

Ukiah

Earth First!

June 89

Another Cahto Victory

In a rare display of intelligence, the BLM decided last month to withdraw their timber harvest plans for the Cahto wilderness area until they can complete an environmental review. The reason for this sudden enlightenment, or course, was that a judge was about to rule on the Ancient Forest Defense Fund's lawsuit, and BLM figured they were going to lose. The study is expected to take "up to a year," but since the lawsuit is still active, BLM has to give 30 days notice before they can log. So it looks like the trees, the voles and the spotted owls are safe for now.

BLM has provided entertainment for the Laytonville area throughout this

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Waferboard: LP's Final Solution

"I don't like to leave anything on the ground. We don't log to a 10-inch top, we don't log to an 8-inch top or a 6-inch top. We log to infinity. It's ours, it's out there, and we need it all. Now."

--LP Pres. Harry Merlo, 2/5/89

There's something ominous going on with Louisiana Pacific's logging practices in Mendocino County. The latest sign is the new chipping mill they just opened in Calpella. The huge Calpella log deck, which as been empty since they closed and dismantled the sawmill there several years ago, is quickly filling up with stuff you never see on a logdeck -- 6-inch pecker poles, hardwood branches,

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Sanctuary Forest Alert!

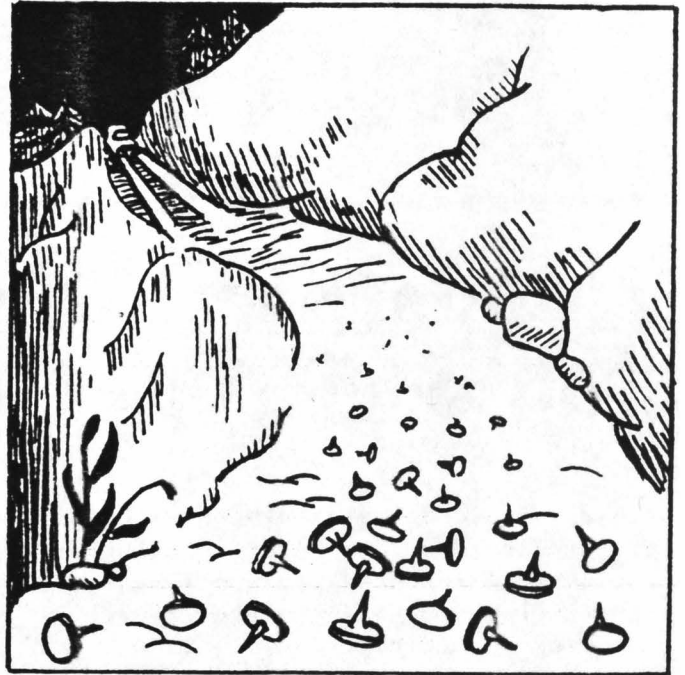
Sanctuary Forest, the last stand of old growth on the Upper Matole River at the Mendocino/Humboldt border, is again being threatened with clearcutting. Last fall this area was valiantly defended by blockaders who faced loggers attempting to fell trees on them, a truck running their picket line and injuring a protestor, and cops clubbing the heads of high school students. All this while a lawyer frantically drove down from Eureka with a court order to stop the logging.

Now, less that a year later, the rapacious Eel River Sawmills has resubmitted virtually the same timber harvest plan on the same grove. Of course CDF and Eel River Sawmills are again being challenged in court by EPIC and others. But given the history of this grove, we need to be ready to defend it again on a moment's notice. If you would like to be notified of Sanctuary Forest actions, please sign up on the enclosed form and mail it back to us as soon a possible. For more info call (707) 247-3320.

Cahto (continued)

campaign with their Keystone Kops military maneuvers. In April we were treated to a convoy of at least 25 BLM Rangers, complete with cook camper and porta-potty, traveling up the steep dirt road to camp in the Environmentally Sensitive Area and guard the wilderness from us "eco-terrorists." BLM chief John Lloyd appeared in person in his cute little khaki uniform to monitor five Earth Firsters who came to the site peacefully and legally in broad daylight. We were outnumbered 8 to 1 by armed BLM Rangers, sheriff's deputies, LP security and camo-clad Marijuana Eradication Team footsoldiers. That night, while BLM's finest guarded the peak, roofing nails were somehow spread on the only road leading to their camp and the BLM Rangers, according to a local resident "spent the morning in the dirt picking nails out of the road."

It's almost a disappointment that we didn't get to blockade these desk cowboys this spring, but, as serious



Earth Warriors we realize that saving the wilderness is more important than having fun. So it's time to knuckle down and work through the system for a while. Letters are needed to assist BLM in their environmental study. BLM should be encouraged to cancel all logging on Elkhorn Ridge and declare the entire Cahto area a wilderness study area, so it can be protected against future greedheads. (BLM should also be told not to log any of their other old growth holdings, for that matter.)



Darryl Cherney's long awaited second tape is finally ready and available. The tape, titled "They Sure Don't Make Hippies Like They Used To", features songs of the front lines, including "You Can't Clearcut Your Way To Heaven", "Free the Dead", and many others. It's great music, and the lyrics promise to make Darryl the Salman Rushdie of the environmental movement. So get it while you can by mailing \$8 to Darryl at P.O. Box 9, Piercy CA 95467, or call him at 707-247-3320.

The Cahto Wilderness Area is one of the last remaining old growth islands under BLM jurisdiction in Northern California. It is spotted owl habitat, and is on a steep slope draining into the South Fork Eel River, a designated Wild and Scenic River. BLM, terrified of public scrutiny, as closed off these public lands to public access, refusing to even allow a soil geologist to examine it. So letters should also demand that the area be reopened so it can be studied.

Letters should be sent to: John Lloyd, Area Manager, BLM, 1125 16th Street, Arcata CA 95521.

Waferboard (continued)

twisted Eucalyptus, and all kinds of wood debris.

All of this will be ground up into wood chips and trucked to Somoa (in Humboldt Co.) to be glued together with toxic chemicals and formed into waferboard. Waferboard is an inferior form of wood sheathing -- sort of the Velveeta of wood products -- which can be made from any type of wood scrap. Harry Merlo says it's the wave of the future. We say it's the tsunami of extinction.

The wood being chipped in Calpella is the stuff that used to be left on the ground to rot and replenish the soil, or left standing to grow into the next generation of trees. But Merlo's new policy is to take everything and replant a fast growing monoculture tree farm. His plans are for Eucalyptus or Poplar in 20 year rotations. Since no tree farm has ever lived past three rotations, what we're really looking at here is desert in 60 years.

Assault On Albion

The Albion River watershed on the Mendocino coast has found itself at ground zero of Louisiana Pacific's "log to Infinity" plan. LP's feeding frenzy covers over 3000 acres, including a 950 acre clearcut.

While LP wallows in hog heaven, local residents are trying to save what's left of the watershed. Lawsuits have been filed and a restraining order won on 450 acres, and some people are negotiating with LP to buy and preserve a 200 acre section. Other local residents think it's time to bring some direct action into the picture, and are forming a new Earth First! group to get things going. If you would like to be notified of Albion River Earth First! actions, please sign up on the enclosed action form or call 707-468-1660.

To make matters even worse, tree farms are not subject to even the minimal environmental laws that govern the forest. So we are at a critical turning point right now. We must oppose the conversion to a waferboard economy if we hope to have any forests left to save.

Earth First! will be sponsoring a demonstration at the Calpella chip mill on Thursday, June 15. You will be receiving more info about it later. We also support the No Clearcutting initiative that is being planned for the 1990 ballot. We need to work on all levels to stop the Tree Nazis from implementing their Final Solution.



EF! Rendezvous

The legendary Earth First! Round River Rendezvous will be held June 19-26 this year, in the Jemez Mountains of northern New Mexico. It will include workshops, music, famous speakers, and hundreds of yahooping Earth First!ers. For info and ridesharing call 468-1660.

Maxxam Worker Dies, Trees Too

All hell is still breaking loose in the Humboldt redwoods, where Wall Street slime bidder Charles Hurwitz is liquidating the last of the ancient forest at breakneck speed. Workers as well as trees are victims of this mania. The latest atrocity was the grisly death of a Scotia mill worker who fell or was sucked into the machinery and dismembered. He was an older man, a few months away from retirement, who was forced to work 58 hours a week as part of the mill speed-up. Management called for a moment of silence for him at a company meeting, but did not back off thier plan to increase the speed-up another 20% at the old-growth milling plant.

Opposition to Maxxam's forest extermination program is taking place on all levels. Smoke bombs recently went off at the company's Marin sales office, and a Maxxam forester received a creme pie in the face when he tried to address a forestry forum in San Francisco. Four law-



suits are also still pending against Maxxam Corp., and Assemblyman Byron Sher is still trying to pass some legislative restraints against them.

There will be lots of action in the Humboldt County redwoods this summer. If you would like to be notified of them, please sign up on the enclosed Earth First! action form or call 707-247-3320.

Usual Disgusting Plea For Money

These mailings can only keep coming your way if some more bucks start coming our way. It costs money to fight the greed mongers in what's left of the forest, and, although Earth First! is a relatively low budget operation, we are entirely funded by individual contributions. So if you want to support no-compromise direct action, please use the enclosed envelope to send us whatever you can afford. Checks can (and should) be made out to Earth First!

Earth  First!

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