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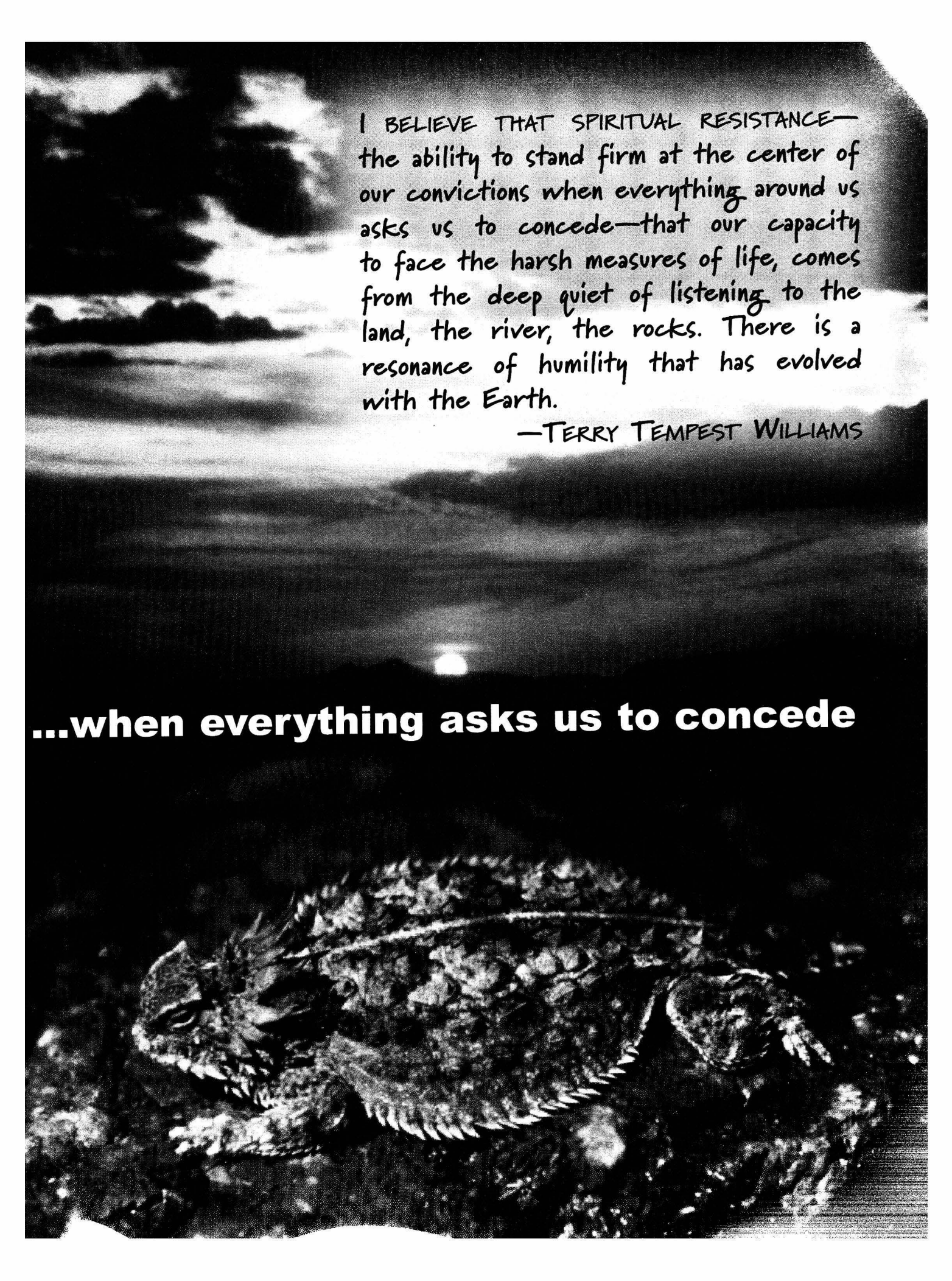
Earth First!

Beltane

May-June 2002

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I BELIEVE THAT SPIRITUAL RESISTANCE—
the ability to stand firm at the center of
our convictions when everything around us
asks us to concede—that our capacity
to face the harsh measures of life, comes
from the deep quiet of listening to the
land, the river, the rocks. There is a
resonance of humility that has evolved
with the Earth.

—TERRY TEMPEST WILLIAMS

...when everything asks us to concede



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May-June 2002

The *Radical* Environmental Journal



INNARDS

BITTERROOT SETTLEMENT FOCUSES ON RECOVERY.....	4
DIVIDE AND CONQUER IN THE BITTERROOT.....	4
WRENCHING THE BENCH.....	6
AUSTRALIA'S FOREST BLOCKADE BUSTED.....	8
OLD GROWTH LOGGING ENDS IN NEW ZEALAND.....	9
TALES FROM FASLANE PEACE CAMP.....	10
CHEWING UP UTAH'S FRAGILE LAND.....	12
PHOENIX EF!: KEEP THE ALLOTMENTS CLOSED.....	14
THE FIGHT TO PROTECT THE LAST WILD BUFFALO.....	16
KICKING THE KKK OUT OF KATUAH.....	17
EASTERN FOREST UPRISING.....	18
ROSEBRAUGH RESPONDS TO CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY.....	20
CONGRESS LOOKS AT PETA.....	20
FREE RESPONDS TO SCOTT MCINNIS.....	21
THE ARCHAIC REVIVAL.....	22
THE WILDERNESS OF MIND.....	24
EAGLE CREEK TREESITTERS VICTORIOUS.....	26
NED LUDD: THE LOST ART OF TUNNELLING.....	28
BLANKWALL: THE 2002 ROUND RIVER RENDEZVOUS.....	33
HOME IS WHERE THE REVOLT BEGINS!.....	47
MOST WANTED ECO-TERRORISTS.....	48

THE NEWEST TRENDS IN DESIGNER ANIMALS.....	50
THE MONARCH VS. THE GLOBAL EMPIRE.....	52
SUPPORTING THE MOVE PRISONERS.....	59
EARTH FIRST! VS. THE FBI.....	60
BOOK REVIEW: WHY BOTHER?.....	62
MUSIC REVIEW: RED COUNTY MUSIC.....	63
NOTES FROM THE JOURNAL COLLECTIVE.....	72

SECTIONS

DEAR SFB: LETTERS TO THE EDITORS.....	3
BLAST FROM THE PAST.....	30
WOLVES AND POODLES.....	32
ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS OF THE WEIRD.....	41
ARMED WITH VISIONS.....	42
EF! KIDZ ACTIVITY PAGE.....	57
ANNOUNCEMENTS.....	64
PRISONER SUPPORT PAGE.....	67
SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION.....	69
EF! DIRECTORY.....	70

Throwing Bones for Chaos

It lives!

Chaos is the primordial alphabet soup that speaks in walruses, ferns and fungi. The mutagenous substrata underlying every skin, fin, fur, bark, crust and thorn; inert and spontaneous; more ultraviolet than a flock of in-heat peacocks; baked into every gene pool and chromosome strand, allowing geese to see and salmon to smell the future—*chaos*. It is banqueting at subatomic communions within grasses, it is perpetually drunk on its own green musk. It is neither a goddess nor a zygote; it is a bacterial rainbow, a leaping @evolt, an excommunicated paradigm.

Earth First! is an ancient Mystery School of Chaos.

We are avatars, saboteurs, accessible as mink, playful as fox, unemployed and enforce, houseless yet home-d, sensually rearranged, over-sexed Wolfangels, celibates nursing honey-suckle teats, Seraphites in the ecstasy of creative euphoria, endorphin addicts with eyes open like sunflowers, fashionably slack, efficiently packed and ready to go!

We cast glares that sear through gas lines, and we toss hexing compost on three car garages. We are the hot, expanding water that is cracking in the church ceiling, the drip in the college lecture hall, the rust refinancing industry.

The final Direct Action is to embrace the awful and obscene Wilderness everywhere it exists and be obliterated by its Beauty. The Empire will rise and collapse that day...

The museums are burning, the muses are laughing, people are set free from

**MOI JE
NE SUIS
PAS GENE
D'ETRE UN**



REVOLUTIONNAIRE

tourism and spectator sports, wet-wire whorehouses and Wal-Mart tupperware isles. Snake-like vines hang from the Crucifix, it is again the Mayan Tree of Life! We dance all night in courthouse corridors and referalize computer-banking lobbies with rain dances. Osprey dive and meadowlark songs pierce concrete like ice. Billboards are pyrotechnic displays; massive vulva land art pops-up on the US Capital lawn; burglars leave lily plants and fruit bowls at kindergartens; old ladies are kidnapped and made to laugh and pee outside; corporations that oppress the imagination of Nature are tagged with cursing voodoo dolls making employees turn around at the gates of Hades; saintly people are anonymously given gifts of sweet incense, white candles and jewels; multi-floor skyscrapers with thousands of frigidaires filled with tons of cheese have no electricity; starving, racial bands are looting weaker burroughs; militias roam the countryside with US-issued arms.

So let's take our pistols to bed and wake up the city with our indecent cries like Idols broken free from sculptures. Our chests are hard with oxygen. We are bandits drunk on thick, cool air that creeps like a crocodile into the nostrils, celebrating with a fusillade, the taste of *chaos*.

—ATOM FISH (THE VENUS NAVIGATOR)

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The *Earth First! Journal* is a forum for the no-compromise environmental movement. Responsibility rests with the individual authors and correspondents. The contents do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of this magazine, the Earth First! movement, local Earth First! groups or individual Earth First!ers.

We welcome submissions of articles, letters, poetry and art that put the Earth first, aid in healthy debate shaping the growth of the movement and advance the creation of a world free of speciesism, racism, sexism, violence, exploitation and oppression.

Article submissions should be typed or clearly printed. Art or photographs are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via email. Send a SASE if you would like submissions returned. If you want confirmation of receipt of a submission, please request it.

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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BY FAITH WALKER

Fauna. n. animal life.

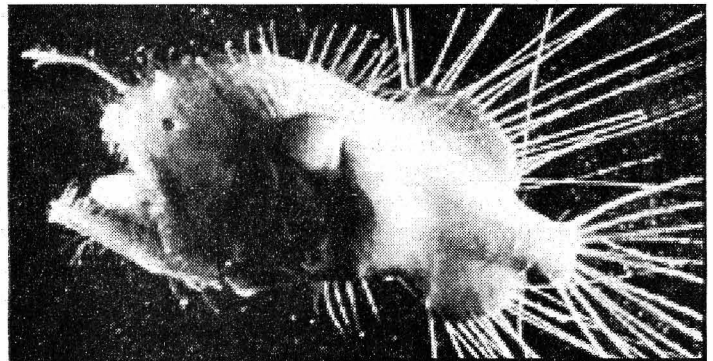
Cabala. n. an esoteric, secret matter or mysterious art.

Some female anglerfish use neon lights and males to accessorize. About 100 species of these abyssal fish (sub-order *Ceratioidei*) dwell in the warmer parts of the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans, mostly between 1,000 and 3,000 meters beneath the surface. In such depths it is completely dark, so the sedentary females attract prey and males with bioluminescent beacons. In some species, females flaunt light-producing bacteria as a lure at the end of a swinging appendage on their forehead and use this as a fishing rod. In others, their bodies are bedecked with necklaces, pendants or glowing beards. These dazzling females can become almost four-feet long and gobble sea life twice their size, thanks to a distensible stomach and rotating jaw.

Unlike their female counterparts, the three inch-long males are mundane, gutless dwarfs. Having floated to the surface as fertilized eggs, infant anglerfish eat plankton

until they sink into the deep and mature. In many species, a male at this stage swims about with neither fishing rod nor digestive tube, using oversized eyes to scan for glamorous gals. When found, he will kiss her stomach or flank, implant his pincher-like teeth and hang on. Soon his jaws coalesce with the female's skin, their vascular systems fuse, and his enamored orbs and internal organs degenerate. The female becomes what is essentially a two-bodied hermaphrodite, with the male completely dependent upon her for sustenance. The only organ of this frumpish fish to persist is the testis, which fills his body until he is merely a scrotal adornment.

This is one of several instances in which male dwarfing has evolved, a situation which seems to be engendered by female quiescence and male-biased sex ratio.



Anglerfish

DEAR SFB: LETTERS TO THE EDITORS



Dear SFB,

I am an Apache grandmother living on an Apache reservation in Arizona. For months the University of Virginia's (UVA) website has boasted of UVA plans to

join in a telescope they will put on a most sacred Apache mountain here in Arizona, Mt. Graham.

UVA's website has said it's OK to crush our religious beliefs because: "...70 percent of the 1,000 tribal members are Christians... We do not believe it should be possible within the tribe for a small group of traditionalists... to dictate the will of the majority."

So much for the US Constitution and human rights at UVA! So much for what the great democratic thinkers of the world have said about protecting freedom of religion from "the tyranny of the majority."

For over 10 years our tribal councils and, cultural leaders have written countless official letters, pleas and resolutions in opposition to the telescopes, describing that desecration as "a display of profound disrespect for a cherished feature of our original homeland."

Furthermore, there are over 20,000 Apaches here in Arizona, not 1,000. UVA thinks Apaches don't count, no matter how few or many we are.

—DOLORES JORDAN

Editors' Note: For more info on how to contact UVA, visit www.mountgraham.org.

continued on page 44

Bitterroot Settlement Focuses on Recovery

BY MISSOULA BITTERROOT SETTLEMENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Bitterroot Burned Area Recovery Plan settlement was the end result of a campaign that started while the fires of 2000 were still burning. As the total burned acreage grew toward 380,000 acres, it was apparent that massive salvage logging would be proposed on Montana's Bitterroot National Forest (BNF). In response, a coalition of groups based out of Missoula and the Bitterroot concerned with the protection of roadless areas and the impacts on wildlife and water quality began to organize a campaign to focus attention on true recovery.

The end result of this effort was the Conservation and Local Economy (CLE) alternative, which proposed restoration of the burned area through the removal of roads, stabilization of soils and thinning of trees within 40 meters of structures. This option would employ dozens of local people. Parallel to this process, the Friends of the Bitterroot, Sierra Club and The Ecology Center proposed a Citizens' Conservation Plan on July 24, 2000, that would protect thousands of acres of uninventoried roadless woodland in the BNF.

As the summer of 2001 progressed, BNF officials proposed logging more than 180 million board feet of timber from 85,000 acres. We continued to press our message, met with the US Forest Service (USFS) and worked as a coalition of groups—including Friends of the Bitterroot, The Ecology Center, Alliance for the Wild Rockies, Native Forest Network, Center for Biological Diversity and Sierra Club—to educate the public and persuade decisionmakers that massive logging was not recovery. Fisheries, soil, fire ecol-

ogy, wildlife and hydrology experts were consulted and brought on board. A pamphlet about fire in the West was mailed and inserted into newspapers across the region.

All of this work was falling on deaf ears in the USFS, Montana government and the regional media. The situation began to escalate as we moved through the Environmental Impact Statement stage into the Fall and early Winter of 2001. Larry Campbell of Friends of the Bitterroot was assaulted by angry loggers. The Governor of Montana called all environmentalists "obstructionists" in a meeting in the Bitterroot largely attended by timber industry members and supporters. While national media was covering the issue, largely due to the efforts of Native Forest Network, the public in Montana was not hearing our restoration message.

We began to prepare for appeals, with an eye to litigation if our concerns were not adequately resolved. We retained the Western Environmental Law Center (WELC) as legal counsel. The WELC plaintiff groups began to explore what our collective goals and positions were. Consistently throughout that discussion, the following emerged as goals of these groups: protect uninventoried roadless areas as specified by our conservation proposal, protect native fish strongholds, provide local employment opportunities doing real restoration, gain real restoration and minimize the damage on the ground by keeping harvest levels low.

The coalition broadened when the USFS and Undersecretary of Agriculture Mark Rey tried to shortcut public participation by skipping the appeals process. American Wildlands, The Wilderness Society and the Pacific Rivers Council, who had been actively opposing the sale,

When Montana's Bitterroot National Forest burned, environmentalists used

Divide and Conquer in the Bitterroot

BY MATTHEW KOEHLER

The wildfires of 2000 were a humbling reminder of Nature's power. They also showcased the fact that logging, roadbuilding and grazing are part of the overall "forest health" problem.

However, to the US Forest Service (USFS) and timber industry, the wildfires represented a golden opportunity to return to the glory days of the 1980s when taxpayer-subsidized logging and roadbuilding dominated the landscape.

In fact, while the wildfires were still burning, officials for the Bitterroot National Forest (BNF) in western Montana were using taxpayer dollars on an expensive public relations campaign designed to whip the public into a frenzy and awaken the slumbering timber beast.

In April 2001, following the propaganda campaign that turned science on its head, USFS officials proposed



photo by Wild Rockies Earth First!

The Bitterroot National Forest burn area

filed a lawsuit through Earthjustice to force the USFS to reinstate the appeals process. We filed a lawsuit on substantive grounds and joined in the argument for a preliminary injunction to force appeals before presiding Judge Donald Molloy.

The plaintiff groups initially got a favorable decision from Molloy that stated the USFS cannot bypass the administrative appeals process, but the government proceeded to appeal that decision. Soon thereafter, we were ordered into mediation by Molloy.

Judge Michael Hogan, the mediator, ordered the parties not to disclose the details of the mediation process. Since he retains authority over implementation of the settlement, and since the potential exists for plaintiffs to approach him regarding violations of the settlement, we do not wish to risk discussing it any further.

We worked hard to get into the position to make this decision, we were given the opportunity and seized it. Inevitably, other interested citizens and groups were affected. It remains our conviction that we can only settle our own rights in these matters. We did not and do not presume to act for others.

Our belief is that we adhered substantially to three of the five goals stated above. What we traded to get some protection for uninventoried roadless areas and native fish strongholds, as well as providing some local employment,



photo by Wild Rockies Earth First!

The log deck at the Elk Point Two timber sale

was a much larger cut volume than we had first considered. Overall, the settlement reduced the timber volume by 69 percent and the area logged by 67 percent. It reduced the sale volume by about 121 million board feet and the area to be logged by about 30,000 acres. Although two-thirds of the project was held off, about one-third of the logging was allowed to go ahead. We waived our appeal and dismissed our lawsuits on those timber sales. The government also withdrew its appeal of the District Court's decision that the government could not skip the appeals process. There was a risk that this favorable decision could have been overturned on appeal; the settlement eliminated that risk.

We stopped 88 percent of the cut in uninventoried roadless areas. Almost all remaining logging in uninventoried roadless areas will be in the wildland

continued on page 54

different approaches to keep the logging trucks at bay... but at what price?

a burned area "recovery" plan that included logging 280 million board feet from 80,000 acres. Put more plainly, they planned to "restore" the Bitterroot by logging enough trees to fill 56,000 log trucks lined up end-to-end for 480 miles.

In response to the USFS's massive logging proposal, forest activists and organizations in the Northern Rockies gathered in April 2001 to develop a comprehensive campaign to stop the USFS's logging plan.

We also recognized the need to provide an alternative, a true recovery plan that would focus on restoring a fire-dependent landscape. A landscape which was damaged, not by the wildfire, but by a century's worth of logging, roadbuilding, grazing, fire suppression and, more recently, ATV use.

Based on the best available science, our Conservation

and Local Economy (CLE) alternative was—and still is—a model burned area recovery plan for the fire-dependent forests of the Northern Rockies.

The CLE included no commercial logging, but still would have employed 821 local people—a perfect example of how a non-commodity restoration project can put people in rural communities to work restoring the forests instead of cutting them down.

The question on many minds in the activist community is, "What the hell went wrong in the Bitterroot?" In my opinion, the answer to this question isn't found only in the court-ordered mediation room—although I believe a number of plaintiffs would admit that serious mistakes were made.

On November 23, USFS Chief Dale Bosworth asked Undersecretary of Agriculture Mark Rey to sign the Record

continued on page 54

Wrenching the Bench

People's Law Collectives and the Movement

BY PHAEDRA TRAVIS, SARAH COFFEY AND PAUL MARINI

There is no question that both the law and the legal system are used strategically against activists. Cops, often at the behest of corporations and the state, use the law to intimidate, monitor, attack and arrest activists. The laws used to prosecute us are made by the rich and privileged—the judges are rich and privileged—and as a community, we often don't have access to legal information and resources to protect ourselves.

Laws continue to be created and interpreted at the whims of corporate interests. In addition, corporations can attack us with Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP) and other civil lawsuits to bankrupt and demoralize us. And if you thought it was bad before, the passage of the "Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism" (USA PATRIOT) Act—as well as the rabid anti-"terrorist" culture—means any radical movement is vulnerable to attack.

It is important that we expand our collective ability and willingness to assist each other in legal battles. In criminal or civil defense cases, a dedicated legal support group can keep the case politically focused, create propaganda and work with the media in ways that most lawyers can't. They can assist attorneys so that the same local lawyers don't always get burned out. The support group can provide legal trainings and help the community enforce its rights. As offensive legal action, the support group would be able to help with filing lawsuits against corporations, challenging corporate charters and getting injunctions against the police and the Forest Service.

Over-reliance on lawyers (who are by definition part of the system) or groups like the American Civil Liberties Union (whose behavior ranges from quite helpful to politically abhorrent) for these things disempowers our community. We need accountable, activist-driven legal support structures. One way to organize this is the law collective model.



What are Law Collectives?

While we've been socialized to think of legal arenas as accessible only to the powerful and rich, radical activist-based law collectives have been flowering across the US and Canada, challenging the accepted paradigm with remarkable success. They are creating bridges between the activist community and the legal community, demystifying the law, spreading valuable skills and providing critical support for campaigns.

Contemporary law collectives are community-based activist organizations familiar with the law and the politics of the legal system. Every law collective defines itself, but most of the current collectives are organized on the affinity group model and use democratic decision-making processes. Since they are part of the communities they serve, law collectives can be issue-specific, focusing on the legal and political tactics most needed by that community. Most are comprised entirely of activists and legal workers; in fact, due to power dynamic issues, most collectives purposely exclude lawyers from membership. These groups work closely with their local legal community, but decision-making ultimately remains within the group.

Unlike legal teams, which are short-term and action-specific, law collectives are long-term structures with a wider scope of goals. Many of the recent collectives began as legal teams that had to reorganize in a crisis to be able to support all of those arrested. For example, the Midnight Special Law Collective began as the Direct Action Network Legal Team supporting the arrestees at the World Trade Organization protests in November 1999. Working with local lawyers, they did legal research, outlined motions, created tools for jury selection, created courtroom displays and coordinated a team of jury analysts. In addition to attorney support, they supported defendants directly by designing a database



to keep track of all arrestees and their court dates. This enabled them to draw public awareness to the political prosecutions by writing press releases, organizing rallies and gathering supporters to pack the courtrooms. Ultimately, of the 600 activists arrested on misdemeanor charges, a handful accepted plea bargains and only six went to trial, resulting in one conviction.

Since then, the New York People's Law Collective, the DC Justice and Solidarity Coalition, R2K Legal in Philadelphia, Up Against the Law Motherfuckers! in Philadelphia, Quebec Legal, Cincinnati Legal Collective, Ontario Common Front Legal in Toronto, the Portland People's Law Collective and other groups have been organized and sustained through the tireless work of activists committed to educating and supporting people targeted by the legal system as a result of their political activity.

In addition to providing legal support for direct actions and demonstrations, law collectives work on various other projects. For example, the Cincinnati Legal Collective works to support the Coalition for a Just Cincinnati's boycott of downtown Cincinnati following the 2001 killing of Timothy Thomas, an unarmed 19-year-old African-American; Midnight Special is working with a local community group to design a training for advocates who work with complainants in the Citizens' Police Review Board hearings; and the Portland People's Law Collective has worked to provide trainings about grand juries and is setting up a "brief bank" to give activists access to useful legal motions and documents.

People's Law Collectives in the Environmental Movement

Our ability to protect and support those facing state tactics of "legal" repression is essential to the success of our movement. Further, the ability to monkeywrench the legal system is a valuable tool that belongs in the hands of everyone facing it. By understanding the points of intervention in the legal system we can and have effectively turned the machine on itself, with stunning results.

Currently, no law collectives exist within the radical environmental community. Dedicated individuals and lawyers provide support, and they are often overwhelmed with the amount of work they face. With more community participation, skills and knowledge—and with less reliance on experts like lawyers—the movement will be less vulnerable. In addition, if our legal support comes from within our community, it will be accountable and relevant.

No amount of legal expertise can replace a strong movement, but by deepening our collective understanding of the legal system, spreading the tools to fight it and keeping decision-making power in the hands of the people affected by those decisions, activist-based law collectives are helping to strengthen the movement.

How to Start a Law Collective

The myth that you need special training to understand the law has been perpetuated in order to keep power in the hands of the privileged. You don't need any special skills, just a group of dedicated people and some time on your hands. First, decide what community you are serving, what the needs of the community are and what your focus will be.

All of the existing law collectives are interested in helping new groups organize themselves, and in addition to providing basic legal information, many have materials about coordinating action support and court support. More information is available on their websites.

Paul Marini and Sarah Coffey are two of the founding members of the Midnight Special Law Collective. Phaedra Travis has been working with MSLC since February of 2000. Phaedra is a bisexual woman from the South who believes world revolution is the only way to save the planet. Paul is a musician and studies martial arts, and Sarah is a massage therapist headed for law school.



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 www.tao.ca/~nycplc
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 (416) 925-6939; www.ocap.ca/dispatch.cgi/legal
 Quebec Legal Collective,
 (418) 264-7873; www.quebeclegal.org
 R2K Legal,
 (215) 925-6791; www.r2kphilly.org

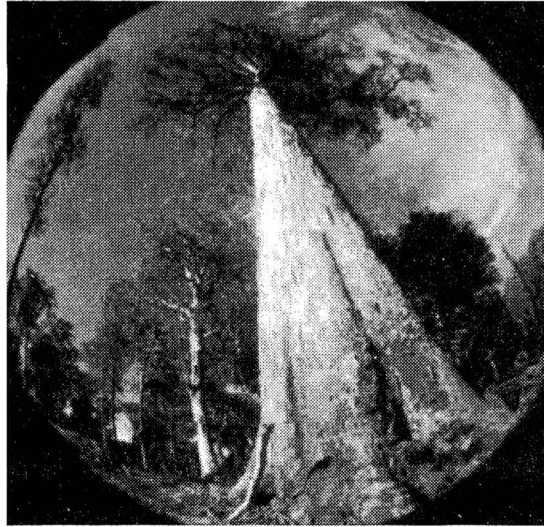
Australia's Longest-running Forest Blockade Busted

BY GECO

The Goongera Environmental Centre (GECO) is a political and education collective working for the protection of the remaining old-growth forests in East Gippsland, Victoria, Australia. This is achieved by—networking with other environment groups, endangered species surveying, monitoring of logging operations and nonviolent direct action. The most important GECO action camp was Goolengook fort, Australia's longest-running forest blockade.

On March 5, one week after the sustainable yield figures for East Gippsland were released, Goolengook fort was busted. The fort had been a stronghold for the protection of old-growth forests during the last five years. The Department of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) and 40 police entered the fort before dawn. While one person scurried up a treesit and another locked on to a dragon (metal sleeve in the ground) at the front of the blockade, the fort was nevertheless destroyed.

An immediate exclusion zone was enforced, and gates were erected on Goolengook Road. Originally, the protesters were informed that the exclusion zones were 150 meters from the site and 300 meters from any machinery, however, within the weeks that followed, the exclusion zones expanded to incorporate most of the forest. The local police, Force Response



A threatened ancient eucalyptus

photo by Tony Quill

Unit and NRE maintain a 24-hour presence, preventing any unauthorized persons from entering the state forest, including mainstream media and aboriginal elders.

On the second day after the bust, two people locked down—one to the bridge crossing Goolengook River and the other to a culvert on the road. The culvert lockdown took police six hours to remove. One tactic of removal was to flick bull ants down the culvert. There was only one report of a police officer being bitten.

Fifty people gathered at the Puggaree and Goolengook Road fort, for "family day" on March 10. Aboriginal elders, concerned residents of surrounding areas and protesters approached the gate, where a formidable incident occurred. The NRE

officer in charge physically assaulted a documentary film producer.

The police and NRE also used heavy-handed techniques to remove activists from treesits and lockdowns including the use of pressure points, starvation and dehydration. The NRE tried to impose a fire ban at Goolengook, even though there was no fire ban in place for the East Gippsland area, and they have undertaken the position of parking inspectors, distributing parking tickets for cars parked on the wrong side of the road. The public's right to protest and scrutinize the operation is being ignored as exclusion

zones extend and arrests accumulate, with more than 70 thus far. However, the destruction of the fort and erection of exclusion zones has not stopped those that care for this ancient Gondwanic forest.

People from all around Australia have converged to aid its rescue. "Despite an unprecedented and heavy-handed response from the government, we are determined to halt the destruction of this last remaining area of unprotected old-growth forest," said GECO's Fiona York.

Activists can help by making donations of money or equipment. For more information, contact GECO, RSD Bonang Rd, Goongrah, Victoria, Australia 3888; (03) 51540156; (03) 51540157 (fax); www.geco.org.au.

The Feral Culture of Goolengook, Australia

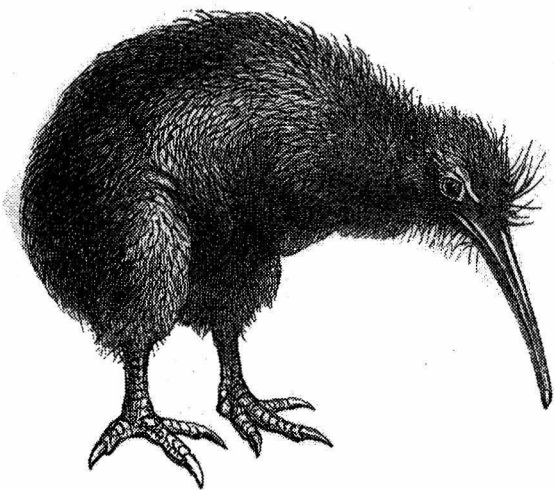
BY GRAHAM ST. JOHN AND ATOM FISH

Many of the activists at Goolengook can be characterized, in their own language, as "feral." Definitively "returning to the wild" from more "domesticated" circumstances, feral people are intimately connected to the history and practice of radical ecology in Australia. They have a deep attachment to threatened native biota and indigenes, are inspired by the Pagan principles of deep ecology, have personal and prescriptive anti-consumeristic attitudes and defend organic ecologies.

The feral people have appeared at the crossroads of several trajectories: hippie, punk and anarchistic youth cultures, the emergence of a nomadic squatting/activist movement and the valorization of aboriginality. Ferality can be seen as an authentic condition of evoking disorder, unpredictability and wildness. Permissive and autonomous, the Goolengook fort has been a liberated space where ferality could be performed via direct activism and dutiful eco-spiritual commitment. In their methods of defending "the rights of nature," Earth First! has influenced this "Earth volunteer army" as the "ferals" too are the radical offspring of the ecological conservation movement.

The non-commodified spectacular/activist subculture at Goolengook, made it its goal to celebrate and defend natural and cultural heritage. For these reasons the Australian ferals are close relatives of Earth First!

Graham St. John, graham@wild.net.au, is a cultural anthropologist based in Melbourne, Australia. His research speciality is contemporary youth cultures, especially direct activist cultures possessing environmental sensibilities.



Old Growth Logging Ends on New Zealand Public Lands

"This is a great day for the forests and a wonderful victory for nonviolent direct action," said Native Forest Action Spokesperson Peter Russell about the announcement to end old growth logging on public lands in New Zealand. The 30-year campaign was a long and bitter struggle, that witnessed many activists arrested and injured. A variety of tactics—from treesits to legal work—were used to champion this victory for native forests.

Last year, New Zealand's Labor government introduced hard-won legislation that ended logging of publicly owned temperate rainforests. In words unfamiliar to US politicians, Pete Hodgson, the minister responsible for timberlands, told parliament that, "These lowland forests are considered by many New Zealanders to be a unique and significant part of our natural heritage, too valuable for logging of any sort to continue."

On April 1, all 130,000 hectares of native forest held by the state-owned logging company Timberlands West Coast were transferred to the Department of Conservation. Several national parks and reserves were extended and two new conservation parks are being created. "We urge you to take this example from the South Pacific to heart and continue struggling for a complete end to logging of remnant old-growth forests, the world over," wrote Garrick Martin from Native Forest Action to forest activists everywhere.

The West Coast region now has more than 85 percent of its land protected as a public preserve. A huge volume of timber is milled in the area, but almost all of it is from plantation sources. There is a very small cut of native timber from "sustainable" operations on private land. The 150-year-old logging of West Coast forests has been a classic example of the extractive industry—no native forest of any commercial significance has been replanted.

In November 2000, the New Zealand Labor Party was elected to office on a platform of canceling the temperate beech rainforest logging proposed by Timberlands and ending its logging of the rimu forests. The Labor Party's tough policy followed revelations last year that Timberlands had hired the New Zealand branch of Shandwick, an international public relations company, Shandwick, to run a secret campaign to gain support for an expansion of logging. Leaked documents revealed that part of the campaign involved trying to influence the Labor Party's policy as well as seeking to "neutralize likely opposition" from conservation groups. In one of its first acts, the government announced the end of the beech scheme proposal. In reaction, Timberlands' supporters waged a vigorous campaign, including a large public rally, in support of rimu forest logging.

Since last year, the government has allowed logging of 500-

year-old rimu trees to continue in the ecologically important Orikaka forest, home to threatened species including the great spotted kiwi. Hodgson explained, "The decision would achieve a significant conservation gain while minimizing the risk of job losses. Allowing it to

These lowland forests are considered by many New Zealanders to be a unique and significant part of our natural heritage, too valuable for logging of any sort to continue.

continue until 2007 would be too long from a conservation point of view. Ending it immediately would give the timber and furniture industries no time to adjust, putting jobs at risk. Our proposal balances those considerations. It would mean job losses need not occur."

Now the buffer period has ended, and Native Forest Action has confirmed that logging of old growth has stopped on public lands in New Zealand. Conservation Minister Sandra Lee said it was noteworthy that since the legislation passed "the sky didn't fall in on the West Coast" and that the economy was booming. Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society President Gerry McSweeney hailed the end of state-sponsored native logging as a "landmark for conservation. The last rimu log from public land on the West Coast has been milled. The rainforests may be locked up to the loggers, but since the end of felling in my area, the chains and padlocks have come down, and the forests are open once more to the public."

Tales from Faslane Peace Camp

Trashing the Tridents



BY CAT HEMLOCK

Faslane Peace Camp began in 1982 when a group of anti-nuclear protesters pitched camp on a small strip of land opposite the Gareloch in Dunbartonshire, Scotland. Their original intention was to stay for only two weeks. Yet, when they realized the enormity of their task, they decided that the peace camp would be an organizing base for direct action protests against the nuclear presence. The tents were replaced by caravans as they set about planning the first of what was to be a long series of nonviolent actions.

Opposite the Faslane Peace Camp, hidden behind an ugly razor-wire fence, is HMS Faslane—home to the UK's four V-class submarines fitted with Trident nuclear weapons. Each submarine can carry up to 16 missiles, each missile can carry up to eight warheads and each warhead is eight times more powerful than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima. If a missile is fired, the warheads are programmed to disperse while still in the air, so that they destroy as much land as possible. It doesn't take much to imagine what effect this could have on the land and people. I don't know much about Hiroshima, but I know enough to be haunted. I know deep in my soul that nothing like that should ever happen again, and we all need to do everything in our power to get rid of nuclear weapons.

When the peace camp was started, the hostility of the Cold War and the ever-increasing nuclear arsenals of the US, Russia and the UK made a lot of

people anxious about the possibility of an all-out nuclear war. In the '80s there were permanent protest sites all across Europe, today Faslane is the only site left.

Faslane Peace Camp was started as a protest against the Polaris subs, which were decommissioned and replaced with Trident systems. During the last



20 years, activists have come and gone, but what has kept the peace camp together through many crises (and cold, wet Scottish Winters) is a strong sense of community and mutual support. It's this sense of community that hooked me into moving up there after my first visit last Spring.

What also makes the peace camp so powerful is the spirit of resistance; it's

a space where people are living according to their beliefs, not accepting the status quo of the state. Violence is not permitted, sexism is not really an issue at the moment and all decisions are made by consensus. There is space for anyone interested in anti-nuclear activism who is willing to work hard as part of a community. It's not an easy life by any stretch of the imagination, but I learned and grew more in the five months I spent at the peace camp than in years of formal education. If we are really committed to creating a society free from violence, oppression and domination, we need to form communities free from all these things. This is what the peace camp is trying to achieve.

Being there was an important lesson in living closer to nature. You can't close your door and shut out the natural world; you have no choice but to work with it, instead of against it. I found this incredibly peaceful and healing on a deep level, even though it took a lot more energy.

There is a kind of beauty and power in living like that which I don't feel in the city.

Memories of being there crowd my head; all the times I spent around the firepit just enjoying being with friends, eating delicious food cooked on the slightly temperamental wood stove, sunbathing topless on the beach, walking up to the mill pond, the waterfall and Granny Oak—a gorgeous, wise and centuries-old tree.

There have been a host of actions at Faslane during the last year. In September, three women of the Feminist

ON THE FOUNDING OF FASLANE PEACE CAMP: "June 12, 1982, started off gray and miserable but ended up a lovely, warm, happy day. At 9:30 a.m., 14 of us set off in convoy for Faslane Submarine Base. We'd had all kinds of dire warnings from Dumbarton Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament that we'd be immediately arrested for sedition so our feelings were a mixture of apprehension and excitement. We arrived at the site we had chosen for the camp and started putting up tents and banners. By mid-day, we had the two tents up and the kettle on when along came our first encounter with the Ministry of Defense (MoD). They informed us that we were on MoD land and would have to move, but not to worry because they had found us another site. Down the road about 500 yards was the perfect place. There was a stream behind us and a tunnel which crossed over the busy main road. The land also belonged to Strathclyde Regional Council which had declared itself a nuclear-free zone. We moved the tents, re-erected the banners, lit a fire and set up camp. We sat around the fire singing peace songs and dreaming of a "brave new world," hoping that Faslane Peace Camp could help in any small way to stop the arms race."

Avengers sat on top of a truck in a nuclear weapons convoy. In October, four activists climbed onto the first floor ledge of the Ministry of Defense building in Glasgow and locked down the day after the bombing started in Afghanistan, with a banner asking: "What do the dead eat?"

There was also a banner drop from a crane in Glasgow with a message of "welfare not warfare" and an advertisement for "Okblok"—a mass action organized by Trident Ploughshares and the Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament that was held at Faslane in October to blockade the base for a day. Okblok itself was amazing, with nearly 800 activists coming from all around the UK and Europe to peacefully block-

ade Faslane and shut it down.

There were convoy blockades in November and March. People managed to get on, under and in front of the convoys and to cause considerable disruption to stop them for about half an hour each time. At the convoy blockade in March, one activist even managed to escape from the police van he was being held in and hide under one of the trucks.

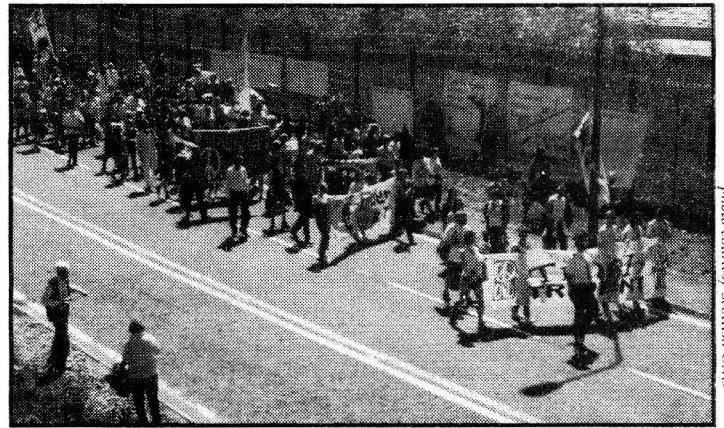


photo courtesy Scottish CND

Time to Trash the Tridents demonstration at Faslane

lar tales of protests and actions taken to trash the tridents.

All are welcome—including all past, future, current and potential peace campers—to come and celebrate 20 years of resistance against the nuclear death machine at an action camp the week of June 7-15. Plans have not been finalized yet, but there will be workshops, actions against the base and a birthday party.

The peace camp means a lot to me because it is unique and special, because it is a place of enormous energy and inspiration. It is where I learned how powerful I can be, how powerful we all can be if we work together in a community and challenge things like violence, sexism and oppression.

For more information, contact Faslane Peace Camp, Shandon, Helensburgh, Argyll, Scotland, G84 8NT; (0143) 682-0901; faslanepeacecamp@hotmail.com; www.faslanepeacecamp.org.

Cat Hemlock is an environmental activist and writer living in Cascadia.



photo courtesy Scottish CND

Halt! Peaceful protesters stop the nuclear weapons convoy

On February 11-13, we managed to cause a lot of general disruption and chaos. A more than 500-person demonstration was made festive by protesters dressed as characters from the Mad Hatter's tea party, while others sealed themselves inside a giant dragon marking the Chinese New Year. One protester climbed onto the North gate of the base and worked to dismantle the razor wire keeping it closed. During the three days, nearly 200 people were arrested at the blockades, mostly for breach of the peace.

The peace camp has a 20-year history full of simi-



Chewing Up a Fragile Land *in Utah's Redrock Wilderness*

photo by Norma Shewsbury

BY TERRY TEMPEST WILLIAMS

For many Americans, the Bush administration's energy plan, developed by Vice President Dick Cheney, is an abstraction at best, and at worst a secret. Here in the redrock desert of southern Utah, it is literally an Earth-shaking reality.

Oil and gas exploration is going on in the form of seismic tests—conducted with what are called thumper trucks—in sensitive wildlands adjacent to Arches and Canyonlands National Parks. Recently, with a group of friends all deeply concerned about the fate of one of America's most treasured landscapes, I witnessed the destructive power of the thumper trucks on the fragile desert.

Lines drawn on the map marked the physical corridors where four 50,000-pound trucks would crawl cross-country, tamping the desert for clues as to where oil might be found. As we set out to look for the trucks, our task was simplified by a helicopter flying overhead with a long cable carrying what appeared to be an enormous doughnut. It was a tire. We watched where it was dropped and hiked to the work site.

A thumper truck was stuck, tilted on its side, lodged precariously in the steep banks of a wash. Its rear left tire, as tall as the man staring at it, was not only flat but torn off its axle by an unseen boulder. Parked nearby was a white truck—the “smart box” where WesternGeco, the company contracted to do this preliminary work, records and compiles all the seismic information.

Each truck in the convoy lowered a steel plate onto the desert, clamped tight, applied some 64,000 pounds of pressure against the sand and then sent a jolt of seismic waves below to record density. The ground went into a seizure. When the steel plate lifted, the once-supple red sand had turned to concrete.

We had a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) map showing the territory leased by Eclipse Exploration of Denver—23,000 acres elevated in priority for exploration and drilling under the Bush energy plan. We oriented ourselves from atop the sandstone cliffs above the Colorado River that overlook this pristine country of Entrada sandstone formations, pinyon and juniper forests and fragile alkaline desert. It is one of the proposed preserves in the Redrock Wilderness bill before Congress, which would protect these lands from new leases for oil drilling and exploration.

Three other thumper trucks were at work about half a mile ahead. Behind them was pulverized Earth: a 15-foot swath of beaten down and broken junipers, blackbrush, rabbitbrush, squawbush and cliffrose. The delicate desert crust that holds the red sand in place from wind and erosion, known as cryptobiotic soil, was obliterated.

In January, Jayne Belnap, a US Geological Survey expert on soil damage, submitted an official comment letter to the BLM about the fragility of desert crusts, warning that it could take from 50 to 300 years for the dry soil to recover from the damage incurred by heavy equipment.

Up close, the thumper trucks creeping across the desert, following a path of fluorescent pink ribbons, looked like gigantic insects, gnawing and clawing, articulating right and left as they balanced themselves across the rugged terrain. Fumes from hydraulic fluid stung our eyes, and the noise threatened to blow out human eardrums. The men in the trucks were reading newspapers as the operation proceeded, computerized and routine.

At the designated stops, each truck in the convoy lowered a steel plate onto the desert, clamped tight, applied some 64,000 pounds of pressure against the sand and then sent a jolt of seismic waves below to record density. The ground went into a seizure. Sand flew and smoke obscured the horizon where Skyline Arch and Sand Dune Arch—the Windows section of Arches National Park—stand. When the steel plate lifted, the once-supple red sand had turned to concrete.

The trucks moved forward, post to post, now scraping sandstone with the chains around their tires, heading straight for a spring where 100-year-old cottonwood trees provided a rare canopy of shade alongside a creek. We ran ahead, not believing the trucks would force a road into this fragile desert oasis, but they did, gunning the gas, breaking down stands of squawbush and willows and ripping right on through the cottonwood shoots. There was nothing we could do but watch. This was our country's new energy plan, translated into action.

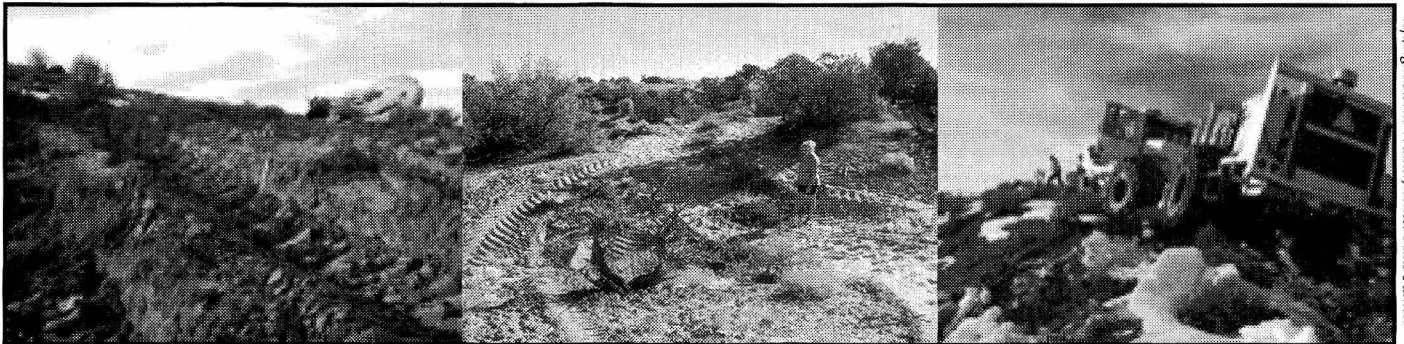
A manager from the BLM suddenly appeared, and I felt a flash of relief, thinking he had come to stop this sacrifice of wild country that might at best yield a tiny fraction of the supply of fuel this oil-hungry nation uses every year. He was perturbed, but not by the trucks plowing through the cottonwood wash. He had come to monitor us, the public, walking on public lands. The bureau had received a call, he told us, saying that we might be harassing the operation and putting the project at risk.

I should not have been surprised. I knew that a memorandum sent by the BLM to field offices on January 4, said that when an oil and gas parcel is leased for exploration and drilling, or when an application for permission to drill comes in the door, this work must be the number one priority.

We asked the land manager if he had the jurisdiction to redirect the thumper trucks from this riverbed to an already established seismic road to the south. "We've got the discretion to make them do that," he said. "But, in the end, it's all a trade-off. We've chosen to just accept the project as they give it to us." He paused. "You can see the pink ribbons on the trees," he said. "They've had it all staked out since September."

Reprinted from the New York Times.

Terry Tempest Williams is the author of Refuge and Red: Passion and Patience in the Desert.



Left: Kevin Walker; center: Mike Painter

The Seismic Tests of the Thumpers Interrupted

The thumper trucks conducting seismic tests in the Utah desert were interrupted in late February by the Department of the Interior's Board of Land Appeals. The trucks, which leave deep indentations in the desert crust, were crisscrossing a 36-square-mile section of roadless desert near Arches National Park.

"Without field glasses, you wouldn't even be able to see [the damage]," said Bill Stringer, an assistant field manager with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). According to the Southern Utah Wil-

derness Alliance (SUWA), that's not the point: the environmental damage is. SUWA says that the BLM hurried through an Environmental Assessment of the oil exploration project near Arches.

"If the Bush administration will drill [for oil] in these beautiful places, they will drill anywhere," said SUWA's Liz Thomas. SUWA wants to see the area designated as wilderness.

Last year, outside Canyonlands National Park, the hungry search for oil also involved using the 50,000-pound thumper trucks. With that project

finished and the Arches work halted at present, the BLM is eager to convince the appeals board that no real harm was being done and that the thumper trucks should continue.

The appeals board issued the stop work order until it can review the SUWA appeal of the project and the BLM's original Environmental Assessment.

For more information on how to help keep the thumper trucks out and stop oil drilling in Utah's remaining wilderness, contact SUWA, (801) 486-7639 x.10; margi@suwa.org; www.suwa.org.

KEEP THE ALLOTMENTS CLOSED

PHOENIX EF! SQUARES OFF WITH THE TONTO NATIONAL FOREST



photo courtesy Phoenix Earth First!

BY RAY LEINKUEHLER

In the northern most reaches of the Sonoran desert, the Tonto National Forest is an area of great beauty caught amongst multiple human abuses. The impacts of more than a century of trampling and grazing by domestic livestock have taken its toll on the Tonto, leaving visible scars in the form of eroded soils, degraded watersheds, ravaged riparian areas and declining wildlife populations. This area, comprised of a mosaic of desert, chaparral and pinion pine biomes, has been forced to endure the pressures of livestock grazing as a result of a powerful livestock lobby and the US Forest Service (USFS).

A brief look at the historical and current effects of grazing on the Tonto illustrates the transformation that this area has undergone since the arrival of cattle in southern and central Arizona. According to the accounts of some of the Tonto's earliest ranchers, in 1870, knee-high perennial grasses covered the arid grassland portions of the Tonto. Lush riparian vegetation and gallery forests lined the banks of streams, which seeped throughout the Tonto.

Between 1870 and 1890, livestock numbers in Arizona skyrocketed from 5,000 to one-and-a-half million and in 1893, there was a severe drought. By the time Forest ranger Fred Croxen reported on the history of livestock-grazing on the Tonto in the 1920s, the grasses were gone; many creeks and streams had dried up; and the riparian woodland forests had been cut down by ranchers for livestock forage, fuel and fence posts. The Tonto Forest has yet to return to its former glory.

The negative impact that grazing has had on the Tonto is well reflected in USFS documentation. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the 1985 Forest Plan showed that 18 out of 24 watersheds across the forest were in unsatisfactory condition, due in large

part to grazing. The EIS also attributed declining wildlife populations to competition between livestock and wildlife for forest vegetation. More recently, the USFS released a biological assessment which found that out of the 25 allotments studied, 19 had "unsatisfactory" soil conditions.

Livestock grazing is continuing to reduce the ecological health of the Tonto Forest. For those who care about the Earth and the Sonoran desert, the next question becomes: What is to be done about it?

A Time for Action

Drought is a powerful and natural part of arid ecosystems and biomes. However, drought combined with livestock grazing can have extreme ecological consequences. Beginning in 1996, the Tonto area fell under a drought, which in March, was still ongoing. In the absence of rainfall, cattle on the Tonto grazed desperately on what little forage was available. With no forage left to sustain grazing, the USFS was forced to close 42 out of 84 allotments to livestock grazing.

For the first time in decades, more than 50 percent of the Tonto is free of the bovine menace. The drought closure has provided activists with an opportunity to make sure it stays closed. It is the position of the Earth First! collective in Phoenix that the allotments must stay closed forever.

In April 2001, when we discovered that half the forest was closed to grazing, Phoenix EF! began gathering information to make a clear argument against grazing on the Tonto Forest. On June 6, 2001, we presented Forest Supervisor Karl Siderits with a list of demands that included keeping the 42 allotments closed.

We organized the community against grazing on the Tonto. We spread the Tonto's message via workshops, banner drops and street theater. Then in August, the

USFS announced that the drought had receded. In keeping with the drought policy, the USFS expressed its intention to restock the 42 allotments. This increased the stakes for action, and just as Phoenix EF! was planning out a year-long campaign strategy, more distressing information came to light.

The USFS had promised to inform us of any new developments in the drought closure. Somehow, they forgot this promise and reopened the Pinto Creek allotment right under our noses. This was disheartening news, for Pinto Creek had made a magnificent come-back from livestock grazing abuses, with lush riparian vegetation lining its banks.

As Winter settled across the Sonoran desert, morale in our band of desert dwellers was as low as the evening temperature, with the cattle-free vision of the Tonto wavering. We decided that the only way to keep the allotments closed was to begin organizing a direct action campaign against the USFS.

On February 20, four members of Phoenix EF! locked down in the Tonto's main office in Phoenix. Entering the lobby, it is only 20 feet from the door to the front desk. We locked down in a line, with one pipe right in the doorway to prevent people from coming in.

The lockdown couldn't have gone better. We spent weeks practicing the lockdown scenario, slyly taking measurements of the USFS lobby and hopping out of our truck and into the quarter-inch thick steel pipes. The practice paid off. The USFS, which had grown accustomed to our demonstrations outside the main office, was not prepared for this kind of action. The blank expressions of innocent confusion upon their faces, made the whole action worthwhile.

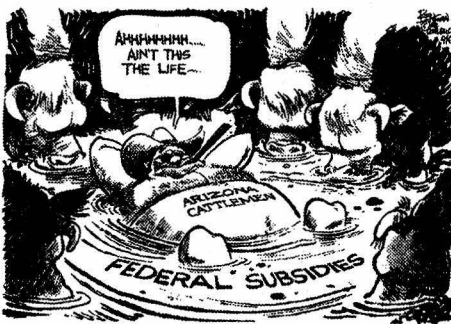
It was not long before the thugs from the Phoenix Police Department came on the scene. One officer

proudly strode in and announced not to worry, that he had dealt with Earth First!ers in Idaho and would break our arms or swab our eyes with pepper spray if that was what it would take to get us out of the lobby. Not wanting the kind of publicity that goes along with broken-armed and burning-eyed peaceful protesters, the USFS quickly informed the police there was no need for those tactics.

We were able to close the building down. The objective of the action was to draw media attention to the drought closure, which we succeeded in doing. After two hours, the USFS told us that if we unlocked on our own, they would not press charges. Having accomplished what we came for, we agreed and joined the rest of the protest with no arrests.

Despite the action's success, it is clear that one lockdown is not going to stop the Tonto from reopening the 41 remaining allotments. Phoenix EF! will continue to organize and take direct action. If the Tonto is to remain free of the abuses of livestock grazing, it will take the support and involvement of the entire community of activists in Phoenix and throughout Arizona. To stop the decline of biodiversity throughout the desert, grasslands and forest, as a result of livestock grazing and private interests, now is the time to take action to keep the drought closure.

For more information, contact Phoenix EF!, POB 5564, Phoenix, AZ 85010; phoenixef@excite.com.



The impacts of more than a century of trampling and grazing by domestic livestock have taken its toll on the Tonto, leaving visible scars in the form of eroded soils, degraded watersheds, ravaged riparian areas and declining wildlife populations.

BARE BONES

Bush Shifts Burdens of Toxic Cleanups

The Superfund program was created in 1980 under the slogan "the polluter pays." Yet for years, the reserves in the Superfund bank account have continued to dwindle.

The Bush administration decided to designate fewer sites for restoration and to shift the majority of the costs of toxic site cleanup from industry to taxpayers.

The trust fund has been used to clean up nearly 30 percent of more than 1,500 sites on the Environmental Protection Agency's national priority list. The fund has used corporate taxes to clean up contamination at sites where the responsible party could not pay or be identified, as well for emergency actions.

In 1995, Congress let the corporate taxes expire under pressure from the chemical and oil industries. The trust fund dwindled from nearly four billion dollars in 1996 to a projected \$28 million next year. President Bush did not reauthorize the taxes last year in the budget, and the proposed budget for 2003 is no different.

Technophobes May be Right

Those who dispute the claim of universal benefits from communications technologies are often called technophobes, but evidence shows that they may be right, says a researcher at Pennsylvania State University. The prevailing view that the more technology we have, the better off we are, just isn't borne out by the evidence, says Dr. Steven Sawyer.

In a recent issue of the *Journal of the American Society for Information Sciences and Technology*, Sawyer and fellow researchers found three common findings: information and communication technology (ICT) use leads to multiple and sometimes paradoxical effects; ICT use shapes thought and action in ways that benefit some groups more than others and these differential effects often have moral and ethical consequences; and a reciprocal relationship exists between ICT design, implementation, use and the context in which they occur.

The Fight to Protect *the Last Wild Buffalo*

February and March were intense months for the last wild buffalo in the US and the activists protecting them. Agents from the Montana Department of Livestock (DOL), US Forest Service, National Park Service and the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department have continued their assault against the buffalo who wander outside of Yellowstone National Park in search of food during the Winter and Spring.

In late February, the DOL slaughtered the first pregnant bison of the year. Nine yearlings and pregnant females were captured, and five were killed. According to activists present, no attempt was made to move the bison back into the park. As of the first week of March, 39 buffalo had been killed. In response to the government's continued genocidal campaign against the buffalo, activists carried out a number of actions to save the lives of the buffalo and to draw attention to their plight.

Lockdown at the Montana DOL

On March 4, four women locked themselves together in the office of the DOL's Executive Director Marc Bridges in a protest against the slaughter of wild buffalo. Abbi Dunlap, Emily Kodama, Julia Piaskowski and Jennifer Schneider called for a moratorium on the slaughter of the last wild buffalo. They demanded that the DOL end its role in buffalo management because of its failure to uphold basic environmental protection standards.

"These are the last wild buffalo in the US and if the government won't do its duty to protect [them], then I believe we have a moral obligation to act on their behalf," wrote Kodama in a statement.

"I have tried writing and talking with the DOL about the bison/brucellosis issue. They don't care what I have to say," Piaskowski explained. "They have lied to me and disregarded my concerns. All I have left is my body and my convictions, and I feel deeply compelled to take nonviolent action to prevent the bison slaughter. My hope is that by locking my body in the DOL's headquarters, they can no longer ignore their shameful role in slaughtering bison."

The women occupied the office for an hour before seven police officers carried them—still connected—out of the building and transported them to the county jail.

Capture Facility Blockaded

A man, identifying himself only as "Coyote," blocked Forest Service Road 610 to the Horse Butte bison capture facility on March 6, as state and federal officials were preparing to haze and capture bison. Coyote effectively closed the gate at the head of the road by locking his arms into two 55-gallon barrels on either side of the gate. A large banner, stating "Bison Belong on National Forests," was unfurled near the blockade. Officers closed the area to the public and the media and prohibited anyone from viewing the blockade or from coming within 20 feet of the road.

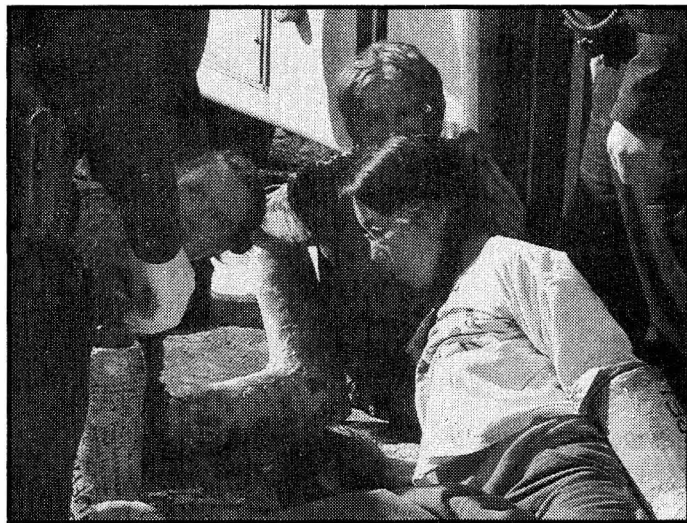


photo by Reverend Bushitt

Being loaded onto the bus after the DOL lockdown

As the blockade was being cleared and Coyote was arrested, agents began a hazing operation along the Madison River. The agents used snowmobiles to haze six bison that were grazing along the river about a mile outside of Yellowstone. Agents ran their snowmobiles through tributaries and side channels of the river as the bison attempted to elude them. At one point, a snowmobile became submerged in the main channel of the Madison while attempting to chase the bison.

The operation violated the Gallatin Forest Plan by using snowmobiles off designated trails along the Madison River. According to the forest plan's provisions for protecting fish and game, "Motorized vehicle use will not be permitted during the period December 1 through May 1, except on designated routes." Volunteers from the Buffalo Field Campaign (BFC) have repeatedly videotaped such violations.

National forest land surrounding Yellowstone was originally set aside as wildlife habitat, and the Horse Butte peninsula makes a perfect winter range for bison. The Horse Butte peninsula is also important winter habitat for many other species, including elk, moose, bald eagles, wolves and trumpeter swans. Bison management activities are potentially life threatening to wildlife by disturbing this habitat.

Peace Marchers Arrested

While a DOL helicopter chased bison toward the Horse Butte capture facility on March 13, 11 people participated in a peaceful march following the route along the Madison River. The helicopter was accompanied on the ground by seven state and federal agents on snowmobiles in an attempt to capture three animals considered "low-risk" for transmitting brucellosis. One bull was captured, while two remained on the river after evading the snowmobiles and helicopter. No attempt was made to first try to haze the bison back into the park as is required by the Yellowstone Bison Management Plan.

continued on page 56

Kicking the KKK Out of Katúah

BY CHRIS IRWIN

John Stokes, a disc jockey in Kalispell, Montana, is drawing parallels between the rise of the nazis of Hitler's Third Reich and what he calls the environmental "Fourth Reich."

He has held green swastika burning parties in the parking lot of his radio station and has publicized the names of local businesses that have contributed to an environmental group. Several of these businesses have found green swastikas painted on their walls. Meanwhile a skinhead organizer, Tom Metzger, claims to have watched the environmental and skinhead movements come together.

In January, Katúah Earth First! was instrumental in organizing against a Ku Klux Klan (KKK) and Nazi rally in East Tennessee (Appalachia). Given that we have recently interacted with the KKK and some of their Nazi counterparts, I thought it might be appropriate to report our activities on Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday in the face of the accusations of Nazi and skinhead affiliations.

We discovered the KKK's plans to march in Newport, Tennessee, only 10 days in advance. The march was scheduled at the Cocke County Courthouse on January 19 to celebrate the birthday of Confederate General Robert E. Lee and to protest the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. The KKK is an organization who for years has lynched, shot, blown up and terrorized entire ethnic communities in the South and across North America. They and their allies in the Aryan Nation openly preach violence and engage in terrorism. There is a distinction

between terrorism as acts of violence against humans versus sabotage (acts of destruction against equipment).

Katúah Earth First! has been active in anti-racist activities since our inception. We marched with Black Panther Lorenzo Irving at one of the first marches against the 200 African-American church and home burnings several years ago. Katúah Earth First! has deep links to Newport and Cocke County from our decade-long



Photo by S. Tononchi, IMC/Atlanta, atlanta.indymedia.org

struggle with Champion International's decaying 80-year-old pulp and paper mill, whose pollution has devastated Newport with cancer and death. The previous year, we fought the expansion of Highway 321, which destroyed highland wetlands in the Smoky Mountains National Park. I think it's a sign of success that in the Moonshine capital of the South where Junior Johnson was born and ran shine, Earth First! has more credibility and grassroots support than the KKK.

Confronting the KKK directly several years ago was effective in both Memphis and Asheville, so we were able to pursue our strategy without too much time wasted debating what we should do. We mobilized to confront them. We decided to control the noise at the rally, so we immediately asked for people to bring drums and megaphones. While we organized, the KKK made a bad tactical error. They burnt a cross in front of Newport Mayor Roland Dykes' house. News of the cross burning went worldwide, suddenly we began getting word that a lot more people were coming.

continued on page 58

BARE BONES

Climate Catastrophe May Be Imminent

"We live in a world that has become so desensitized by watching calamities unfold on global television that it takes something really spectacular even to get our attention," wrote Jeremy Rifkin in *The Guardian* on March 1.

A new report published by the National Academy of Sciences warns it is possible that the global warming trend predicted for the next 100 years could dramatically accelerate in just a few years. This would force a qualitative climatic regime which would possibly undermine ecosystems throughout the world.

Rifkin continued, "If the projections and warnings in this study turn out to be prophetic, no other catastrophic event will have had as damaging an impact on the future of the life of the planet."

White House Plans Condemned by Enviros

In 2001, the Bush administration rejected the Kyoto climate change treaty and promised that it would put forward its own proposal to diminish global warming. Depending entirely on voluntary compliance, the administration's plan, which was announced in mid-February, offers tax breaks to gain the cooperation of the nation's largest polluters. The policy also proposes to link economic growth to efforts to reduce greenhouse gases.

While serving as governor of Texas, George Bush supported a similar voluntary plan to reduce pollution statewide. The policy was a failure and was later thrown out by the Texas legislature.

In response, Greenpeace contends that the Bush proposal would actually increase greenhouse gas emissions, as much as 36 percent above the Kyoto treaty goals.

On the Need for an Eastern Forest Uprising

BY John Johnson

Eastern forests? What? You thought the East was full of cities, factories, suburbs, farms and sprawl. Wild forests? Self-willed nature? Where? Growing up on abandoned farm land, that's where. Flowing out of remote "hollers," drainages and watersheds. Under the pavement, waiting to grow back.

From Michigan to Maine, Arkansas to Alabama, in Tennessee and Ohio, Pennsylvania and North Carolina, the Eastern forests are alive. Even as second growth, they clean the air, filter the water and act as small evolutionary reserves. They want to recover. There are even small and isolated patches of Eastern old growth out there. Holding on. Calling our names. Bidding us to come visit, connect and act.

The forests of the eastern half of Turtle Island can recover if given a chance. However, an impressive array of greedheads stand in the way of Eastern forest recovery. In fact, these entities are actively destroying the struggling remnants of these forests. We have to mobilize to defend our forest homes!

Forest Ecology

It has been said that before whitey came to North America, a squirrel could travel from the East Coast to the Mississippi River without touching the ground. That's how immense the Eastern forests used to be. Although quite diminished from pre-invasion times, Eastern forests are still pulsing with diversity and life.

The East actually still contains an amazing

array of forest types ranging from the swamps, coastal forests and Long Leaf Pinelands of the Deep South, to the mixed deciduous forests and the beautiful oak hickory forests of the Ozarks in the Midwest, the northern hardwood forests of New England and the great boreal Northwoods that stretch from Maine to the Great Lakes.

Eastern forests play a vital part in allowing evolution to continue. They provide habitat for a wide variety of flora and fauna, including some very old species such as lichens, ferns and turtles. The salamander populations in the Blue Ridge and the aquatic life in the southeastern watersheds are some of the most diverse in North America.

I believe that humans can be integral and productive members of the community of life, but we are not fulfilling that role now. With nature as our measuring stick, our economic activity certainly seems out of balance. Nature allows competition mixed with cooperation to promote the diversity of life. Our economic system promotes total competition for the elimination of diversity and the promotion of profit. Greed versus need reigns supreme.

Connections

Eastern forest issues are intimately connected to the other pressing issues of the day. The chip, pulp, paper and engineered lumber mills that eat our forests are almost always located in oppressed communities (rural, urban, poor, of color, etc.) who suffer from the toxic effects. The landfills and waste incinerators where disposable forest products end up are almost always in oppressed communities. Many forest landowners are forced to cut timber just to pay taxes or send their children to college. They are entangled in the web of capitalism that makes everything a commodity.

As we have seen happen

with corporate globalization in other countries, workers in the forest products industry are paid the lowest wages possible while the stockholders and CEOs walk away with mega-profits. Contract workers are stuck in cycles of debt, dependence and high-speed logging. The mechanization of forestry and the export of raw logs, chips and pulp leave unemployment and fractured communities in their wake (see *EF!* February-March 2002).

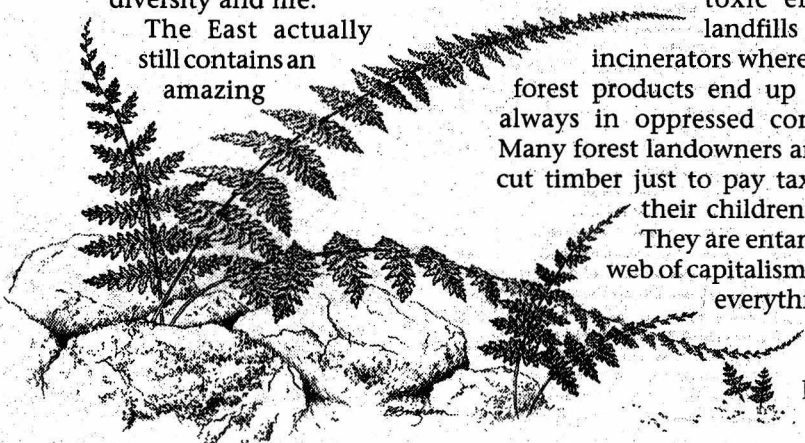
Water pollution from lumber mills pits downstream communities against their neighbors. Industry and the wise use movement spread fear, lies and hatred to ensure their deadly grip on our forests. Under the cover of patriotism and economics, they turn whole communities against concerned citizens who act on behalf of the forests.

Everyone in the East, whether they realize it or not, is affected by the destruction of the forests. The same corporations, banks and governments that oppress and exploit around the world are active in Eastern forest destruction.

Campaigns

The mainstream and radical ecology movements have long focused on pristine, untrammled wild old-growth ecosystems in the western US. But other ecosystems cry out for protection and restoration. On a national and international scale, the forests of eastern North America have been virtually ignored by the conservation movement. On a local and regional scale, the picture is quite different. Many grassroots formations exist. In recent years, groups associated with Heartwood and the Dogwood Alliance have successfully defended local forests and raised the level of awareness about how special Eastern forests are and the many threats that exist.

Direct action for Eastern forests has been on the rise. In the Midwest, Earth First!ers and allies have tried to stop destructive logging projects on small state forests. Katúah EF! has targeted the industries' chip mills with protests and blockades around the south. Activists have protested and interfered with Staples for its



continued role in marketing the forests of the southeast and the ancient forests of the Pacific Northwest.

It is time to up the ante. The forest destruction industry and the government are on the offensive. From slanted studies to thousand-acre clearcuts and outright lies, the industry is readying itself for the last big forest feeding frenzy. We must stand and oppose them. We need an Eastern forest uprising. We must hurt them where it counts.

We can and must divide the forest products industry. The sectors that wish to be sustainable and give up clearcutting, we can live with. The

We are looking for folks from the Northwoods (Great Lakes and New England), Central Appalachia, Southern Appalachia (Katúah!), the Great Coastal Swamps, the Piedmont, the Pine Barrens, the Allegheny Plateau, the Ozarks and the Midwest to join us in southern Indiana as we evolve nonviolent direct action techniques, share the latest skills in treesitting, road blockades, etc. and come up with new ideas unique to our ecosystems for forest defense.

This camp desperately needs money, food donations, action and camping gear donations, volunteers, action trainers, camp participants, musicians, etc.



paper and engineered lumber sectors must be destroyed. They must be forced out of the forest and into sustainable alternatives. We must stand in defiance of their destructive clearcuts, unjust laws and lying propaganda. We must expose their corrupt political backers. We need to build alliances with everyone affected by forest destruction—rural communities, loggers, farmers, urban nature lovers, the urban poor.

Action Camp

All those ready and willing to act on behalf of our forests are invited to attend the upcoming Eastern Forest Defense Action Camp. The camp will be held in southern Indiana on private land in the Hoosier National Forest from May 27-June 3.

For more information, contact National Forest Protection Alliance, POB 1891, Charlottesville, VA, 22903; (434) 971-5990; (434) 970-1806 (fax); scurry@firstva.com; www.forestadvocate.org; or the Katúah Earth First! River Faction, sandinolives@yahoo.com; or visit www.athenscommons.org/actioncamp.

For updates on the latest Eastern forest issues, visit www.heartwood.org; www.dogwoodalliance.org.

john johnson is a treehugging, wildflower worshipping, lichen lovin' metalhead who lives on the side of the Cumberland Plateau in southeast Tennessee in the middle of the mixed mesophytic forest. He is active with Katúah EF! and other lovers of nature, justice and good homebrew.

BARE BONES

EPA to Ease Coal Plant Rules

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is discouraging new government lawsuits against coal-fired power plants. One way to do this, according to EPA officials, is to offer incentives for voluntary reductions in toxic emissions.

Currently, older power plants can be sued for violations of the Clean Air Act unless they install costly anti-pollution equipment. Under new rules proposed by the Bush administration in March, the EPA would seek a reduction in emissions without the threat of legal action.

The energy industry has poured millions of dollars into Republican political campaigns to stop the lawsuits.

US Military in Violation of Migratory Bird Treaty Act

Judge Emmet Sullivan of the US District Court for the District of Columbia granted summary judgment in March in a lawsuit establishing that the Navy and Department of Defense are in violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act prohibits killing or harming migratory birds without a permit. The Navy admitted to killing birds during training exercises. It applied to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for a permit to continue and was declined in 1996. Nevertheless, the Department of Defense continued to bomb Farallon de Medinilla in the Northern Marianas illegally, claiming that the Migratory Bird Treaty Act doesn't apply to federal agencies.

The Navy uses the island for target practice, including bombing runs with 2,000-pound bombs and precision-guided munitions.

The district court ordered the parties to submit additional briefs concerning the scope of an injunction which would limit or halt training activities that kill protected birds. A hearing is scheduled for April 30.

Farallon de Medinilla is an island used by at least two-dozen species of birds, including at least a dozen species of migratory birds.

Rosebraugh Responds to Congressional Inquiry

"I decided to answer questions asking for my opinion because I am not ashamed of my personal political beliefs. As I have repeatedly stated, the US government is the most extreme terrorist organization in planetary history. I would not be honest with myself or the public if I did not acknowledge the desperate need for massive political and social change within this country," commented Craig Rosebraugh, former spokesperson for the Earth Liberation Front (ELF).

Rosebraugh traveled to Washington, DC, on February 12, to make an appearance before Congressional subcommittee hearings on "Eco-terrorism and Lawlessness on the National Forests" (see *EF!J* March-April 2002). That day, Rosebraugh relied heavily on protection under the Fifth Amendment. He remained relatively silent, so Congress turned around and sent him more than 50 follow-up questions.

Congress was eager to know more about Rosebraugh's personal beliefs and his relationship with the ELF, thus they instructed him to respond to the take-home test no later than March 15 or face charges of contempt.

Rosebraugh submitted his answers, again relying on several Constitutional rights—though this time choosing to



answer many of the questions. Below is a sampling of this interchange. Congress: Do you view violence against individuals, organizations and other enterprises that work and play on the national forests as a legitimate means of seeking public policy change, specifically with respect to management of the nation's forests?

CR: Yes.

Congress: You claim to have never had any role in an ELF-related attack, and yet you loudly proclaim the virtues of "direct action" against government and industry. If you believe so deeply in the ELF's cause, so much that you encourage and recruit others to partake in that cause, why aren't you willing to engage in the acts of environmentally motivated aggression yourself?

CR: I do not adopt any factual assumptions made in the preamble to your question. I would not be effective as a spokesperson if I were so involved.

Congress: Are you personally concerned that one day an ELF or Animal Liberation Front (ALF) perpetrated attack will wind up killing or wounding someone?

CR: No, I am more concerned with massive numbers of people dying at the hands of greedy capitalists if such actions are not taken.

Congress: As you know, several members of this Committee wrote a number of national environmental groups, urging them to publicly condemn eco-terrorism, the ELF and, by extension, you. As you also know, all of the organizations did. Does this lack of support among national environmental groups frustrate you? What would you say in response to their condemnations of the ELF and ALF?

CR: Are you asking what I know or telling me? Did you really ask them to condemn me or did your letter not even mention me? Are you sure all of the organizations did, or are you exaggerating? Did you select only groups which must rely on the good graces of Congress for "success?"

a) No.

b) Throughout the history of social movements globally, struggles have relied upon a variety of tactics, both legal and illegal in nature. I would hope that if those groups are actually concerned with stopping the destruction

continued on page 61

Make No Bones About It: Congress Looks at PETA

Ten years ago, the wise use movement, People for the USA, Putting People First and a group of hunters tried to shut down People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). In a time when grand juries were especially active and focusing on the animal rights movement, hunters petitioned the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to audit the organization and uncover illegal ties that would render PETA useless. The IRS did indeed audit PETA, yet the organization was given a clean bill of health. The hunters also wanted its membership and volunteer lists, but PETA fought them and won. During this process, PETA maintained its vigilance as a formidable presence in exposing animal exploitation and abuse.

This witch hunt is an old tactic that has been dragged out again in recent years.

Anti-environmentalists and Boise Cascade have attempted similar actions in trying to strip Rainforest Action Network of its nonprofit status (see *EF!J* August-September 2001). The process has been stalled for months, with the IRS considering what action to take.

And with the "eco-terrorism" hearings held by Congress in February, both Representatives and the wise use movement are using the opportunity to harass environmental and animal rights activists again, starting with PETA.

In written comments submitted

continued on page 60

Dear Scott McInnis...

The following letter was sent by Jeff "Free" Luers to Colorado Representative Scott McInnis regarding the "eco-terrorism" hearings held by Congress in February and the follow-up questions sent to Craig Rosebraugh that mentioned him.

Dear Mr. Scott McInnis,
I am writing in response to your recent statements and questions about me.

I do not appreciate your deliberate and malicious misrepresentations of my words to further your political goals.

Not only have you taken my words and formed new sentences with them attributing them to me, you have quoted me as saying things that I have never said.

As an elected Representative, I believe it is your legal and moral duty to be truthful when carrying out the political and legal activities of your office.

However, I do appreciate your concern about me "[wasting] away in prison for the next two plus decades."

You will be pleased to know that is not the case. I have stayed quite active in my college studies working toward my bachelor's degree.

Also, I have had a unique opportunity to discuss my situation with media outlets from around the globe who have shown a surprising interest in my sentence.

You must realize, Scott, that two years ago I was just a young man frustrated by the increasingly severe destruction of the environment.

I burned some tires on some trucks as a result of that frustration. Perhaps my actions were misguided. Perhaps they can be rationalized as the lesser of two evils. It is all perspective.

Had I been given a reasonable sentence I would have been forgotten by the public. I would have been one news

story. I would have served my sentence and finished my college degree. I would have been released, reunited with my family and enjoyed the rest of my life. Yes, I would have continued to be active in efforts to protect the environment, but I would have avoided activities that would lead me back to prison.

By giving me a sentence of 22 years, viewed by a majority of people as overly harsh and extreme, the system has put me in the spotlight, giving me international attention. I have

been made to be an example. However, that has only served to make me a political prisoner and for some perhaps even a martyr.

This is not a role I chose to fill. It was forced upon me.

It is oppression that creates revolutionaries, Scott, and it is injustice that ignites revolutions.

In defense of Mother Earth,

—JEFF LUERS

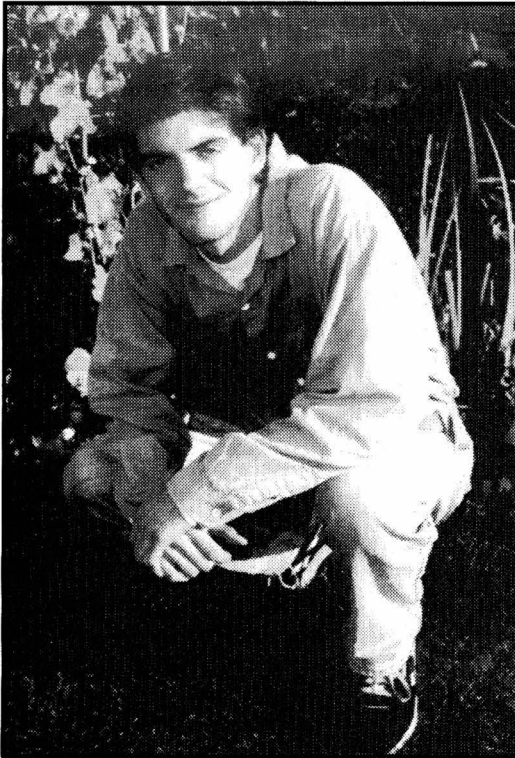


Photo by OSP Lifers' Club

It is oppression that creates revolutionaries, Scott, and it is injustice that ignites revolutions.

BARE BONES

Need to Review Security

The importance of all progressive movements practicing good security consciousness was highlighted this winter with two fishy office break ins.

The door to the offices shared by the Twin Cities Coalition to Defend Mumia Abu-Jamal and Communities United Against Police Brutality in Minnesota was pushed hard from the outside and the inside door frame was shattered on February 14. While nothing was stolen from the office, a box of books and CDs was riffled through. The computer was also turned on and the contents of the hard drive copied.

A few weeks earlier in Oakland, California, the Youth Empowerment Center's office was broken into, robbed and vandalized. Computers were taken as well as the hard drive containing backup copies of computer files and databases. The office was left in a shambles, though televisions, computer equipment, scanners and VCRs were left behind. Due to the nature of what was taken and what was left behind, it is suspected that this was no simple burglary.

Both incidents serve as a wake-up call to all progressive movements to safeguard information and to work to create a culture of security.

Bush's Heavy Spending

President Bush proposed an unprecedented increase on spending for anti-terrorism efforts in his 2003 budget when he asked Congress to grant federal police millions of dollars for surveillance, information sharing and computer upgrades.

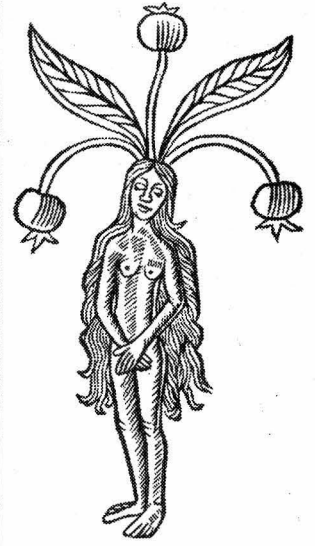
The FBI would receive more than \$60 million to support "surveillance capabilities to collect evidence and intelligence," said a Department of Justice statement on February 4.

To handle the expected increase in wiretaps, the Department of Justice would get a boost. The budget anticipates hiring another 10 wiretap-specialist attorneys at a cost of two million dollars.

To cover these and other budget increases, Bush proposes cutting highway spending and environmental projects.

The Archaic Revival:

Novelty, Shamanism, *Communitas*



BY ATOM FISH

Earth is a conscious, novelty-synthesizing organism. On the “non-living,” molecular, species and cultural levels, the advantageously novel originates out of homogeneity, tradition, habit and “law.” According to post-Newtonian physicists, all thriving systems are spontaneously adaptive and “open” to change. Jeremy Campbell writes that open systems move “away from the simple, uniform, random, and toward the genuinely new, the endlessly complex products of nature and mind.”

In cultures, novelty results in paradigm shifts and revolutions. Within every generation, revolutionaries, artists and explorers appropriated the new, “hip” and modern. They planted *memes*—idea-seeds—that grew in sterile ground. In state-level societies novel “cells,” such as the Situationist and Marxist “communes,” transformed societies through “ontological anarchy.” To guilelessly take direct action against abiotic or obscene institutions is novelty profoundly asserting itself.

Earth First! is not new, “hip” or modern. On the contrary, Earth First! is nostalgic. In the minds of many EF!ers, technology, linked with ever-evolving “progress,” is responsible for the planetary crises. EF!ers refute the infantile obsessions of Madison Avenue, eschew the sloganeering of “pop” media and despise the product of these mechanisms, the opulent urbanite. Rejecting the seduction of the spectacle evicts one from over-consumerism. However, the refutation of novelty in any form may become a dialectically insular practice leading to homeostasis—a literally “sticky” place to be for a movement that idealizes natural systems and needs to adapt its tactics and philosophies to a changing world.

What ethnobotanist Terrence McKenna called the Archaic Revival is a process of “reawakening the traditional attitudes toward nature,” the return of the “much ballyhooed Gaia and the emergence of vegetable mind.” In the Archaic Revival, the plant is taken as the organizational model for society. Doing as the plant does, our society

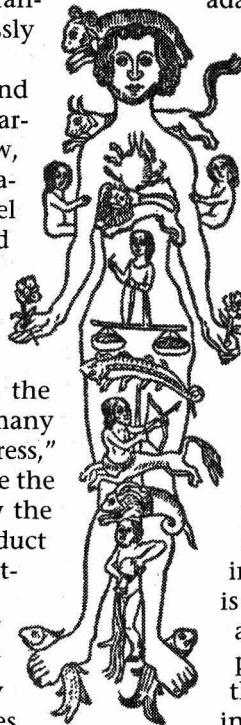
acquires these traits: the feminization of culture, connectedness and symbiosis, the detoxification of the natural world, recycling, photovoltaic power, a global atmosphere-based energy economy and the preservation of biological diversity. Conversely, mimicking biotic systems would also mean accepting the patterning of nanotechnology after microbiology and genetic engineering after evolutionary principles. It would mean following successfully adaptive species in the exploitation of all resources and the use of all technologies.

It is evident in the lifestyles and claims of many EF!ers that a return to the pre-industrial existence—away from the three enemies of the people: monogamy, monotony and monotheism—would be ideal. Why do we feel that in the past there exist keys to solving present problems? It may be that we remember the egalitarian liberties of the Archaic accessed through shamanic ordeals stored in the “memory” of “junk” DNA.

There are two facets of the Archaic Revival—shamanism and *communitas*—that can be of use in modeling deep ecological awareness, activism and post-industrial utopia.

In most gathering and hunting cultures there is an individual whose responsibility it is to engage the mystery that exists outside of culture in the dimension from which novelty arises. She is the shaman, the master of chaos. It is her job, like a full moon on a ritual night, to illuminate the present and future of the tribe. As the guide through the spirit worlds, the shaman ventures into the humid and musky womb of Nature.

Many of the mind-states the shaman utilizes in her work require austerities that in spirit are not far removed from treesits, veganism, lockdowns, street theatrics and hunger strikes. In her altered states of consciousness, the shaman must be ever-present, inventive, spontaneous. She is attuned to the call of novelty as it originates deep in the forest vale or in the “primitive” recesses of her DNA memory. She provokes with revolutionary commandments:



droughts end, lost items are returned, plants are prescribed and animals are made taboo, omens are "read," despots are forced out of the village. A shaman's life is a constant direct action.

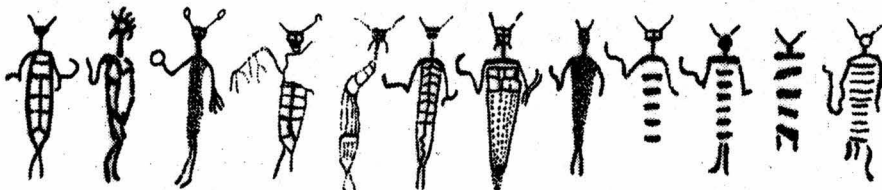
Communitas is a term used by anthropologist Victor Turner to refer to an aboriginal community bound by libertine qualities. *Communitas* are characterized by equality, anonymity, absence of property/status/wealth, minimization of gender distinctions, disregard for personal appearance, sacredness, continuous reference to mystical powers and foolishness. Similarly, poetic terrorist Hakim Bey's "temporary autonomous zone" is a "mini-society living consciously outside the law" epitomized by "worker-owned corporations, Zerowork enclaves and anarchist liberated zones." The socialist Herbert Marcuse said that revolutionary subcultures are "nuclei, cells, laboratories for testing autonomous, non-alienated relationships."

Present day shamanism and *communitas* must exist in post-Microsoft, globally monopolized, genetically altered, kitsch-saturated, nuclear, metal and chemical modernity. Nobel Prize-winning chemist Ilya Prigogine believes that Nature is cognizant and that it makes choices. Civilization with its anti-Eros, structured indifference and defiance of Nature has evolved from a conscious Earth. Culture is a natural system, but is civilization's technological novelty innovative or deviant? Civilization may exhibit the fate of social structures that are devoid of Archaic Revivalism, shamanic adventures and *communitas*. One thing is certain, revolutionaries must make their stand in the middle of the city street and on the logging road, as well as in their minds and praxis, as they have for millennia.

A revolutionary *communitas* has the potential to expand, recolonize and nurture the neglected geographies of culture, environment and self. Unfortunately, this is never the case for very long. Rigid and calcified, the once loose organization becomes an institution, incapable of moving forward being the absolute "bearer of universal human truths." Similarly, EF!ers are stoic and traditional in their tactics and philosophy, yet they also show signs of the Archaic Revival: action camps and information communities look like *communitas* and spiritual worldviews mirror anima-shamanism.

Being open to novelty one gains access to new tactics, comedies, contortions and theories. Life becomes a series of spontaneous synchronicities or as Marcuse believes, a "perpetual revolution... not toward ever more production, not toward Heaven or Paradise, but toward an ever more peaceful, joyful, *struggle*." Personal "perpetual revolution," instigated through shamanic ordeal, automatically leads to the formation of *communitas* that cross-pollinate and are (w)holy encompassing.

To avoid the death of the artifact in a rotten museum, it may be advantageous, or at worst fun, to divorce the past and revise our communities and ourselves as acting troupes, vagabond artists, rogue hobos, circles of magi and urban yogins on the cusp of modernity in all its plastic and Prozac. Karl Marx spoke of the "complete emancipation of all human senses" as a quality of his utopia. We manifest our most innate *Homo sapiens* qualities not by returning to a Quaker renaissance, but by going into "the unknown, the uncertain and the insecure" regions of consciousnesses and environments. Resurrect the court jester, Mudhead Katchina, mysterious emancipating stranger of Old West fiction, magical grand poobah and Shamaness! With them we can fuse our movement to the twisting and turning, ever-revolving, language of the Earth.



Atom Fish is a (K)nowist, symbolic archaeologist, cognitive libertarian, multimedia assassin and founding raw bird of the Free-Range Fellowship. He hopes to grow rich by selling his subcultural capital in the corporate production of teen trends.

BARE BONES

Water for Pure Profit

Three Michigan tribes are suing Governor John Engler and Great Spring Waters of America, a subsidiary of the Perrier Group. Filed in federal court in late February by the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, the lawsuit is yet another citizen effort to defeat a proposed corporate plan to sell Michigan's water for private profit.

The tribes are concerned that the withdrawal of the proposed minimum of 210,000 million gallons per year will have adverse effects on the surrounding ecosystem and the Great Lakes in general—which already suffer from low water levels. (see *EF!* February-March 2002).

The water would be bottled at a nearby plant, and for the most part, shipped out of the Great Lakes basin, never to return.

The federal Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) is intended to protect the Great Lakes basin for the benefit of the public by requiring the governor of each Great Lakes state to approve any diversion or export of water from the basin. Engler is the only governor to have approved the Perrier plan. The three tribes are asking the federal court to enforce the WRDA, which Engler claims does not apply in this case.

Perrier stands to make nearly two million dollars a day on Michigan's water at a time when the cost of bottled water has surpassed the cost of gasoline. Profits are high since the "raw material" is free, resulting in low production costs of approximately six to 11 cents per gallon.

This is a precedent-setting battle in Michigan. World Trade Organization rules and several provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement ensure "non-discrimination" among business interests. The "export and diversion" of water could open the flood gates for the sale of Great Lakes water by even more corporations.

The Wilderness of Mind

BY SATYAVAYU

This article is the sharing of a vision—the inter-relationship of forest activism and the forest yogic tradition in the US. As both a native forest activist and meditation student for many years, I have always felt that the inspiration for both come from the same root. It was my love for the wilderness that led to my first insights into spiritual practice.

After returning to the US from practicing in mountain hermitages and Asian monasteries, I visited a number of treesits and was struck by the spirit of dedication to simplicity that many activists embodied. It seemed fertile ground for a growing spiritual movement. For seasoned meditation students, an opportunity to simplify in the woods and to throw one's body and mind into helpful activity is necessary to keep practice fresh, alive and meaningful. Many activists believe the off-balance culture we find ourselves in, with its oppressive power dynamics, is perpetuated through fear, aversion and greed in our own hearts and minds. Meditation practice offers a way to help dismantle these patterns in ourselves.

Yogic meditation practices began to develop in India at a time of great social transformation. Original tribal communities were being absorbed by a growing mass society based on hierarchical class distinctions and institutional Brahmanic religious authority. A rising merchant class pulled attention toward material gain and away from community and nature-based values. At the same time, enormous agricultural and urban expansion through mass deforestation was transforming the landscape. A growing sense of disillusionment and alienation led many spiritually

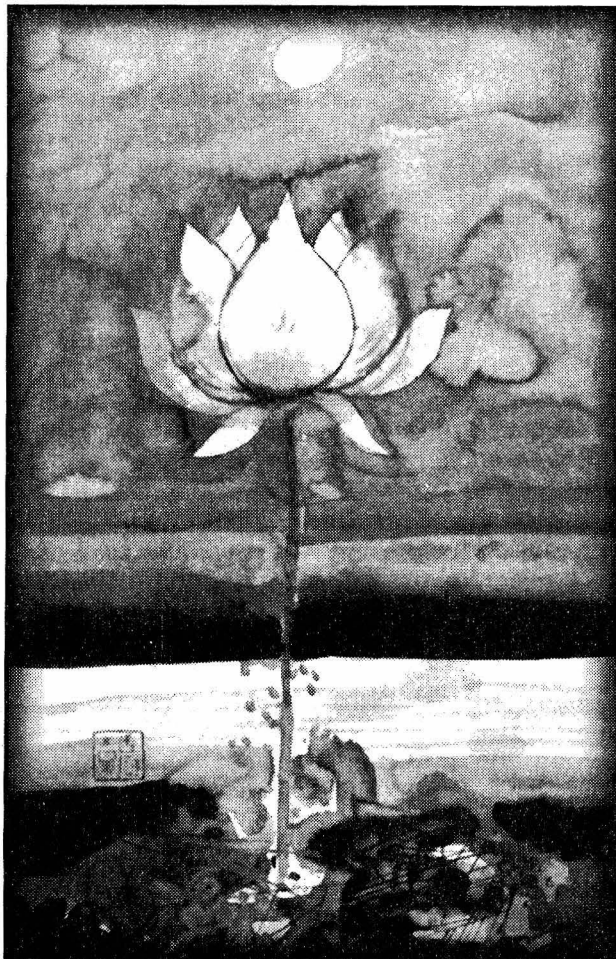
minded seekers to enter the wilderness in search of a new sense of meaning. This was the birth of the forest yogic tradition—a movement of social renegades living in the wilds in intentional simplicity and expressing themselves through various spiritual arts (yoga here refers to any meditation-oriented practices, not just the popular physical postures of hatha yoga).

In the past 30 years, yogic meditation practices have grown in popularity throughout the West. However, it

into the comfortable, often luxurious, environments of the middle class in the US, much of the power and effectiveness of these traditions has been lost. The elements of simplicity, renunciation and connection to the natural world that are essential components of most meditation training are largely absent from the contemporary meditation center in the US. A new movement of forest-dwelling yogic practitioners could help bring back the full richness of the radical alternative lifestyle that the original forest yogic tradition presented.

In a city or other human-designed environment, we are constantly surrounded by the visible manifestations of human thought. As Homeless Kodo, a Zen master, once said, "Civilization and culture are nothing but the collective elaboration of illusory desires." In wilderness all of this is stripped away. To directly comprehend a wild landscape whose creation and purpose cannot be fathomed by conceptual understanding induces a letting-go of thought and a return to our original mind. This is the experience of discovering the nature of our own awareness, which is beyond the reach of conceptual understanding. It is inherently beautiful, joyful and complete, and it is not apart from the rocks, trees and sky that fill our senses.

Now that the foundation of contemplative practice has been planted in Western soil, the time is right for the introduction of some form of forest practice. For the health of our society and environment, a network of forest-dwelling spiritual practitioners dedicated to simplicity and stewardship of wild nature would add a vital new element to the movement for sustainability and help counter rampant overconsumption.



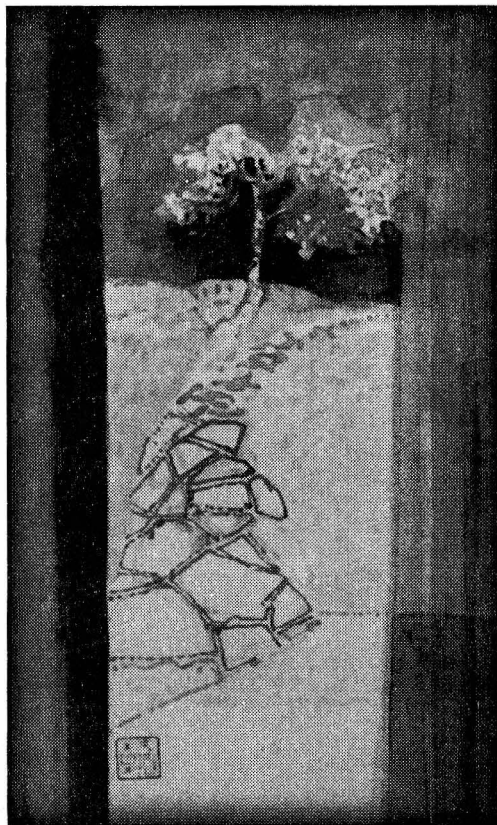
has been removed from its original context—a lifestyle of dwelling in the wilderness. Most of the founders of contemplative spiritual traditions lived and practiced in the wilds of the forest, mountain or desert—most notably the Buddha. By moving these spiritual paths

There are many varieties of forest renunciate traditions that can be explored. Historically, there are examples of both solitary hermits and small, loose communities of yogins living together or in nearby hermitages. This community model seems most appropriate for the modern West since communal centers could serve to spread education and guidance. Teachers and mentors could reside in forest communities and could add to the meditation teaching given in larger centers. Also, learning how to relate in a community with compassion and care is necessary for many of us who grew up in isolated nuclear families. Finally, any contemporary forest yogic community must address the issues of rampant forest destruction.

During the last 20 or 30 years, one of the most well-known forest meditation traditions, that of Thailand, has been virtually obliterated, largely due to wholesale forest destruction throughout the country. If there are no forests, we can have no forest yogic tradition, and we will lose the inspiration, teaching and support that wild nature gives us so freely. For those inspired by wilderness there is a natural response to try to protect it.

At first it might seem that forest activism and meditation practice are separate realms that might be difficult to mix. But from the perspective beyond conceptual discrimination, our spiritual practice includes all activities that arise naturally from the ground of naked awareness in response to the needs of the world around us. Our actions can be a direct flow of compassionate energy that can help dissolve separation while alleviating the suffering of other beings—forms of our own true self. This compassionate action is not a deliberate construction—it arises spontaneously when we are in touch with our wider self, and it expresses itself as our practice.

One way to manifest our spiritual practice as both personal and social would be to establish forest yogin communities at or near forest activist sites. This would enable members of meditation communities to channel the expression of spiritual practice toward helping preservation efforts. At the



A network of forest-dwelling spiritual practitioners dedicated to simplicity and stewardship of wild nature would add a vital new element to the movement for sustainability.

same time it would allow interested activists the opportunity to experience the potential that meditative practice has to reconnect us and to rekindle our burnt-out inspiration. By placing our forest yogin communities in threatened forests, we expand the dynamic of a meditation retreat into a voice for the sacredness of wilderness. In this way, we can express our gratitude for the gift of the wild—the clear mirror of our own primordial nature.

A forest meditation action community is currently being organized. If there is any interest in participating, questions or comments, contact Satyavayu, c/o No Abode Hermitage, (415) 381-5441.

Satyavayu is a forest activist and Zen priest living in Cascadia.

BARE BONES

Japan to Hunt Sei Whales

The World Conservation Union listed the sei whale as endangered because it faces a high risk of extinction in the wild.

Ignoring this warning, Japan announced on February 28 that it intends to expand its whaling operations to target 50 sei whales in the North Pacific between June and October. Also slated to be slaughtered, according to the Japanese Institute of Cetacean Research, are 100 minke whales, 50 Bryde's whales and 10 sperm whales.

Outraged environmental groups worldwide have encouraged governments to take tough action against Japan. They fear that when the International Whaling Commission meets later this Spring, Japan may succeed in its annual bid to end the international moratorium on commercial whaling established in 1986.

During the last two years, Japan caught 246 whales in the North Pacific. It also hunts nearly 400 minke whales annually in the Antarctic.

Global Warming Shatters Ice Shelf

"We knew what was left would collapse eventually, but the speed of it is staggering," said British Antarctic Survey glaciologist David Vaughan on March 19. "It is hard to believe that 500 million billion tons of ice sheet has disintegrated in less than a month."

Vaughan was referring to the collapse of the giant Antarctic Larsen B ice shelf—covering 1,255 square miles and 655 feet deep. Larsen B was one of five ice shelves—huge masses of ice that are floating extensions of the ice sheets covering the land—that had been steadily shrinking because of climate change.

While scientists predicted four years ago the eventual disintegration of Larsen B, they were astounded by the speed of the breakup. Since 1950, the Antarctic has warmed by two-and-a-half degrees Celsius—faster than anywhere else in the world.

Sea levels are not expected to rise as a result of the breakup since the ice mass was already floating.

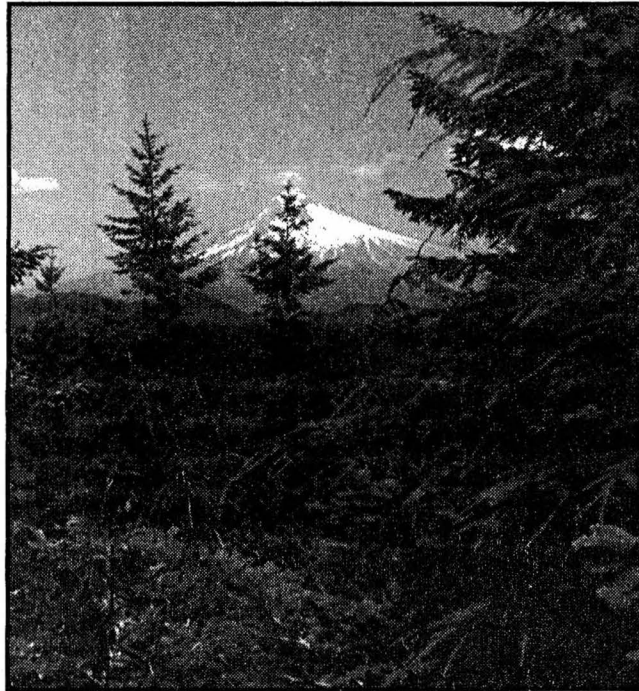
EAGLE CREEK TREESITTERS VICTORIOUS

"When the government pursues natural resource issues with no opportunity for public comment, no opportunity for discussion or appeal, the only result is distrust and dissension."

—SENATOR RON WYDEN (D-OR) REFLECTING ON THE FLAWED "SALVAGE RIDER" TIMBER SALE PROGRAM AS HE ANNOUNCED OREGON'S EAGLE CREEK PEOPLES' VICTORY FROM THE FLOOR OF THE US SENATE ON APRIL 9.

In 1996, Vanport Manufacturing of Boring, Oregon, paid \$10 million for the Eagle Creek Timber Sale in the Mt. Hood National Forest. This 28-million-board-foot sale drains into the Clackamas River, the Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness area and Portland's community water supply. Old growth remnants, potential wilderness and important wildlife areas were jeopardized.

About 40 percent of the timber sale was logged before the US Forest Service (USFS) agreed to cancel the sale following an independent review. Protesters with the Portland-based Cascadia Forest Alliance (CFA)



fought the sale fearing that the region's history of large area tree blowdowns could severely impact the watershed.

Treesits and road-blocking "pods" have prevented logging access to the most sensitive areas. Ancient trees, some more than 500 years old, have been occupied by forest activists for

nearly three years. Dozens of arrests, federal closures and hair-raising raids of basecamps by federal agents failed to deter the forest defenders. Following one particularly dangerous takedown of a logging road blockade in July 2000, protesters regrouped in Portland where they rallied as a CFA climber scaled the wall of the USFS headquarters. He remained there for 11 days. After another activist joined the demonstration with a hunger strike, major media picked up the story and government officials were swamped with phone calls about logging practices.

Portland and state politicians opposed further logging, but the USFS refused to stop the operations. Vanport agreed to stop logging, but regional

Frontlines

Night-time Gardeners Destroy GE Research

In January, night-time gardeners paid a visit to Plant Sciences, Inc., a genetic engineering (GE) firm in Manteca, California. The gardeners spread salt across rows of GE strawberries and uprooted a test plot of GE wheat to disrupt the research and cause economic damage. This is the second time Plant Sciences has been visited by anti-GE activists. The Fragaria Freedom Farmers destroyed a field of GE strawberries spliced with *e-coli* two years ago at its site in Watsonville, California.

Union Workers Arrested in Protest Against Coal Company

In March, nearly 200 United Mine Workers (UMW) gathered in Kentucky to protest the environmental records of Massey Energy and their subsidiary Martin County Coal. Eleven people, including UMW President Cecil Roberts, were arrested when they refused to leave the road that leads to the mountaintop coal sludge pond. The pond collapsed a year and a half ago, spilling 300 million gallons of toxic sludge into the Big Sandy River. The molasses-like sludge killed fish, poisoned the drinking water of neighboring towns and buried lawns up to seven feet deep.

Indigenous Group Fights Dam in Chile

In mid-February, indigenous Pehuenche communities in Chile's Alto Biobio region began a series of actions geared at blocking a 225-ton transformer from reaching the Ralco dam hydroelectric project, owned by the Spanish transnational company Endesa. Three Pehuenche protesters were arrested when agents of the militarized *Carabineros* (police) used tear gas and water cannons to break up a roadblock on February 26.

On March 5, a group of 100 Pehuenche began blockading the Maya bridge on the road along which the transformer was being moved. When *Carabineros* agents arrived, some of them in Endesa vehicles, they used tear gas, rubber bullets and water cannons spraying a chemical substance to disperse the protesters, who fought back with rocks. Eighteen hours after the start of the blockade, the police finally managed to clear the road, arresting 55 people and injuring 26 others; 18 police agents were also reported injured.

On March 4, two hooded and armed individuals forced an Endesa employee out of his truck, then doused it with gas and set it on fire. The Council of Pehuenche Authorities of the Alto Biobio denied any involvement by the Pehuenche in the event, saying Endesa staged the attack to provoke terror against them.

forester, Harv Forsgren, found no reason to cancel it. Vanport had to log the area or risk losing its million dollar deposit.

Thanks to overwhelming public support, Senator Wyden, Representatives David Wu and Earl Blumenauer called for the cancellation of the unlogged portion of the sales. Wyden pressured the USDA to conduct an independent environmental review of the sale, and he extracted a commitment from the Bush administration to implement recommendations made in the study. The review team released their report in July 2001, verifying the serious problems with logging at Eagle Creek.

Scientists only looked at a few of the issues regarding blowdown and possible remedial actions to prevent additional environmental damage. Downstream communities insisted that the scientists look specifically at the USFS's claims that the only way to keep this roadless area and watershed healthy is to log it.

Despite a narrow review, the scientists recommended that less than 10 percent of the timber sale should be logged. They found that the forests in the "Eagle Creek drainage are predominantly 'mature' stands in their second century of development... originated by natural regeneration following wildfires during 1840-1850." They found a 300-year-old western red cedar tree and a stream that USFS had failed to identify in the Environmental Impact Statement.

Regina Merrit of the Oregon Natural Resources Council said that canceling the sales "would be the best way to protect the water for 185,000 Oregonians. These roadless forests are the cleanest source of drinking water." Representative Wu said the decision was "three years overdue. I hope the USFS will respond to Oregonians' concerns more quickly in the future."

Everyone who fought to save this watershed has much to celebrate. Though the review team failed to hold the timber sale to the highest environmental standard, Vanport rejected a new contract citing lower market prices for

timber and controversy around logging at Eagle Creek. Undersecretary of Agriculture Mark Rey said the Eagle Creek timber could be offered for sale again. An aide to Wyden, said that this was unlikely any time in the near future considering public sentiment and protesters' determination to protect this potential wilderness area.

The day before the announcement of the Eagle Creek cancellation, Dale Bosworth, Bush's chief of the USFS declared the Northwest Forest Plan a failure that needs replacement. He claims that the cumbersome procedures such as laborious surveys for rare forest species (\$26 million a year) have rendered USFS ineffective.

The Oregon Natural Resources Council said the Northwest Forest Plan barely does enough to protect wildlife as it is. It's mired in lawsuits and delays because federal foresters have continued to log old forests in the face of increasing public opposition."

Treesitters will remain at Eagle Creek until the cancellation is finalized. CFA and other Oregon groups are gearing up to challenge other unscientific timber sales. A Summer of Cascadian forest actions beckons once again.

For more info., visit www.cascadiaforestalliance.org.



On April 12, Beth O'Brien, 22, climbed the treesit that defends Eagle Creek's "Sunset Grove." She fell from a 150-foot-high rope ladder and died from injuries. Beth was a joyful spirit in Portland this last year. She died in the tradition of courageous action to defend life. May her efforts and sincerity guide our actions and the urgency of our goals.

Frontlines

Eco-Action Down Under

After stopping work on a new road and bridge through the wildlands of Weld Valley in Tasmania for 31 days, the Weld Community Action Camp (WCAC) was raided and dismantled by 60 police and forestry officials on March 6. Police set up roadblocks around the site, prohibiting public and media access. The public forest around the road was declared an "exclusion zone," and anyone that was found in the area became liable for fines up to \$2,000 and/or six months in jail. During the raid, police arrested the WCAC camera person and two police liaisons for trespassing.

Tasmanian Devils Destroy Logging Equipment

Saboteurs damaged three million dollars of logging equipment in two southern Tasmanian logging camps during the weekend of February 23. The equipment, mainly excavators which weigh 30 to 40 tons apiece, were left laying belly-up, burnt and trashed. Thirty thousand dollars of neatly stacked logs were also left scattered and burnt. The sabotage brought the logging camps to a halt and forced contractors to stand down 14

workers. This action follows a raid on another logging camp in January which caused \$750,000 worth of damage.

Valentine's Day at Irish Nuclear Plant

During the early morning of February 14, 200 protesters blocked two access roads to the Sellafield Nuclear Fuel Plant in Ireland. The incoming workers could only get to work using one small access road, and traffic was backed up for seven miles, causing three schools to remain closed and disrupting railway services. Some of the protesters at the entrance locked themselves together using chains inside PVC pipes, while others prevented anyone from entering or leaving the plant by walking, hopping or standing in the road.

Once the police arrived, the group started walking down the road slowly. The police did not have enough officers to keep the road free so whenever they managed to get the protesters off a stretch of road, more people walked and danced around them and continued the blockade. Eleven activists were arrested but were soon released with all the charges dropped.

The protesters aimed to highlight opposition to the proposed mixed plutonium and uranium oxide (MOX) plant at Sellafield and the radioactive waste being dumped daily into the Irish Sea.

NED LUDD: The Lost Art of Tunnelling

Throughout history, tunnels have provided people with shelter, secrecy and military advantage. When activists in the UK began tunnelling in the mid-1990s, they redefined the war for the Earth. The Department of Trollheim dug the first tunnels in England to stop the A30 road project in 1996. At the time, tunnelling was a radical response to the civil restrictions imposed on activists engaged in blockades, treesits and other forms of direct action. State and corporate interests were escalating their violent eviction techniques at action sites too, nearly killing people on several locations. Tunneling forced them to change their heavy-handed eviction tactics.

In January 1997, the Fairmile eviction proved that a few people occupying tunnels could successfully stave off an eviction for a full week. The technicality of the eviction also bought the campaign time to organize other expressions of resistance before the site could be destroyed. After that, tunnelling evolved and became even more complex. The tunnelers at Crystal Palace lengthened the eviction from two

to 19 days in the Spring of 1999. Two strong women held off hundreds of cops and security guards from their underground bunker and upped the cost of the eviction.

Oregon forest activists experimented with tunnelling between 1996 and 1998 at the Howl and Growl and the Fall Creek defense camps.

Throughout history, tunnels have provided people with shelter, secrecy and military advantage.

Although these tunnels were busted while unoccupied, there is great potential for tunnels to be used on any number of campaigns in North America. Given the increasingly violent and rapidly evolving responses of law enforcement officials to our current tactics, maybe it's time to evolve some of our own tactics and prepare to dig in for victory!

Where to Start?

- Obviously find a location with the most potential for blockading (i.e. development site entrance, end of a logging road, defense of existing treesits, etc.).

- It can be advantageous to have the tunnel close to the main camp for support-communication and in case of emergencies. This may also help for security. If there is a concern about security then the entrance can always be concealed by a tent or tarp. Remember not to surround the immediate area with soil! A sure giveaway!

- Think about the location in terms of water table, geology and soil type. You can't tunnel into a bog. The bottom of a valley is going to have a high water table and will risk flooding the tunnel. You can't generally tunnel into a mountain. Consider such site factors before you waste your time.

Digging In

- You will obviously need a spade, shovel or trenching tool. A long-handled tool is eventually going to make digging awkward. A short-handled pickaxe is very useful. A chisel will help for large rocks. It can be

Frontlines

Dancing on the Ruins of GE Crops

On March 9, 100 people, wearing masks and white decontamination suits, flooded the genetically modified oilseed rape fields of Forest Farms in Long Marston, England. They began pulling up the GE plants while others waved flags and a samba band played an accompaniment. Activists performed theatrical delaying tactics until the police presence became too much. Five people were arrested for criminal damage.

Day of Action Against the IDB Meeting

On March 11, protesters held a day of action in Fortaleza, Brazil against the meeting of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). Leftist parties, unions, NGOs and young people marched through the streets in protest of the IDB's funding of social projects in Brazil that do not take into account the social and environmental impacts. President Bush, Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso and more than 40 ministers of finance from around the world attended the official IDB activities.

The government deployed more than 4,500 police officers and military personnel which led to violence and injuries during the protests. The protesters were

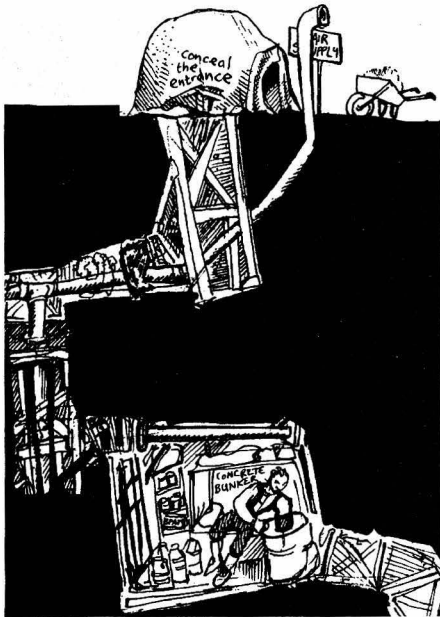
illegally stopped by the police and a standoff ensued. A shoving match between protesters and police was followed by pepper spray and tear gas. Objects and tear gas canisters were thrown back at the police until police on horses made a full charge and divided the group.

Ten Activists Hospitalized During Anti-Dam Protests

Four anti-dam protesters from the Movement of Dam-Affected People (MAB) in Brazil were hospitalized on March 12 after being shot with rubber bullets by the police. The protesters were part of a 500-person march to the worksite of the Barra Grande dam on the Uruguay River. Six other activists were hospitalized on the same day after being beaten by military police at a public meeting at an electricity agency in Porto Alegre.

On March 14, the International Day of Action Against Dams, MAB protested plans to build the Belo Monte dam, which would be the world's third largest dam and would flood more than 10,000 square kilometers of the Amazon rainforest.

MAB is engaged in a national campaign of protests against Brazil's hydropower energy policy. They are demanding



useful if you know any blacksmiths who can make you custom tools. A headlamp with lots of spare batteries is a necessity, as are buckets or sand bags with rope.

• The first stage is to dig a vertical shaft. There needs to be a certain thickness of earth above before a tunnel is self-supporting. Dig the shaft to a minimum of six feet. Cover the hole with a tarp to keep rain, critters and other things from falling in.

• Once you have the right depth, you can start the real adventure—digging inward. There are narrow “worm holes” which you have to worm your way along on your belly. They are cramped to work in and are impossible to shore up. Digging a wormhole will depend on how stable the soil is. They have the benefit of being difficult to evict people from. A larger tunnel will allow for support with wooden shoring. This allows more room to work in and the possibility of putting in doors which can be secured during eviction.

• After a certain point, air will get thin. Time to put in an air system. One method is a car fan running off of a 12-volt (car) battery pumping air in through PVC pipes or more flexible hose pipes.

• At some point, you will want to establish a chamber—a larger space, which is shored up enough that you feel comfortable sleeping underground. At a minimum you will want enough room to lie down and sit up.

• You should implement a two-way communication system to talk with the folks above ground—also useful for speaking to the police during an eviction. An antenna could be fixed for a radio—very useful but more tricky if you want to establish a line which the police won’t detect and cut!

• From here let your imagination run riot. Put in a lockdown. Put in another shaft. Tunnel off in a different direction. Barricade the entrance to the chamber with a steel or wooden door hinged to the shoring.

Safety and Sanity

• For lighting, stock up on candles. Provided there is an air supply, this will not endanger your oxygen.

• Stock up on plenty of non-perishable food, books, cards and games.

• Sealed bottled water and vitamin D (there’s no sunlight so your body will need this.)

• The temperature is constant down below so the cold isn’t really a problem.

• You’ll need some heavy-duty bags and toilet paper for shitting. Bury this. Use water bottles for pissing.

• Tunnel evictions have taken from a few days to 40 days. Be prepared.

Tunnelling has obvious risks. This is a rough guide *only*. For a more details, see the *Earth First! Direct Action Manual*, (available from the *EF! Journal*), visit www.cornerstone.ukf.net/crc/tunnel/tunnel.html or contact Tim, c/o Manchester EF!, Dept. 29, 255 Winslow Rd, Manchester, England, M14 5LW; (161)226-6814; mancef@nematode.freereserve.co.uk.

Frontlines

that the government halt subsidies to energy-intensive industries and instead provide electricity to rural communities. MAB is urging the government to provide incentives for energy efficiency, conservation, wind and solar energy, and for fair compensation to people who have lost their livelihoods as a result of dam construction.

Ecuador Tresit Evicted

South America’s first-ever treetop ended on March 25 when 100 national police officers forcibly evicted the 17 activists who were blockading the *Oleoducto de Crudos Pesados* (OCP) pipeline construction. Residents of Mindo, with support from international allies, had been peacefully occupying the treetops and cloud forest ridgeline since January 2.

The activists were arrested and transported—in buses contracted by the OCP—to a detention center in Quito. The international activists were charged with misusing their tourist visas, and seven of them were deported. The Ecuadorian activists were charged with halting pipeline construction, trespass and damaging construction equipment. The legality of the eviction and arrests was called into question by local environmental and human rights groups since the treetop was taking place on private property with

permission from the landowner. The police took action before a warrant or eviction order were issued. The groups also pointed out that the OCP’s environmental license was revoked on March 6 by the Ministry of the Environment due to damages done to local ecosystems by the OCP itself.

In response to the arrests, 60 residents of the Mindo area blocked the principal highway from Quito to Los Bancos. They overtook two OCP trucks carrying pipeline tubes destined for Quito and forced the vehicles into the town square where they painted the tubes with the phrase: “OCP out of Mindo.” The residents demanded that all 17 arrestees be released before they would relinquish the vehicles.

After being held in jail for a week, the Ecuadorian activists and five remaining international activists were released. All charges were dropped when the mayor of Quito approved a *habeas corpus* petition filed by the environmental group *Acción Ecológica*. According to the vice mayor of Quito, the activists were “unfairly detained.” The vice mayor also determined that the rights of the international activists were violated when charges against them were not explained in their native languages as mandated by the Ecuadorian Constitution. The OCP is currently pursuing criminal charges against the activists involved in supporting the treetop.

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THREE DOLLARS

BLAST FROM THE PAST

This article originally appeared in the May-June 1991 issue of the Earth First! Journal.

Misanthropy or No Where Does it Go?

BY TODD SHUMAN

The "Misanthropy or No" debate rages in my head as I wander through Ed Abbey's old stomping grounds in Canyonlands. My take on this debate is that the opposing viewpoints are not mutually exclusive. *Homo sapiens* are responsible for widespread ecological destruction, commencing with the onslaught of agriculture, yet really going way back to the prehistoric slaughter of large mammals. However, the reign of the affluent, white male elite has been marked by exponential increases in the rate of ecological destruction, especially during the post-World War II period. It must also be remembered that the ecologically destructive elite groups from Japan, Brazil, El Salvador, etc. only exist because of the crucial economic, political and military aid that has been provided by the affluent white male elites of North America and Europe.

Nevertheless, the debate seems to have danced around a more crucial issue for me: the relationship between worldview

and strategic action. This is unfortunate as both the "misanthropic" and "white male" models suggest very specific types of strategic action—indeed, they suggest precisely the forms of action that have polarized Earth First! in the past.

Misanthropists, of course, take a dim view of the human species in general, though exceptional individuals may provide more help than harm to the Earth. Since *Homo sapiens* in general are rotten, general appeals to its members are likely to fall on deaf ears. Efforts to generate mass support are likely to fall. Hence, the best that can be hoped for is action by exceptional individuals that will limit the damage caused by the existence of *Homo sapiens*. It is easy to see how the misanthropic worldview logically leads to a preference for the strategic approach of monkeywrenching, the recourse of the exceptional individual or small group.

Judi Bari (and others of her persuasion), on the other hand, was trying to incorporate a variety of different social groups into the effort to save the Earth. Naturally, such a task is made difficult if those target social groups keep hearing that they are just another part of the rotten human species. Consequently, Bari's approach must be one that emphasizes how a particular social group has been giving the rest of us a bad name. If we emphasize the irresponsibility of the affluent white male elite, then we have a reasonable chance of gaining the support of all those other social groups. It is easy to see how the demands of building a broad movement have given rise to a worldview quite different from that of the misanthrope.

So, when you really look at what is at stake in this debate, you see that much of it boils down to the old question of monkeywrenching versus mass nonviolent disobedience, with neither side really engaging the key issue: they are both theoretically shadow-boxing around the question of strategy.

Frontlines

Dene Suline Occupy Band Office

Members and elders of the Dene Suline of Cold Lake, in Alberta, Canada, occupied the Cold Lake Band Council office for three days and nights, beginning March 19. They were calling for the removal of Chief Joyce Metchewais, who negotiated a land deal with the Canadian government in December. In the deal, the government gave \$25.5 million and 5,000 acres in exchange for 4,500 square miles of Dene Suline territory encompassing the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range (PLAWR) in Northern Alberta. This works out to \$2,500 per person and \$35 an acre. The office occupation ended when Metchewais agreed to meet with the protesters. Members of the Dene Suline of Cold Lake have been occupying PLAWR to stop the environmental devastation being caused by the oil industry and the military (see *EFJ* February-March 2002).

Activists Killed in Ecuador

Protests in Ecuador turned fatal during the last week of February when thousands of striking *Oleoducto de Crudos Pesados* (OCP) construction workers and local residents in the northern Amazon were attacked by the military. At least three protesters were killed, including a child who

died of asphyxiation from tear gas. Nearly 40 people were arrested, and more than 300 people were wounded.

On February 18, the strike was called by workers, residents and local government leaders demanding fair compensation for the environmental and social impacts of the oil pipeline and pumping station, as well as much needed funds for infrastructure and social services. Demonstrators erected roadblocks and occupied more than 60 oil wells and five refineries—halting all construction on the pipeline and bringing oil production in the region to a near standstill. The government declared a week-long state of emergency and sent in the military to break up the strike. A gag rule was enforced for the local media and some journalists were reportedly detained to stop reports of the oppression.

The OCP is a one billion dollar, 300-mile-long pipeline being built through the Mindo Nambillo Cloud Forest Reserve in Ecuador (see *EFJ* March-April 2002). This is the country's greatest oil producing region, but residents have not seen the monetary benefits from oil production. Instead, they have borne the brunt of its heavy environmental, social and economic costs. Foreign and state oil companies have extracted more than \$60 billion worth of oil, yet 90 percent of the region's population lives in poverty.

In the rest of this essay, I want to engage directly the question of strategy, and I want to do so while avoiding the dichotomy for either/or. I feel that both types of action (and their accompanying world views) are useful, though each is more useful at some times rather than at others.

I think we need to discern the conditions under which mass-based nonviolent civil action is both possible and effective. Conversely, we should explore for conditions under which monkeywrenching might be less useful, even counterproductive. Finally, we should then evaluate past Earth First! strategy in light of such theory.

Such a task is daunting, but it needs to be done. I am going to contribute by offering a rudimentary analysis concerning the mass, nonviolent movement part of the equation, at the considerable risk of putting my foot in my mouth and kicking.

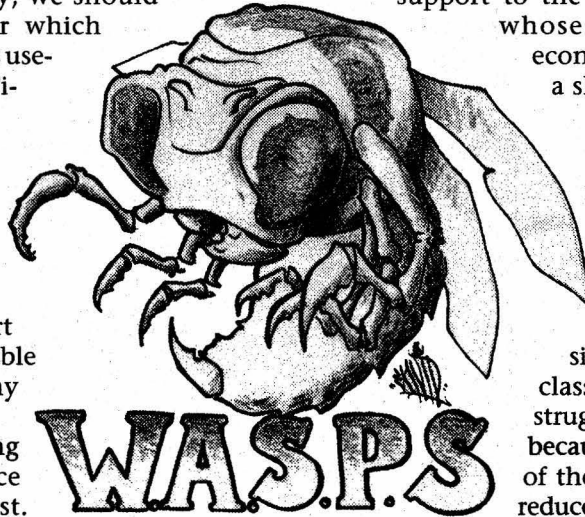
Mass-based movements relying on nonviolent civil disobedience have been successful in the past. Five movements obviously come to

mind: Gandhi's nonviolent movement in India during the 1920s and 1930s, the Filipino "people's power" movement, the black civil rights movement during the 1960s and 1970s, and a number of nonviolent revolts in Eastern Europe in 1989. In none of these cases, however, did the most powerful segments of the economic/political/military elite exert a unified, forceful opposition to the mass-based movements.

In India, nationalist merchants and industrialists were a key constituent group of Gandhi's mass nonviolent movement. In fact, Gandhi's particular social vision was only mildly critical of (and hardly threatening to) the landlords who were ruthlessly exploiting the peasantry. Similarly, much of the indigenous Filipino business class (as well as many high level military officers) lent valuable support to the nonviolent overthrow of Marcos, whose personal management of the economy had denied much of this class a share in the spoils.

The black civil rights movement in the US, while facing virulent opposition from the white southern working class and its allies in the local political establishments, did not face severe resistance from the planter-merchant class that had called the shots in the South ever since it erected "Jim Crow." This elite class was relatively indifferent to the struggles of the 1950s and 1960s, probably because the rapid postwar mechanization of the cotton and tobacco industries had reduced the planter-merchant's dependence upon massively indebted black sharecroppers. By the late 1950s, this extremely powerful class had little to lose in the second emancipation of blacks, and it did little to exert such power in comparison to what it had done during the previous 50 years. Added to this relative indifference was the substantial support and cultivation of black political motivation by the Democratic Party further.

For the rest of the story, you can order back issues of the EF! Journal for \$5 each or \$500 for our 21-year set.



Frontlines

German Representatives Denied Access to OCP

On April 3, members of the German State Parliament of the North Rhine Westfalia arrived in Mindo to visit the controversial *Oleoducto de Crudos Pesados* (OCP) pipeline route and talk to local environmental and human rights groups. The delegation was a result of intense international pressure on the German government—which holds a 43 percent share in WestLB, the lead financier of the pipeline's \$900 million loan.

Military and police forces denied the delegation entrance to the pipeline construction site. Activists are hoping this blatant cover-up of the OCP's operations and environmental violations will convince the German State Parliament to pull its investment out of WestLB and jeopardize funding of the OCP.

Knoxville Protesters Challenge Bush Policies

On April 8, about two dozen protesters assembled near the City County Building to protest President Bush's policies on the Middle East and the war on terrorism.

"Our message today is that security cannot be built with tools of violence," said Ralph Hutchison of the Knoxville

Area Coalition for Compassion, Justice and Peace. "The war on terrorism is in fact creating terror in the rest of the world. We are calling on President Bush to renounce violence and the tools of violence."

What began as a quest for justice after the September 11 counter attacks has turned into "a free floating, permanent global war against any group that our government defines as terrorist," said the Coalition's Maurizio Conti.

The coalition calls for preservation of civil liberties, abandonment of nuclear weapons and efforts to deal with "fear, ignorance, poverty, hopelessness and any legitimate grievances against the US or other governments," according to a flyer being circulated.

The protesters were ordered by the Knoxville Police Department (KPD) to remain behind a metal barricade at a corner across the street from the coliseum. Hutchison said officers confiscated his sign and one held by fellow protester Eric Johnson when they attempted to cross the street and that KPD officers told him the Secret Service wanted the protesters confined to the area.

As a result, Hutchison said, President Bush "is being isolated from what the American people believe."

A black female wolf to "Catwoman" who dressed in full feline gear—including kitten mask, cape, over-sized ears and a tail—for climbing a 125-foot-tall smokestack in March to call attention to the health and environmental dangers of fiberglass manufacturing in Shasta Lake, California. After seven hours and considerable media attention, Catwoman coolly descended her pedestal atop the smokestack.

A wolf yipping at a shindig to the residents of 28 Vermont towns who in March, voted overwhelmingly in opposition to genetically engineered (GE) food and crops. They stated that the role of GE in environmental degradation, health problems and world trade convinced them to vote for labeling and a moratorium on GE in their communities.

Wolves and Poodles

A cow-tipping wolf to the Center for Biological Diversity for forcing the Los Padres National Forest to withdraw its decision to increase livestock grazing along the Big Sur coast in California. Endangered species harmed by grazing on the coast include steelhead trout, California red-legged frogs and Smith's blue butterflies.

A "take a bite out of Crime" Sergeant McGruff wolf to the 30 Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty activists who spent a lovely March afternoon in the English countryside conducting a "neighborhood watch" around Huntingdon Life Sciences employees' homes by informing all their neighbors that they live beside animal killers. Huntingdon Life Sciences is Europe's largest contract animal testing laboratory. They kill 500 animals a day, including dogs, cats, monkeys and birds.

An equal number of sidekick cyberpunk wolves to the 500,000 activists who marched through the streets of Barcelona, Spain to protest the summit of European leaders on March 16. The protest began peacefully but ended in violence as the police attacked protesters with rubber bullets and tear gas. Many protesters were beaten by the police while trying to seek refuge. It is unknown how many were seriously injured.

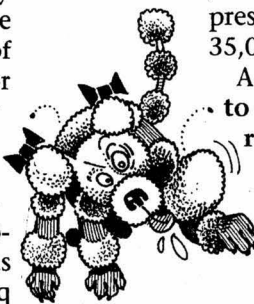
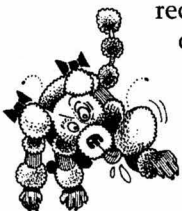
A dollar store Roman bust simulacrum of a poodle to Heralk Tim Nesvik, a member of the Norwegian Parliament who recently nominated UK Prime Minister Tony Blair and US President George W. Bush for the Nobel Peace Prize. According to the awarding committee, the winner of the prize "shall have done the most or the best work for fraternity between nations (and) for the abolition or reduction of standing armies." Blair has ordered more military actions than any UK leader since World War II. Meanwhile, Bush has instigated wars in Colombia, Palestine, Afghanistan as well as threatened Iran, North Korea and Iraq with the world's largest standing army.



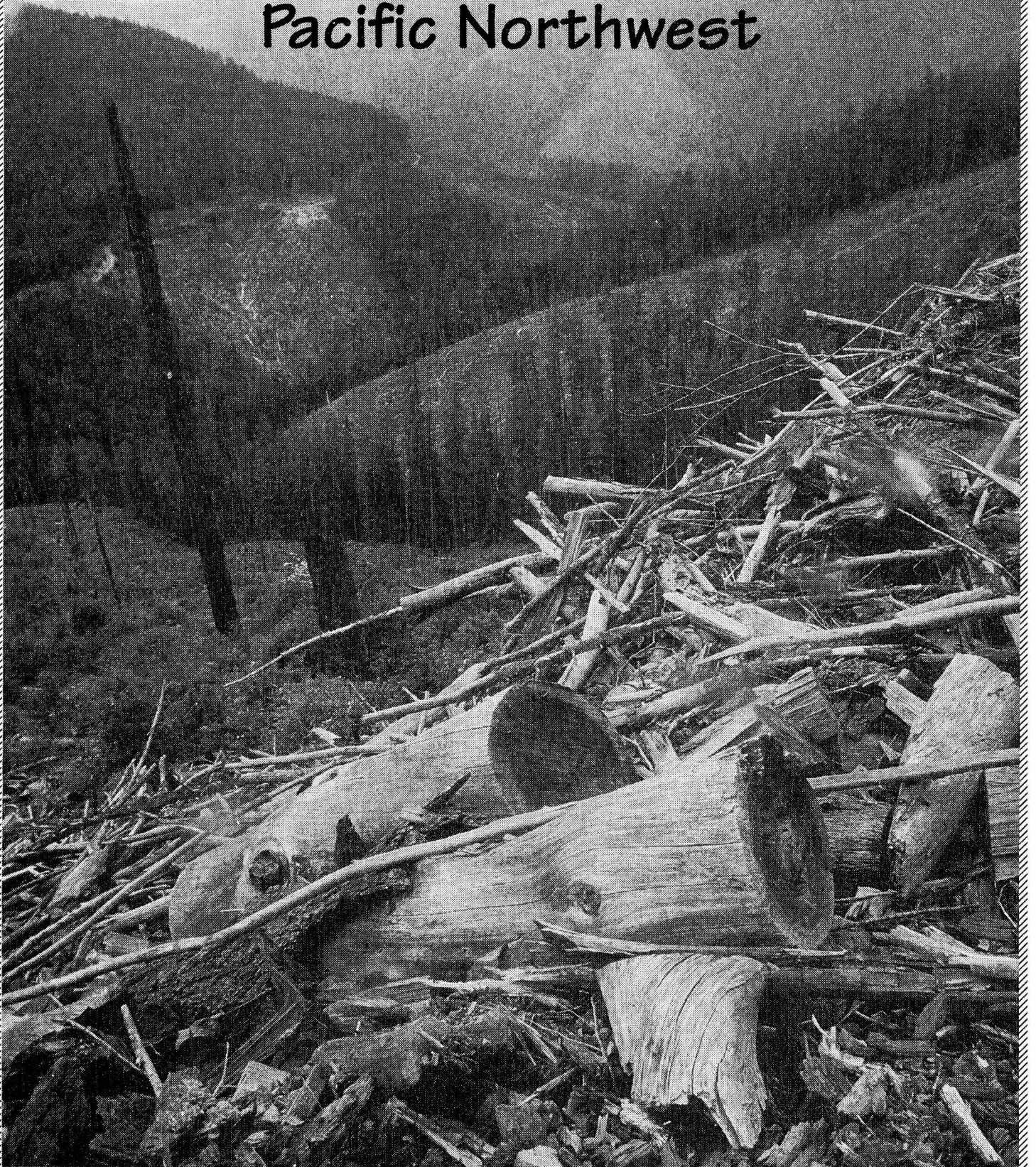
A not seeing the forest for the trees, shoot yourself in the paw poodle to the management of the Rainforest Action Network (RAN) for the politically motivated firing of their organizing director in February. The move suggests that the RAN management has strategic shortcomings in believing they can win corporate campaigns without putting resources into grassroots movement building. Reports are that the firing was intended to silence internal criticism of RAN management's unaccountable decision-making powers and lack of a systemic analysis of corporate power.

A Joe Six Pack middle-class father of six poodle puppies to the federal government for agreeing to pay for 35,000 gas masks to protect the people who live near an incinerator in Anniston, Alabama, where the Army will burn deadly nerve agents. With 2,254 tons of lethal chemicals, packed in aging rockets and mortar rounds, Anniston stores seven percent of the nation's chemical stockpile. Local officials, undeterred by the band-aid approach, are pressing the federal government to distribute 35,000 protective hoods.

A dyed-pink poodle holding on tight to a belching three-wheeler to the Bureau of Land Management for reopening 49,300 acres of the California Imperial Sand Dunes for the next off-road vehicle season. This move will threaten the rare desert tortoise and Pierson's milkvetch, both of which exist only in the Sonoran desert.



Help Earth First! Stop Ecoterrorism in the Pacific Northwest



GIFFORD PINCHOT NATIONAL FOREST

AN ANCIENT LEGACY

photo by James Johnston

The Gifford Pinchot National Forest (GP) lies within the boundaries of the mighty Cascade Range. The cascades run from Mt. Garibaldi and Mt. Meager in British Columbia and extend south to Mt. Lassen and Mt. Shasta in Northern California. This creates a 600-mile-long chain of volcanoes that averages 30–50 miles in width, expanding to 150 miles wide in northern Washington and tapering to a narrow point in BC.

The Cascades create our weather by intercepting the atmospheric moisture from the Pacific Ocean, while creating a dryer, desert-like environment to the east, while western slopes often receive more than 100 inches of rain annually. In the Winter, moisture accumulates as a heavy snow on top of soil that rarely freezes. Melting snow gives rise to many streams and rivers. These cold, rushing tributaries that once served as home to millions of salmon are now blocked by an extensive system of dams.

The GP is one of the oldest national forests in the US. Located in southwest Washington in the Cascade Range, the forest is 1.3 million acres, larger than Rhode Island, and contains 4,500 miles of roads. Many rivers run through the GP, such as the Cispus, Lewis, Cowlitz and White Salmon. The forest is bordered by three volcanoes and the second largest river system in North America, the Columbia.

Mount Rainier is 14,410 feet, with 26 glaciers on its shoulders. Towering over western Washington, it stands on an eroded mass of old volcanoes formed by the western Cascades' uplift, which started 40 million years ago. Mt. Adams to the east stands at 12,307 feet. Adams has most likely not been active since the last ice age 10,000 years ago, but there are signs, such as the active steam vents near the summit, that it's still alive and kicking. Until 1980, Mt. St. Helens was 9,677 feet, so perfectly symmetrical that it looked the same from any direction. St. Helens has been extremely active since the last ice age. For example, no rocks associated with Mt. St. Helens are known to be more than 37,000 years old. On May 18, 1980, Mt. St. Helens erupted, spewing steam and melting

Goose Egg timber sale, unit 25, GPNF

rocks at 500 mph hot enough to ignite wood upon contact, sending the north slope down the mountain at a rate of 200 mph.

The Columbia River to the south was once a mighty river that kept explorers at bay for hundreds of years, but now is in need of major dam removal. The Columbia is the only river to successfully cross the Cascade range, beginning this process some 40 million years ago, carving the Columbia gorge as the Cascades started to rise.

The low elevation western forests of the GP are draped with mosses, liverworts and lichens. Trees species such as Douglas fir, red cedar, hemlock and grand fir dominate the overstory. The understory is made up of vine maple, yew, the infamous devils club and an array of berries. The ground cover includes sword fern, bunchberry, false lily of the valley, and dwarf

Oregon grape. You will also see many orchids, lilies, asters, mints and a diverse group of fungi.

At higher, subalpine elevations you will find Pacific silver fir, subalpine fir, noble fir and mountain hemlock. The understory has huckleberries, Pacific rhododendron, and Sitka mountain ash. The ground cover has aster, yarrow and beargrass.

Heading east, the transition starts and you start to see dry-climate plants such as ponderosa pine, lodgepole, white pine and larch. The understory has manzanita, kinnikinnick and baldhip rose. The ground cover is made up of arnica, arrow-leaf balsamroot and a variety of succulents. In all of these general ecotypes, the majority of vegetative biodiversity is actually made up of moss, liverworts and lichens.

Once upon a time, we had grizzlies that ate the salmon that fed on the invertebrates, some of which shredded the leaves that fell into the stream that were later decomposed by aquatic fungi and bacteria. But grizzly are no longer a part of this chain because the European mutt humanoids came along and obliterated them, leaving the black bear and mountain lion to incompletely fill their niche.

For thousands and thousands of years before the Europeans arrived, this land was used by the Upper Cowlitz Indians who lived in the Big Bottom area sounding the Cowlitz River on the southwestern slopes of Mt. Rainier. The Klikitat people crossed the Cascades and occupied the headwaters of the Cowlitz, Lewis, and White Salmon Rivers at different times. The Yakima Nation is interspersed in the federal government-created boundaries of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.



Fossil Creek, GPNF

GIFFORD PINCHOT UNDER SIEGE

The intersection of three watersheds—Trout Lake Creek, Little White Salmon River, and Upper Lewis River—might as well be considered the heart of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Encompassing the acreage of the three watersheds is approximately 201,500 acres of federal ownership (larger with private land included). Located between the Mt. Adams Wilderness Area, Big Lava Beds and Indian Heaven Wilderness Area, these three watersheds contain some of the last interior ancient forest located in Washington state. Gray wolves are known to frequent these watersheds, and spotted owls populate the area.

Notions of paradise give way to reality. The road density in these watersheds is above average, approximately four miles of road per square mile. These roads contribute thousands of tons of silt and gravel annually to a riverine system that already is not functioning. Historic logging has fragmented the forest to the point that barred owls — larger, more aggressive, and better adapted to poor-quality habitat than their better known cousins — now outnumber spotted owls. Currently, several timber sales are planned in the middle of unfragmented ancient forests, habitat corridors and stream headwaters. The Alpha, Beta, Omega, Lock, Swell, and Goose Egg timber sales total over 2,179 acres, most of which is ancient forest. Although these sales cross ranger district lines and watershed boundaries, these six timber sales are all located adjacent to each other, just like

puzzle pieces. Given the fragmented nature of the forest, and the imperiled status of the species that live in these watersheds, it's impossible to understand any rationale the Forest Service would have for proposing these sales, other than as a timber grab of the greatest magnitude.

Sales like these have led to continuous litigation under Option 9, otherwise known as Clinton's Northwest Forest Plan. Implemented in 1994, the Plan was a political compromise brokered by those who had little understanding of how the compromise would play out on the ground. The idea was to "balance" timber production and economic stability with ancient forest protection. Option 9 sacrificed ancient forest protection for 1.2 billion board feet of timber per year off the west-side Cascadian forests.

It has been up to the activists and the courts to force the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to comply with any of the provisions of Option 9. In 1996, several organizations sued the Forest Service and the BLM for failing to conduct surveys according to the survey and manage protocols the Plan established. The court agreed that the Plan clearly required the surveys, and imposed a region-wide injunction preventing logging until the surveys were completed. Rather than comply with the law, the feds changed the rules and decided that certain surveys were no longer required, nullifying the injunction.

Meanwhile, activists were busy challenging the implementation of the Aquatic Con-

servation Strategy (ACS) designed to protect imperiled fish stocks and riparian areas. The ACS lawsuit alleged that the National Marine Fisheries Service was not accurately assessing the impacts to fish and aquatic systems, and instead was deferring the impacts of timber harvest to the future at a watershed scale rather than the immediate impacts to a stream running through a timber sale. Enviro secured another win and injunction, which put additional timber sales on hold.

As the survey and manage and ACS lawsuits were winding their way through the courts, Cascadians sued again, this time over protection of the northern spotted owl under the Endangered Species Act. In this case, we alleged that the US Fish and Wildlife Service was failing to quantify, qualify and track harm to the owl, and was destroying its critical habitat by clearcutting ancient forests. For the past 18 months, this litigation has held up timber sales in western Oregon, Washington, and California forests.

Earlier this year, the Fish and Wildlife Service stated it will soon begin approving timber sales throughout the region, despite the spotted owl litigation. The Forest Service and NMFS have "fixed" the legal problems identified in the survey and manage and ACS lawsuits, which means that the Alpha, Beta, Omega, Lock, Swell, and Goose Egg — as well as the other 20 post-decision sales on the Forest — can be auctioned, sold, awarded, and logged as soon as this summer. That doesn't include another 21 timber sales in various stages of preparation.

While we might have a few more tricks up our collective green sleeves, time is running out for the cathedral forests of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

NORTHEAST WASHINGTON UNDER THE AX

The forests east of the Cascade rain curtain, including the Colville, Okanogan, Wenatchee and Umatilla National Forests, are drier, but more diverse than wet-side forests. High elevation spruce and lodgepole give way to mid-elevation Douglas fir and Western larch and low elevation ponderosa pine. Wildfire is the primary tool of change, often leaving a few fire-resistant ancient trees while nearby smaller trees burn.

Few people know that the Colville National Forest is home to the only population of mountain caribou in the US. This critically endangered species shares the Selkirk Mountains with grizzly, wolf, lynx and wolverine. Eastern Washington's fisheries are also trashed, with bull trout, westlope cutthroat trout, and several salmon species in decline over most of their range. Many of the healthiest fish populations are, of course, in unroaded areas.

As the logging levels west of the Cascades have dropped, the levels in eastern Washington have risen, especially on the Colville and Umatilla. The Colville is set to release the Gardin-Taco timber sale. At 63 million board feet it will be the largest timber sale in the Northwest this year. As with virtually all of the logging, the excuse is fire danger, insect

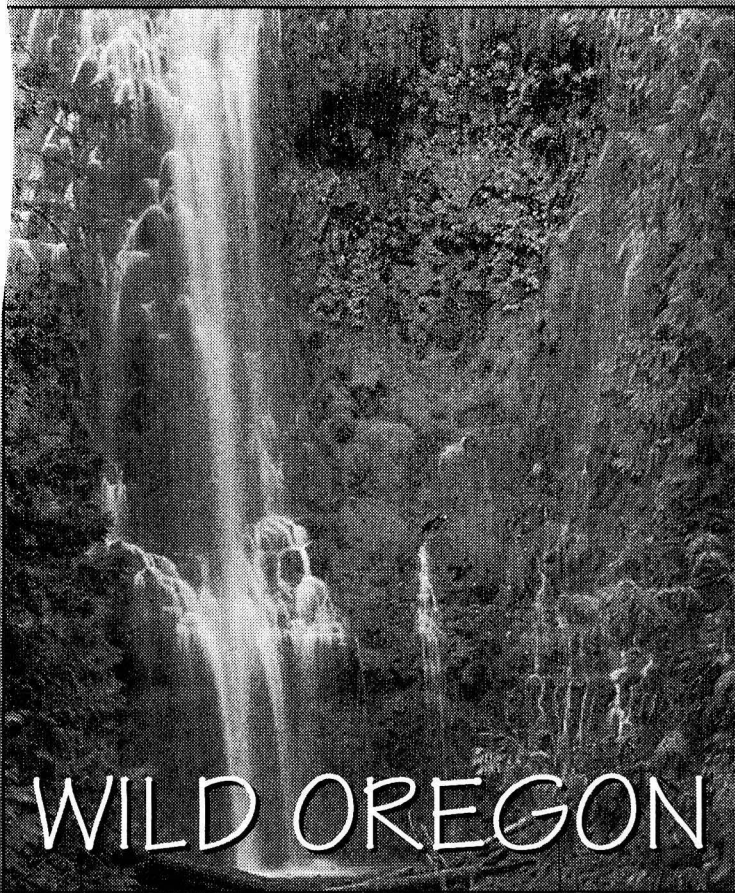
danger, and too many trees.

Motorized use is an increasing threat on the Okanogan and Wenatchee, with more snowmobile use, more off-road vehicles use and an expansion of heli-skiing in the Northern Cascades.

Wildfire continues to be a key excuse to log western forests, and eastern Washington is no exception. The National Fire Plan is supposed to protect rural communities in the wildland/urban interface zone, but we are seeing that money used on regular timber sales.

You can help out with market campaigns. Boise Corp. (they logged the Cascades out of their name) is very actively logging on all east-side forests. We need city dwellers to visit their offices, convince colleges to not purchase their products, and get them off of our public lands. We also could use some folks to come out and photo-document Boise logging on public lands. Another bad actor is the Stimson Lumber Company, based in Portland. These folks are liquidating the forests in the northeast part of the Washington.

To help, please contact The Lands Council at 921 W. Sprague, Spokane, WA, 99201; 509-838-4912; tlc@landscouncil.org and Leavenworth Audubon Adopt-A-Forest at PO Box 154, Peshastin, WA 98847; 509-548-7640; patr@crownet.com.



WILD OREGON

photo by James Johnston

UMPQUA

The million-acre Umpqua National Forest in south-central Oregon is nestled between the high Oregon Cascades and the Siskiyou and features diverse volcanic

topography. The Umpqua was recently listed as one of the ten most endangered in the United States by the National Forest Protection Alliance. The Umpqua National Forest feeds the Umpqua River, a very important salmon, steelhead and cutthroat trout fishery.

THE TILLAMOOK

In the Northwestern corner of Oregon lie the Tillamook and Clatsop State Forests. Known collectively as "the Tillamook" this forest is one of the largest contiguous temperate rainforests in the lower 48 states. Starting in the 1930s, a series of fires (some human-caused) burned hundreds of thousands of acres of the forest. The story of the citizen effort to replant the forest has become a part of Oregon history.

Now that the post-burn trees in the Tillamook are getting fat, the Oregon Department of Forestry is planning to auction them for clearcutting, along with the forested areas that either survived or escaped the fire. For example, the Astoria District of the Clatsop State Forest has over 1,000 acres planned for clearcutting in 2002. Forestwide, the amount of logging has more than doubled in the last three years.

With very little federal forestland in the area, the Tillamook is an island of biodiversity surrounded by a sea of clearcuts and tree plantations on private lands. The survival of endangered salmon, marbled murrelets, spotted owls and other sensitive species depends on the protection of the Tillamook.

Unfortunately, the forests are managed by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), an anachronistic, rogue agency that is literally decades behind other public land management agency's practices. If you

MT. HOOD

Welcome to Mt. Hood National Forest—our nation's fourth biggest money losing national forest. Located in North Central Oregon between the Columbia River on the North and the Willamette National Forest on the South, the Mt. Hood National Forest's 1.1 million acres contain 186,200 acres of designated wilderness, over 3,000 miles of roads, and 60 current timber sales with well-over 22,000 acres proposed for logging.

The Forests of Mt. Hood range from the classic ancient forests of the Pacific Northwest with large, old Douglas firs and western hemlocks to dryer east-side transition forests dominated by ponderosa pines and oaks. Species of concern include the now

famous northern spotted owls and red tree voles as well as bald eagles, jumping slugs, peregrine falcons, rare lichens, lynx and wolverines.

April 20, 1999, marked the beginning of the 3-year treesit at Eagle Creek. Sold in 1996 under the Salvage Rider, the Eagle sales threatened a 500-acre roadless area, beautiful native forest, and the drinking water supply for 185,000 Oregonians. This resistance was the second longest road blockade in US history, second only to the infamous Warner Creek. Amazingly, the resistance was successful and the Eagle Creek timber sale was canceled on April 9, 2002.

The resistance at Eagle Creek was the latest in a proud history of direct action in the Mt. Hood National Forest. Remember Enola Hill?

WILLAMETTE

The 1.7-million acre Willamette National Forest, located in the central Oregon Cascades, is

the flagship of the Forest Service's timber sale program. The temperate rain forests of the Willamette National Forest are among the most productive in the world, and the Willamette has traditionally logged more old growth than any other forest in the country. The forest currently has more than 8,000 miles of logging roads and hundreds of thousands of acres of clearcuts.

ever want to feel good about the US Forest Service, get to know this prehistoric, scandal-plagued bunch. For example, ODF just concluded its first public comment period on an annual operations plan—ever! It took a summer of treesits, arrests and general butt-kicking on behalf of local activists to convince them of this revolutionary idea.

ODF recently implemented a controversial "structure-based management plan (SBM)" for state lands. To translate, structure-based management means "we'll pretend to create wildlife habitat while cutting everything that's bigger than a pecker pole." Under SBM, everything gets cut; there are no wildlife reserves, no protections for roadless areas, and no chance for forests to get old enough to support old-growth dependent species.

According to the ODF plan, these sensitive species are supposed to do a sort of habitat hopscotch, jumping out of cut areas into forested stands (read: young, previously logged stands), jumping out of those stands when they are cut, and so on, forever. The problem is, some species like the old forests themselves and others can't, or won't, hop to another home. SBM is a sham, plain and simple.

This summer is a great time to get involved to protect Oregon's state forestlands. ODF has lots of plans and lots to learn. Your help is needed to move us toward an end to commercial logging on Oregon's state forests.

Come on out to help support on-going direct actions in the Mt. Hood this summer. We need forest elves for nonviolent direct action, rare species surveys and timber-sale monitoring. We need folks to research and visit stores like BMC West and Keith Brown Building Supplies (which sell the products of the timber companies logging the Mt. Hood National Forest), attend timber sale auctions, engage in rural and urban outreach, and, most importantly, to help us stop 60 atrocious sales.

For more information, contact Bark at POB 12065, Portland, OR 97212; 503-331-0374; bark@spiritone.com; www.bark-out.org and the Cascadia Forest Alliance at POB 4946, Portland OR 97208; 503-241-4879; cfa@spiritone.com; www.cascadiaforestalliance.org.

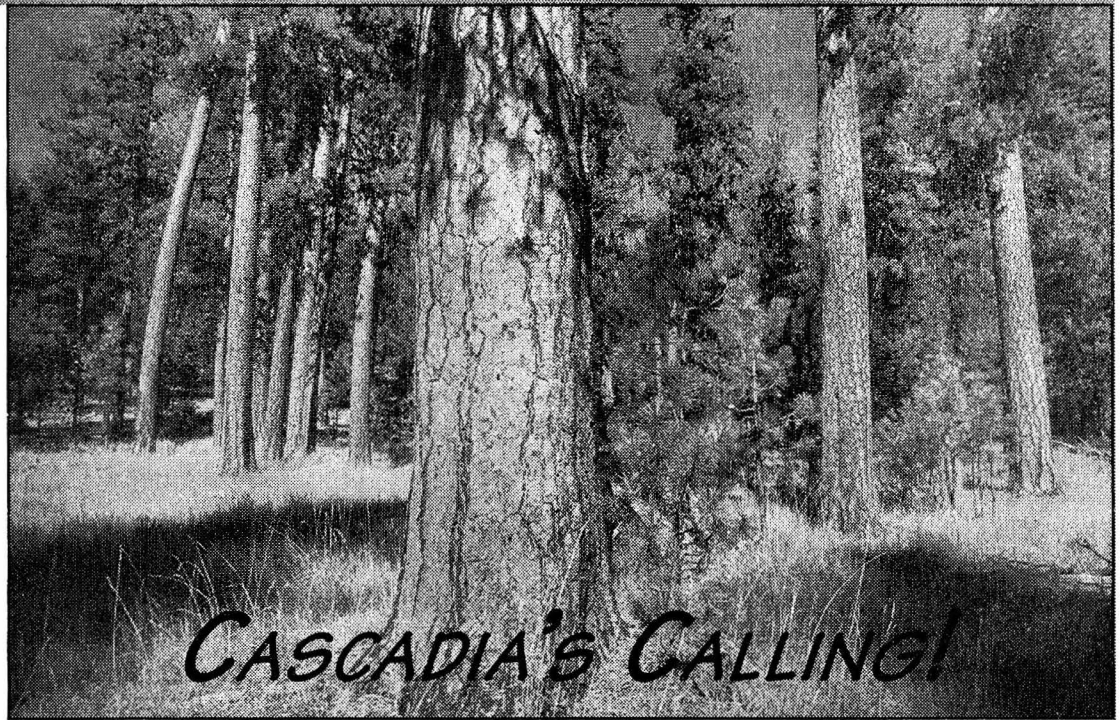


photo by Brett Cole

THE EASTSIDE

While many people in Oregon associate forest activism with the lush forests of the western Cascades and the tree-villages that inhabit them, 63% of Oregon's forests are located east of the Cascades, representing high desert and high-elevation, interior-forest ecosystems. The drier climate lends itself to a higher fire frequency and slower-growing forests.

Not unlike west-side forests, these woods are also under threat of logging due to the US Forest (dis)Service and the

Bureau of Land (mis)Management (BLM). Many of the issues are similar: d e s t r u c t i v e

projects under the guise of restoration, fire "salvage," ancient ecosystems, species habitat, roadbuilding in roadless areas, logging near or in riparian areas, etc. Livestock grazing in east-side forests is much more common and devastates riparian areas, especially in conjunction with unsustainable logging practices. The heavy presence of volcanic ash in the soil of these forests also makes recovery very difficult.

Recent Bush-era timber sales have shifted towards even larger-scale destruction than before.

Sales are planned that span thousands of acres, contain 200+ sale units, and single sale units are now as large as 350 acres! All of these sales generally fit into one of two categories: areas recovering from past logging or overgrazing which need time to heal or areas that comprise the little remaining pristine unroaded or wilderness habitat.

The Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project (BMBP) usually works on the Umatilla, Malheur and Ochoco National Forests, as well as the Prineville BLM district. One of the main tactics BMBP uses is thorough field-checking and ground-truthing, which allows for detailed and informed comments, appeals, and if necessary, lawsuits. (Direct action can be difficult in an area

where the cows outnumber the human population.)

Volunteers for field-checking or writing comments on land-management projects are welcome, as well as law students to write administrative appeals and lawyers to take pro-bono or contingency suits. Financial contributions are always needed, along with recycled paper, manual typewriters, truck repairs, film, cameras, binoculars, compasses, etc. Organizing a benefit in your town for the work we do would also be greatly appreciated. Please contact the Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, 27803 Williams Lane, Fossil, OR 97830; 541-468-2028; voicemail 541-385-9167.

KLAMATH-SISKIYOU

The renowned forests of the Klamath-Siskiyou region are some of the richest in the world. They house over 200 rare plants, and top the charts in butterfly, mollusk and tree diversity. Many species are endemic to the region. The area is still good habitat for large predators, like gray wolf and mountain lion, but plans to road and log its treasures are afoot. About one fourth of the forests in this region are still standing, but only one tenth are protected.

Over 100 timber sales on public land, threatening thousands of acres of forests, dot the map of Klamath-Siskiyou. While these timber sales are in various stages of planning and litigation, several are ready to be logged early this Summer. There are also many threatened forest stands in the south Cascades, some near Crater Lake National Park. While a bit

drier in places, these forests have classic old-growth characteristics of Cascadian forests in the Willamette and Umpqua Valleys.

Several timber sales are cloaked as fire-hazard-reduction projects. Often the Forest Service or BLM says that it needs to log certain areas to prevent the severe spread of wildfire. While its true that fire suppression and logging have radically altered the forests of this region, these activities have only been widespread in the last 50 years. Only small, non-commercial trees are overabundant in our forests. The Forest Service and BLM now use fire-hazard reduction as the primary reason to continue logging forests to feed the insatiable mills.

For more information, contact Joseph Vaile at the Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, POB 102, Ashland, OR 97520; 541-488-5789; joseph@kswild.org and Lesley Adams at the Ecology Center of the Siskiyou, 541-552-8512.

What's Different About This Year's RRR?

Our movement needs to frame issues, win campaigns, mobilize mass resistance and show the world what it means to put the Earth First! So get on down to the RRR, form affinity groups with broad skill bases, help create training models to increase the sharing of skills movement wide, and raise the level of focus and intensity at the Rendezvous.

This summer, in addition to the usual set of RRR workshops, we're bringing together groups of people to experiment with a training style that's different from previous rendezvous. We'll be providing week-long, in-depth training "tracks." A track will consist of between three to seven days of training in a particular skill area. So far the tracks include Climbing Skills and Safety, Radical Legal Skills, Movement Building, and Medical.

We'll be posting the day-to-day breakdown of what's being covered in each track so people can drop in for the parts they want (depending on the class). There'll be a morning and afternoon session, each two to three hours long. Some tracks will be in the morning, some in the afternoon, to allow participation in more than one training. There'll also be open space for traditional workshops about whatever they want and present it whenever they want. For the evening, we'll be organizing speakers and entertainment. Wikid!

We'd love to see more subjects presented in this style (Confronting Patriarchy/Sexism, Challenging White Supremacy, Organizing Backwoods Campaigns, Radical Communication, Media, Cheap Art/Creative Resistance, etc.). If you have an idea or want help finding resources, please contact Sarah at sarah@midnightspecial.net or Hambone at scoobytao11@hotmail.com.

The following is a brief description of what we know of each curriculum, the bottomliners already associated with it and their contact information.

CLIMBING SKILLS AND SAFETY
 Gear: Care, safety checking, and an equipment review (webbing, kern mantel, dynamic/semi-static/static line, carabiners)
 Knots: Tying and use of figure 8s, grapevines, butterflys, tape knots, and prusics
 Safety: prusicing, rappelling, line and anchor setting, and girthing
 More knots: In-line 8, gypsy/trucker's hitch, bowline

• Rigging: Multiple pulley systems for hauling weight and tightening lines, platform stability, anchors, and protecting ropes and the tree
 We'd like to start with safety and climbing basics, then through more advanced climbing and setting skills, and by the end of the course help the participants teach the basics at midday workshops. This will be a gear intensive course. Attendees who have gear (line, webbing, carabiners, pulleys, harnesses, etc.) should bring it. We will also gladly accept gear loans or donations from the general community.

MOVEMENT BUILDING/ORGANIZING
 Organizing 101: What is organizing? Why do we organize? Getting a group started, recruiting, persuasive communication skills
 Advanced Organizing: facilitation and group process, coalition/alliance building, strategic planning, long-term struggle planning
 Media: basic skills, messaging, information warfare, understanding symbols
 Strategic Campaigning: power mapping, stages of campaign escalation
 Anti-oppression: challenging white supremacy with a focus on gender.
 Globalization/Analysis: understanding corporate power, global south/indigenous alliance building, mechanics of capitalism, and basic ideological tools for radicals etc.
 Bottomliner: Patrick Reinsborough at patrickr@riseup.net

MEDICAL
 Fertility Awareness
 Women's Health
 Wound Care
 Herbal First Aid
 Assembling a Useful First Aid Kit
 Injury Assessment
 Evacuation Techniques
 Chemical Weapons Injury Preven. and Care
 Activist Life-style Techniques
 Demonstration Preparation and Post-Action Aftercare
 Bottomliners: MASHH Collective (Medical-Action for Activists Seeking Health and Healing) and the Black Cross Health Collective

OTHER WORKSHOPS
 Photovoltaic/Recharging: hands-on systems, themes coinciding with lecture format, including battery charging, radios, and inverters
 I plan to have enough cheap solar cells that we will actually make some full blown panels at the site. (\$2/watt)
 Communications: how to make FRS radios work better (how to get them up in trees), CB and dipoles and verticals and batteries
 Community Radio: how FM transmitters work, how to build them, why it can be cheaper/easier to buy finished ones, antennas, amplifiers, legal/FCC issues
 Aboriginal Skills: friction fire, buckskin, roadkill, shelter, fire in general
 Outdoor Themes: snow travel, winter survival/camping, map and compass, night travel

LIBERATION TECHNOLOGY
 The ex-Luddites of Oakland's DIY Skillshare Conference invite you to get in touch with your inner nerd and learn about bio-diesel and alternative fuels, solar cookers, photovoltaics, rocket stoves, energy politics, "primitive" skills, radio, and more. People can come to our parking lot, drop in on the geekfest, and learn about North American appropriate technology, maybe even at your own pace. Presented by girl Mark and teachers from the DIY Skillshare Conference. We're definitely looking for more folks to teach workshops or bring gear to play with. For information, write skillshare@tinkersworkshop.org.

RADICAL LEGAL SKILLS
 Knowing your rights: civil rights and common techniques the police and other law enforcement agencies use to trick you out of them
 Basic legal system information: the criminal legal system from arrest to trial as well as choices facing defendants at each step
 Shooting the Wounded: how to document your injuries for lawsuits, the media, and criminal defense
 Being involved in your case
 Doing legal research
 How to do court support: creating street heat, organizing jury observers, creating court displays
 Dealing with lawyers
 Bottomliners: Midnight Special Law Collective, contact Sarah Coffey at sarah@midnightspecial.net
 Please let them know in advance if you can make copies or if you're planning on attending, so they can get a sense of numbers.

LEGAL SKILLS
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OTHER WORKSHOPS
 Photovoltaic/Recharging: hands-on systems, themes coinciding with lecture format, including battery charging, radios, and inverters
 I plan to have enough cheap solar cells that we will actually make some full blown panels at the site. (\$2/watt)
 Communications: how to make FRS radios work better (how to get them up in trees), CB and dipoles and verticals and batteries
 Community Radio: how FM transmitters work, how to build them, why it can be cheaper/easier to buy finished ones, antennas, amplifiers, legal/FCC issues
 Aboriginal Skills: friction fire, buckskin, roadkill, shelter, fire in general
 Outdoor Themes: snow travel, winter survival/camping, map and compass, night travel

MEDICAL
 Fertility Awareness
 Women's Health
 Wound Care
 Herbal First Aid
 Assembling a Useful First Aid Kit
 Injury Assessment
 Evacuation Techniques
 Chemical Weapons Injury Preven. and Care
 Activist Life-style Techniques
 Demonstration Preparation and Post-Action Aftercare
 Bottomliners: MASHH Collective (Medical-Action for Activists Seeking Health and Healing) and the Black Cross Health Collective

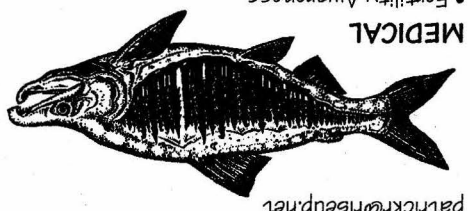
MOVEMENT BUILDING/ORGANIZING
 Organizing 101: What is organizing? Why do we organize? Getting a group started, recruiting, persuasive communication skills
 Advanced Organizing: facilitation and group process, coalition/alliance building, strategic planning, long-term struggle planning
 Media: basic skills, messaging, information warfare, understanding symbols
 Strategic Campaigning: power mapping, stages of campaign escalation
 Anti-oppression: challenging white supremacy with a focus on gender.
 Globalization/Analysis: understanding corporate power, global south/indigenous alliance building, mechanics of capitalism, and basic ideological tools for radicals etc.
 Bottomliner: Patrick Reinsborough at patrickr@riseup.net

CLIMBING SKILLS AND SAFETY
 Gear: Care, safety checking, and an equipment review (webbing, kern mantel, dynamic/semi-static/static line, carabiners)
 Knots: Tying and use of figure 8s, grapevines, butterflys, tape knots, and prusics
 Safety: prusicing, rappelling, line and anchor setting, and girthing
 More knots: In-line 8, gypsy/trucker's hitch, bowline

LEGAL SKILLS
 Knowing your rights: civil rights and common techniques the police and other law enforcement agencies use to trick you out of them
 Basic legal system information: the criminal legal system from arrest to trial as well as choices facing defendants at each step
 Shooting the Wounded: how to document your injuries for lawsuits, the media, and criminal defense
 Being involved in your case
 Doing legal research
 How to do court support: creating street heat, organizing jury observers, creating court displays
 Dealing with lawyers
 Bottomliners: Midnight Special Law Collective, contact Sarah Coffey at sarah@midnightspecial.net
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A detailed black and white illustration of a fish, possibly a trout or salmon, shown in profile facing left. The drawing captures the texture of the scales, the shape of the fins, and the structure of the gills.

2002 EFI Rendezvous July 1-8: A brief guide of what to bring

cool, but they will dry slowly and freeze your
but if they get soaked — cotton kills!)
Sturdy, waterproof boots will help keep your
feet dry and support your ankles during the
hike in and other activities. Please consider
bringing a bandanna and full camo for Cap-
ture the Flag and other games. It's dark in
the woods at night, a flashlight will make
finding your tent much easier. Lastly, do not
expect that other people or "the movement"
will provide for you. Do not expect that there
will be a free box where you can find stuff
you should have brought! Come prepared to
take care of yourself and to contribute!

The Basics

This year's Round River Rendezvous will
be held somewhere in southwestern Wash-
ington. Although at present we can't tell
you exactly where it'll be, we can pretty
much predict what you'll need to make
your Rende experience a good one.

Food

Come prepared to cook and feed yourself
and your companions. So bring cooking gear
and, at the very least, your own cup and
spoon. If you're hitching or hopping
freights and thus can't carry
much weight, consider shipping
food to Portland, Vancouver (WA)
or Olympia or stopping to procure food in
town before coming out. Spontaneous mini-
kitchens (and maybe a large group one) will

CRUSTY OLD-TIME FIDDLE CONTEST

Okay, I know it's the wrong part of the country, but we've seen you
punks running around for the past year or so with your fiddles and
banjos... So, you are hereby challenged to come strut your stuff in an
old-time fiddle contest. Get your butt on stage. We don't care how
little time you've been playing — this kind of music isn't supposed to be
private. Incentives include: homebrew, vegan treats, tapes, and other
goodies as prizes. Sorry, guitar-playing singer/songwriters can go beg
for brew at the nearest campfire instead. For more information, con-
tact girl_mark_fire@yahoo.com.

MARCHING DRUM: MUSICAL AND TACTICAL

There will be musical and tactical workshops by the Infernal Noise
Brigade, Seattle's marching drum orchestra and street performance
crew activated by massive political and cultural uprisings. We are a
tactical mobile rhythmic unit consisting of a majorette, medics, tacti-
cal advisors, rifle-twirling contingent, flag corps, noise-generating cart,
two singers and nine percussionists. It is our intention to be the
soundtrack of insurrection, rendering ideology obsolete and practicing
our politics of pleasure and subversion on the streets.
www.infernalnoise.org

More Information

Due to our refusal to sign a permit and
the nature of the law enforcement officers
in this area, we may encounter Freddy ha-
rassment. Be aware that you are coming to
a potential action site. Be sure your vehicle
is legal and insured and that you have a le-
gal driver. Remember we are simply individu-
als exercising our right to assemble on our
publicly owned lands.

Security

(Congratulations,
Eagle Creek defenders!)

For more detailed information about the
RRR, including site location, consult the
next issue of the Earth First! Journal
(Litha, June 21). You can also call 541-683-
1645 or visit the Journal's website at
www.earthfirstjournal.org.



The 2002 Earth First! Round River Rendezvous July 1-8 in the Cascades

paralleled Mt. St. Helens Volcanic Monument, four wilderness areas and borders the Mt. Rainier National Park and the Yakima Indian Reservation. The edges of the Giff are only an hour car ride from Portland and two hours from the Seattle-Tacoma area. The Giff is also within reach of the

Oregon Coast, Eugene, North Winberry and Fall Creek treests, Olympic National Park, the North Cascades National Park and the Canadian border. If you are coming far, plan on staying long!

Despite its value as a forest, the US government is trying to turn the Giff into a tree farm. The US Forest Service seems especially greedy for the remaining and ever decreasing ancient forests. Forty-one timber sales are currently planned in the Giff and by July we will be actively involved in defending a number of them. Think about spending the Summer in defense of ancient trees and the ecosystem they define.

Large parking areas in the Giff are limited, so we are planning on running a shuttle system between the Rendezvous site and the parking area. Come prepared to be separated from your car (egad!). The organizers ask that you come with a cash donation to defray the few costs associated with assuring a safe and productive gathering and to help provide seed money for next year's RRR and Organizers' Conf: \$20 to \$25 is expected, but no one will be turned away. Out of respect the local inhabitants and each other, leave your dog at home. We ask that all who come bring respect for the land and the community that gather there. So please plan on contributing and working to ensure that outcome.

In an affirmation of our natural right to assemble in the commons, we will not be seeking permission from the US government to meet in this manner. Be forewarned that they might attempt to harass us for such exercise of our rights. We ask you to try and plan to join the community for a rousing action on the final day of rendezvous, Monday, July 8. There will also be actions planned all that week, so plan to stay awhile. Earth First!

It is our pleasure as the 2002 Earth First! Round River Rendezvous Organizing Committee to announce that this year's rendezvous will take place July 1-8 in Cascadia's Gifford Pinchot National Forest in what is temporarily called Washington State.

The Round River Rendezvous is a week-long wilderness gathering of hundreds of folk from around the world dedicated to taking action to protect the Earth. A diverse bunch is expected to attend this year's rendezvous: from activists with decades of experience, to people new to the movement, families, punks, rednecks, hippies and people who wear Fatagonia gear. Days are spent hiking and relaxing, networking, training and meeting. Everyone is encouraged to share skills, teach and learn, work hard and have a good time.

Examples of workshops this year include wilderness skills, native plant identification, wildcrafting and herbal medicine, sitting and setting, media skills, gender circles, eco-spirituality, timber sale monitoring, markets campaigning, rural organizing, labor organizing, blockading techniques, street medic training, communications training, self-defense skills, anti-oppression workshops, movement history, bioregional updates, security training, tactics and strategy sessions and whatever you are willing to share.

Cascadia is the name of the bioregion around the Cascade Mountains which stretch from present-day California up into what some white guys called British Columbia. This is an area of unmatched biological activity with some of the world's biggest trees, incredible runs of salmon, and amazing mountain peaks. The Gifford Pinchot is nestled between 14,410-foot Mt. Rainier, 12,276-foot Mt. Adams and the active volcano of Mt. St. Helens, only 22 years in renewal from its last major eruption. The area includes the scenic Columbia Gorge, Mt. Hood (pictured above), caverns, ice caves, lava beds, mushrooms and berries galore. The area contains amazing diversity in the different elevations from the wet westside to the drier eastside. The forest includes the un-

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Tales from the Subway

Pigeons ride the subway trains of New York City all the time. When the trains layover at the terminal to be cleaned, pigeons amble through the doors looking for forgotten crumbs. Being pigeons, they do not listen for the announcement that the train is leaving, and the doors close them in. They generally ride to the next stop, exiting as soon as the doors open. Pigeons ride trains at several outdoor terminals and stations, like the Stillwell Avenue station on Coney Island. In the *New York Times* on March 5, Francisco Pe, a conductor on the A train, said he watched pigeons step off his train and promptly fly back to the terminal where they boarded again. Sarah Canty, a train cleaner, noticed that the pigeons might be evolving into more alert straphangers. "When the bell goes off, you watch them," she said. "They know the bell like we do."

Nothing is Sacred

A State University of New York at Buffalo professor, in a recent ecology journal, expressed confidence that eventually butterflies could be genetically altered to permit advertising logos and other designs on their wings.



Playtime for Piggy

Germany's agriculture ministry announced it would implement the European Union guidelines that requires pig farmers to spend quality time with their animals. The guidelines recommend 20 seconds of quality time per pig per day, plus playthings and brighter lighting.

NATURE BITES BACK



Earth Liberation Front cell participant "tree" struggled with this logger's chainsaw blade. In an effort to save her forest family, she performed direct action sabotage on the ecoterrorist's truck.

A Family Vendetta

Some residents of the village of Withington, Gloucestershire are getting late mail delivery these days because of an angry pheasant's vendetta against the local postman. Geoffrey Sandles, a mail carrier for 24 years, claims the bird lies in wait as he makes his rounds. Whenever Sandles approaches certain houses in the neighborhood the pheasant dive-bombs him and flaps its wings furiously. Sometimes it even chases his van. Sandles says the attacks began the day after he accidentally ran over another bird several miles away.

Newts with Nerve

A 29-year-old man died after he drank whiskey and swallowed an Oregon rough-skinned newt on a dare. Two hours after the incident he went into cardiopulmonary arrest and was resuscitated, yet he died later that day. The skin of the Oregon rough-skinned newt contains "Tetrodotoxin," a powerful neurotoxin that blocks the conduction of nerve signals. This leads to muscular paralysis and respiratory arrest—usually the cause of death. In 1971, a similar incident occurred in Brookings, Oregon, when a 26-year-old man swallowed five newts. He had been drinking beer, consumed the amphibians on a bet, vomited and survived.



FROG MAN

They call me
the frog man
and my Green Party began
when my tail dropped off
and my voice changed.

Gribbit gribbit! Hop hop hop
you like my fine long legs?
don't you dare EAT THEM!

They call me the frog man
not a hot dog smog pog grog man
or a Dilly bar lily pad silly shrilly frilly Fad.
but of course the time for rhyme
opportunist crime for a nickel or a dime
has passed.
and my hero... is Kermit! Of course.

They call me the frog man
I carry the essence of swamp
under my armpits... wanna sniff?
I am...the...only...frog...
you'll see...
all summer.

But come spring, I'll meet a she frog
we'll hop hop hop hop... gribbit... gribbit
we'll eat some flies, harmonize
photosynthesize, then (whisper) fantasize!
find a quiet place
share a fleeting ("ahem") frogasm
(she'll lay the eggs)
and I'll be off. Hop hop hop gribbit, gribbit.

Hey! It's just biology
didn't say I was a sappy romantic frog man
or I'd write a poem about
muskrat love or something.

—Thomas Handy Loon

Armed with Visions

TREESIT

Swaying in the breeze,
your boat, your child's rocket ship
made from climbing rope and tarps
woven from one ancient conifer to
the other

with banner hanging in between
every light breeze
every sprinkling of needles
moves you sensitively
on pine scented air

You said you can see beauty from up there
in between the checkerboard pattern
they've made of earth
In the morning the sound of chainsaws
will awaken you
from star studded sleep
the trees you wove onto
marked for cutting
with broad blue paint

our support holds you up
in the thin webbing of climbing ropes
delicate and strong
that ragged steel could cut in seconds

At dawn you see a bear cub
hunting for her breakfast
what shall be her home when all
trees have been felled
and earth is only a mess of dry
brush and dirt
soon to be sprayed with toxic chemicals

"Isn't \$80 billion enough?" you ask,
"NO," say the broad metallic jaws of greed
that gobble the last strands of wilderness
NO, says consumerism
NO, says this way of life that ends life
as your boat of peace
hangs patiently on the trees

—Jean Varda

A WITCH'S CHARM

The land doesn't care
About the FBI
Lies passive under circling planes
At sunset
Takes our bombs and pesticides
Sprays
Gives us poison water and radio-
active
Fruit.

The land is land is plants is you
Is earth is water is the pull of
The moon
Is dirt is life is death renewed
The land is you
Walk softly

I dreamt a dream I was hugging a
Tree
My bared breasts the last thing
Between a chainsaw and the tree
Tears ran between my legs, mixed
With blood and became a river
I woke up determined to defend
The dawn.

—Laurel Luddite

...clear as cut glass & just as dangerous...

STAND!

This is it!
It's now or never!
This is the last chance to take a stand!
These beautiful forests, otherwise known as public land,
are once again going under the governmental chainsaw against our will.

"But still, there's plenty left," I hear many folks say.
I do too.
OK, That's true.
You know why?
Because warriors long before you put their lives on the line
to make it that way.

By 1961, more than half of our National Forests
had been clearcut by Uncle Sam
who doesn't give a damn what you say.

"That's why the Endangered Species Act was enacted," you may reply.
Why look what happened in '95, sir
Clinton's Timber Salvager raped Mother Nature
of 4.5 billion board feet, stabbed her in the back
like The Endangered Species Act *and* The Forest Management Act *and*
The Northwest Forest Plan *and* the 1990 ruling of the Federal Man
were not even there!

How dare you just stand there like you don't even care?!
History is repeating itself!
Just exactly where will the wildlife go
when the government has logged it all out?
The truth of history is beyond doubt!
If you think it won't happen just the same, you're without a brain!
Either that, or you just don't care.

What 'cha gonna say to your kids when they ask,
"Where were you when they took it all away?"
"Where?," I can hear you (and your quiet conscience) say,
"Duh, I was there (with my head up my ass. I just didn't care)."

—Grasshopper a.k.a. V-Kelly

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Please send poems to:

Warrior Poet Society

P.O. Box 14501

Berkeley, CA 94712-5501



CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST DIRGE

The cows gotta go from the Coronado
They simply cannot stay
The cows gotta go from the Coronado
They've more than had their day

Cold are the hearts of the ranchers there
Who think of naught but gain
A century and more they've leached the blood
From the Coronado's veins

And more's the pity is their cold embrace
With the Forest Service man
Who signs the pass for the pillage and rape
Of the Coronado's land

And I'm crying for the birds
And I'm crying for the trees
And I'm crying for the beauty lost
To those men of selfish dreams

Sad is the song that the sycamore sings
With the wind sighing through her leaves
And silent now are the streams that once
Flowed cool and clear and clean

So I'm waiting for the day
When they drive those cows away
And I'm waiting for the time
When the land is truly mine

The cows gotta go from the Coronado
They simply cannot stay
The cows gotta go from the Coronado
They've more than had their day
They've more than had their day

—Tim Lengerich

DEAR SFB: LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

To the Editor,

I am here in the metropolis that doesn't know vocabulary like "recycling," "native rights" or "conservation." There lays, at the very heart of the consciousness of this city, an ideal, which states, "All for themselves! Sink or swim! Higher, More." Here there are the headquarters for many megacorps and eco-terrorists, and the scale is all out of whack. I try and talk to someone about "native" peoples and all anyone knows about are "Indians." Some people have never even seen a forest. How are people to (re)act if they don't know?

Anyway, my question to you is: How can the eco-terrorists be beat by eco-warriors who actually do have a mind away from the concrete jungle? Around here the industrial consciousness outweighs any sort of ecological one. How can there become propagated a balance in such a naïve environment?

Endlessly New York,

—KENNETH,

THE FREE-RANGE FELLOWSHIP

Sisters and Brothers,

At a time when we need all the unity we can get, Anamaria Flores', "Attention EF!ers... Step away from the Hippie," rings alarm bells. While her stereotypes fit the TV and Dead Tour version of "Hippie," she should be challenging why such trivial, depoliticized fragments of a movement that shook the foundation of Babylon remain in pop culture. Had the Dead steered their followers toward activism, they would have been neutralized as surely as Ochs, Lennon, and Marley. History Channel? Gimme a break!

When five percent of the Earth's people consume nearly half its resources, all but the poorest classes are "privileged"

by world standards. Is Ms. Flores chastising hippies for choosing communes over suburbia, potlucks over McDonald's, kind bud over Budweiser, Winter in Cuba or Mexico over a new SUV, or patchwork clothes over Wal-Mart crap? Would she have us all work 9 to 5, enriching capitalist bosses leaving scant time for activism?

Similar guilt tripping in the '60s, as well as the notion that if we weren't in the ghetto being bitten by rats and beaten by pigs daily we were no better than the Klan, led to demoralization

demands of freedom for all; the spiritual and the political. Hippie represented love over hate, art and humor over seriousness. It explored every alternative and exposed every hypocrisy.

The Rainbow Family is perhaps today's closest cultural descendant. Sadly, some of Ms. Flores' critiques fit. Class consciousness is weak. Many could be described as "a-political tree huggers." Indeed some Rainbow "elders" trace Rainbow gatherings to the 1970 "Vortex Festival," a COINTELPRO event outside Portland, Oregon, flooded with federal drugs staged to sabotage the "People's Army Jamboree," a

their information, banners and militancy. Up to 30,000, mostly young people, who are receptive to alternatives, attend each year, July 1-7 (this year in Wisconsin). Thousands attend regional gatherings. All are free and in federally embattled national forests. Check out www.welcomehome.org for details. Be wary of rowdy drunks near the entrance who sometimes intimidate newcomers. Alcohol and weapons are not allowed inside. There are few other rules.

We need to build unity and healing for the crucial struggles ahead. We can "step away" from each other until we are all alone. And lets not take ourselves too seriously. In the words of folksinger Charlie King, "Serious men are ruining our world." In the words of Ms. Flores, this is no time for separatism.

In solidarity,

—B. HIPPIE



which if not orchestrated by, surely played into the hands of the enemy. As frustration with the slow progress of nonviolent resistance grew, a more-militant-than-thou ethos left us wide open to provocateurs and impacted public support.

Hippie at its best united hedonism and activism; freedom of choice and

militant anti-war "welcome" to V.P. Spiro Agnew and Atty. General John Mitchell. The rhetoric was pro-peace vs. anti-war, but the effect was divisive. Then as now, it was so much easier to fight each other than an overwhelming system.

Earth First! and other activist groups need to come to Rainbow Gatherings with

Hello All,

Over the last couple of issues I have been highly intrigued by your journal. I think you continue to do a wonderful job of presenting issues that are "overlooked" by the mass media.

An idea: It would be great to see a short segment on how to write to those of us in prison. I have been writing letters, but I worry about things such as—Do they have paper? Are they provided with any postage? How to write overseas (effectively)? Having a quarter-page bit about the basics of letter writing might encourage many free people to write more often.

Finally (last idea): The focus of your journal seems to be on the ELF and forestry issues. That's good. However, on a personal level, I would love to hear more about the ALF and the issues surrounding all liberation.

Certainly, I don't suggest that there needs to be a division of the groups. Any way—You Rock.

—JACOB BAILEY

Editors' Note: Thanks for the suggestions, the editorial collective will try to write something on how to write political prisoners. Meanwhile please see page 67.

Dear SFB,

I am a long-time environmental campaigner from Tasmania, Australia. I am shocked by your apparent support of sabotage of machinery as a legitimate form of environmental campaigning. Recently in Tasmania there has been a spate of sabotage of logging equipment, which has caused four million dollars worth of damage. One cannot express in words how much damage this has done to the environmental movement. In one night a couple of lunatics have undone many months (even years) of work in trying to make the forest protection movement more mainstream (which is the only way we will get anywhere). Sabotage of logging equipment goes totally against the essence of non-violent action and is essentially "fighting fire with fire" which in my mind is what violence is. And as we know, violence solves nothing. I urge you, I beg you, change your policy on equipment sabotage to one of total condemnation. I look forward to your reply.

Regards,

—MICHAEL PULLINGER
MICKEYGP@HOTMAIL.COM

To the Editor,

I reside in New York City but this does not mean that I care not for the wide and wondrous expanse that is

encapsulated by the other coast. Truthfully, this expanse is where my home is. Even though the thought of ecological conservation doesn't cross the mind of the average city dweller daily, I still maintain a consciousness of this issue, no matter how completely distanced I am from any type of wilderness. From this physically displaced environ-

the state of things at the conferences and protests between the Coconino/activists/locals and the tourist board, that the big money had lobbied for this plan to go through. Some absurdly gigantic check was needed to appeal the plan. The state of things ended up in the hands of the activists, who, in their own creative ways, battled the eco-terrorists. I



ment, I remain concerned. One issue that still weighs on my mind from the days of being a desert-drawn wanderer is the vulnerability of the Painted Desert.

Before I left Arizona there was a giant tumult over land rights in the Oak Creek Valley. The mainstay of the conflict (between the age-old enemies: the Conscious vs. the Greedy) was the destruction of land for the building of a 36-hole golf course. Now, the land in question, the outer part and mouth of a long canyon, had certain quirks to it. It was plainly obvious, from

do not know what has come of it.

It seems this is the commonplace routine in many similar situations. Hope quashed by big numbers. But in this case there is a separate reality. This particular canyon had been a non-stationary home to me and a band of friends/family for weeks. It had become apparent from night one that there was an essence to the canyon that remained elusive yet very real. The feeling, noted by the experienced, was that there was someone tracing your footsteps directly behind. Sometimes the notion grew

to such extremes that one would spin around, hoping to catch someone in their fiendish deed. There would never be anyone there. Upon researching, I discovered that "guardian spirits" had been placed long ago by the tribes of the greater region just prior to their relocations. This surprised no one. It was obvious, to the knowing, that the canyon was populated with invisible presences.

So now, from my secluded house in the middle of Queens, I giggle (tears half from laughing, half from sorrow) while I imagine fierce ghosts taunting golfers and gawkers while their birdies are demolished to scores far below par. One wonders if they will ever come back to play a round on that green.

Hoping (and knowing) all is well,

—ALEXANDR JONES

Hey EF!

I must respond to the letter in the Eostar issue by Oregon Forest Elf who wants womyn to once again be silenced about misogynist violence within the ranks of the movement for the sake of "unity."

As I recall from the late '60s/early '70s, it was just such patriarchal bullshit within the civil rights/anti-war movements that helped to motivate the womyn's uprising from those communities and birthed the 1970's womyn's liberation movement.

Elf worries about the "negative effects that can ripple through a community" when womyn find their voice and use it, but doesn't mention the "negative effects that can ripple through a community" when men violently rape and violate womyn.

continued on next page

KEEP UNDER 300 WORDS PLEASE...

YET, MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

continued from previous page

How does this rape affect "trust and unity" in the movement?

I've often heard or read the phrase "the rape of the Earth" but it seems at least two people within the movement have no clue about human victims of rape. The rape of one womyn means no womyn is safe. The rape of one womyn is a clear message to all womyn, creating fear and distrust in us all. We're not safe walking the streets at night, nor amongst our male comrades in the environmental activist community.

Oregon Forest Elf talks about "rumors," so I re-read the original article, which included a first-hand report of the action against the rapist. The group taking action included his victim. This first-hand report by someone involved, a witness to the action, states that the rapist protested that rape is not a violent act. It also included reports of his email to the group in which he admits, "I raped a woman," calls it a "drunken mistake," yet talks about his feelings of violation. The article also states that he earlier admitted to raping a girl when he was 16. When a perpetrator admits his guilt more than once, the "allegations" of rape cannot be considered "rumors."

The days of womyn's silence for the sake of a unity which excludes us or our safety are long gone. If we are to "unify the activist community" as Oregon Forest Elf asks, we must unify to fight the rape and violation of the Earth as well as our own bodies, minds and hearts. Silencing womyn will never bring unity, except among misogynist men.

Trust us, sleep well y'all.

—THE FLBLA

(FRIENDS OF LORENA BABBIT
LIBERATION ARMY)

(A CUT ABOVE THE REST, BRINGING
YOU RAZOR-SHARP ANALYSIS)

Dear Earth First!

Here in my community, we currently have an issue where the local newspaper (*The Press-Citizen*) is selling some land that borders a 19-acre wooded park on the edge of Iowa City. City council has just passed a measure that gave the OK for a local developer to build on the site. There is a grassroots group in town, Friends of Hickory Hill Park, that has taken up the fight to save the undeveloped land that surrounds the park. Friends of Hickory Hill newsletter: www.jccn.iowa-city.ia.us/~FOHHP/newletter.htm.

My question is, what kind of action can be taken to discourage development of said land? The grassroots group has had very little success convincing the local government to put a halt to the project.

Also, currently there are no paved trails in the park, but this summer the city will be installing three paved loop trails, under the disguise of making the park compliant with the Americans with Disability Act. The Friends of Hickory Hill have also had little success in fighting this project.

Any advice on what can be done or any examples of similar circumstances?

Who else may I contact for further advice?

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

—IOWA ACTION
IOWAEF@YAHOO.COM

Dear Cow Dung fer Brains,

During the week of June 13-18 in Madison, Wisconsin, there will be an event that will strike a match of resistance in America. This flame of resistance will burn for all the atrocities that have been committed inside the 50 states and abroad by the machine we call the US. At the controls of this machine, have been the politicians and corporate criminals that seek to oppress and destroy everything in its path. We have begun to dismantle parts of the global machines—the WTO, IMF, World Bank, G8; but we have not faced the most deadly machine, yet.

We will face this machine during the conference of the *70th Annual US Conference of Mayors*, June 14-18 in Madison, Wisconsin. We hope to employ some of the tactics that have worked against the global empire, such as mass demonstrations, direct action and creative resistance,

but we will need the support and action of many to accomplish this feat. So here is what we need:

1. We need folks from all across the US to join us. If you are traveling to the G8, then plan to come to Madison first. If you are attending the North American Anarchist Conference then come here the following week. If you are a student then plan a tour of all three! If you are doing gnarly actions in the woods then take a break—if you can.

2. Spread the word. We will work hard to make this a successful occasion, but we need the power of many to pull this off. Visit our website for outreach information, www.resist-the-mayors.org. Volunteer to be a coordinator of a travel hub from your bioregion or area.

3. Let us know that you are coming. We will have plenty of space for many folks. We will try to provide as much food as we can to all in attendance. Connect to us on our webpage.

4. Give us the dirt on your local mayors. We will incorporate it into our actions and our corporate criminals and dirt bag mayors trading cards.

Help us resist the mayors,
—CPR (CREATIVE PEOPLES
RESISTANCE)



HOME IS WHERE THE REVOLT BEGINS!

BY SARAH KAYE

I read with interest John John's insightful diatribe against the transience of the "hipoisie" and the temptation to see the scene as cooler on the other coast (see *EFJ February-March 2002*). Bioregionalism—knowing local watersheds, plant species, energy cycles and critters—is important. Returning home, or staying put and making a place home, is essential to developing this kind of understanding. I heartily agree and would go even further.

Going local or native isn't just about critters, it is about people, too. The human layer—at least for those of us Earth Firsters who believe in feminism or group process as much as saving the wild—is as intricate and beautiful, complicated and messed up as the natural layers.

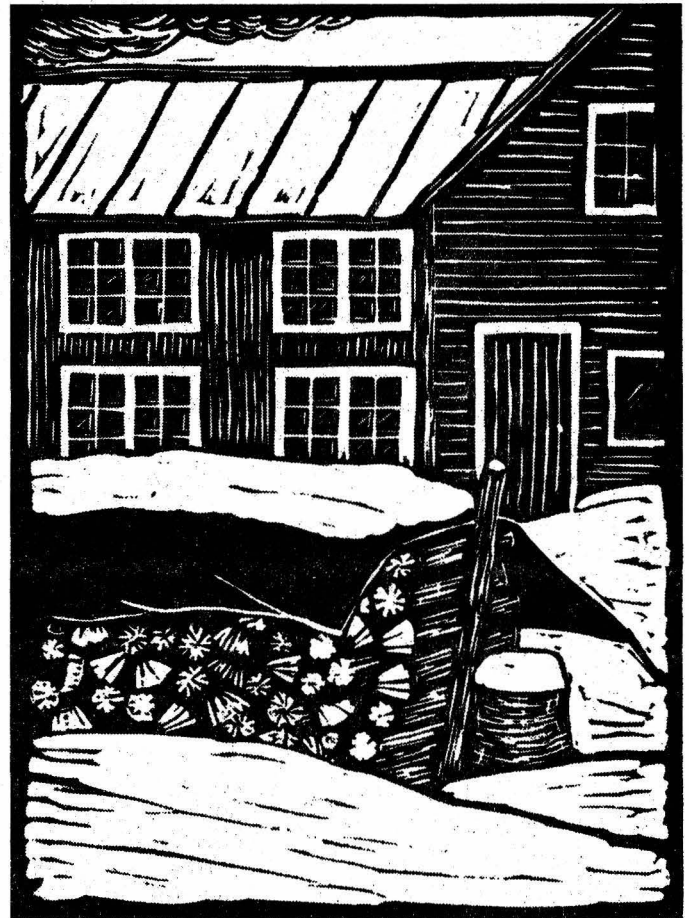
What does the human locale look like? Well, to begin with, who lived in your area historically? If the answer is "Native Americans," look again. Who specifically? How? What did they do, eat and live in? What struggles ensued between European settlers, colonizers and armies? When? We all know about the genocide committed by European capitalists and settlers, but what is the particular story for your locale?

Who settled in your area? Where did they come from, and why did they come? When? What was their architecture? Did they farm? Mine? Cut trees? How has development occurred? How have rural areas changed? Did your area grow at the turn of the century, after World War II or more recently? Whose neighborhood was plowed for the highway, the new mall and other recent features in your community? Who used to live and work in these abandoned warehouses, flats, apartments, houses and barns that we squat? Why did they leave?

Answering these questions can open new doors to local battles to protect nature. Knowing more about your place makes campaigns and actions more creative, more exciting, more risky.

We spend a lot of time lambasting strip malls, super-highways, chain restaurants and other manifestations of corporatized space. But in some ways, to pay them so much attention is to give them power. To look behind the molded plastic world, the progressive facade, is to see a rich, diverse, beautiful and also power-ugly humanity.

We also spend a lot of time lambasting the yuppiedom of SUV drivers or the ignorance of Joe Six Pack. By "seeing" only the mainstream cultural influence in everyone, we neglect a reality where most people are attached to place, culture and family, in ways that actually open them to radical ideas. In some locales, concerns about certain types of cancer are brewing. In others, suspicion of the federal government has influenced thought for generations. In others still, the shadow economy, built on relationships of trust between extended families, friends and neighbors, is more complex and extensive than its store-bought counterpart.



Being local, going native, is more than knowing your native species and protecting nearby wild places. It is knowing local people, and their local struggles against oppression, relentless extraction of profit and mind-numbing standardization. It is seeing through the veneer of progress and recognizing local struggles for autonomy, in all their sizes and shapes. To not see this is to look through the same neoliberal lens of those whom we oppose.

In my part of the country, we joke that we are simply a training ground for radical activists who leave for a coast once they get enough emails from friends or lovers telling them it is "better" there. We go through cycles of building up a good community around a specific campaign or project, only to have everyone leave. When people leave, they take with them priceless knowledge of the local natural and political landscape. Where they go, they are attached to nothing and have nothing to lose, but they also have little to gain. The most difficult, yet most important struggles are at home.

Sarah Kaye grew up in a shopping mall in east central Illinois. Today, her efforts to support local, autonomous food systems take her to both sides of the Mississippi.



The Biotechnology Industry

BY DICTATOR WATCH

The Earth is not dying, it is being killed by corporations such as the biotechnology industries, and the people who are killing it have names and addresses.

The biotechnology industry is moving forward with its crusade to redesign life into packets of optimum profitability and convenience. In the first part of Dictator Watch's series to identify these eco-terrorists (see *EF!* February-March 2002), the leaders in the cloning industry were exposed. Below is both an update on cloning and more information about genetic engineering (GE) and the six members of the recently formed Agriculture Biotechnology Council (ABC).

The Cloning Industry

Cloning scientists are working on replicating pets and endangered species to make their wacky Frankenscience more palatable to the public and even more profitable for themselves. With funding from the Apollo Group, *Mark Westhusin* from Texas A&M University, together with *Lou Hawthorne*, chief executive officer (CEO) of Genetic Savings and Clone, Inc. (GSC), successfully produced the world's first cat clone in December. According to GSC's website, which features a photo of the kitten "CC" in a glass beaker, GSC is expecting to begin commercial cat cloning later this year and is working on cloning the first dog, Missy.



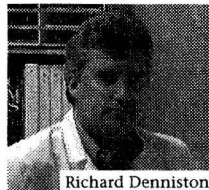
Lou Hawthorne and Missy

Westhusin can be contacted at mwesthusin@tamu.edu. Hawthorne and GSC can be contacted at the GSC Texas Office, 3312 Longmire Dr, College Station, TX 77845; GSC California Office, 80 Liberty Ship Way Ste 22, Sausalito, CA 94965; (888) 833-6063; info@savingsandclone.com; www.savingsandclone.com.



Mark Westhusin

Also active in this area are *Betsy Dresser*, senior vice president of research for the Audubon Nature Institute and director of the Audubon Center for Research of Endangered Species, www.auduboninstitute.org, and *Richard Denniston*, CEO of Lazon BioTechnologies, Louisiana Business and Technology Center, South Stadium Dr, Baton Rouge, LA 70803; (888) 882-8918; rdenniston@agctr.lsu.edu; www.lazon.com.



Richard Denniston

What these examples illustrate is that all of the industry talk about developing cloning for disease therapy is merely misleading propaganda. It is a business, nothing more, and if public acceptance can be gained through selling clones of Fluffy, this opens the way to any application.

Meanwhile, Infigen, the self-claimed "leading livestock cloning firm" and patent holder of nuclear transfer cloning technology, announced in February that it had successfully cloned prize boars. Chief Financial Officer (CFO) *Eric Postel* said, "We wouldn't do it if we couldn't make some money." He can be contacted at Infigen, Inc., 1825 Infinity Dr, DeForest, WI 53532; (608) 846-0500; www.infigen.com.



Eric Postel

Even more ominously, *Dr. Lu Guangxiu* at Xiangya Medical College in Changsa, China, claims to have cloned dozens of human embryos since 1999. There are reportedly at least three other teams in China that are also active. (US scientists are demanding the right to clone humans, stating that otherwise there will be a "cloning gap").

Scientists in China and South Korea have been attempting cross-species cloning. In Korea, *Hwang Woo Suk* of Seoul National University tried to clone a Siberian tiger in both domestic cat and lion eggs, and *Dr. Park Se Pil*, director of the Maria Infertility Medical Institute in Seoul, put human DNA in cow eggs.

Genetic Engineering

Moving on to the treacherous field of GE, the ABC represents the top corporations of the industry and is dedicated to the end of free choice for consumers and farmers. ABC members include:

Monsanto

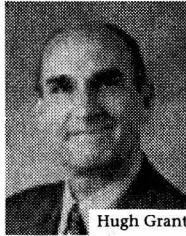


Hendrik Verfaillie

The "vision" of Monsanto is for "abundant food and a healthy environment." How disingenuous. Everyone at Monsanto is an eco-terrorist. To give an idea of how well corporate eco-crime pays, CEO Hendrick Verfaillie had an annual salary of \$850,000 in 2000, a \$925,000 bonus and a stock

option of more than one million shares that will yield a gain of \$34 million if the stock price rises 10 percent.

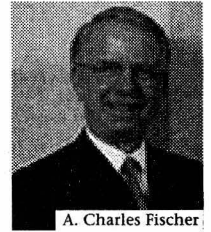
The people at the top of Monsanto are: *Hendrick Verfaillie, president and CEO; Hugh Grant, executive vice president (EVP) and chief operating officer (COO); Dr. Robert Fraley, EVP and chief technology officer; Cheryl Morley, president, Animal Agriculture Group; Janet Holloway, chief information officer; and Sarah S. Hull, senior vice president, Public Affairs.* They can be contacted at Monsanto's headquarters, 800 N. Lindbergh Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63167; (314) 694-1000; www.monsanto.com. A list of Monsanto's many research locations can be found through its website.



Hugh Grant

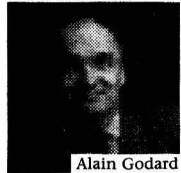
Dow AgroSciences

- Global headquarters, 9330 Zionsville Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46268; (317) 337-3000; www.dowagro.com. *A. Charles Fischer, president and CEO; Richard Gross, corporate vice president, Research and Development; Larry Washington, Jr., corporate vice president, Environment and Public Affairs.*



A. Charles Fischer

- US research locations: 1736 N. 1200 E, Fowler, IN 47944; 7521 W. California Ave, Fresno, CA 93706; 753 Hwy 438, Greenville, MS 38701; 5501 Oberlin Dr, San Diego, CA 92121; Mycogen Seeds, 19 Huaai Rd, Kaunakakai, Molokai, HI 96748.



Alain Godard

Aventis CropScience

- US headquarters, 2 TW Alexander Dr, Research Triangle Park, NC, 27709; (919) 549-2000. *Alain Godard, CEO CropScience.* Aventis CropScience is being acquired by Bayer, so the names and executives may change. CropScience locations worldwide are available through www.cropscience.aventis.com. Research locations in the US and Canada include:

- Canada headquarters, 295 Henderson Dr, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4N 6C2; (306) 721-4551.
- Seed/Crop Improvement, 103 Erskine St, Lubbock, TX 79403; (806) 765-8844.
- Biotech Research and Plant Breeding, 407 Downey Rd, Innovation Place, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7N 4L8; (306) 477-9400.
- Field Research Stations: 26-395 Park St, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4N 5B2; 204-1144 29th Ave NE, Calgary, Alberta, T2E 7P1; 206 Kennedy Flat Rd, Leland, MS 38756; 21 County Rd 1200 North, White Heath, IL 61884; 11504 County Rd 17 South, Horace, ND 58047; 2996 Crabtree Church Rd, Molina, FL 32577; 266 S. Monroe, Fresno, CA 93706.



Howard Minigh

Dupont

- US headquarters, 107 Market St, Wilmington, DE 19898; (800) 441-7515; www.dupont.com. *Howard Minigh, group vice president, Agriculture and Nutrition; James Borel, president, Crop Protection; Erik Fyrwald, president, Nutrition and Health; James Houser, president, Specialty Grains; Richard Mc-Connell, president, Pioneer Hi-Bred.*

Syngenta

- Agribusiness regional headquarters, 2200 Concord Pike, POB 8353, Wilmington, DE 19803; (302) 425-2000; www.syngenta.com. *Heinz Imhof, chairman of the board; Michael Pragnell, CEO; John Atkin, COO Crop Protection; Jeffrey Beard, COO Seeds Business; David Evans, director of Research and Technology.*

- Other facilities: Biotechnology Research, 3054 Cornwallis Rd, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709; (919) 541-8500; Crop Protection Regional headquarters, POB 18300, Greensboro, NC 27409; (336) 632-6000; Crop Protection, Torrey Mesa Research Institute, 3115 Merryfield Row #100, San Diego, CA 92121.



Michael Pragnell

Lastly, it should be noted that the ABC trade group is distinct from the National Agricultural Biotechnology Council, a nonprofit organization comprised mainly of university researchers in agricultural genetic engineering and which happens to be having its annual conference May 19-21 at the Radisson Hotel Metrodome in Minneapolis, Minnesota. For more information, visit www.coafes.umn.edu/nabc2002.

The mission of Dictator Watch is to keep track of the dictators of the world and to see that they pay for their crimes. It seeks the end of all manifestations of dictatorship, including in all of our social institutions. For more information, to see the first installment of the Most Wanted Eco-Terrorist series or to make suggestions for future lists, visit www.dictatorwatch.org.



Peter Oakley

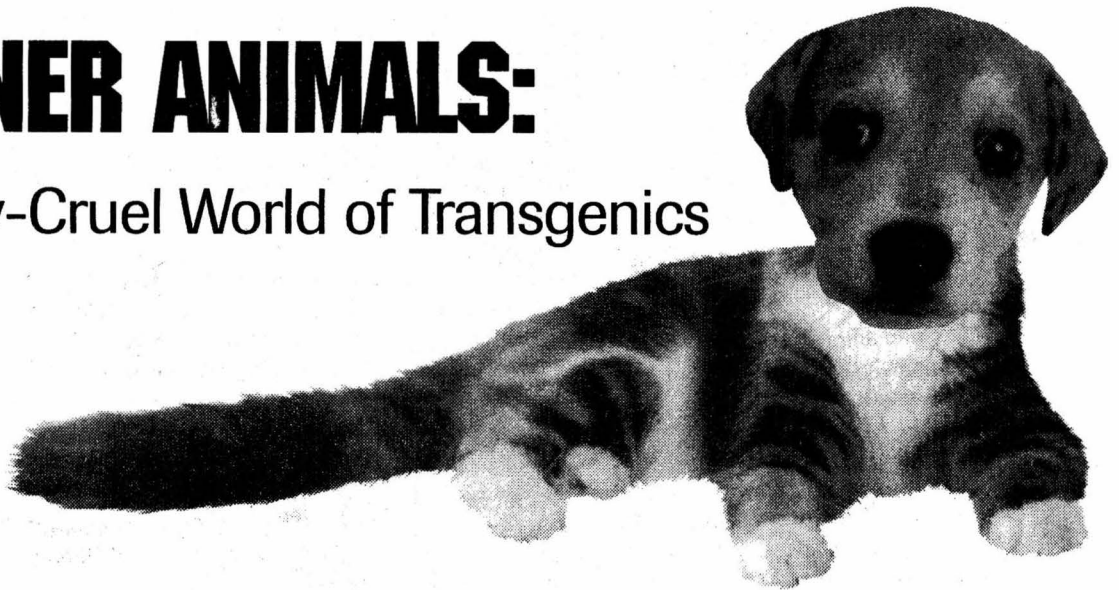
BASF Agricultural Products

- Global headquarters, 3000 Continental Dr N, Mount Olive, NJ 07828; (973) 426-2600; www.agro.basf.com. *Peter Oakley, executive director of Agricultural Products and BASF Plant Sciences.*
- Research and Development Center and North American headquarters, 26 Davis Dr, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709; (919) 547-2000.
- Agricultural Research Stations: Dinuba ARS, 10181 Ave 416, Dinuba, CA 93618; Greenville ARS, 103 BASF Rd, Greenville, MS 38701; Holly Springs ARS, State Road 1125, Holly Springs, NC 27540; El Campo ARS, Houston, TX 77272.
- Agricultural Products Divisions: 14385 West Port Arthur Rd, Beaumont, TX 77705; (409) 981-5000; 3150 Highway JJ, Palmyra, MO 63461; (573) 769-2011.

The Earth is not dying, it is being killed, and the people who are killing it have names and addresses.

DESIGNER ANIMALS:

The Freaky-Cruel World of Transgenics



BY HEATHER MOORE

Virtually every species of domesticated animal has been tampered with as scientists attempt to create "new and improved" companion animals, research tools and food sources. Non-allergenic cats, glow-in-the-dark bunnies, mutant monkeys, giant mice, Frankenfish, Enviropigs and other transgenic (genetically altered) animals have raised the ire of many people who feel that it is unethical for scientists to play God with animals' lives.

Nevertheless, Transgenic Pets, LLC, of Syracuse, New York, plans to sell cats that are genetically engineered so that they will not trigger allergies in people. David and Jackie Avner, who formed the company two years ago, claim that conventional breeding has failed to rid cats of an allergen called Fel d 1, which is secreted onto the cat's fur.

The Avners have contracted with Dr. Xiangzhong (Jerry) Yang, a biotechnology scientist at the University of Connecticut, to research and develop an allergy-free cat through a combination of gene targeting and cloning. Of course, Yang does not know what will happen if the Fel d 1 protein is removed from cats. He says that they will "just have to remove it and see what happens." No previous attempts have been made to remove the allergen from cats, yet the Avners claim the cats will be "completely normal."

Mortality rates for animals in transgenic research are very high—80 to 90 percent—and animals who do survive are frequently born with severe physical abnormalities. Tinkering with genes can often cause physiological and immune system problems that researchers can neither anticipate nor control. Regardless of the dangers posed by gene manipulation, animal shelters euthanize seven to eight million homeless cats each year. There is

no justification for creating new cats when so many others are being destroyed.

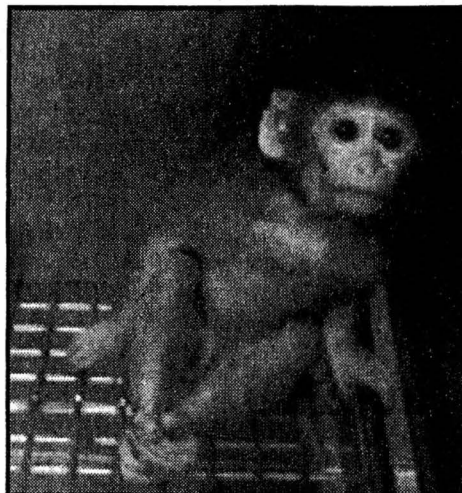
Several other companies are currently working to clone and improve companion animals. Philip Damiani, director of the companion animal and endangered species project at Advanced Cell Technology, suggests, "If your first cat died of cancer, you might make the next one resistant to that kind of tumor." Charles Long of the Texas-based Genetic Savings and Clone says that his company could help destroy the genes that cause hip malformations in some large breeds of dogs. Noble thoughts, perhaps, but aside from the aforementioned hazards of breeding and manipulating animals, these experiments open the door to even more exotic and questionable modifications to the personalities and appearances of animals.

Transgenic "artist" Eduardo Kac wanted to exhibit a glow-in-the-dark dog, but since that technology was not yet possible, he commissioned scientists at the National Institute of Agronomic Research in France to create a fluorescent green bunny named Alba. Alba was "conceived" in February 2000, as a result of a process called zygote microinjection. The experimenters extracted a fluorescent protein from a jellyfish and enhanced its glowing

properties twofold. The enhanced gene was inserted into a fertilized rabbit egg cell that eventually became Alba.

Jellyfish genes have also been inserted into other animals for use in torturous laboratory experiments. The Oregon Regional Primate Research Center (ORPRC) made headlines for "creating" ANDi (inserted DNA abbreviated backward), the sole survivor of 40 embryos that were implanted into rhesus monkeys. Dr. Rudolph Jaenisch, creator of the first transgenic mouse, believes that, "It is very unlikely from all we presently know about diseases that there will be any breakthrough with this creation of ANDi."

Perhaps even more disturbing is that the ORPRC receives funding from the



Little ANDi—survivor of human cruelty

photo courtesy PETA

well-known, birth defect charity March of Dimes. Most contributors to the March of Dimes are completely unaware that their donations are given to scientists at facilities that waste precious research dollars and animal lives by genetically engineering animals. Genetically modified animals commonly suffer and die as scientists make futile attempts to cure human diseases using animal models. For example, Harvard University's patented "Oncomouse," a mouse with an inserted human cancer gene, quickly develops fatal breast cancer. Genetically altered "cystic fibrosis mice" commonly die within 40 days.

Such terrible suffering is completely needless. Enormous variations exist among species, and meaningful scientific conclusions cannot be drawn about one species by studying another. In the case of the "cystic fibrosis mice," the animals do become ill, yet their lungs do not become infected or blocked with mucus as they do in human patients.

Countless other animals are subjected to harmful genetic modifications for transplant purposes. Yet xenotransplants, in which the organ of one species is transplanted into another, fail because the differences between people and animals are so great.

Regardless, Cambridge, England-based Imutran, the world leader in xenotransplantation, has been breeding pigs with a human gene in an attempt to create animal organs that will not be rejected during human transplant operations. A *Daily Express* exposé of Imutran reported that the company caused horrible suffering when transplanting the modified pig hearts and kidneys into monkeys. According to witnesses, the animals were huddled together, shivering and having spasms. Some had swellings or bruises; some had blood or pus seeping from their wounds. Others vomited or suffered from diarrhea. Many of the primates died during the operation because of "technical failures." Others died from organ failure just days later.

Ethics aside, numerous studies have proved that people should switch to plant-based diets for health reasons. Animal products are known to cause heart disease, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, strokes, obesity, cancer, diabetes and a myriad of other health problems. They also contain dangerous antibiotics and unnatural chemicals. Yet, instead of advocating vegetarianism, some scientists are trying to create animals that produce double the normal meat yield.

Se-Jin Lee, a professor of genetics at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, discovered a gene that regulates muscle growth and accidentally produced a family of giant mice. The university set up MetaMorphix, a company attempting to develop giant lobsters, chickens, pigs, sheep and cattle by blocking the genes that limit the animals' natural growth.

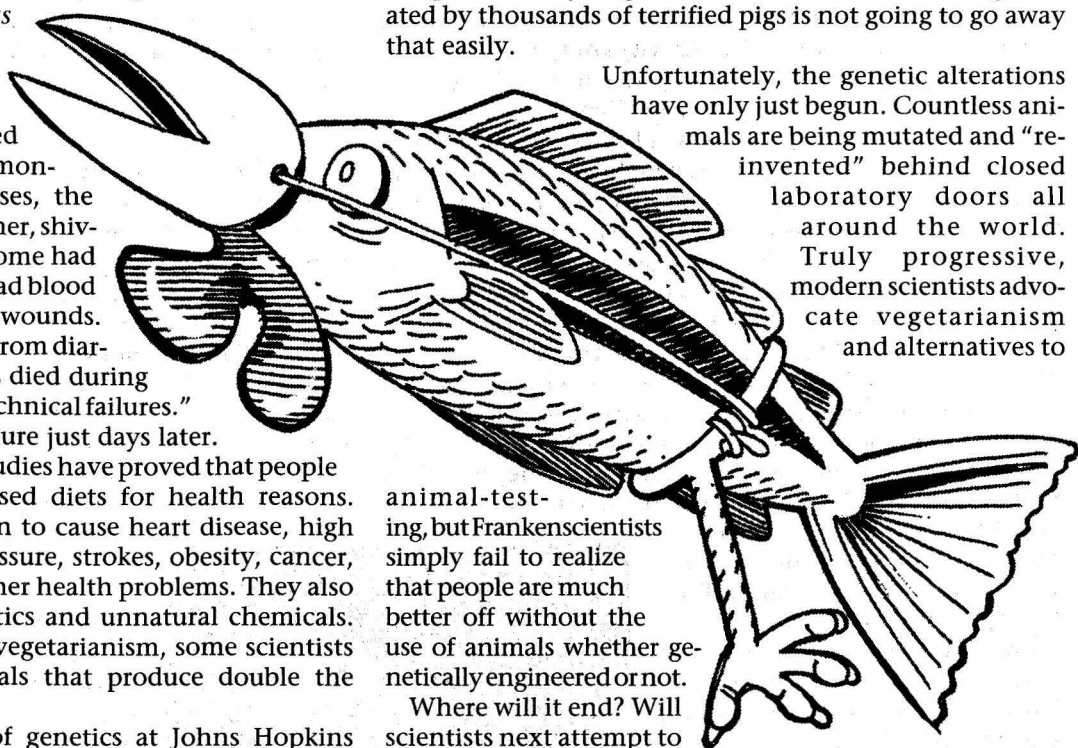
The gene-blocking procedure is being widely used to create super-size fish, deemed "Frankenfish" by opponents of genetic manipulation. For example, Cape Aquaculture Technologies in Massachusetts is working to create giant

fish and shellfish. Rex Dunham, a researcher at Auburn University, is currently seeking federal approval to sell engineered catfish that grow 60 percent faster than normal. Canadian-based Af Protein has created a transgenic salmon that grows faster and larger than regular salmon.

Sixteen years ago, the US Department of Agriculture announced that it had created the world's first transgenic livestock animal. The result horrified the public—sickly, mutant pigs crippled by gastric ulcers, arthritis and other illnesses. Undeterred, experimenters are continuing to mutate pigs into practically different beings. The Georgia-based biotech company ProLinia, Inc., has already drawn up a business plan for cloning and engineering livestock. ProLinia wants to sell pigs that will produce leaner bacon and meatier pork chops. Smithfield Foods, one of the world's largest pork producers, has already invested one million dollars in ProLinia's plan.

Still other pork producers, concerned about the public's response to the appalling waste pollution from hog farms, have attempted to create an "Enviropig"—a genetically altered pig who supposedly produces a more environmentally friendly manure. To create the Enviropig, biotechnologists spliced mice genes and *E. coli* bacteria into pig genes. This will reduce the amount of phosphorus in pig waste. Maybe, but phosphorus isn't the only pollutant produced by hog farms. The stench and waste generated by thousands of terrified pigs is not going to go away that easily.

Unfortunately, the genetic alterations have only just begun. Countless animals are being mutated and "re-invented" behind closed laboratory doors all around the world. Truly progressive, modern scientists advocate vegetarianism and alternatives to



animal-testing, but Frankenscientists simply fail to realize that people are much better off without the use of animals whether genetically engineered or not.

Where will it end? Will scientists next attempt to create monkeys that exhibit specific diseases at the push of a button and pigs that grow chicken wings and do not make waste? At the moment, there is little to stop biotechnologists. Laws regulating genetic engineering and animal welfare are minimal and filled with loopholes. It's up to the public to inform these experimenters that it's simply not nice to fool with Mother Nature.

For more information, visit www.PETA.org.

Heather Moore is a staff writer for *People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals*.

The Monarch vs. the Global Empire

BY PETER SAUER

Preserving the monarch butterfly is surely the most widely supported international conservation effort on behalf of any insect. The campaign began in 1975 shortly after scientists located the monarch's Winter forests in Mexico. International conservation groups, scientists and citizens engaged the support of politicians, including three past Mexican presidents, and agencies of the Mexican, Canadian and US governments. This effort transformed the monarch into an internationally recognized symbol and eventually won the establishment of a preserve to protect its wintering grounds in Mexico.

Yet, after 25 years of heroic preservation work, the butterfly is threatened throughout its range. Today, environmental groups throughout the US claim they are saving the monarch by raising money under its banner. A host of national and international education programs teach school children in North America about the butterfly's threatened state. Most often these programs focus on the oyamel forest in Mexico.

But, the oyamel forest is not the only place the migratory monarch is imperiled. Every region of the butterfly's continental habitat, almost the entire temperate zone of the North America, is either losing the capacity to sustain this insect or is becoming its killing ground. The herbicides and pesticides that are poisoning the monarch's milkweed and nectar plants in North America have been accumulating since the rise of the modern agrochemical industry after the end of World War II.

During the US farm crisis of the 1990s, manufacturers pressed the sale of Bt corn and herbicide-immune field crops, while the government cooperated by approving the use of genetically modified Bt corn without testing its effects on butterflies. Along the monarch's migration routes, there is a better than ever chance that a butterfly fluttering down from a US sky will land on a farm. More and more of that farmland is managed by an industrial agriculture that defines and attacks milkweed and butterflies as "infestations."

Though the butterfly's advocates had been fighting for a preserve in the monarch's Winter forests since 1979, the Mexican government did not agree to create it until international pressure was applied during negotiations leading up to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). GATT was the linchpin of a US plan to secure a

North American presence in the global marketplace and to open Latin American markets to US agricultural exports. Mexico entered the agreement in 1986, the year the butterfly preserve was established.

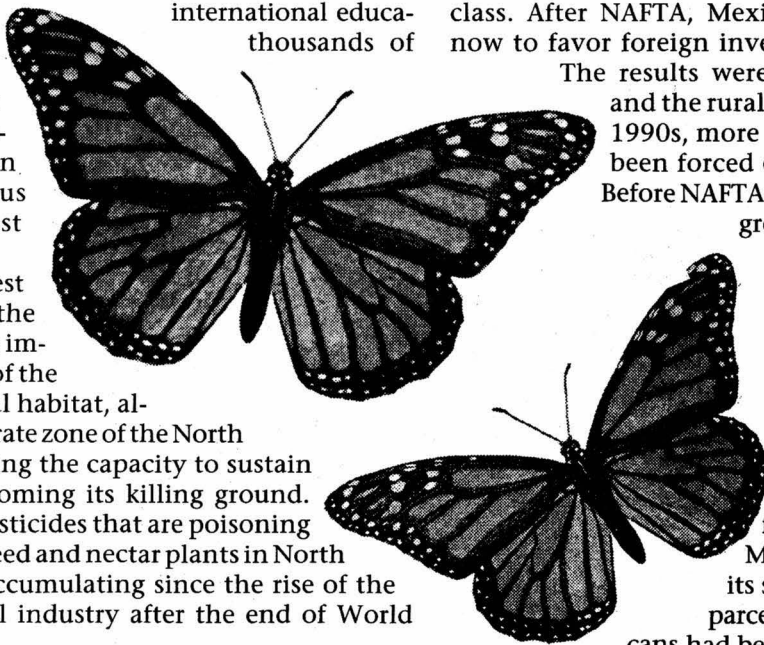
For Mexico, the first decade under GATT and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) brought the most rapid social and economic transformation since the land reforms that followed Mexico's revolution in 1917. The acquisition and industrialization of vast tracts of forest, range and farmland by foreign corporations affected not only the butterfly's preserve but the miles of Mexican countryside that every butterfly zigzags across as it migrates to and from the preserve.

By 1986, industrial-style farms were already producing half of Mexico's domestic food crops. The success of these large farms was achieved through policies that favored cities and a small but politically powerful middle class. After NAFTA, Mexico continued these policies, now to favor foreign investors and wealthy Mexicans.

The results were devastating to poor people and the rural hinterlands. By the end of the 1990s, more than two million farmers had been forced off their land.

Before NAFTA, Mexican peasant farmers were growing corn, primarily to feed their families, on small parcels of land, often on communal *ejidos*. Remarkably, they produced a surplus every year that supplied about 40 percent of Mexico's domestic commercial corn market, enough to keep the nation close to food self-sufficiency. By 1996, Mexico had lost more than half its small farms. Thousands of tiny parcels that once grew corn for Mexicans had been consolidated and converted to the corporate production of berries, baby lettuce, mesclun mix and asparagus for export.

What happened in Mexico during its first decade of globalization follows a pattern that is being repeated in developing nations around the world. When a developing agrarian nation like Mexico decides to join the global marketplace, the first steps the government is asked to take are to: reduce tariffs that protect small farmers, open its domestic market to imported food and encourage foreign investments that will convert small-scale agriculture to the production of more lucrative export crops. Time and time again, the consequences of these concessions have been the collapse of the nation's domestic agriculture, increasing dependency on more expensive imported food and the displacement of thousands of farmers and farm workers.



When any nation neglects its farmers, farmland and the human and natural communities that sustain them, it sets in motion the vicious cycle that inevitably leads to the devastation of natural systems. The ecological consequences in North America from international trade and the disastrous deterioration of the monarch's continental habitat has taken the debate about whether economic growth is good for the environment and turned it on its head. As rural agricultural communities in the US sink into economic decline and international trade destroys the economies of developing nations, conservation must shift its focus to the ecological consequences of economic collapse.

Mexico is one of five nations with the greatest biodiversity in the world, and the bulk of that diversity is in its forests. With its trade deficit soaring, agricultural exports falling further behind food imports and millions of workers looking for work, Mexico was only able to resuscitate its economy by expanding international trade. Harvesting its forests was one way to do that. The changes in laws that enabled the consolidation of peasant farms into corporate farms also enabled the consolidation of holdings in the nation's largest and richest forests, 80 percent of which were or are on *ejidos* and indigenous reserves.

At least 15 US forest companies have begun operations in Mexico. They have made investments in regions that hold some of the continent's largest remaining intact forests. Logging in large forest plantations of pine and eucalyptus is underway from northern Mexico to the Guatemala border. Mexico's need for wood and wood fiber is not driven by exports alone. The maquiladoras south of the US border were producing 54 percent of Mexico's exports by 1996. Keeping them productive, however, requires a steady supply of cardboard. Every toy, appliance, window shade or lawn sprinkler "Assembled in Mexico" is shipped out in a cardboard box.

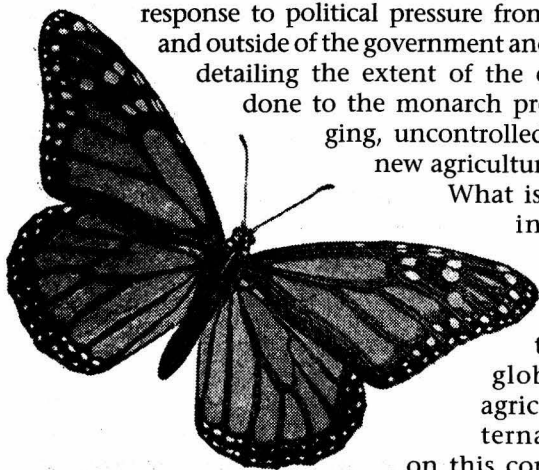
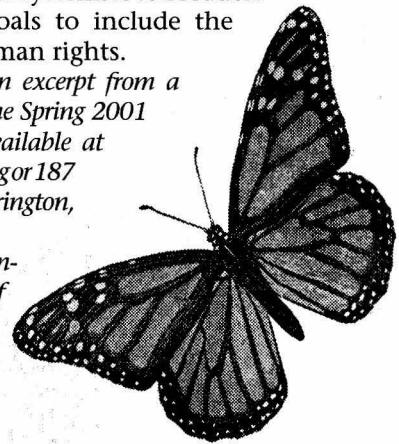
When Mexico established the butterfly preserve in 1986, most of the land in the preserve was taken from local *ejidos*. The *ejidatarios* had been asking the government for compensation for a decade when, in 1996, advocates of the monarch preserve also began pressing for compensation, as well as for stronger enforcement of environmental regulations. In 2000, the Mexican government announced that it would triple the size of the preserve. The announcement came in response to political pressure from Mexicans in and outside of the government and from a report detailing the extent of the damage being done to the monarch preserve by logging, uncontrolled tourism and new agricultural plots.

What is actually killing the monarch is the US economy. The force that drives the globalization of agriculture and international trade on this continent is US

consumerism including obsessions for cheap food, cheap wood, cheap gasoline and the mythic lifestyle these promise. The monarch cannot be saved without saving the biodiversity of Mexico's great forests. The forests can't be saved without recognizing that more than half the Mexican population lives in extreme poverty and without protecting the rights of all people, to food, health care, decent wages and education. As part of this effort, the citizens of wealthy nations have a responsibility to understand the degree to which their lifestyles contribute to the devastation of tropical forests and the oppression of forest peoples. The only sure defense against the global annihilation of species and natural systems is to broaden conservation's goals to include the protection of human rights.

This article is an excerpt from a special section in the Spring 2001 issue of Orion, available at www.oriononline.org or 187 Main St, Great Barrington, MA 01230.

Peter Sauer is a contributing editor of Orion. He lives in Salem, New York.



Frozen Flight

In January, more than 220 million monarch butterflies died in a rare ice storm that hit their Winter habitat in Mexico. Their dead bodies lay in piles on the ground, in some places more than a foot high. Those that survived were insulated by other monarch bodies. Some three quarters of Mexico's two largest colonies of monarchs' were killed in the storm. These colonies make up the entire breeding stock of monarchs for the eastern US and Canada.

This was the worst die-off on record. Yet the number of dead butterflies showed researchers that they had underestimated monarch populations. Still, researchers noted that the species as a whole is not in danger because smaller populations of monarchs could be found elsewhere.

The catastrophe was exacerbated by years of illegal logging, which threatens the last of Mexico's natural forest habitat. In the last 30 years, nearly half the prime forest in the area has been degraded or destroyed. Because forests can act as an umbrella against the rain and a blanket that can retain heat, conservationists have been warning for years that the thinning of the forests could threaten the butterflies by increasing exposure to these elements. Dwindling habitat virtually guarantees that when a severe mortality event occurs, that most or all of the population will be impacted.

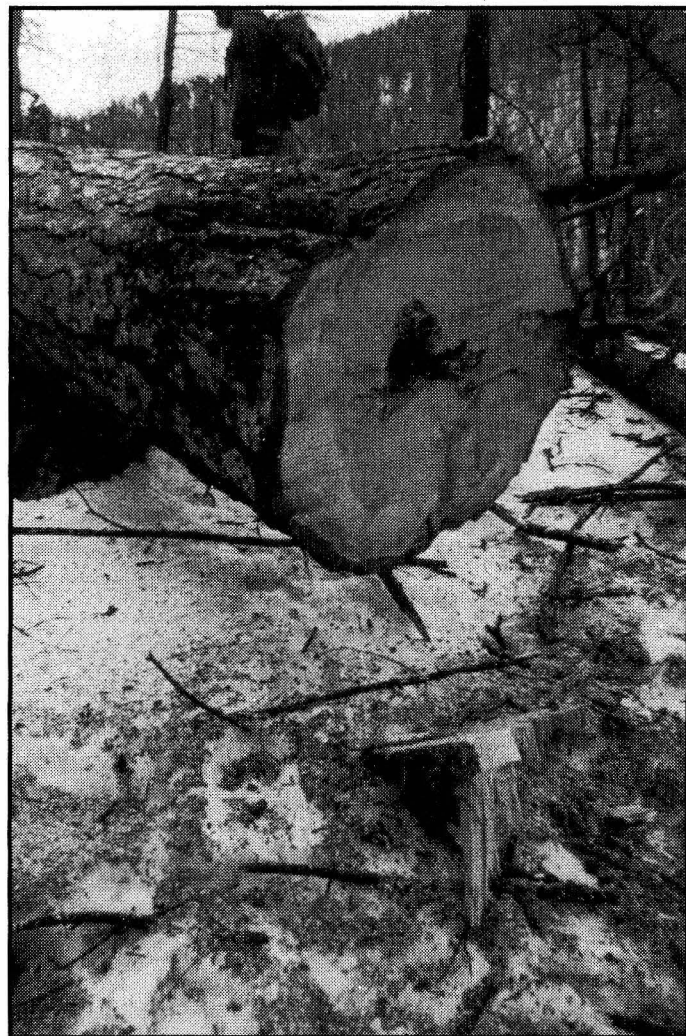
Divide and Conquer in the Bitterroot continued

continued from page 5

of Decision (ROD) for the Bitterroot plan, thereby circumventing the administrative appeals process. This bold and illegal action by the USFS precipitated a series of events that drastically altered the strategic direction of the activist's campaign to protect the Bitterroot.

Almost immediately, a number of groups—including The Wilderness Society (TWS) and Earthjustice—who had largely been on the periphery of the Bitterroot campaign became active. These groups did not support the no commercial logging CLE or the overall restoration vision for the BNF that was shared by the original coalition.

Within weeks the media message got watered down. In an effort to distance themselves from the groups advocating the CLE, TWS and Earthjustice's message to the media was that they were not opposed to some logging, but they were more concerned with the end-run of the appeals process.



On March 1, the USFS was forced to admit that numerous large, green ponderosa pines had been cut down illegally in unit 49 of the Bear timber sale. Twenty-four hours later, the USFS issued a press statement which announced a "closure order" for 10,500 acres around the Bear timber sale and the Roan-Burke timber sale—the two timber sales that have been heavily monitored by Wild Rockies Earth First!

A number of us felt as if we were losing control of the campaign. The small grassroots groups who successfully placed the spotlight on the Bitterroot simply could not compete with the resources of these larger groups.

The legal component of the campaign split into two groups with Earthjustice representing TWS, American Wildlands and Pacific Rivers; and the Western Environmental Law Center (WELC) representing Friends of the Bitterroot, The Ecology Center, Center for Biological Diversity and Sierra Club.

Once Rey signed the ROD on December 17, Earthjustice and WELC plaintiffs filed a lawsuit. The original plan was that the Earthjustice plaintiffs would focus on the appeals process, and once the appeals process was reinstated the Earthjustice plaintiffs would drop out of the litigation. Meanwhile, the WELC plaintiffs would mainly focus their case on the merits of the entire logging plan—something they had been preparing to do for nearly six months.

US District Court Judge Donald Molloy decided to deal with the issue of the appeals process first. Molloy ruled that the USFS had acted illegally and required it to accept administrative appeals. Molloy also indicated that the plaintiffs had "demonstrated a strong likelihood of succeeding on the merits" of their case.

However, the damage to the campaign had already been done. Obviously, public statements in which groups claimed that they would accept some salvage logging did not fall on deaf ears either with the USFS or the courts. It doesn't require the evil genius of a Mark Rey to see a divide and conquer opportunity so clearly presented as this one.

On January 31, the USFS appealed Molloy's ruling of the appeals process to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The very next day—in a highly suspicious move that stinks of backroom political deals—the Ninth Circuit sent the appeal back to Molloy, who within hours ordered the Earthjustice and WELC plaintiffs into mediation with the USFS. The mediator was to be Judge Michael Hogan from Oregon.

continued from page 5

urban interface, with constraints that preclude logging the largest trees. We continue to believe that pulling the uninventoried roadless lands out of this sale is a victory, considering the fact that we were dealing with an administration that refuses to acknowledge the importance of inventoried roadless areas, let alone uninventoried areas. The majority of native fish strongholds were pulled out of the sale as well, with a 72 percent reduction of logging in bull trout strongholds. Both these issues were governed by experts in those fields intimately familiar with the parameters of the sale and the fish and roadless habitat at stake. There is no logging allowed in inventoried roadless areas larger than 5,000 acres. There is no

photo by Wild Rockies Earth First!

Molloy told the plaintiffs that the focus of the mediation would be five timber sales (covering 5,400 acres) that the USFS claimed were in need of emergency logging—not the entire plan which called for logging on 44,000 acres.

However, once the mediation process began, it became clear that Hogan did not fly to Missoula in the middle of Winter to settle a small portion of the most continuous timber sale in the country. The plaintiffs and the USFS agreed to a “recovery” plan which included logging 60 million board feet from nearly 15,000 acres—making this the largest current timber sale in the nation.

Apparently, the plaintiff groups felt that they could get more during the mediation process than from further court battles. Obviously, many of us disagree with that train of thought, especially given the fact that Molloy had indicated the likelihood that the plaintiffs would succeed on the merits of the case.

The campaign to stop the Bitterroot logging plan did not end with the settlement. Groups that were not party to the settlement, including Wild Rockies Earth First! (WREF!), Native Forest Network, National Forest Protection Alliance and others, have been monitoring activities in hopes of pursuing legal action to stop the logging. Some of the WELC plaintiffs have also been involved in the effort.

Within the first week, WREF! documented numerous violations including the illegal cutting of old, “green” ponderosa pines. The next day, the USFS responded by issuing a “closure order” for 10,500 acres of the BNF. Recently, monitoring teams have discovered sediment plumes spilling into streams with bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout populations.

My intention is to offer my perspective. While I have been critical of certain groups or strategies, my goal is not to divide the movement over this issue.

The campaign to stop the Bitterroot logging plan did not end with the settlement. Groups have been monitoring activities in hopes of pursuing legal action to stop the logging.

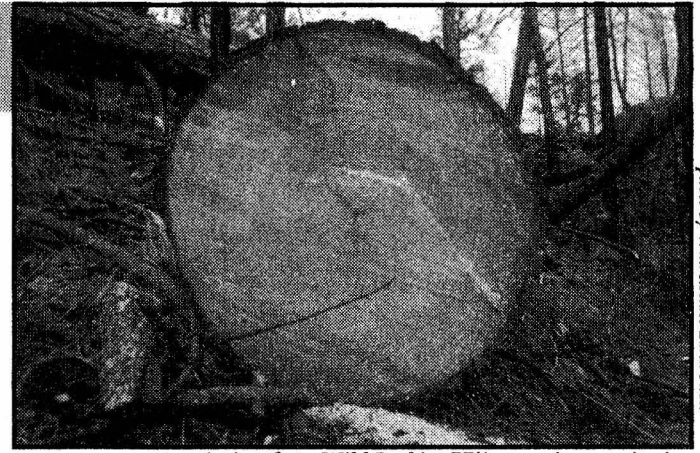


photo by Wild Rockies Earth First!

A view from Wild Rockies EF!'s on-going monitoring

Rather, my aim is to point out that as long as some groups within the movement continue to support and promote commercial logging on public lands, the timber industry and the Bush administration will continue to take advantage of these opportunities to “get the cut out.”

As in the Bitterroot, the “root” cause of the problem with the entire “management” paradigm on our national forests is the budgetary incentives the USFS has to log, mine, graze, drill, motorize and suppress fires. It cannot be overstated, if the movement is to avoid situations like the Bitterroot in the future, that we

must band together to end all logging and all resource extraction on our public lands.

More than 100 members of Congress support legislation to end the commercial timber sale program on national forests. Now is the time for environmental organizations who support commercial logging on national forests to examine why federal lawmakers are more progressive on federal forest policy than they are.

Matthew Koehler is with the Native Forest Network (NFN) in Missoula, Montana. Since NFN was not a plaintiff group, it did not sign the settlement.

Settlement Focuses on Recovery continued

road construction allowed in bull trout habitat or in any roadless areas.

Achievement of the restoration goal is more difficult to assess. We did not get the CLE implemented, which would have clearly reached this goal. We did gain some additional mitigation and restoration measures on some of the sales. We did allow planned restoration to go ahead.

It is undeniable, however, that we agreed to let nearly 55 million board feet of logging occur on 15,000 acres of BNF land and failed to meet our goal of limiting the damage, which will greatly exceed the Bitterroot’s annual average of 10 million board feet a year.

We do have sap on our hands. This has troubled us greatly, especially those who live in the Bitterroot area.

This was not a decision that was easily arrived at. It was not a whim. It was a calculated tradeoff, our best judgment under pressure. It was a collective decision that was not made, directed or disproportionately influenced by any one member of the plaintiff groups.

We invite discussion. We readily admit that our approach is not necessarily the template for action everywhere, every time. These decisions are not to be made lightly, without thought and constructive reflection. History, the judgment of our peers and the fish and forests of the Bitterroot will tell us if we did well.

Len Broberg (Sierra Club, Montana Chapter), Mary Anne Peine (The Ecology Center) and Larry Campbell (Friends of the Bitterroot) contributed to this article.

The Fight to Protect *the Last Wild Buffalo*

continued from page 16

The helicopter flew just above the Madison River for more than two hours and at one point during the operation touched down in a sensitive riparian meadow adjacent to the river.

The marchers were ordered off of the trail and complied with the order, however two people were arrested regardless. "These arrests show the government has as little regard for citizens' right to use public lands as they do for the bison," said BFC spokesperson Peter Leusch.

A Week of Action

BFC hosted its third annual week of action from March 18-24 to train activists and to confront the government agencies responsible for managing the buffalo. The 70 attendees were able to keep any bison from being captured that week and participated in several actions.

On March 19, the Concerned Citizens for Buffalo (CCB) and BFC held a rally at the Montana State Capitol to call for an end to Montana's buffalo slaughter. The crowd drummed, chanted and marched to the DOL office carrying three large



All-species march to the Horse Butte capture facility

Photo by Reverend Bushitt

puppets of a life-size buffalo, a grim reaper agent from the DOL and of Montana's Governor Judy Martz. The event ended with a prayer circle near the large steel sculpture of a bison skull in front of the Montana Historical Society. The rally capped off a week-long hunger vigil by CCB members, the purpose of which was to call attention to the mortal danger buffalo face as they leave the boundaries of Yellowstone National Park each Winter.

On March 23, the week ended with an all-species march to the Horse Butte capture facility. Protesters carried puppets, banners and DOL bowling pins to the facility. Several of the unique species that inhabit the greater Yellowstone ecosystem were represented, including bison, bald eagles, trumpeter swans, moose and woodpeckers. They were greeted by five DOL agents and other security personnel as they marched around the facility where wild bison are captured and often shipped to slaughter. After some lively guerilla theater and a few rounds of DOL bowling, the group left peacefully and allowed the agents to ponder the errors of their ways.

Spring is a difficult time for the buffalo, and volunteers are needed. For more information, contact the BFC, POB 957, West Yellowstone, MT 59758; (406) 646-0070; buffalo@wildrockies.org; www.wildrockies.org/buffalo.

Excerpts from a Field Diary . . .

March 28: Yesterday, I woke at four a.m. with the rest of the patrols. We knew a mixed herd of eight bison had come out of the park the day before. The previous day's patrols had seen the DOL come into town, and we knew they would try to capture the herd because they were unable to capture any buffalo during our week of action. Our job was to ski along the Madison River between Horse Butte and the highway and locate the small herd of buffalo.

As we skied along the bluffs, overlooking the Madison arm of Hebgen Lake, we counted more than 80 trumpeter swans floating on the water and observed great blue heron and a young bald eagle. After skiing nearly five miles, we found the buffalo—two pregnant females and five yearling calves. Two of the calves had shaved swaths on their shoulders and hindquarters, and they wore yellow tags that the DOL attached when they were captured on February 24. Orphaned after their mothers were sent to slaughter, they went back to the park where they were adopted by the present herd.

Shortly after 10 a.m., a swarm of 11 DOL snowmobiles converged on the buffalo, and cracker-rounds—loud explosives fired from shotguns—shattered the morning's peace. I stood in a snag and videotaped as the frightened buffalo took off running.

The agents chased them fast, and we followed the operation on our skis, not quite able to keep up. Cracker-bursts let

us know we weren't far behind. We reached the Horse Butte trap five minutes after the buffalo had been confined.

At 12:30 p.m., we were relieved by afternoon patrols and climbed back into the truck for the ride home. As we neared Duck Creek, we saw the armada of snowmobiles and ATVs on the side of the highway. After a few minutes a large bull emerged from the woods, being chased by several agents on snowmobiles. The ATVs then chased him north on the road, toward the Duck Creek trap. The bull nearly outran them, cantering down the road, then jumped off and hid on some private property. The agents didn't flinch as they passed the signs reading "Buffalo Safe Zone: No Shooting or Harassing Bison Permitted by Order of the Landowner."

They continued to chase him, and he ran back out onto the highway, back in the direction from which he had come. After several near misses with pursuing ATVs, the bull darted off the road and plunged through the deep snow along Cougar Creek. Because of the thick willows along the creek, the agents on snowmobiles were unable to pursue him. After watching the capture of the eight bison in the morning, we were uplifted by the bull's escape.

Today, however, the two pregnant mothers that were captured yesterday were slaughtered along with two of the calves. Four of the calves, including the two orphaned in February, were released without mothers.

—DAN BRISTER

EF! KIDZ Activity Page

A History of the Yellowstone Buffalo

Pre 1800: 65 million buffalo in North America.

1850-1880: 80 million buffalo shot.

1872: Yellowstone National Park established.

1895: 800 buffalo left in the US, mostly in captivity.

1896: 23 buffalo left in Yellowstone; wild buffalo on the brink of extinction.

1902: Buffalo reintroduced to Yellowstone from herds in Montana and Texas.

1917: Brucellosis discovered in Yellowstone buffalo herd.

1954: 1,500 buffalo in the park; park officials decide that Yellowstone can only support 400 buffalo; start shooting buffalo inside the park.

1966: 397 buffalo left in Yellowstone; park implements policy of natural population regulation; shooting stops.

1985: Montana legislature enacts buffalo hunt.

1988: 2,750 buffalo in Yellowstone.

1989: Buffalo hunt stopped due to strong public opposition.

1991-1995: Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department shoot buffalo leaving Yellowstone.

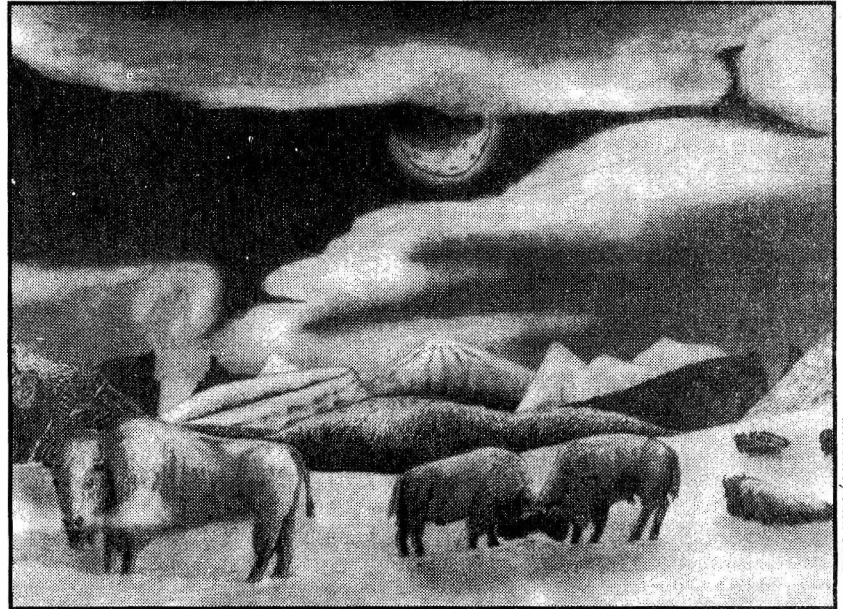
1995: 3,500 buffalo in Yellowstone; Montana legislature gives control to the Montana Department of Livestock (DOL).

1996-1997: During a harsh Winter, DOL and Park Service kill 1,083 buffalo; another estimated 1,800 die; herd reduced by two-thirds.

1997-1998: Buffalo Nations (later the Buffalo Field Campaign, BFC) formed—volunteers protect all buffalo leaving the park; Ehnamani Sun Dance Church hold Sundance in Yellowstone; DOL kills 11 buffalo; 1,700 wild buffalo left.

1998-1999: DOL slaughters 96 buffalo; 22 BFC volunteers arrested while protesting capture and slaughter operations; *Tatanka Oyate Mani*—"They Walk for the Buffalo," a 500-mile native walk from South Dakota to Yellowstone; Tribal consultation held in the Spring.

1999-2000: For the first Winter since 1983-1984, no Yellowstone buffalo are slaughtered.



artwork by Nick Cook

Let the Buffalo Roam: Find the Species of Horse Butte

F M A F T L G Q F M A R M O T T F L
X G O R M L R P E T Q X A N A C D F
N X R N O C L A F E N I R G E R E P
L R N I B D E R B N X Y P N R R P L
A T M R Z R M B O R E A L O W L F P
F V Q V T Z B W Q R M L T R V T Q N
L P T B T V L E T O Y O C F J B M X
O O F I Z W Q Y F E L L G H K J N Z
W L R S R P O X B E M E C H I F T Y
S A M O T L A A N E D R L I E D M L
R F N N R I L I I Y A B E A V E R X
M F Q P E D R A P F L R E E X U L A
P U F N E E D P H C O W D N D A H K
P B T A V N A W S R E T E P M U R T
L L G L C A D U R W A F R M K T V D
T L O L K V K B G J Z S S Z U W O Z
E W M M R Y L Q J T B M Y Q C X S G
W Q R P P B V X Q A L O T I L N P O

Words to Find

Buffalo	Marmot	Grizzly Bear	Deer
Peregrine Falcon	Beaver	Wolverine	Fox
Boreal Owl	Bald Eagle	Lynx	Trumpeter Swan
Coyote	Wolf	Elk	Bison

1997-2001: National Days of Prayer organized by Lakota elders.

2000-2001: Montana implements the new Joint Bison Management Plan; five bulls captured and slaughtered; 3,000 buffalo in Yellowstone; 21 volunteers arrested.

Kicking the KKK Out of Katúah

continued from page 17

The weather was pure, wet, cold hell the day of the rally. It hurt our attendance, but we still outnumbered the skinheads and the KKK. The authorities were dismayed by the turnout since community leaders had urged the public to attend a "diversity festival" at Cocke County High School meant to draw attention away from the KKK. Tennessee Highway Patrol Colonel Jerry Scott described the situation as "extremely bad." According to Scott, the crowd numbered

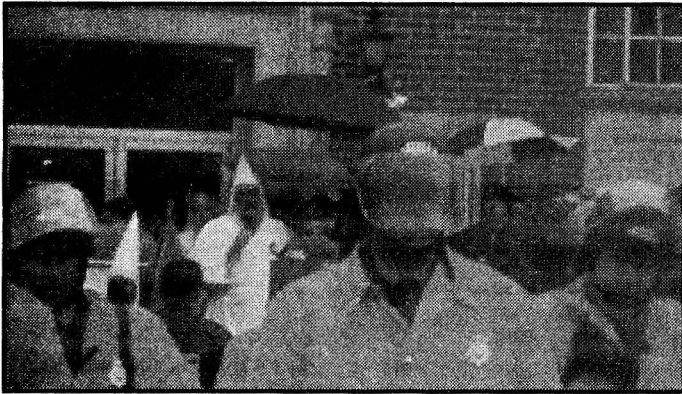


photo by S. Tolonchi, IMC/Atlanta

"between 800 and 900 people, and it would have been four or five times bigger if it hadn't been for the weather. Protesters opposed to the KKK appeared to outnumber KKK about two to one. Earth First! brought a strong contingent from Knoxville. From the street facing the KKK speakers, protesters drowned out what was being said by KKK members, who took their turn speaking to the crowd."

Nearly 200 law enforcement officers from city, county and state agencies were stationed around the courthouse. Police snipers peered down on the crowd from rooftops, and skirmish lines of state troopers in full riot gear and with automatic rifles surrounded both KKK members and their opponents. The official plan, I found out later, was if something happened the police were to issue exactly one warning then to douse the area with gas.

Police funneled the crowd onto a narrow strip of pavement facing the courthouse lawn. The potential for violence was certainly there, as pro- and anti-KKK protesters were mixed tightly together. Though the mainstream media attributed the massive police presence with keeping the peace, six KKK supporters ended up getting arrested for drunk and disorderly conduct. Most of the folks from Earth First!, seeing that the cops were prepared to crush them like roaches, retained their commitment to nonviolence, even when provoked.

Facing the rear of the courthouse, we stood on the street facing the KKK and used bullhorns and cheerleader-style megaphones in a successful effort to drown out their speakers. We brought signs protesting the KKK for being stupid enough to come to Katúah. Overlooking the rally site, draped across a building adjacent to the west side of the courthouse, was a four by 12 feet banner with a large image of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and a quote from him that read, "Darkness

cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

A few minutes after noon, KKK members carrying a public-address system, made their way from a cordoned-off parking lot beside the courthouse to the front steps, surrounded by armed troopers. The long-awaited and much publicized event began when an unidentified Klansman addressed the crowd with a Nazi salute and the slogan, "White power!" We, along with the majority of the crowd, shouted back, "White trash!" Speakers alternated between attacks on King's legacy and exhortations for "those of you of European ancestry" to "stand up for your rights." In response, Earth First! at one point in the two-hour-long melee, began singing "Happy Birthday" to King. This did not make them happy. Dozens of our banners held above the crowd offered opposition to the KKK.

Newport had never seen such an event—white-robed racists with Confederate flags and megaphone-toting protesters trading opinions and insults. At one point a visibly inebriated KKK supporter fell into a face-to-face shouting match with counter-protesters taking part in a drum circle. Moments later he was dragged from the crowd by state troopers and marched to the county jail directly across the street from the courthouse.

My favorite image of the entire rally was when one of the Nazis on the courthouse steps did the Nazi salute to those of us in the crowd. I was in the back and suddenly (and to me shockingly) all the black and white hands in the crowd went up together, turned and extended their middle fingers. A small sea of hands flipping off the robed KKK members in unison. It was beautiful. At the end of the rally, one Earth First!er commented, "Today the KKK didn't get a single word out. We shouted them down, and it was completely nonviolent."



photo by S. Tolonchi, IMC/Atlanta

So to the John Stokes and Tom Metzger idiots around the country stupid enough to be accusing us environmentalists of being affiliated with the KKK and Nazis, don't bother coming down here to Katúah with your lies and your rhetoric. Folks in this region know from experience that Earth First! is not only anti-racist and anti-Nazi in word, but in action as well.

To subscribe to the Katúah EF! listserve and find out about upcoming actions, email kropotkin-subscribe@yahoo.com.

Chris Irwin is a sixth generation East Tennessean and a member of Katúah Earth First!'s River Faction.

Supporting the MOVE Prisoners

BY ROCHESTER FRIENDS OF MOVE

There is a large emphasis in the revolutionary environmental movement to support political prisoners who took action to defend life. There should be. But eight members of the Philadelphia-based MOVE organization are still sitting in jails throughout Pennsylvania, similarly for their commitment to the defense of all that is life.

MOVE is a revolutionary organization which formed in the early 1970s to confront oppression on all levels and work toward animal liberation, environmental and social justice. Dread-locked hair, natural communal living, a principled unity and commitment to this way of life often characterized the members. They followed the example of a wise, perceptive black man named John Africa. He taught that we need to destroy the illusion that humans are the masters of the living world and to start living in submission to, rather than above, natural law as equal members of the community of life.

Among their early activities, MOVE demonstrated against zoos, pet stores and police brutality. MOVE mediated between gangs. They confronted industrial polluters and talked with people about the effects of pollution on the environment. They fed poor children natural food and helped to uplift the community. But this holistic, consistent and revolutionary example set by John Africa and MOVE became a threat to those who profited from poisoning the air, water, soil and the subjugation of life.

Throughout the '70s, this conflict continued to escalate. By August 1978, the corporate-owned media had successfully lied to the public to reduce support for MOVE while the city manufactured the appearance of a legal basis to arrest them. In the early hours of August 8, 1978, hundreds of armed cops, fully equipped with riot gear, raided the MOVE headquarters. Construction vehicles broke the windows and tore down the fence with people still inside. Once police had concluded that all of the people had retreated to the basement for safety, they shot tear gas and water cannons toward the house. Gunshots rang out from a house across the street, and in response police throughout the area fired a barrage of bullets at the MOVE basement, which they knew contained children. When the gunfire subsided, a police officer lay dead. As the members of MOVE, miraculously alive, attempted to surrender, they were beaten and arrested.

The trial of the MOVE 9 was, at the time, the costliest and longest in Philadelphia history, which further angered the police system. The defendants were not allowed to attend most of their own trials. The house, which was the main evidence in the murder trial, was demolished the day of the assault before any accurate ballistic measures could be taken.

Certain testimony supports the theory that the slain officer, James Ramp, was shot in the back of the neck at a

downward angle. He was facing MOVE headquarters, making it physically impossible for the fatal shot to have come from MOVE. MOVE was in the basement, six feet below street level, struggling to save their babies and animals from drowning in the water from the water cannons. MOVE supporters have also proven that the first shot could not have possibly come from MOVE, so if MOVE fired at all, it would have only been in self-defense. Couple this with evidence being withheld, tampered with and/or lost, MOVE's innocence should have been assured. Yet when the smoke cleared, after the beatings, after the trials, nine undeniably innocent people were convicted of murdering one police officer with one bullet. Moreover, they were sentenced to 30 to 100 years each by a judge who later admitted on public radio that he had no idea who killed Ramp.



Two of the MOVE 9: Delbert and Phil Africa

The system did not stop coming at MOVE in 1978. The seizure of the MOVE headquarters, as well as the unjust arrest and conviction of the MOVE 9, directly led to an even more catastrophic confrontation seven years later. In 1985, the city of Philadelphia, with the help of the FBI, dropped a bomb on MOVE's house, killing 11 people, including five children, burning down an entire black neighborhood. Merle Africa died in prison under suspicious circumstances in 1998. Despite recent news, MOVE affiliate, Mumia Abu-Jamal, is still under the threat of

the death penalty. What the MOVE organization and loyal MOVE supporters everywhere are saying is that this is unacceptable.

Friends of MOVE, in conjunction with the MOVE organization, strives to act as a network of support for the MOVE 9. As MOVE supporters, we demand the release of all MOVE prisoners. Friends of MOVE is currently renewing a project in hopes of improving the direct support of the MOVE 9, and we are hoping for increased support from the environmental movement. It is a very basic activity that needs to be acted upon on a much more consistent basis. We are looking for individuals who would like to officially and formally sponsor at least one of the MOVE prisoners. The responsibilities would be simple. First, to correspond with that specific MOVE person through regular letters and/or phone calls. The second, and equally important, responsibility would be to provide financial support, supplies, etc. This type of support is necessary for the MOVE 9 to be able to communicate with supporters and family on the outside.

MOVE continues fighting for all of us despite the atrocities committed against them during the past 30 years. All the beatings, guns, jails and bombs in the world can't stop MOVE because no matter how hard the police system tries, the forces of life are too powerful!

For more information about MOVE or to become involved in this project, please see page 67.

Earth First!

Finally, Our Day

In Court

vs. the FBI

BY KAREN PICKETT

This time the feds are the defendants rather than the prosecution, and they were sitting in a row, lined up against the wall as opening arguments began in a federal courtroom in Oakland, California. The Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney vs. the FBI and Oakland Police Department (OPD) trial opened April 8, 12 years after Judi was nearly killed when a motion-triggered pipe bomb exploded in her car as she and Darryl drove to organize a Redwood Summer roadshow event. The civil lawsuit lays out violations of civil rights—including false arrest and illegal search and seizure—stemming from OPD's arrest of Judi and Darryl for supposedly bombing themselves and from the smear campaign conducted by the FBI's propaganda machine.

After the bomb exploded, the FBI wasted no time in advising local law enforcement that these people were "eco-terrorists," supporting the issuance of arrest and search warrants with outright lies about the location of the bomb. They trumpeted to the media more lies about things like matching nails and non-existent nefarious plots. Their lies continued into opening arguments this week when the FBI's lead attorney told the court that a founder of Earth First! was charged with downing powerlines "connected to a nuclear power plant." (Powerlines toppled by activists in Arizona back in 1989 were connected to a water project, not a nuke plant, and the "founder" was nowhere in the neighborhood).

A huge rally of more than 500 people kicked off the court proceedings. The rally saw a convergence of activists from around the country arriving for the trial and featured a giant puppet of Richard Held, who was an architect, along with his father, of the FBI's COINTELPRO operations. Several years ago, Held abruptly quit his job running the San Francisco FBI office as photos revealing the FBI's lies in this case were released.

Many activists will take the stand along with FBI agents and OPD cops in this trial, expected to wrap up around the time of the 12th anniversary of the bombing, May 24. (See page 65 for details).

For more information, contact (510) 663-6330; (510) 548-3113; www.judibari.org; sf.indymedia.org/features/judibari.

Congress Looks at PETA

continued

continued from page 20

to the House of Representatives Resources Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health on February 12, Jeff Kerr, general counsel for PETA, wrote, "Through its efforts, PETA acts not to perpetrate, but to end, terror—the very real, ugly and needless terror inflicted on animals."

Currently, PETA is under the microscope for disseminating information about animal abuse that is provided anonymously by those who claim responsibility for animal liberation.

"To do other than to share our opinions and the horror stories that have emerged from our nation's laboratories, factory farms and fur ranches would violate the trust placed in us by our supporters and would make this a sorry, shameful and pitiful country of cowards indeed," wrote Kerr.

PETA espouses that throughout history, many social advocacy groups at some point attracted the wrath of those who wish no scrutiny and who want no change in the status quo.

According to Kerr, "Isolated acts of violence have taken place in the struggle for all our freedoms, and the animal protection movement is no exception. To speak of them freely is no crime. To say what is in one's heart is no crime."

The Center for Consumer Freedom and the Center for the Defense of Free Enterprise, bastions of the wise use movement,

want the IRS to revoke PETA's tax-exempt status because there is "information [that] strongly suggests that PETA induces or encourages the commission of unlawful acts." A donation made by PETA last year provoked the wise use movement and has garnered the attention of Congress.

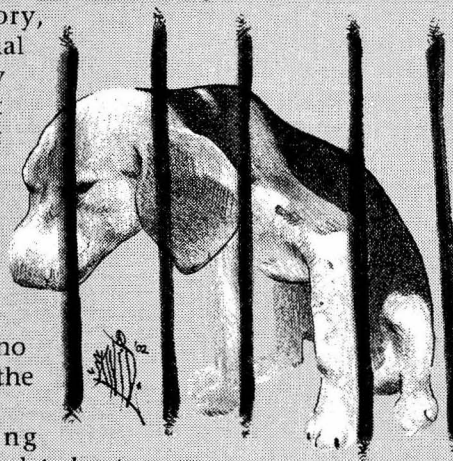
Like with former ELF Spokesperson Craig Rosebraugh, Congress sent PETA a list of questions it hopes will unravel the Earth Liberation Front. Ironically, the first PETA heard of the letter from Congress was from media who confirmed that it was already posted on a wise use website.

In response, PETA argues that its charitable mission and programs are only in the spotlight due to the heavy influence of lobbyists, public relations consultants and other paid spokespeople for animal-exploitive industries in Congress.

The fallout has yet to be seen, yet, like ten years ago, PETA remains focused on its task to end the suffering of other species.

"We make no bones of the fact that we are happy for the animals' freedom and the disruption of any cruel

practice and that, in our hearts, we wish that all places where animals tremble and cry out every hour of every day would explode, disappear and be reduced to nothingness," stated Kerr. "By being forthright about our feelings, words and beliefs, which are not our actions, tacit or overt, we become targets of those with ill intentions."





Rosebraugh Responds continued

continued from page 20
of the natural environment, they would understand and support this diversity.

Congress: In your press statement about the Vail lodge firebombing, you said that the area slated for ski-area expansion was some of the last, best lynx habitat in North America. Do you know how long it has been since anyone—environmentalists, biologists, wildlife enthusiasts—has seen a lynx in the area that you called some of the last, best habitat for the lynx in North America?

CR: No I do not, but that is irrelevant to the fact that the area is some of the last, best lynx habitat in North America.

Congress: The Southern Poverty Law Center, a renowned organization dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of civil rights, had this to say about the ELF in its Summer 2001 Intelligence Report: "...the ELF's use of underground violence strongly resembles ex-Klansman Louis Beam's concept of 'leaderless resistance.' The ELF is composed of autonomous and secretive 'cells' that initiate terrorist acts independently and do

not communicate with or even know one another... like most groups on the radical right today, the ELF sees global capitalism as the enemy... There is an obvious ideological gulf separating the radical right, with its racist and fascist appeals, from the left-wing, environmentalist ELF, which advocates 'equality, social justice and... compassion for all life.' But when it comes to the current economic and political system, the two groups increasingly find themselves on the same side." How do you feel about the ELF being compared to the Klu Klux Klan? Is this an accurate comparison? Do you feel a kinship of cause with "racists and

fascists," as the Southern Poverty Law Center contends?

CR: a) That is ridiculous and insulting. I would expect the Southern Poverty Law Center to have more intelligence than that.

b) No.

c) No.

Congress: Please define "direct action."

CR: Something done or accomplished without intermediary agents or conditions.

Congress: You claim that our environment has gotten progressively dirtier over the years. But the facts don't support that. The facts tell us that air quality has improved by 64 percent from 1970-2000, toxins released have declined by 45 percent between 1988 and 1998, and erosion was reduced 32 percent between 1982 and 1997. Presently, few trees are harvested off the national forests than has been the case in a very, very long time. Isn't it true that

Congress: Who first contacted you about serving as the spokesperson for the ELF? How did he/she contact you?

Rosebraugh: a) Jesus Christ. b) It was a spiritual sort of thing.

the ELF's rationale for firebombing homes and schools and government buildings is grounded in lies and self-serving propaganda rather than in facts?

CR: No. I question the truth of the above stated "facts."

Congress: In an ABC News interview last year, you said that "every single social movement that has actually gained success has used a variety of tactics." In your mind, then, is the ELF's relationship with mainstream environmental groups akin to a one-two punch? If so, what is your response to the countless environmental organizations who condemned the ELF, and by extension you, prior to the

February 12 hearing? Do you feel any disdain for mainstream environmentalists based on their unwillingness to take direct action to protect the environment?

CR: a) No.

b) I am not aware of countless environmental organizations condemning me and the ELF prior to the February 12 hearing. I prefer to respond to groups after I know what they have said. Can you please send me each organization's response?

c) No.

Congress: Who first contacted you about serving as the spokesperson for the ELF? How did he/she contact you?

CR: a) Jesus Christ.

b) It was a spiritual sort of thing.

Congress: Why did you resign as a spokesperson for the ELF?

CR: To step back from the spotlight and allow others to come forward and demonstrate their ideological and

philosophical support of the ELF.

Rosebraugh has heard no response from Congress in the

weeks since March 15, and the next move remains unclear—including whether Congress will still pursue contempt charges for Rosebraugh.

Meanwhile, Rosebraugh remains firm in his statement that the hearings are being industry-driven to try to stop the people who are making it difficult for those very same industries to continue to exploit the Earth. "In light of September 11, it is very much primetime for industry to attack groups like the ELF and Animal Liberation Front," states Rosebraugh.

For more information, visit www.protectcivilliberties.com.

Why Bother?

A Reflection and Review

BY SPRIG

Why Bother? Getting a Life in a Locked-down Land, by Sam Smith, Feral Press, 2001, www.feralhouse.com.

"Why bother?" is a question that constantly affronts the conscious individual attempting to live an engaged life. It can seem easier to turn on the TV, lay back on the couch and become "the audience for our own demise." Many of us have felt that stirring of empowerment that comes with direct action only to have it whittled away by societal dysfunction in an already overwhelming circumstance. Soon after, a direct action community that was once liberating becomes reduced to stupid human tricks for the media in a culture that easily commodifies.

It can leave one wondering where did the spark go? Although in thought and deed we are fighting for the Earth and our related survival, it is not uncommon for our earnest intentions to backfire. Whether we work from within or outside of the system, it still has its way with us. Some argue that it is not up to us to try and change the world but to keep the world from changing us. These are the maladies of the individual that sees the potential for change, but what about the individual who no longer sees a reason to even put up a fight?

Why Bother? Getting a Life in a Locked-down Land warms the coldest heart into remembering what a life of feeling was like. It is inspiring to read a book by a man in his 60s who has struggled through the social change movement's history and whose fire is still lit. Not only does he draw upon his experiences to help us answer this question for ourselves, but he supports our inner will with the wisdom and experience of countless others who have known a glimmer of the possible. He advocates that, "We rebel not as a last act of desperation but as a first act of creation."

It is a small, yet meaty, 150-page book with quotes ranging from zines to Hakim Bey and William Burroughs. Smith is a strong, accessible writer who is able to draw out the gold nugget in various ideologies, philosophies and isms. From anarchy to Quakerism, he weaves a cloth that highlights inter-relationships rather than where they dis-

agree. Throughout the book he encourages smashing the institutional box to revive the spontaneity of the imagination—to let our inner rebel run free. He stresses that to be free thinkers we must be free of two things: the tyranny of tradition and the tyranny of our own passion.

It is not uncommon to hear people say that humyns are doomed, the Earth will live on in some fashion, but still we will work toward protecting this or that and enjoy it all while we still can. Although this may seem pessimistic, Smith might typify this as a healthy spirit in the face of adversity.

"To accept the full consequences of the degradation of the environment, the explosion of incarceration, the creeping militarization, the dismantling of democracy, the commodification of culture, the contempt for the real, the culture of impunity among the powerful and the zero tolerance toward the weak requires courage that seems beyond us.

We do not know how to look honestly at the wreckage without an overwhelming sense of surrender, far easier to just keep dancing and hope someone fixes it all. Yet in a perverse way, our predicament makes life simpler. We have clearly lost what we have lost. We can give up our futile efforts to preserve the illusion and turn our energies instead to the construction of a new time. It is this willingness to walk away from the seductive power of the present that first divides the mere reformer from the rebel—the courage to emigrate from one's own ways in order to meet

the future not as an entitlement but as a frontier," writes Smith. "If all of this is true then why not despair? To despair is to voluntarily close a door that has not yet shut. The task is to bear knowledge without it destroying ourselves, to challenge the wrong without ending up on its casualty list."

For myself, I know this to be true. I have burned out and I don't want to go back. I've engaged in various styles of thought and action only to face the internal and external limits of my mind. One only has to read the *Earth First! Journal* to experience despair if we are not already closed off to it. I've felt numb, enraged, apathetic, futile, hopeful,



idealistic, cynical, engaged, escapist and ascetic. But where I'm most happy, inspired and effective in my own small way is when I see my humanity not as a curse upon this planet but as the raw potential for positive change. I'm not avoiding the atrocities of my species but staying realistically engaged.

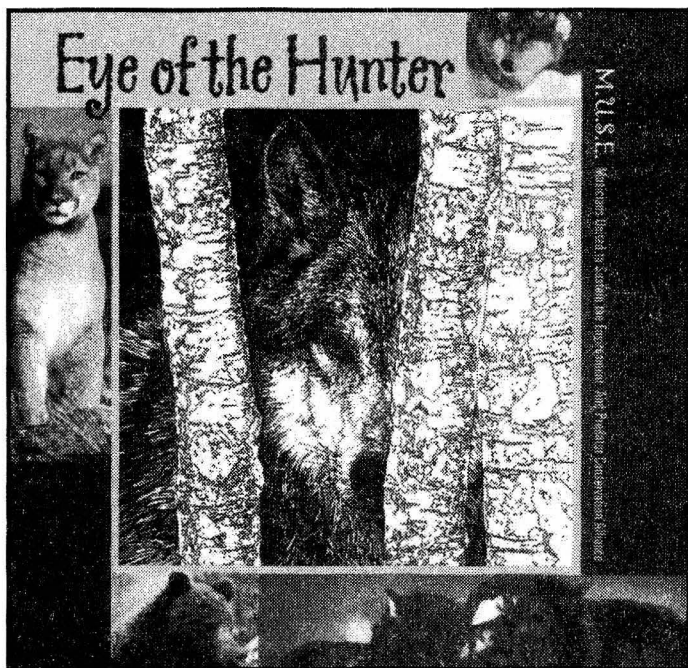
Why Bother? addresses the roots of these opposites—neurotic engagement and apathy. “Any effort on behalf of human or ecological justice demands real courage rather than false optimism, and responsibility even in times of utter madness, even in times when decadence outpolls decency,

even in times when responsibility itself is ridiculed as the archaic behavior of the weak or the naive.”

One of the most important things Smith does for the reader is not completely answer the question, “Why Bother?” Like a CrimethInc. essay, he rouses your sleeping dragon into discussion. There isn't one answer. It's up to you to decide, then change your mind as many times as you wish. As long as you are engaged in the dialogue, you will be living the answer.

Sprig is a new long-term editor at the Earth First! Journal. She moved from Eugene, Oregon, where she worked with Cascadia Forest Defenders and other collectives.

Red County Music



BY DENNIS FRITZINGER

During the last presidential election, political mapsters indicated the counties that went to Gore in blue and the counties that went to Bush in red. A map of the US looked like a vast sea of red with a few blue spots here and there, a graphic that illustrated how thinly populated areas—the most rural areas—tend to vote Republican, while the Democrat strongholds tend to be in urban areas. Thus a picture of the age-old conflict emerged—Country vs. City, Rural vs. Urban—to practically nobody's surprise. Afterward, there was talk about how Bush's “red county” voters put him in a position to win, if not actually win the election (it took the Supreme Court to do that).

What I'm interested in here is the musicology of the two regions—red and blue. Bluegrass, country and folk music are all associated with the most rural parts of the country, while rock music is, by and large, city music. Personally, I have no problem with city music—I was

raised a city kid after all. Though my knowledge of it starts with Elvis, it pretty much stops with the '70s, the last decade when I had a lot of free time on my hands and used it to listen to music.

My musical taste, however, was strongly influenced in the '60s by exposure to the “folk music revival” that was spearheaded by Joan Baez and Bob Dylan, among others. One emphasis—besides being acoustic (even after Dylan went electric)—was that lyrics were valued not only for their beauty but also for their content. This becomes particularly evident when listening to songs written during the civil rights and anti-war movements.

Acoustic music has an interesting parallel life to bioregionalism. Bioregionalism (think: regionalism from a biological perspective) emphasizes living *with* nature, small-scale, “do least harm,” local living, while folk music tends to tell a story of those people, places and critters of a bioregion. And around an Earth First! campfire, when a strong biocentric voice like Walkin' Jim Stoltz steps up, it definitely does.

But where do we find such a campfire? When was the last rendezvous you went to and heard Walkin' Jim, Dakota Sid or Susan Grace fill the night with songs about the great wild ones, the keepers of the Earth? If you long for those days or are curious what they were like, check out *Eye of the Hunter*, a co-production of Musicians United to Sustain the Environment (MUSE) and the Predator Conservation Alliance.

Walkin' Jim Stoltz, Casey Neill, Susan Grace, Country Joe McDonald and many others weigh in with an exceptionally fine album of songs for endangered predators. The predator is the heart of the wilderness—and wildness too I might add. Most of the performances here are studio quality—only Casey Neill's *Pine Marten Swagger* seems to have a live performance feel to it. This doesn't really detract, however, and maybe a few rough edges add to the album's genuine feel. The best Earth First! CD of the 21st century—and it isn't even by Earth First!.

To order a copy of *Eye of the Hunter*, send \$16.50 to MUSE, POB 671, South Lyon, MI 48178; www.musemusic.org.

Dennis Fritzinger is a long-time Earth First! activist and co-founder of the Warrior Poets Society.

announce



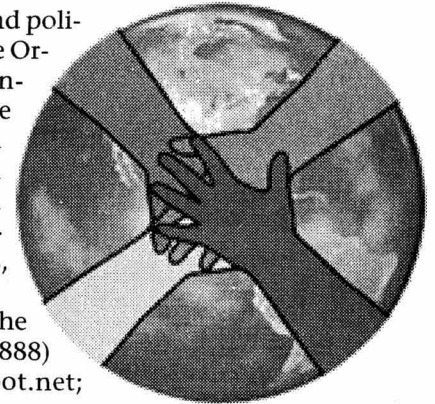
Global Justice Action Summit Missoula, Montana · June 20-23

The Global Justice Action Summit is designed to be an educational and inspirational “warm-up” to the G8 meetings taking place starting June 26 at a remote location near Calgary, Alberta.

The summit is an international call to action inviting people to an international forum, fair and festival. Collectively, we will explore alternatives to the current world economic power structure, and we will demonstrate real opportunities for creating our own just and sustainable future: promoting clean energy, sustainable agriculture, local economics and empowerment.

The G8 and the institutions and policies it controls—the World Trade Organization, International Monetary Fund and World Bank—have failed to recognize the United Nation’s Declaration of Human Rights by allowing multinational corporate interests to abuse indigenous peoples, human rights, workers and the environment.

For more information, contact the Global Justice Action Summit, (888) 732-2658; christophe@blackfoot.net; www.globaljas.org.



EF! NORTHWEST RENDEZVOUS BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST MONTANA · MAY 23-27

Join Wild Rockies Earth First! for five days of workshops, parties and actions. The rendezvous will be held in the Bitterroot National Forest, home of the Bitterroot Salvage scam, where 14,770 acres of this precious ecosystem are being logged. Come share and learn the skills it takes to defend your bioregion. Food will be provided by Seeds of Peace.

For more information, contact Wild Rockies EF!, (406) 549-8863; wref@wildrockies.org.

Food for Life at the Sequatchie Valley Institute

Tennessee · June 6-9 and 13-16

Food for Life is a conference about health and nutrition from the practical to the political. Join us for workshops on planting, harvesting, preparing and preserving food, as well as in-depth discussions about food choices, genetic engineering, community food security and more!

June 6-9: Emphasis on the Practical: will focus on skills-building around permaculture, organic gardening, food preservation, saving seeds, different methods of cooking and diet choices, macrobiotics, medicines, nutrition and energy-efficient cooking.



June 13-16: Emphasis on the Political: will focus on theoretical and political explorations of the social and ecological implications of industrial agriculture. We will discuss strategies for mobilizing against agribusiness and biotech, in addition to promoting sustainable community-based food systems in the face of global monopolies. To wrap up the weekend, we will create a public demonstration of our ideas with the Autonomous Banquet.

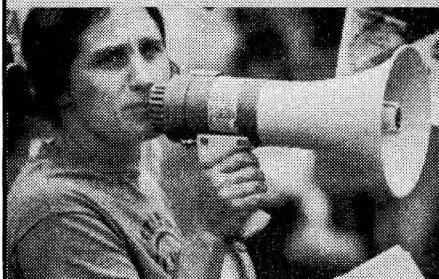
Sequatchie Valley Institute’s mission is to offer society an opportunity to learn about living in harmony with nature by providing: education, art and research opportunities; land conservation and restoration; a dynamic model residence and learning center; and a vision for attaining a sustainable future.

For more information or to register, contact the Sequatchie Valley Institute, (423) 949-5922; mediarights@bledsoe.net.

ments

The Trial of the Century

Earth First! vs. the FBI
April 8-May 24



In May 1990, Earth First!ers Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney were bombed in a car in Oakland, California, while organizing environmental activists and union workers for Redwood Summer. The FBI and Oakland Police Department falsely accused them of carrying the bomb in order to taint Earth First! and to undermine Judi and Darryl's organizing work.

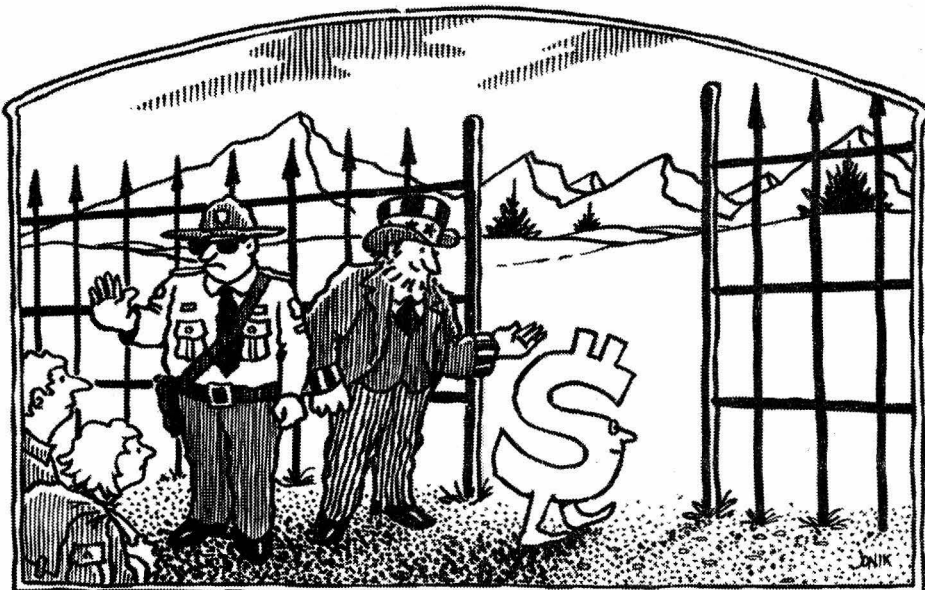
- Come to the trial! Begins April 8 and continues for six weeks, Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Oakland Federal Courthouse.

- Publicize the trial! Help get coverage of the trial in your local newspapers or on radio stations.

- Organize an event to educate your community about the lawsuit and FBI COINTELPRO. A short video about Judi Bari and the lawsuit is available. Contact the Headwaters Action Video Collective, (415) 820-1635; www.havc.org.

- Donate money to the legal fund to help pay for court costs, publicity and volunteer expenses. Make checks payable to the Redwood Justice Fund, mark "legal fund" in the memo field. Contact the Redwood Justice Fund, POB 14720, Santa Rosa, CA 95402; www.judibari.org.

For more information, contact Earth First!/Bay Area Coalition for Headwaters, 2530 San Pablo Ave, Berkeley, CA 94702; (510) 548-3113.



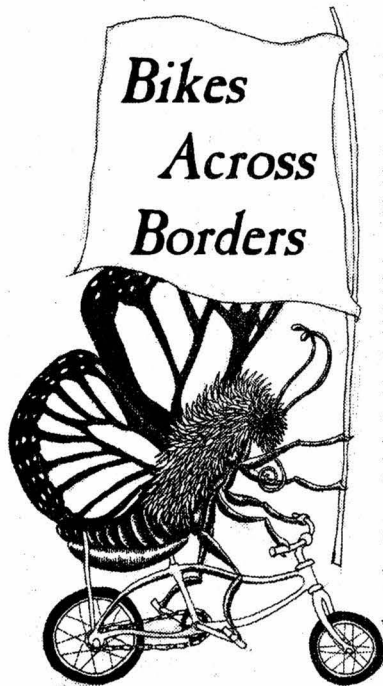
Fee Demo National Day of Action JUNE 15

Opposition to the recreation Fee Demonstration Program involves more than 230 organizations and millions of Americans. But despite this, the few, yet powerful, proponents of recreation user fees still hold the inside track. The American Recreation Coalition and their allies in Congress are still successfully advancing their anti-democratic pay-to-play agenda. There is no option other than to take control of the issue and to convince Congress and the media to acknowledge that people oppose the Fee Demo. This program cannot be permanently authorized. People do not want our public lands commercialized, privatized and over-developed. Instead public lands need to be adequately funded with public dollars and for the use of those lands to always remain a public good for all to enjoy.

To get involved with the Fee Demo National Day of Action, contact Wild Wilderness, (541) 385-5261; ssilver@wildwilderness.org.



continued...



Puppetual Motion is a collective of puppeteers, circus performers, bicycle builders and activists. We travel by bicycle to various communities, uniting people through art, theater and sustainable living. We are working to strengthen the movement to reclaim our culture by collaborating with youth on pedal-powered performances.

Projects include a cycle circus, radical puppetry, using liberation technology such as solar power and transforming "trash" to meet our needs, skill shares and Bikes Across Borders, a collaboration with a bicycle cooperative run by maquiladora workers in Mexico which rescues surplus bikes from the Texas waste stream and provides people with access to transportation.

For more information, contact Cycle Circus, 300 Allen St, Austin, TX 78702; (512) 385-3695; www.rhizomecollective.org.



NO STAR WARS: International Space Organizing Conference Berkeley, California · May 10-12

Global Network is strengthening its commitment to preventing a new arms race in space. Representatives from peace groups worldwide will be sharing their work to stop Star Wars. There will also be a protest at Lockheed Martin, where work is underway on the space-base laser, airborne laser, Theater Missile Defense and new satellites for space war fighting.

For more information, contact Global Network, (352) 337-9274; globalnet@mindspring.com; www.space4peace.org.

Utrecht Reclaim the Streets: Month of Eco-Insurrection

Celebrating Six Years of EF! Netherlands

We call on activists from around the world to join our insurrection in June, to defend the Earth and fight systems of domination. Events will include a weekend celebration and skill sharing in remembrance of the struggle against the Amsterdam port; a storm of direct action hits on EF! projects; a critical mass to kick-start a fight against new parking garages and the destruction of the city green in Utrecht; and a Reclaim the Streets autonomous zone.

It is hoped that people and movements around the world will join together for a week of global action against capitalism, coinciding with the EU summit in Spain and the G8 meeting in Canada.

For more information, contact GroenFront!—EF! Netherlands, POB 85069, 3508 AB Utrecht, Netherlands; vrienden@groenfront.nl; www.groenfront.nl.

Wild Earth, Wild Mind, Wild Heart

THE EXPERIENCE OF DEEP ECOLOGY WITH JOHN SEED

For 20 years, John Seed has been facilitating an experiential deep ecology process around the world to help end the illusion of alienation from the living Earth that most of us feel and to connect us with new sources of joy, commitment and inspiration that follow from the alignment of person and planet.

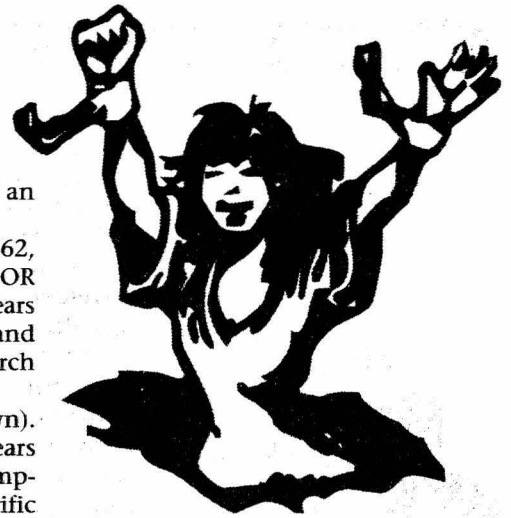
Through personal sharing, meditation and ritual, workshops will explore the depths of our concern and love for our planet in this time of crisis. Rediscovering our "deep ecology"—our interconnectedness with all beings—participants shall find empowerment as agents of healing change.

These gatherings provide tools for practicing deep ecology in daily life. As many participants in this work have discovered, alignment with our larger identity clarifies, dignifies and heals our personal conflicts. We see that the pain of the Earth is our own pain and the fate of the Earth is our own fate. These experiences empower us to act on behalf of the Earth and give us clarity and direction for this work.

John Seed will be hosting workshops in Ohio (June 8-9), Indiana (June 15-16) and California (June 21-23). Proceeds go to rainforest conservation projects in Kenya and Ecuador. Partial work-exchange is available.

For more information, contact johnseed1@ozemail.com.au.

Prisoners in the Struggle Support Them!



Prisoner Updates

•SHAC 3: Heather Avery was released, and Greg Avery got out "on the tag." Natasha Dellamaigne, HMP Highpoint, Stradis Hall, New Market, Suffolk, CB8 9YG, England. Natasha was turned down for the tag—she will be released in early May.

•Silvano Pellissero was released after serving a four-year sentence for eco-sabotage against a high speed train project in the Northern Italian Alps.

•Jonathan Batchelor was released. Charges of assaulting a police officer during a demonstration were downgraded to an assault and battery misdemeanor. He faces a potential fine of up to \$2,500.

•Marco Camenish has completed a 12-year sentence in Italy for eco-bombings. He is being extradited to Switzerland for a prison shoot-out trial that carries the possibility of a life sentence.

•Neil Bartlett, FW7083, HMP Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1EA, England. Neil was given a four-year sentence for his Earth and animal liberation bomb hoaxes.

•Andrew Stepanian, 0200-1777, Nassau County Corrections, 100 Carman Ave, East Meadow, NY 11554-1160, US. Serving six months for resisting arrest and shouting at a cop who was beating a friend during a demonstration.

•Emma "Pitch" Murphy-Ellis, Clackamas County Work Release, 9200 SE McBrod, Milwaukie, OR 97222, US. Pitch was singled out for charges relating to incitement and for nonviolently blocking the road with 30 protesters at the Eagle timber sale near Portland, Oregon on June 1, 2001.

Ecodefense

•Dr. Yurl Bandazhevsky, Ul. Kalvarijskaya 36, POB 35K, Minsk 220600, Belarus. Serving eight years for telling the world that the nuclear radiation around Chernobyl is worse than the government has admitted.

•Iñaki Garcia Koch, Carcel de Pamplona, C/San Roque, Apdo. 250, 31080—Iruñez—Pamplona, Navarra, Spain. Serving just under five years for sabotaging a dam construction site.

•Jeffrey "Free" Luers, #13797671, OSP, 2605 State St, Salem, OR 97310, US. Serving 22 years and eight months for arson of a car dealership. He was also

framed for the attempted arson of an oil station.

•Craig "Crittter" Marshall, #13797662, SRCI, 777 Stanton Blvd, Ontario, OR 97914, USA. Serving five-and-a-half years for conspiracy to commit arson and possession of incendiary devices to torch some SUVs.

•Grigory Pasko (address unknown). Russian eco-journalist serving four years for exposing the Russian Navy's dumping of nuclear waste into the Pacific Ocean.

•Helen Woodson, #03231-045, FMC Carswell, POB 27137, Fort Worth, TX 76127, USA. Serving 27 years for the disarmament of a Minuteman II missile silo with a jackhammer, mailing warning letters to officials with .38 caliber bullets inside, robbing a bank and burning the money.

Animal Liberation

•Dave Blenkinsop, EM7899, HMP Birmingham, B18 4AS, England. Serving three years for assaulting the managing director of Huntingdon Life Sciences. Also serving 18 months for rescuing 600 guinea pigs from a lab supplier.

•Mel Broughton, DJ8216, HMP The Mount, Bovington, HP3 0NZ, England. Serving four years for conspiracy to cause explosions.

•Rae Newlands, GN6613, HMP Holloway, London, N7 0NU, England. On remand for various charges including bomb hoaxes, arson, criminal damage, harassment and conspiracy.

•Geert Waegemans, Begijnestraat 42 2000, Antwerp, Belgium. Serving four years for an attempted arson. Awaiting sentencing for four more arsons.

Anti-Globalization

•Rob Middaugh, #6859467, POB 5000, Delano, CA 93216-5000, US. Sentenced to three years for his involvement in the Mayday 2001 Reclaim the Streets celebrations in Long Beach, California.

•Robert Thaxton, #12112716, OSP, 2605 State St, Salem, OR 97310, US. Serving a seven-year mandatory minimum sentence for throwing a rock at a cop at the Eugene, OR, June 18, 1999, Reclaim the Streets.

MOVE

MOVE, an eco-revolutionary group, was

persecuted by the Philadelphia police during the '70s, culminating with the police bombing their commune in 1985. The "MOVE 9" were framed for the murder of a cop and sentenced to 30 to 100 years each. You must write to each MOVE member separately.

•Debbie Simms Africa, #006307, Janet Holloway Africa, #006308 and Janine Philips Africa, #006309, SCI Cambridge Springs, 451 Fullerton Ave, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403-1238, US.

•Michael Davis Africa, #AM4973 and Charles Simms Africa, #AM4975, SCI Grateford, POB 244, Grateford, PA 19426-0244, US.

•Edward Goodman Africa, #AM4974, SCI Camp Hill, PA 17011-0200, US.

•William Philips Africa, #AM4984 and Delbert Orr Africa, #AM4985, SCI Dallas, Drawer K, Dallas, PA 18612, US.

•Mumia Abu-Jamal, #AM8335, SCI Greene, 175 Progress Dr, Waynesburg, PA 15370, US. Mumia, a politically active journalist, was framed for the murder of a cop in 1981.

Indigenous

•Leonard Peltier, #89637-132, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048, USA. An American Indian Movement activist, Leonard is serving life in prison after being framed for the murder of two FBI agents at the Pine Ridge siege in the 1970s.

•Eric Wildcat Hall, #BL-5355, Unit I/A 10745 Rt. 18, Albion, PA 16475-0002, USA. Serving 35-75 years for helping ship arms to Central American indigenous activists.

Prisoner Support Groups

North American Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network, POB 50082, Eugene, OR 97405, USA; naelpsn@tao.ca; www.spiritoffreedom.org.uk.

Create the icons of the movement

Photograph, digital, paint, sketch

Submit your work to the
EF! Journal
POB 3023, Tucson, AZ
85702



Cover art submissions must be 8 3/8 x 11

UNDERGROUND

THE MAGAZINE OF THE
 NORTH AMERICAN
 ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT
 SUPPORTERS GROUP

ISSUE #17
 AVAILABLE NOW



NA-ALFSG, POB 69597, 5845 YONGE ST,
 WILLOWDALE, ONTARIO, M2M 4K3, CANADA

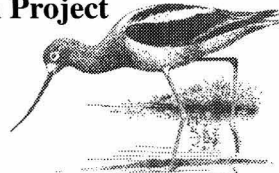
FREE
 TO PRISONERS!

NYC environmental organization looking for grantwriter/fundraiser, percentage basis.

Time's Up! is a New York City-based direct action environmental group that uses events and educational programs to promote a more environmentally sustainable city. We're a community-based, all volunteer nonprofit in its 15th year. For more information, contact (212) 505-3611; www.times-up.org.

A nonprofit, tax-exempt organization which funds environmental education media. Donations and funding proposals can be sent to:

Earth Defense Education Project
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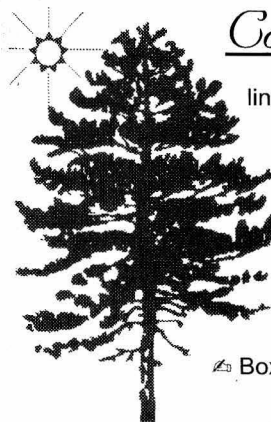
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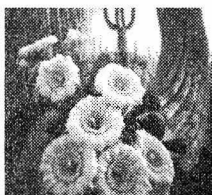
There is an international Earth First!
 web page at: www.eco-action.org/ef/

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*More than 30 Earth First! and radical ecological
 direct action groups exist in the "United Kingdom."
 There are also a number of other anarchist/revolutionary
 groups and projects. For a list or for general
 news from the UK, contact:*
EF! Action Update
 POB 487, Norwich, NR2 3AL, 0160-3219811
 efactionupdate@bigfoot.com
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Notes from the *Journal* Collective



As we mark the one-year anniversary of the *Journal's* move to Tucson, we want to send out our thanks to you, our readers, for giving us feedback, support and exhibiting a bit of patience at times. We're excited about where the *Journal* has gone, and we're enthusiastic about producing many

more issues of this radical eco-rag in the year ahead.

It seems that every issue of the *Journal* contains a few odds and ends from the collective. This time, we have a whole bushel of announcements of things afoot at the *Journal*.



To Change or Not to Change

At the Organizers' Conference in February, the *Journal* collective brought forth a proposal to change the production schedule from eight issues a year to bimonthly. Our reasons include: streamlining the schedule to allow the

staff more time to work on non-production duties (i.e. boosting subscriptions, fundraising, etc.), have a life and to avoid burnout; allowing more time to compile special feature articles and juicy submissions, rather than having to rely on fluff or filler; reducing delays in getting to bookstores due to our funky calendar that matches few other publications; and looking into the cost savings. A lot of questions have been raised about the proposal, and the *Journal* collective is having an ongoing discussion of the pros and cons of each of these.

Some folks at the conference mentioned that historically the *Journal* collective has been empowered with the trust of the greater community to make internal decisions such as this. Nevertheless, it was consensed that the EFlers present would go back to their bioregions with the proposal and gather feedback. We would like to put out one last call for feedback and ideas from our readers. Please respond as soon as possible.



Wanted: Long-Term Editor

The *Journal* is currently looking for a long-term editor to round out the staff. It could be you.

Being a part of the *Journal* is full of rewards—working on a consensus basis with a tight five-person collective among a supportive community.

Our new long-term editor will ideally have publishing experience, be personally compatible with existing staff, have pounds of patience, be computer literate, have excellent editing skills and a sense of humor. All of the work is shared, so a motivated, hard-working individual is required!

To apply, send your resumé and a letter of interest to the *Earth First! Journal*, POB 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. Please

include a writing sample, activist history and the names of some EF! activists who can vouch for you.



Want to be a Short-Termer?

In addition to our current search for a new long-term editor, we're seeking individuals who are interested in working on one issue of the *Journal* as a short-term editor. This rotating position allows the *Journal* to grow with

different voices and gives individuals an experience to remember. Please inquire for details.



Call for Blank Wall Proposals

The "blank wall," the center eight pages of the *Journal*, is a regular feature that provides the movement opportunities to publish an unedited section in the *Journal*. The intention is for groups or campaigns to be able to inexpensively

produce a short tabloid and have it printed in the *Journal*. If you or your group are interested please get in touch with the *Journal* collective.



Call for Submissions

The *Journal* seeks articles on your latest regional actions, investigative articles, as well as thoughts on strategy and tactics. We are also looking for people to research and write articles about specific issues that we are

stretched too thin to cover.

The *Journal* is also working on producing special theme issues, including an upcoming issue on alternative economies. Anything regarding dumpster diving, community gardens, guerrilla gardening, barter replacements, tabling, street selling information, composting, humanure, shoplifting, Food Not Bombs, bike projects, reusing trash, water systems... anything you feel should be represented. Please send us your ideas and articles no later than July 15.



And Last, but Not Least, Subscribe to the *Journal*

If you are reading this and are not currently a subscriber to the *Journal* (or are due to renew), this is the golden moment. By filling out the subscription form on page 69, you will receive

the *Journal* delivered directly to your doorstep or post office box. It's a move you won't regret.

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