we all share.  
Linked, in a chain of love,  
of motherhood and sisterhood.  
Our daughters—the reflection of this love  
as we continue the circle,  
the cycle of blessing and loving.  
Always remembering our Grandmothers,  
all creatures who came before us,  
and the Great Spirit Mother  
who gave birth to our womanhood.

—Dove

## Armed With Visions

### **HAIKU**

Black oiled gull feather  
slipping down like my credit  
account hits bottom

—Dawn Macdonald

### **For those who would compromise the forest**

the spirits of the lost trees,  
the spirits of the plants  
the moss spirits, the rock spirits  
consign you to a hell of  
no birds, a spare dry hell where  
your name will not be known—  
you will be known as desolation,  
the ruiner of planets, the lonely soul who  
lives without the friendship of life,  
without the solace of species—  
the ghosts of those you have  
pushed aside will follow you as  
you move toward dryness, dust  
and empty skies—  
surely goodness and mercy will  
leave your wretched life untouched  
as you dwell forever  
a land without life,  
trying to remember the sound  
of birds, the sound of wind,  
the sound of your own heart.

—Gary Lawless

### **HIGHWAY**

INVADING ASPHALT  
CUTS THROUGH RED HILLS  
WHERE SONGBIRDS PERCHED ON JUNIPER TREES  
SING HOMAGE TO THE LOWERING SUN  
AND RECALL NOT-SO-ANCIENT TIMES  
WHEN RELATIVES WEREN'T KILLED  
BY ANGRY ROARING SHUTTLES  
ON GRAVEL AND TAR TRACKS

FEATHERS STILL RUFFLE  
ON A DECAPITATED OWL  
LONG CLAWS PARTLY CLOSED  
ITS FINAL SWOOP INCOMPLETE

LOGGING TRUCKS THUNDER BY  
HAULING TREE CORPSES  
DRENCHED IN DIESEL FUMES  
SILENTLY WAILING SHADOW  
OF A PINE GROVE  
DISAPPEARS OVER THE RIDGE  
CARRIED TO MILLS  
TO BE GROUND INTO PULP  
FOR IMPORTANT MATTERS  
LIKE DISPOSABLE PLATES  
AND TISSUE PAPER

—PALOMA

### **ODE TO THE MOUNTAIN HEMLOCKS OF THE HOWE SOUND CREST TRAIL**

second growth  
mountain hemlocks,  
some as wide as  
the oldest of vancouver's imported maples;  
this is second growth as it's meant to be—  
gala healing her wounds in the absence of  
interference  
from "LORD MAN".  
THESE hemlocks have potential:  
the baby steps of a centuries-long old growth  
evolutionary process.

"the mountains wear their blankets of autumn  
snow  
as if they had never known anything else" i  
think  
as i trudge up the contour lines of my map

the white, hard-packed powder turns moist.  
it seeps into my boots, and washes the city  
away from my feet.

it is beautiful here,  
on the ridge that leads to the peak of st.  
mark's mountain  
(though he never set foot here)  
straddling the howe sound, and the green/  
white  
coast mountain valleys.

though my socks are soaked—  
the heat of my footsteps keeps me from being  
cold.

lunch consists of three slices of naked bread

and as i fumble my way south and downwards,  
back towards syphilization  
i am optimistic,  
having experienced my latest rebirth,  
(a baptism by snow if you will)  
i imagine the alders and hemlocks tearing up  
robson street  
the first steps towards the rewilding of  
vancouver,  
the eagles circling above kits beach, and  
coyotes denning in the banks, clothing stores  
and movie theatres of granville street,  
or howling from the rooftop  
of the art gallery.

—Mark Stoddart

Send Poems to:  
Warrior Poets Society  
ASUC Box 361  
Berkeley, CA 94720-4150  
all rights reserved to the authors

# Y'ALL SURE ARE

## Howard-Hastings' Sentencing

Dear Earth First! Editor:

Donna Howard-Hastings and I brought the US Navy nuclear submarine command facility antenna to the Earth last Earth Day. We took hand-powered swede saws and cut the Western cedar poles that supported the insupportable, the Extremely Low Frequency cables, thick as your wrist.

Those sacred cedar poles had been stolen from their homes in the Pacific Northwest, robbed of their lives, stripped of their barkskin, shipped to the Chequamegon and were then forced into an afterlife of crime. I know they were grateful to be released from such satanic duties.

Immediately upon our arrest, the scattered but not entirely powerless community of people who care for our Earth began to flock around us, to shield us with their numbers, to reassure us that we had done a good thing. We sat 114 days in jail, not alone but in the spiritual company of hundreds of committed souls.

We had a trial. We listened in awe as our lawyers (Katya Komisaruk, Kary Love) paved the way for our experts (Robert Aldridge, Capt. James Bush, Francis Boyle, Kent Shifferd). They proved that nuclear weapons are illegal and the jury agreed with their acquittal of our sabotage charges.

The judge didn't allow any defense to the property damage charge so the jury convicted. We went from a possible 15 years in prison to a maximum of five. The judge just sentenced us: Donna, one year, me, three years (I'm a recidivist).

Some say it's not worth it. We will, after all, sit the entire sentence because the judge ordered restitution and we will never give a cent to the Navy.

But if we are serious about replacing the worst possible conflict management model (war and the preparation for war) with a better model (nonviolence), then someone has to begin to model that method.

We are grateful to Earth First!ers for all the nonviolent risks and costs they have taken and paid in the battles to protect the West. We reach out behind walls and bars and offer our hands in solidarity and support.

And while we are inside these walls, please hug a Doug, wrap arms around a redwood, embrace a cedar, for us.

Miiqwetch,

—TOM HOWARD-HASTINGS,  
C/O NUKEWATCH, POB 649,  
LUCK, WI 54853

## Slippery Seals Watson

Dear Brush for Brains,

Concerning your "wet, smelly poodle" to Paul Watson, with all the due respect he deserves for his protection of the whale in "open seas." I'd like to bring your attention to his latest *Sea Shepherd Log* membership magazine. In fact he deserves a wet, smelly bloody poodle tar and feathered with seal blood and money. Check out the center fold about his campaign to save the snow seal from clubbing by brushing them. While I won't go as far as the demeaning, cruel and homophobic comment by

Gilles Theriault, the head of the sealing association, who said "the sealers want nothing to do with a faggotty idea like seal brushing. Seals are meant for clubbing not coddling." I do have some stark criticism.

Who is Paul Watson to decide that turning back the evolutionary clock some million years of seal evolution is a good environmental strategy to save them from peril! Yes, look at the picture in the centerfold. The cute little fuzzy white baby seal. Along comes Paul and his wife Lisa with their little harmless brushes and Dow Chemical plastic zip-lock bags (recycled I'm sure). Next a little coddling and brushing (careful not to lose any seal fleece to the polar wind). And then releasing the, temporarily alive but now brown, baby snow seal onto the white polar plain. Paul gets chased out in his plane. And the baby seals become polar popcorn for polar bears or whatever else preys on them up there and forced them to evolve to be white during infancy to survive in the first place.

Thanks Paul, keep up the good work...but can the idea of brushing baby seals for yuppy sleeping bag sales!

In the spirit of the holy-daze, Peace, Love and Pristine Public Lands

—JOHN DOE

## But are they cuter?

Re: Response to "John Doe"

Although I detest responding to a coward who refuses to use a real name, I will answer some of "John Doe's" misinformed accusations.

The *Sea Shepherd Conservation Society* is trying to create an economically more attractive alternative to traditional sealing. By doing so, we might be able to have some impact in curtailing the killing. The objective is to make the seals more valuable alive.

*dor Front have never existed. A modicum of research would have enlightened John Doe.*

*The weaned pups we approach are healthy and fat. The whitecoat hairs, although detached, remain firmly anchored by the thick new coat underneath. We easily remove the molted hairs with a brush, or by hand. The seals even seem to like it.*

*The hairs, similar to eider down, have an enormous marketing potential.*

*We believe the gentle utilization of a live seal without cruelty is preferable to the cruel slaughter of hundreds of thousands.*

*I have spent 30 years fighting for seals. I have willingly endured death threats, fines, and imprisonment for my troubles. I don't have time to suffer fools like "John Doe."*

CAPTAIN PAUL WATSON  
ON BOARD SEA SHEPHERD III  
EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

## Eastward Ho!

Dear Editors,

I feel compelled to respond to the article "Steel Skyscrapers and Silver Salmon" from the Yule issue. Citing the unique conditions in Alaska, George Wuerthener states that it is not human population centers that substantially degrade wildlands, but extractive industries. From this premise he concludes that the West need not depopulate and that the East become its goods colony. This kind of hypocrisy is not what I'd expect from a longtime contributor to the *Journal*.

Wuerthener may be right that housing doesn't take up much space and certain Western lands are not very "productive," but he's missing the point. People consume, and Americans consume the most. Human settlement does not exist in some virtual reality. Every suburban house is an icon for ex-

lands and learning to live lightly with what we have. Continuing our present habits with all our trappings trucked in from the East is not the solution. It is only displacing the problem; precisely what has been done in Alaska. Depopulating, scaling back and abolishing corporate rule sets a better example for the world than Mr. Wuerthener's imperialistic and regional-centric vision.

—LISA WISNEWSKI

## Wuerthner-Wisnewski

I fully agree with Lisa Wisnewski's general comments on my article "Skyscrapers and Silver Salmon." However, I think she may have misinterpreted my ideas—perhaps due to the fact that in the interest of brevity, I left many things unsaid. Nevertheless, I wasn't advocating that humans could continue to overconsume and continue unending population growth, nor was it my intention to suggest that the East become a resource colony for the West as she suggests. Indeed, my goal is exactly the same as hers—to rewild much of the Earth.

Achieving a change in human behavior and goals which results in any significant reduction in consumption and population will take time—and its success is by no means assured. In the meantime, we can restore a significant amount of land to near natural conditions by removing marginal and unproductive land uses from areas where they now dominate the landscape because we simply don't need to continue using these lands (as many assume) to provide for our desires—even if they are excessive. We don't need to grow beef in the West because it doesn't produce much meat anyway (although I would suggest we don't need to grow beef anywhere—even in the East). And we don't need to log at 10,000 feet in the Rockies because we get little wood at great ecological cost. Even if we continue to log someplace, at least we should confine it to locations that are more productive and have fewer ecological impacts due to natural advantages such as flat ground and good growing conditions.

Because I suggest that we can remove marginal resource extraction land uses from much of the West doesn't necessarily preclude arguing for a reduction of production in productive sites as well. And we can achieve this by both a reduction in consumption, and population growth as well as changes in current behavior such as using greater recycling, not eating meat, using dirt, straw bales, and other non-tree materials for house construction.

Arguing for the removal of marginal resource extraction industries and for reduction in consumption and population growth are not mutually exclusive, but rather part of a "nested hierarchy" of conservation strategies. While we attempt to reduce population and consumption, we can end immediately nonessential and marginal land uses, thereby creating large "refuges" where human dominance and influence is minimized. All are important and all are necessary for any real success in conserving biodiversity and natural ecosystems worldwide.

—GEORGE WUERTHNER

## Thank You

To the editor and staff,  
I just wanted to write and say

"Thank You" for your tireless efforts in defense of Mother Earth. It renews my faith in humanity to know people like you exist. Your publication balances negative events with positive action and keeps my hope alive for one more day. I hope to join the fight in California next summer; until then, I will continue to look to you for news from the front lines. Again, thanks and praises for your excellent work.

Sincerely,

—VALERIE MORSE

## CAFT Solidarity

Dear SFB,

In November four Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade (CAFT) activists were arrested for an alleged mink farm raid. The charges were breaking and entering in the nighttime with intent to commit a felony, trespass, larceny of property over \$250 and malicious destruction of property over \$250.

These comrades are being targeted for being a thorn in the side of fur selling scum like Macys in Boston, where numerous CAFT demos have happened. The CAFT has set up a defense fund for the Mass four. Checks can be sent to CAFT, POB 381885, Cambridge, MA 02238. These comrades need and deserve our support! The Maine green anarchists send a clenched fist of solidarity to our CAFT comrades.

No Blood for Vanity!

—ROB CAT

MAINE GREEN ANARCHISTS

## Old Boycott Hats

Dear Boycott for Brains,

Since reading the "Hyperboycott" essay, I've been pondering boycott strategy, wondering how effective it is these days. We've been boycotting since 1880, when Capt. Charles Boycott, a ruthless English land agent in Ireland, was ostracized by "his victims."

(Sweet that we named it after a schmuck, eh?) Since then it's been used in US labor disputes and up through today's enviro and animal lib movements.

Although boycotts can catalyze change (as a result of consumer boycotts, cosmetic companies say that they no longer burn bunnies' skins with their evil products), I guess I'm a little suspicious of boycott strategy because it smacks of a controlling psychology called negative reinforcement, which I don't find all that progressive. I believe that one of the more effective ways to change society is to change the WAY we work to change society; it's the "Fighting for Peace is Like Fucking for Virginity" principle. Furthermore, the politics of punishment is imbued with the politics of fear and the potential for escalated backlash. I think we're all aware of the rise of SLAPP suits, libel lawsuits, faux-green oil company advertising, etc. Where exactly are we going with this?

Another concern with boycotts: When we boycott whole countries and provinces, we can unintentionally hurt allies within their borders. Doesn't do much for solidarity.



"The seals even seem to like it." Captain Paul Watson brushes a seal.

John "I have no idea what I am talking about" Doe wrote that the purpose of the whitecoat is to protect the pup from predators like the polar bear.

The whitecoat is a natural solar blanket. Each hair follicle is hollow, transparent and serves the purpose of absorbing solar heat, keeping the animal warm until it can gain enough fat to stay protected from the elements. Evolution did not develop the whitecoat as a camouflage protection from predators.

The only predators of the harp seal during this time are humans. Polar bears or other predators on the "offshore" sea ice in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, or on the Labra-

tractive practices elsewhere. From the materials the structure is made from to the habits of its likely occupants, each house represents a number of degraded acres somewhere. Human populations, even at their most benign have always impacted areas greater than their immediate dwellings. In the past, these impacts had been mitigated by a lower level of technology and a smaller human population. To suggest scaling back our numbers isn't necessary is to ignore the greatest threat to biodiversity worldwide!

I would suggest we rewild the West by ending industrial extraction on our large tracts of public

# A WORDY BUNCH

But I'm not advocating that we throw the boycott out with the bath water; there's a time and place for a well-organized, clearly-focused boycotts and we need to be able to use all the tools we can. But it's good to remember, too, that it's our ability to surprise, delight, shock and amaze that can wake people up to the reality of what we're all doing to the Earth. Let's not sustain their stupor or alienate them from the current of change because we can't come up with anything more creative than Capt. Charles.

—RIVERBADGER

## Jersey

Dear Earth First!ers,

I don't know who to direct this request to, as it doesn't pertain to your magazine (journal) per se.

However, I do wish you'd alert any Northeast Earth First! cadres of a terrible calamity about to befall Northwest Essex County, New Jersey.

I'm speaking about the imminent public hearings on the Essex County Improvement (sic) Authority's plan to develop the Hilltop tract, and the adjacent Essex County Hospital grounds, a rough total of 619 acres.

Now, by Western US or Alaskan scales, this is infinitesimal, I know; but in congested old Essex County, this is a veritable endless prairie!

Of all things, these rascals want high-income housing (we're already lousy with the unproductive), a golf course(!), which goes without saying would be used by a few, and other unsightly developments.

These would replace a largely overgrown hilltop, lush with trees and grass, flora and fauna and a beautiful old hospital tract complete with 100-yr. old stately buildings, winding quiet roads, fields, woods and other soothing sights.

In a county like this, these quiet oases are not to be scoffed at!

Anyway, if I know County Exec. Jim Treffinger, the Board of Freeholders and the ECIA, these meetings will be rigged complete with county cronies and their minions shouting, etc.

We need a squad of vocal and humorous nay-sayers on our side—who better than the legendary Earth First! troops?

Please help if you can.

Sincerely,

—J. GASP

## Money is the Root

A fungus has crept into the roots of environmentalism. A fungus so stealth and silent, many of the victims are oblivious to their ailment. Like a malignant cancerous tumor, some "green" national environmental groups must be removed from the body. Fungus is a metaphor to describe the philosophy of compromise. To compromise in a cause is to lose the very reason of the resistance. In compromising, a level of cooperation is established. Once you are cooperating, the fight is weakened, if not completely eliminated.

As an experienced fund-raiser and activist, I have worked for several environmental groups. Many different campaigns and issues. There was a similar theme with the groups that were located

nationally. Money, money, money. What ever the cause and intent for environmental protection, the energy and focus is shifted to membership renewal and raising the funds. Termed the "treadmill effect," due to the catch 22 of expanding staff salaries, increasing overhead and necessity to generate the moneys to cover them. So with an environmental issue and media manipulation the groups send canvassers out in the streets to ring doorbells, all in pursuit for money. Greed used to fight greed. Meanwhile what about the planet?

To form a fund-raising umbrella, groups incorporate. A bureaucracy is created and soon a "green" corporation is there compromising with the industry corporations. Take a look at the million dollar groups. The Sierra Club only within the last year voted to restrict all clearcutting on public land. A little late huh guys? Greenpeace has been compromising with Republicans and Corporate fishing fleets and good old Clinton to draft the "Dolphin Death Bill." What a pathetic gang the PIRG's have become. In Oregon, OSPIRG is so nervous to risk losing some public funds, they refuse to take a stand on logging, salmon issues and fail to even personally address the crisis. A Pacific Northwest PIRG not addressing forest issues. They claim to be the states leading environmental group. What in the hell is going on?

Fund-raising deceit and greed distort any environmental focus. A philosophy based on hypocrisy is not a foundation for strength. The public needs to cut the fat from the porkchop. With a few good critics and a new radical Green political movement arising, there is hope. Let's just hope the new folks can avoid the fungus.

—CROW

## Oily Ozone Science

Dear SFB,

In the Beltane issue of '96, there was a nice article on a not-nice topic, ozone depletion and global warming. The author indicated an indebtedness to an *Harper's* article which appeared in their December 1995 issue. But I was astounded at how few of the dirty dealing money grubbing details were transmitted. I let it slide, did not write to emphasize points the article had made about consortiums of power industries supporting in comfortable circumstances scientists who downplay the danger and eminence of global warming. (One Dr. Richard Lindzen charges oil and coal interests \$2,500 a day for consulting services and a 1991 trip to Washington, DC to testify before a Senate committee was funded by Western Fuels, an aggressive player in the disinformation game.) The insurance industry has countering information, which makes global climate change palpable in economic terms: during the 1980s an average of 3 billion dollars per year were paid out to victims of natural disaster, and so far in this decade the average has been 10 billion per year.

I found these figures astounding, and helpful in arguments with friends who wish to avoid responding to this crisis by changing their life-styles, but I didn't write. Then,

toward the end of this summer, another set of events compounded the importance of global warming in my mind. There were two unprecedentedly large brown outs across the Southwest. The media was full of excuses from the industries and moanings about communication failures being at fault, but I think it wasn't a matter of relay stations not telling others when they ran into problems. I think it was a powerful indicator of a system of energy use that is out of balance, and human reliance on the comforts of, among other things, air conditioners.

This brings me around to why I am finally bothering to write: Darling concerned individuals, please evaluate your own energy consumption, the choices you make in your own life-style every single fucking day. Could you use less? Please try. Bicycle, walk. Go ahead and take the time; you can give yourself the opportunity to smell the roses and grow stronger at the same time. Evaluate your use of a quotient I call 'earth energy,' the cost of a thing or service in terms of how much and how many impacts have been made on the earth in order for that thing or service to be available to you.

It's all well and good to piss and moan about the impact corporations make on the environment, and it is good to protest those violations publicly. But don't blind yourself to your own contributions, or to the power you have to affect those corporations by depriving them of your dollars and implicit support.

Every day is earth day,  
Love,

—JIB

## Ferruginous Hawk

Dear Editor:

The ferruginous hawk needs our help! The mayor of Albuquerque, New Mexico wants to build two roads through Petroglyph National Monument. This monument was created by Congress to preserve the natural beauty of the land and its wildlife from the threats of urbanization.

According to the National Park Service impact statement, if one of the roads, Unser Boulevard, is forced through the monument, the ferruginous hawk would suffer. Developing certain sites, combined with the adjacent development and the city's construction of Unser, would eliminate the hawk as a breeding species in this area and would contribute to the overall decline of the ferruginous hawk nationwide." (Impacts of Implementing Alternative 3, page 203)

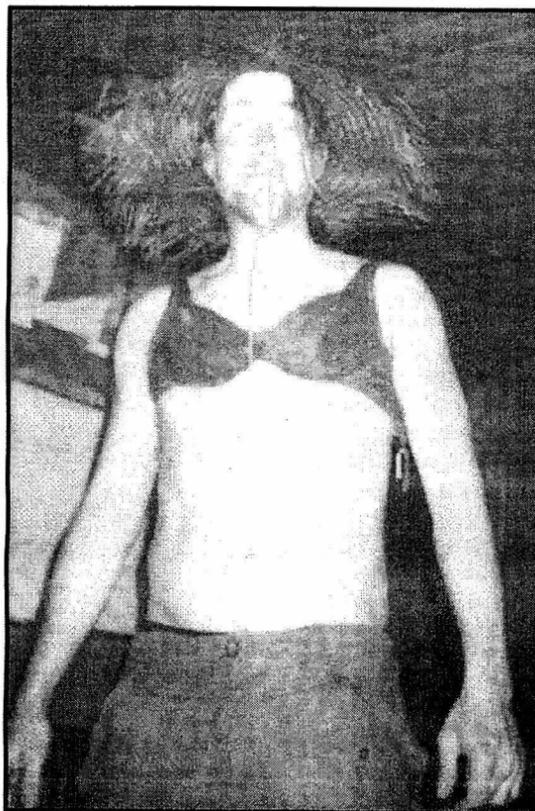
In addition to blatant disregard for this species of hawk, the roads will also disturb a sacred site for native people. The Petroglyph National Monument contains thousands of ancient rock carvings created by ancestors of today's Pueblo Indians. The drawings and the land it-

self continue to hold great religious significance for the Pueblo people.

We are asking that everyone concerned about the continued existence of hawk species write Mayor Martin Chavez, One Civic Plaza, Albuquerque, NM 87102. Please forward a copy to your Congressional Representative. It is rumored that an attempt may be made to push federal legislation through congress to get these roads built. Please ask that both of these roads not be built. The Petroglyph National Monument belongs to all the people of the United States, so your voice does count! Please speak out against this injustice.

Sincerely,

—LAUREN ORNELAS SULLIVAN,  
NATIONAL CAMPAIGN COORDINATOR,  
IN DEFENSE OF ANIMALS (MEMBER OF  
THE PETROGLYPH NATIONAL MONUMENT  
PROTECTION COALITION)



We'll be such a tasteless bunch without you Craig!

## Hippie Drug Freaks

Dear Sir,

The reason I joined EF! was because I believed it to be an honest and dedicated conservation group. Unlike the big national groups I view as very weak and corrupt and often enemies of the natural world. After being active with your NY City group for about a year I find them to be more full of bullshit than anything else. I believe they organize all these demonstrations just to get EF! on the news. I do realize the benefits of media coverage, read on. Most of the EF! activists look like hippie drug freaks straight out of the 1960s. I believe their cause of rebellion is directed more at mom and dad than at our enemies.

What do I base this all on? Here within the limits of NY City lies Van Cortland Park, a 1,146 acre park under attack from development of a huge water plant. A park with picnic grounds, ball-fields, and a number of acres of possibly old growth forest which your NYC wetland group has no real interest in trying to save (a local issue). Why no media attention, etc.. Plus I requested help from

them to help clean up human litter from the woods, plant new forest and legally close off roads into wilderness. Not one person was interested in doing some real hands on conservation work. The EF! people out West appear to be real conservationists doing a great job but your NY City branch is all phony. Are you for freedom not censorship and have the courage to print this in the *EF! Journal*.

MR. JERRY KERWIN  
BRONX, N.Y.

PS What if Central Park in N.Y.C. was under attack, I guess EF! would do nothing about that also.

## Are Not Either

Dear People:

I am pleased to respond to Mr. Kirwan's letter and try to straighten out his misconceptions about Wetlands and EF! First, I

would like to point out the salutation, "Dear Sir," with its insensitive gender bias. Next, it appears that Jerry "joined" Earth First!, which is a good indicator that he has not understood certain things about the EF! movement. As for looking like "hippie drug freaks," I can only say we are not as "freaky" looking as some base camp participants, but we have plenty of folks who are! Later, his real reason for writing this letter becomes clear. He is upset because no one wanted to come up to the Bronx and work with him. He tried to interest people in this issue by making announcements and handing out hand-written flyers with news clips. I encouraged him to make a letter-writing facts sheets and/or petition, which he never produced. He was advised by me and the EF! Journal editors that it would help to produce an article, which he has yet to write. Yet, he was very concerned that no one would clean litter in Van Cortland Park and "legally close roads"—a process he has yet to fully describe. He could not tell us about the political process or deadline for the water filtration plant, but wanted to cleanup litter instead of attending hearings, demonstrating (or goddess forbid) direct actions!

People who think that EF! will come in like some Big 10 enviro. will always be disappointed. I wholeheartedly pray that Mr. Kirwan and other new EF!ers read some books and go to some EF! gatherings or at least some old growth forests. It is difficult enough having an EF! center in a city, let alone in NYC, without this ridiculous criticism. We have been an EF! center for over six years and have conducted dozens of demos (and c.d.s) some of which appeared in this journal and more importantly in mainstream media. And that's no "bullshit," Mr. Kirwan. We will continue to host performers/road shows and encourage anyone coming to NYC to come to our 7 pm meetings every Tuesday.

FOR THE EARTH,  
—JAMES AND EVERYONE AT  
WETLANDS PRESERVE

# RETURN OF THE GREAT

## Action for Nuclear Abolition Healing Global Wounds

Building upon the success of last year's Nuclear Abolition Summit and Healing Global Wounds Gatherings, we invite you to take part in Action for Nuclear Abolition. Join activists from around the world to defend Mother Earth and celebrate our commitment to nuclear abolition by the year 2000. Gathering at the Nevada Test Site provides us an opportunity to learn about energizing communities with nonviolent direct action and events.

### Action Training Camp • March 23-26

Come to the mountains overlooking the Nevada Test Site. Take part in nonviolent action, media skills and campaign organizers trainings; join affinity groups; and plan for nonviolent direct actions at the Nevada Test Site.

### Healing Global Wounds • March 27-30

Join this multicultural gathering to end the nuclear age. Hear directly from indigenous victims and anti-nuke experts. The gathering will include educational workshops, alliance building, ceremony and action. Network with key leaders and groups in the anti-nuclear movement.

The events will culminate on March 31 with the Critical Mass Action to Break the Nuclear Chain. All participants from Lenten Desert Experience, Healing Global Wounds and Action for Nuclear Abolition are invited to join in a day of unity to shut the Nevada Test Site down.

### Nonviolent Direct Action Camp March 31-April 4

Five days of creative nonviolent direct action including blockades, parades and actions. On April Fool's Day (April 1), solidarity actions will be held across the nation, including a national call-in day to the White House demanding that the Nevada Test Site be shut down!

These events involve camping in the desert and hands-on experience. Please register early so we can send you a complete participant's guide. Contact Shundahai Network at 4633 Paradise Rd. Suite B, Las Vegas, NV; (702) 796-3835; e-mail shundahi@intermind.net; <http://www.macronet.org/macronet/shundahai/>. To register for Healing Global Wounds call (408) 338-0147; or e-mail [hgw@lol.shareworld.com](mailto:hgw@lol.shareworld.com).

## Stoltmann Wilderness, Shell Oil and a Plea for Money

Announcing the formation of Coast Mountains EF!! We're not new, but we changed our name, have a new banner and new issues that we're working on. Our main focus is the international Shell Oil boycott in support of the Ogoni people of Nigeria.

We are also trying to prevent the destruction of the Randy Stoltmann Wilderness Area by INTERFOR (International Forest Products). The Stoltmann contains four unlogged valleys and watersheds abundant with wildlife. One valley in particular, the Upper Elaho, is an excellent wildlife corridor and wintering spot for black bears, wolves, cougars, pine martens, elk, deer, etc. This valley contains BC's third largest Douglas fir, the "Elaho Giant."

In 1996, the BC government set up the Regional Public (yeah, right) Advisory Committee (RPAC) to reach political consensus on which of BC's wilderness areas would be preserved as park land and which areas would be developed or logged. The committee's goal was to protect only 12 percent of the lower mainland's land base and that is all they did. According to the BC Premier Glen Clarke, the land that was designated by RPAC as park land is all that will be set aside, forever! Of the proposed Stoltmann Wilderness Area, they protected only 55,000 hectares! The area that was protected only encompasses two narrow, rocky valleys, leaving four lush valleys open for logging by INTERFOR. The logging is scheduled to start in the spring of 1997.

If you're interested in helping out in person or by donating to us, please drop us a line or give us a call. And please, write letters to those who are causing this destruction: Premier Glen Clarke, Legislative Buildings, Victoria, BC, Canada V8V 1X4; and William Sauder (CEO INTERFOR), 3500-1055 Dunsmuir St., POB 49114, Vancouver, BC, Canada.

If you're thinking of taking a trip in the spring, think of southwestern British Columbia and we'll smash the state, Canadian style. Coast Mountains EF!, POB 128, 1472 Commercial Dr., Vancouver, BC, Canada V5L 3X9; (604) 708-9660.

## Siskiyou Ecology Conference

May 30-June 1

The Belt Building, Kirby, Oregon

This is the first conference on the ecology of the Siskiyou and Klamath Mountains. Presentations will cover a broad spectrum of topics, including past and current research on regional flora and fauna, the botanical significance of the area, unique geological features and historical changes influencing the integrity of the region. There will also be educational workshops and field trips to areas of ecological interest.

### Call for Abstracts:

We encourage anyone interested in presenting talks or posters at the conference to send an abstract of 300 words or less. Abstracts are due on or before March 1. Please note whether abstract is for an oral presentation or poster session.

Keynote speakers include Dr. Art Kruckeberg, University of Washington, who will discuss the natural history of serpentine vegetation in the Siskiyou; and Dr. Frank Lang, Southern Oregon State College, discussing the history of botanical exploration in the Siskiyou.

The conference is being coordinated by Siskiyou Regional Education Project and cosponsored by the Southern Oregon State College Biology Department and the Oregon Caves National Monument.

To submit abstracts or receive registration information, contact Jennifer Beigel and Erik Jules, c/o Siskiyou Project at POB 220, Cave Junction, OR 97523; (541) 592-4459; e-mail [ejules@umich.edu](mailto:ejules@umich.edu); <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~bartj/siskiyou>.

## Ancient Forest Conference

February 13-16

Southern Oregon State College • Ashland, Oregon

The 6th annual Ancient Forest Conference will review the Salvage Rider and the fall elections. We will plan our strategies for protecting our forests.

Topics for open discussion will include youth empowerment, positioning the movement and the message, civil disobedience, direct action skills, "ecoforestry," questioning the concept of "forest plans," and a Zero Cut campaign update and strategy session. There will also be on-going displays with photos, maps, videos and demonstrations.

Other Conference '97 highlights: Susana Santos, traditional Tygh fishing-woman, will speak on actions defending sacred sites and present her slideshow, *The Crucifixion of the Sacred*. Tarso Ramos of the Western States Center will speak on the Wise Use Movement and present a workshop on *Coalition Building for Political Power*. Andy Stahl, director of AFSEEE, will give a presentation about the connection between logging and landslides. Dr. Mary Gomes from Sonoma State University will present an ecopsychology workshop.

For further information contact Headwaters at 84 4th St., Ashland, OR 97520; (541) 482-4459; fax 482-7282; e-mail [headwtrts@mind.net](mailto:headwtrts@mind.net)

## HUMANURE HANDBOOK A GUIDE TO COMPOSTING HUMAN MANURE

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PO BOX 607, GROVE CITY, PA 16127  
800-689-3233 (2copies = \$38 ppd)

## Adopt a McDonald's

For the past six years there has been an ongoing lawsuit against a couple of activists who passed out informational leaflets about nutrition and deforestation at a McDonald's in England. When McDonald's sued them for libel, the activists turned around and started a hugely successful campaign to expose McDonald's lies and misinformation. Join the campaign by adopting a McDonald's near you!

The McLibel Support Campaign "Adopt a Store" is a new project in which people adopt McDonald's restaurants to picket and pass out information.

For information contact the McLibel Support Campaign at 5 Caledonian Road, London NG1 3HW, England; (0115) 958 5666.

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Volunteers prison reform activist and organizer needed. Must have drivers license and office skills. Legal/paralegal skills a plus. Contact Ronald Davidson, POB 618 #76A1166, Auburn, NY 13024-9000

# ANNOUNCEMENTS PAGES!

## DIRECT ACTION DEFENSE FUND

As animal liberation activities continue to spread across the nation, so shall attacks by law enforcement to stop them. In the US, the ALF is credited with shutting down the nation's largest fur farm research center and putting dozens of fur retailers out of business. It is indisputable that direct action on behalf of animals is effective in stopping animal abuse.

This past spring in Washington, DC, thousands voiced their approval and recognition of the ALF and the nonviolent, illegal actions conducted by the animal rights movement. This army of compassion has rescued thousands from certain death on fur ranches, factory farms and research laboratories across the nation. It's time to prove your support by contributing to a fund established solely to help get ALF activists out of jail once arrested. You have supported them in voice, now support them in action. No one deserves to be incarcerated, interrogated and intimidated by police for placing life before property, and this is how you can help.

A fund has been set up by the North American Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group, the Animal Liberation League and Rod Coronado that will offer immediate aid to those arrested for illegal animal liberation activities. Too often activists are arrested and no one is able to help them post bail. That is the purpose of this fund. You will receive no newsletter, no buttons or bumper stickers; 100 percent of your contribution will be used to help those who have helped animals. Show the direct action warriors they are not forgotten.

Send contributions to the Direct Action Defense Fund, POB 57357, Tucson, AZ 85732-7357; (520) 795-5171.

## THE GREAT AMERICAN MEATOUT MARCH 21

Each year, Americans in all 50 states organize events and call on their friends and neighbors to sign the Meatout pledge. The signers pledge to "kick the meat habit on March 21 (first day of spring), at least for the day, and to explore a less violent diet."

The intensive practices used today in raising animals for food have devastating impacts on consumer health, animal welfare and the environment. Yet, the meat industry continues to manipulate our diet through the "four basic food groups" and slick advertising campaigns. The purpose of the Great American Meatout is to provide American consumers with a contrasting point of view and to promote more balanced and judicious food choices.

The great American Meatout has been organized by the Farm Animal Reform Movement, a national public interest group, since 1985. For more information contact the Farm Animal Reform Movement at POB 30654, Bethesda, MD 20824.

## Liberation Collective Anniversary

Come take part in an extraordinary demonstration of active nonviolence in Portland, Oregon, March 27-29. The Liberation Collective, an all volunteer, nonprofit organization linking social justice movements to end all oppression, is holding an anniversary celebration.

The focus of this three-day gathering will be intense demonstrations against animal research facilities. The highlight of the event will be an enormous street parade complete with music, puppets, theater and lessons in active nonviolence. Guest speakers from throughout the animal liberation movement will give presentations, with live music scheduled each evening. Delicious vegetarian food will be provided by Food Not Bombs. All are welcome, please join us. For more information, please contact the Liberation Collective at POB 9055, Portland, OR 97207; (503) 230-9990; fax 460-9017; e-mail libcoll@aracnet.com

## A Gathering in Solidarity with Indigenous People and the Earth March 16-23 • Victoria, Australia

As global economic forces move in to all regions of the planet, indigenous people and the earth are under assault on all fronts. The Indigenous Solidarity Group is a new group active in supporting the indigenous struggle in Australia and overseas.

The Indigenous Solidarity Group is sponsoring a gathering with the theme "A Gathering in Solidarity with Indigenous People and the Earth." The hope of the organizers is to draw indigenous people and environmental/social activists together to discuss strategies to counter the economic forces that are threatening indigenous communities and the global environment.

The annihilation of indigenous peoples and their culture cannot be separated from the destruction of nature. If everyone comes together, we will be unstoppable! We look forward to hearing from you soon and hope that you will be able to join us in attending and supporting this gathering. For more information and registration forms for the gathering, contact the Indigenous Solidarity Group at POB 222, Fitzroy, 3065, Australia; (03) 9419 8700; fax (03) 9416 2081; e-mail foefitzroy@peg.apc.org.

## CASCADIANS GEAR UP FOR SPRING

It was a hell of a year, with arrests that we expected, weddings we didn't, radicals producing TV shows, and the Sierra Club pushing for Zero Cut. There's been jail "riots," Cascadians running for state legislature, Warner Creek "saved," arms broken, and timber sales auctioned behind shield-bearing, gas-masked and baton-wielding constabularies. This year, Cascadia Forest Defenders (CFD) and Southern Willamette EF! went to the "state capitol" and demonstrated politely (apart from a slight mudslide). Could this be southern Cascadia, the center of subversion, sedition, and secession?

Sure as clearcuts cause landslides!  
**We've got:**

A ship load of timber sales to fight; a weekly TV program; and an education project filling the minds of the southern Willamette Valley's grade- and high-schoolers with forest issues, eco-sustainability, multinational malfeasance and activism. We now even have a real office/work space.

**We need:**

Help! More steady, hard-core bodies to settle in, learn and join the pack. Kevlar personality, patience and dry sense of humor a plus. Self-sufficiency, motivation, endurance and a psychotic level of stubbornness a must. Send us money if you can't send your self.

We are also looking for folks to distribute tapes of our 6-month-old cable-access TV show, "Cascadia Alive." (If the forests wanted television, this is what they'd ask for!) We welcome videos from other watersheds to broadcast.

We really need another video camera

(HI-8 would be excellent, but we'll take anything), video tapes and batteries. We could also use a slide projector, C.B. radios with antennas or hand-held radios, camo and winter clothing, dried food, a new tranny for our jeep, chain saw, cable, winch, static line, cargo netting, the gasoline credit card of someone you don't like, etc...

We're not a 501c(3); we depend on scrounged dollars and donated equipment to do our work. Yer bucks don't go to anything other than getting the word to people and action to the woods.

We've got the CFD Roadpecker and Cascadia Rising T-shirts, too (specify size and design, \$12 or free with large donation). Donations can be earmarked for Cascadia Alive!, the Cascadia Ecology Education Project or CFD's general fund.

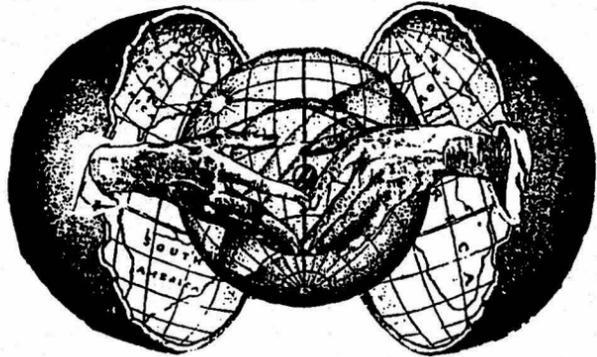
Send fan mail, large sums of cash, other donations, questions and info to CFD at POB 11122, Eugene, OR, 97440; phone/fax (541) 746-2427; mickey@efn.org; http://www.igc.org/cascadia and to Southern Willamette EF! at POB 10384, Eugene, OR 97440, (541) 343-7305; swef@efn.org.

**"DOE" FAMILY REUNION #2!**

Expect the usual mayhem at the Second "Doe" Family Reunion during the L.A.W. Conference at the U of Oregon in Eugene (more specifically, the Warehouse, Saturday, 3/15). We'll be presenting an evening of great music, entertainment, regional stuff and homebeers for nothing but the chance to support Southern Willamette EF! and the Cascadians. Yeah, we're suggesting ya donate: \$3 - \$1,000, sliding scale.

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# Post World Handbook

REVIEW BY DROOLING MONGREL

It has long been said that the radical ecology movement needs a band that can encapsulate in sound the rage we feel in the face of global environmental degradation. ¡Tchkung! fills this niche, and their new CD, "Post World Handbook" is an all out sonic assault.

Elements of Moroccan, country, Taiko, Irish and industrial music are combined to smash any preconceptions of ¡Tchkung! as a rock band. Banal political hardcore this ain't. The drumming and percussion is central to their sound and they clearly have an intimate knowledge of many styles from different cultural traditions. Violin, electric bass, keyboards, didjeridu, chanting, screaming and sheet metal add to the vast soundscape. Their live shows include audience participation, live theater and pyrotechnics. Having seen numerous performances I wondered how they would translate to pure audio. While past cassettes and an EP never seemed to capture the catharsis of their live shows, "Post World Handbook" is incredibly successful at documenting their raw essence.

The CD opens with a didjeridu-based trance that builds into the revolutionary anthem "Crashing the System Down."

"Feral" is about the Yukon wolf kill: "Poison shot trapped, it's all Murder/ You're real brave from your helicopter/Aerial Predator control is cowards taking a murderous toll/You hunt down the mountain lion/Poison coy-

ote trap the bear/Our culture is savage/Tear down the gates of Rome/ Your vision is sterile/If this is civilized—I'm Feral!"

"Solidarity" could be an old Wobly tune and links labor consciousness with ecological activism with an infectious Irish flavored fiddle part. "Chao-Wera" is a piece derived from drumming traditions in Rajasthan; and this showcases their percussive abilities. "Truck Stop Coffee" is an all out country hoe-down that is a high point of their live shows. "Clearcut" advocates forest immunology and begins with the sound of a chain saw logging old growth. In the background the names of multinational parasites are listed like a mantra, as the call to spiking churns over the top. "Hall of the Khan" is a hypnotic piece where the listener is transported to that very place. The CD closes with "Bon Jeloud," a swirling mass of drumming and multicultural influences.

"Post World Handbook" is intense visually with images of industrial wasteland, burning forests, ritual symbolism, howling wolves, lyrics, manifestos, spiking instructions, facts about forest destruction and images from their shows. This CD is an urgent call to the end of the millennium, a future primitive vision in sound and performance. See ¡Tchkung! live for the full experience, but this is a good place to start.

For booking info or to buy a CD contact ¡Tchkung!, Dept. 949, 1202 E. Pike, Seattle, WA 98122; (206) 292-1648; e-mail tchkung@speakeasy.org.

# Poetry Review

## Burn the Cages by Davey Garland

REVIEW BY SNAGGLETOOTH

*Burn the Cages* is the second book of poems by Davey Garland. As one of the founders of EF! UK, Garland has a long history as an activist and organizer working on behalf of animal liberation and labor-movement issues. His first compilation of poetry, *Eco-Wars* was published in 1993. It was a benefit for those involved in the McLibel 2 case. In keeping with his dedication to the movement and commitment to supporting fellow activists, the proceeds from Garland's new book are going to help the Gandalf Six. (GA(a)ndALF/Green Anarchist and Animal Liberation Front).

The Gandalf Six are Animal Liberation Front officers Robin Web and Simon Russell and four editors of the Green Anarchist newspaper. A tough year of raids and harassment in 1995 culminated in their arrest in January 1996. Because the cops can't stop people from working on behalf of animal liberation, they are now trying to stop people from reporting about it.

Exercising rights to free speech and association has gotten the Gandalf Six charged with conspiracy to incite criminal damage.

*Burn the Cages* is a reflection of the passion and militancy found on the front lines of activism in the UK, and Garland's 19 new poems and verses are sure to incite even more action. From poems like *Night of the Elfin* to *No Retreat to the Mountains*, Garland's words are rousing and inspirational.

The British government's harassment of the supporters of animal/earth liberation and the unjust arrest of the Gandalf Six represents an authoritarian attempt to criminalize direct action in particular and the protest culture in general. This must be resisted, and Garland's poetry truly brings that point home. Please buy this book. Be inspired by the poetry and help the defense of the Gandalf Six.

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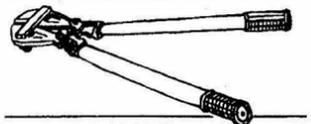
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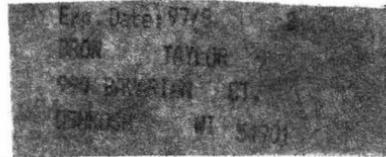
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