Developers Attack San Bruno Mountain

By Mark Huntington

San Bruno Mountain, a 3,300-acre island of city-locked wilderness on the San Francisco Peninsula, has at last fallen to developers who intend to build 578 “residential units” on San Bruno’s south end. San Bruno, the largest city-locked open space in the U.S., forms the terminus of an entire ecosystem and is home to six listed or proposed endangered animals and fifteen rare and/or endangered plants, including the endangered Mission Blue butterfly.

But this autumn bulldozers, graders, backhoes and huge trucks worked feverishly, loading the tangled remains of the willows that once lined the creek, gouging out hillsides, filling in valleys, extending roads, all in an attempt to get as much done as possible to avoid protests, lawsuits and winter rains.

Bay Area Earth First! has made saving San Bruno one of its top priorities since the mid-1980s. This has been a campaign of many alliances, spearheaded in part by David Schooley, who has worked for 25 years to save the mountain from condo builders, quarry operators and other developers.

A Critical Look at the First Year of Operation Mangrove Shield, the Struggle for Florida’s Soldier Key

By Maria Quintana

The would-be developers of Florida’s Soldier Key are at each others’ throats because a real estate developer, Blockbuster Video boycott participants, Jim Sanders of Biscayne National Park and the National Park Service, the Florida Audubon Society, and a dozen or so local EF activists. The partnership that bound the two main investors, Wayne Huizenga’s Blockbuster Entertainment and Robert Lambert, sleazebag Fort Lauderdale owner of the cruise barge Florida Princess and holder of an option to develop Soldier Key, went sour. Blockbuster, under intense public pressure, sued Florida Princess to stop their use of the Blockbuster name in “Blockbuster Cruises” and for $540,000 of “bad debt.” A Blockbuster spokesperson admitted that Soldier Key was a public relations disaster.

Since Operation Mangrove Shield began in November of 1990, now is a good time to take a critical look at the first year of a campaign by a young southeastern EF group.

Soldier Key is a wild, privately-owned 3.5-acre island in Biscayne National Park. Three species of endangered sea turtles nest there, including the Hawksbill, which has called it home in three of the twelve known Florida nestings since 1959. Lambert, the scheme’s promoter, needed big bucks from an investor like Huizenga to develop the island into a stopover for his cheesy cruises. Huizenga, morally oblivious to everything he and his money do until the reviews come in, called himse...
EARTH FIRST!
NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!
Subscription is $20 a year

POB 5176 • MISSOULA, MONTANA 59806 • 406-728-8114

—Timothy Bechtold

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EARTH FIRST!
Brigid
February 2, 1991
Vol. XII, No. III

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Although we do not accept the authority of the hierarchical state, nothing herein is intended to run us afoul of its police power. Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or carefully printed and sent with an SASE if return is requested. Electronic submissions are even better, either on Macintosh disk or via Eoonet (send to "earthfirst") or fax it to 406-728-8160 on high (fine) resolution. Art or photographs (negatives are best, prints are good, and slides are 35-40) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested. Please include explicit permission to reprint these.

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Wall section of the journal.

just about a year ago, six inches of snow packed into rumpled ice by the semi stove, and the Solstice dusk was approaching, and Carlja just did not want to drive anymore. At the time, I was just about to move to Dillon, to be staying on the straight and narrow in automobiles. However, we had a tin Honda full of snake oil, and since we had been stowing about $8500 worth of salable merchandise from Tucson on bellies full of mailing party pizza and beer, so I drove the long, slow way back to Missoula.

We set up the journal office in our living room for the first few issues before we made enough bucks to settle into our present office on the main drag in downtown Missoula, Montana. The past few years have been tumultuous for the Earth First! movement, and moving the journal to Missoula certainly contributed to that tumult.

This collective hashed out an article regarding the (1990's) workings and machinations to give readers a more clear idea of how this paper functions (page 4), though in truth, the journal functions a little differently with each collective. Over the year, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, New York, and even into Canada, have each been the home of a journal editor, while three editors have come from both Washington and Virginia, from California, and ten from Montana (three of whom are transplant Californians).

We have attempted to reflect the various opinions in the EF! movement both by trying to select a wide array of contributions from a wide array of editors to work on the journal. Earth First! means many things to many people; we like to think we prefer to include in the journal some opinions that waver on the edge of Earth First-like thought to provoke people into probing and defining their own personal and societal truths, or at least reaffirming them. To reflect the various opinions in the EF! movement needs to discuss at the upcoming activist conference is a fascinating body for EF! organizers, the traditional role of the EF! Foundation. Another question open for debate is the role of EF! contacts listed in the Directory. Some in each journal. The usual procedure to be listed on the contact list is simply to ask us to be listed, but each month the journal receives mail or calls from iritated citizens who claim that one contact or another is a dud, or that the contact blew them off ungraciously. For each issue of the journal, collective members phone, via touch, via touch, via mail, with the list to make sure the listings is up-to-date and gets news around town, and be we usually do not ask if the contact is doing a good job as a contact. Is there something of bare minimum that we should require from contacts, or should we simply let people sort themselves out as we have in the past? Let us know....

In this issue, María Quintana, the contact for Everglades EF!, recaps the struggle of EF! in south Florida to save Soldier Key from development financed partially by Blackbutter Entertainment. This critical retrospective on the elegance of the campaign is a handy reference for any new activists, or activists starting a new campaign. In addition, Mitch Friedman, an EF!er who has formed a progressive conservation biology organization in the Northwest, explains his evolution from a rad EF! rabble-rouser in the streets and black woods to being a rad EF! rabble-rouser on the DC lobbying scene, perhaps widening a definition of EF! activism. Also in this issue, Wild Utha EF!, a group of activists based in and near Salt Lake City, contributed the Blank
Dear SF! Bombshell.

Didja ever think that if all the environmentalists could stop bickering for about 3 days, we could solve all the world's problems and still have enough time left over to enjoy ourselves? Take care folks.

-KAREN

Dear Doo-Doo Heads,

Questioning beauty our appreciation of subtlety, of green-ness, of pointedness behind currants the ugly truths of ciscuates + cages compels us to act. We hold a bond of awareness. We are in a struggle not only to protect trees + untrammelled beats; we are fighting at the base of hierarchy and ownership. We are fighting for our action, our affirmation.

For the rest of the letter, the temptation is to respond by talking about all the sacrifices that Dave and I made, give numerous examples, cry unfair, countercharge rip-offs. But it’s just too much like a bad divorce when your ex is miserable but still doesn’t want to give it up. I have better, more useful things to do, and I know that most of whatever is Earth First! now, has also better things to do.

To whoever pilfered the name of Chim Blea; get a life.

Happy trails,

-NANCY MORTON, TUCON, AZ

Dear Shit for Brains,

The article, "How to be a Complete Environmental Activist," in the Dec. 21 "Journal" was mordant, stupid, small-minded, repulsive and probably would never have been printed. Why invite more divisiveness?

-LYNN JACOS

Dear Coprocephalics,

The EFl debate. It just goes on and on, don’t it? I am dismayed. What exactly is EFl, and What is The Role of the Journal? First of all, he said, thrusting his voice into the foray, EFl is not and should not be ‘exact’ anything. Thats what makes it wild, furry, loveable, and effective. It should, however, maintain focus, through a wide angle lense, yes, but a focus. EF! as represented in these pages, it seems, has become more of a group that has decided on what to argue over than what to fight for. What exactly is the role of the Journal? Kudos to Alison for last month’s editorial. I agree with her in- sightful assessment, but the ramifications cause some internal debate in my mind. The basic distinction of my re- action is this: I am thrilled that there is a journal out there willing to publish articles on the whinysalutic possibilities of hun-ting the hunt-ers. But I am less concerned, with my name on them to appear within the pages of that journal. This may be testament to my optimism or willingness to self censor, I honestly don’t know. To me it is all a question of effectiveness in our battle. I want those articles out there, but I don’t want to have to answer for them. Definetly wimpy, but my god, not to avoid wimpiness, it’s to save the Wild. I know that you know that the Journal is not the ‘official voice’ of the movement, and that articles therein reflect the opinions of their authors, etc. etc., but I know that you know that this is not the way things are viewed by They. They, are fucked, and They are the enemy, but are we going to define our field of battle to be No Compromise in the Defense of Mother Earth, or No Compromise in the Defense of Autonomous Authorship? The answer is, of course, No Compromise in Defense of Mother Earth. The answer is also NOT: No Haircut in Defense of Mother Earth, or No Compromise in Defense of Every Little Thing. I feel Politically Correct. No Compromising to Defense of Mother Earth? might just be beginning compromising EVERYTHING ELSE WE BELIEVE IN for the sake of Her. And it has been my experience that it often does.

The same goes for the use of the EFl name. Last issue, Chim Bea accused PAW of being a hypocritical organization that censured the use of spikes on a T-shirt and then ‘plugged’ their use in an article on the Forest Service. A group that has benefitted from the movement, and then turned their back on it. I can’t speak for PAW, but I can speak for myself as an active member (read ‘works 24 hours a day’) – Chim. PAW emerged as an alliance of eastern biocentric activists non-conformous from EFl and not sharing the moniker during the big EFl split/debate. A conference had been called in Colorado to heal the rift. Many of us in the East began communicating with each other directly, rather than via Tucson during the split... As the split widened we got closer! We found out (not surprisingly) that we had more to common with each other than we did with either side of the debate, and that rather than seeing our EF! movement, we would continue to work alligned under a different label, and wait for the dust to settle.

Once EFl decided what it was, we would decide whether or not we were EFl as far as I’m concerned, and judging from last issue, the dust aint settled yet. As far as the T-shirt goes, the use of the spike was never censored. The shirt exists, you can order it from EFl. We simply never really endorsed or encouraged it or picked up its logo, which happens to happen on more an Earth Firster than any Bozo napping in a bar about the death of Frasierism. As far as I’m concerned, EFl is alive and well, speciated and continueing, and as to the use of T-shirts and costumes. Use what works and discard the baggage. I hope that EFl continues and distributor of information. More articles we can’t stomach, and more challenges to our sensibiliti- es.

Earth First is dead: LONG LIVE EARTH FIRST! –Buck Young

Spikers Don’t Wear Spikes on Their Shirts. And well they shouldn’t. Those like me who are not a part of the bullshit paperwork, speaking at col- leges, and defending the actions of those who do their work at night. We need a lot more of everyone, a lot more desk-top activists, and a lot more under-cover operatives. Out of our 658 members we need five dayworkers for every ten nightworkers, but only one outspoken advocate and distributor of information for monkeywrenching every thousand monkeywrenchers. The Real EFl—yes, the ones that call in Colorado to heal the rift, and hopefully They don’t—are the bravest, most committed folks. Unfortunately the Wolf to chant re- arm the Armchair EFlers to Real EFl is disastrous. The EFl debate requires Hardcore commitment, either at your desk or in the woods. As Lone Wolf so wisely said, "If you’re not doing everything you can for the Earth, you’re not doing enough". Just wearing a T-shirt with a spike on it is not enough, flat calling yourself an EFler without committing your life is worse than calling yourself a Sierra Klubber and just gending in your dues. As far as being a hypocrite for saying ‘Let my article if that the USFS does away with the appearance process then “the only recourse for pub- lic participation will be 60 penny nails and grinding compound”, there’s noth- ing hypocritical about it. If they take away my nails, I use the means available to me.

Besides which, in general, I have no trouble with language. Label- ling you a hypocrite is a favored tactic of They. “See, you’re a hypocrite too, now, I can’t believe that you don’t come up to cop to it. You won’t go through life remaining pure to anything, you chose the wrong planet. Retreat to a good friend Walt once said, “Do I con- tradict myself? Very well then, I contradict myself. I am large; I contain Multitudes.”

When I started out there’s chance of having taken so much from the movement and then turned our backs on the movement, and that the move- ment must move. Its Earth First, foal, not Earth First! First. If you are putting the Earth First in your life and work, committed to the movement and throwing spikes into any of They’re wheels, it doesn’t matter how far an Earth Firster than any Bozo napping in a bar about the death of Frasierism. As far as I’m con- cerned, EFl is alive and well, speciated and continueing, and as to the use of T-shirts and costumes. Use what works and discard the baggage. I hope that EFl continues and distributor of information. More articles we can’t stomach, and more challenges to our sensibiliti- es.

Earth First is dead: LONG LIVE EARTH FIRST! –Buck Young

Earth First Journal 1992

Earth First! Activist Conference
March 7-9 in Stumptown (Portland, OR)

Ecotopian EFlers have called for an activist conference to discuss the direction of the EFl movement and the role of the ever-evolving journal in the movement. Possible topics for discussion include: the Day of Outrage, setting up a new EFl! Foundation, international campaigns, and the journal.

All Earth Firsters are welcome to attend the meetings. However, local groups are encouraged to send a representative. Individuals and groups who can’t make the conference are encouraged to send statements. This is three days of meetings, folks, so don’t come unless you’re ready to focus.

For info on the Day of Outrage, speaking engagements, and west coast ride coordinating, contact Jim at (503) 231-0207. For east of the Rockies ride coordination, contact Anne or Onin at (802) 658-2403.

There is no cost for this conference; funds may be available for traveling expenses. Federal agents are expected to pay double and their own place to stay.
California's "Grand Accord" Flounders

BY T. GRIP

Millionaire Hal Arbit, who bankrolled the 1990 Forest Forever Initiative, and his Sierra Club dropout lap dog Gail Lucas have worked behind closed doors with California Governor Pete Wilson to formulate a Grand Accord on forest regulations. The Grand Accord legislation, purportedly put forth to save the forests, in fact weakens the current State Department of Forestry regulations substantially. The Accord would allow 50% cuts on all remaining old growth (with re-entry allowed after 25 years), 30-acre clearcuts, and short rotations. The Accord would also provide for consolidated timber harvest plans—one comprehensive plan for each company's timberland—with no further public review. (Smells like bullsh*t to me.)

The California legislature, showing supreme indifference to the crisis in Ecotopia's forests has failed over six months of half-hearted effort to adopt revised forest regulations of any description.

In memo leaked from Louisiana Pacific it is clear that even LP acknowledges the depth of the crisis. Correspondence between LP Chairman, Harry Merlo, and his chief forester, Jerry Partain (former California Department of Forestry Director) admits those environmentalists were right, that LP has been over cutting for years, and they're running out of timber. Whether asked to comment or not, Earth Firstier, Darryl Cherney responded by saying, "Of course we're right. We're always right."

There emerged on the scene another player in this game: the California Forest and Watershed Council, a broad-based coalition group of virtually all the forest activists in the redwood region, both mainstream activists and Earth First! On January 8 CF&W held a rally and day of lobbying on the front steps of the state capitol to oppose the Governor's bogus Grand Accord legislation. Speakers included Bobby Castillo from the International Indian Treaty Council, David Orr from the Association of Sierra Club Members for Environmental Ethics, Judi Bari from Ecotopia EFW, and the IWW, Randy Hayes from Rainforest Action Network, and a representative from the Greens who just got recognized as a political party by the state following a successful voter registration drive. Also folks from Forests Forever kicked off their Forests Forever 1992, the "Forrest Oak and Wildlife Protection Initiative." The Earth Firstiers did what they often do when faced with a crisis, wrote some tunes and performed a skit. A group of Native American drummers closed the rally, which was followed by a spiral dance on the capitol steps (get wild, you woo-woos). Then a group of hopeful activists went inside to lobby some bureaucrats.

High points of the day would have to include the signing of our petition to recall Gov. Wilson written by Candice Boake. She's sort of the Stomper Queen of terrorism campaigns faced with a crisis, wrote some tunes and performed a skit. A group of Native American drummers closed the rally, which was followed by a spiral dance on the capitol steps (get wild, you woo-woos). Then a group of hopeful activists went inside to lobby some bureaucrats.

Who Said Miners Aren't Good Neighbors?

Residents of Jamestown, California, are in a battle to force mining operations away from the vicinity of their homes. One home is only 300 feet from the Jamestown gold mining pit. But the mining company is taking steps to pacify the landowners. In an effort to resolve complaints that the truck horns sound too harsh, the company is experimenting with horns that "moo" like a cow.

—EP STUMPFROGS, BIG STUMP BIOREGION

Variation: America, the Beautiful

Oh beautiful for smoggy skies
Insectidal grains
Above the asphalt plains
America, America
Main sheds his waste on thee.
And hides the pines with billboard signs
From sea to oily sea.

—Restroom Stall #2, Roslyn Cafe; Roslyn, WA

Dear Occupant,

This form letter is to introduce you to a new form of communication. It is a sleeping giant of an underground subversive network. Oh, another dream of techno-utopia, you say. What is it cellular phones for the masses? A TV on every subway car? No, it's not a machine. And it doesn't cost you any money.

It's those goddamned envelopes. Those Business Reply Envelopes. The ones that say No Postage Necessary. They're everywhere. In junk mail, on the street, even on busses and trains. So what you say? Well consider these items:

- An envelope stuffed with something interesting provides some mail worker out there with a ten minute break from work. "Hey, listen to this." It is a direct form of communication. Your letter or artwork or whatever is a personal letter in a work place filled with mind numbing forms.

- It can't be censored. You are the only censor. Since your letter arrives in the same envelope as that all the other mail arrives in, it can't be weeded out. The boss's ability to control what can be in the work environment is eroded.

- The company pays for it. Every letter they receive in these envelopes costs them 39 cents postage due.

- No one owns this form of communication. There is no leader. There are no guidelines.

- The entire network can never be fully known. The mail arrives to a certain degree randomly. It can't be anthologized. It's not for sale.

- You can't buy it.

- The only way they can stop us is if they stop sending out all those envelopes. And that'll be great.

- This form of communication has a built in ending. When the government and corporations crumble, so will the mail rooms and these envelopes.

We don't have to worry about this dragging on past its prime.

- It doesn't even have a name. You can name it but it will be different in different cities.

- No meetings.

You know, I haven't always been the President of the Tube Division of American Television, Inc. I worked myself up from the mail room. In those horrible wretched days, I always wished that an envelope I opened up would have something different inside. Something interesting. Well, it never happened for me. But now you and I can make that dream come true for the thousands of poor schleps across the country who have to work in the mail room of some corporation.

Please spread the word. Encourage your friends to take advantage of this opportunity.

—U.A. SANABRIA

IN MEMORIAM

Members of the editorial collective were deeply saddened at the brutal slaying of yet one more symbol of American Freedom—Billboards.

The Billboard family, for many years a living, breathing manifestation of America's God-Given constitutional right of corporations to foist upon the witless public all manner of useless services, shoddy merchandise, and deadly junk food, has recently come under attack on Route 93 in the Flathead Valley near Whitefish, Montana.

The latest murder, believed to have been perpetrated by the notorious "Montana Billboard Basher," was the eighteenth since June, 1990, making it the longest unsolved serial murder in Montana's history. It has cost advertisers at least $50,000.

Flathead County sheriff's detective Jim Mitchell echoed the depth of our grief with the following comment: "I'm sure it's been down a week or two." The "Billboard Basher" is also believed to be implicated in two instances of road construction vandalism. For shame! Is NOT Home for the Holidays.

We commend the sign companies, whose skilled, stalwart staff reportedly replace billboards dragging on past its prime. The company pays for it. Every letter they receive in these envelopes costs them 39 cents postage due.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Big Sky Waterslides, whose billboard advertisement was the last atrocity massacred.

Page 4 Earth First! Brigid 1992
World Bank-Mexico Forest Project or Highway Program? 

BY PONCHO AFUERA DE LA VILLA

The Sierra Madre Occidental, southern sister range of the Rockies, is a region of dynamic beauty and important biological diversity. A series of extremely diverse ecosystems runs almost 1000 miles from northwest to southeast in the northern half of Mexico, just south of the USA-Mexico border between the Sonoran and Chihuahuan Deserts to the Sierra Madre Oriental, which forms the eastern end. This is the native home of the ocelot. (MDS-Forestation the indigenous people of the region.)

Elevations vary from 1200 feet to 9000 feet. Less than 10% of the region is flat; the area is often steep with thin and delicate soils that result from decades of grazing. Five canyons deepen the Grand Canyon in Arizona, carved into this region, including the well-known Barranca del Cobre (Copper Canyon), a de facto National Park in the heart of the Sierra Madre Occidental that was virtually inaccessible until the 300-mile-long railway from Chihuahua to Durango four years ago; now it has to be dug out from under landslides whenever it rains.

The 40,000 strong and tenacious Tarahumara People (Raramuri Nation) are an amalgamation of all the folks who once lived in the region until the conquistadors forced them further into the Sierra Madre, via land expropriation and slavery, in the 16th century. These people lived in virtual isolation for almost 450 years. Tepehuanos and Guarojos [sic] live to the south, Pimas to the north, Yaqui and Mayo in the valleys, and many mestizo (mixed-blood) communities also dot the valleys. In the 1880s "foreigners" began to "harvest" the big trees from the pine-oak canopy. The government signed timber concessions to gringo companies (including the Sierra Madre Land Company of Hearst fame, and the Maderas Company Limited) in the north and central section of the region. After the Mexican Revolution (1910-17), the government gave out concessions as political favors, from which derived much of the current wealth and power of Chihuahua City. In 1978 President Cardenas created the Ejido System, which was, basically, the formal recognition of common lands that had been the basis of community survival. This showed the way. Although the land and resources are officially owned by the communities, the governmental system was and still is used to guarantee Mexico's industrialists trees for their factories.

The grizzly bear still exists in the region, as do bighorn sheep, jaguar, tufted jay, Apache goshawk, and ocelot. Although the region is well-roaded, much of it is remote and inaccessible to heavy equipment and logging trucks, although the Mexican government wants to change this. In 1985, the government invited the World Bank to help develop a plan to manage the forests for national conservation and to assist with the financing of as year, 67 million dollar project. In 1989, the Bank approved $45.5 million for a 17-year loan to assist with the financing of a 5-year, 67 million acre, $94 million (216,638 million peso) forestry development project. The development was meant to improve and rehabilitate roads into the remote areas of the states of Chihuahua and Durango, to build and renovate sawmills for logging, and to provide loan capital to medium and small scale loggers for equipment and technical assistance. The loggers would then be enabled (watch out for codependency!) to harvest one third of the remaining forests in Mexico and 23% of Latin America's temperate forests.

The World Bank's Secretary of Agriculture and Water Resources (SARH - Mexico's version of the USDA), one of the agencies responsible for forest execution (read: forest execution), prepared a project summary, dated September 1991, which stated that $1.12 million would be used for the improvement, rehabilitation and maintenance of 750 miles of roads, $34.7 million would be for mills, logging equipment and heavy machinery, $8.5 million would be for loans to small and medium logging operations, $11 million for uncost effects (EFI: needs a budget like this), $2.6 million for environmental protection, and $1.2 million for special studies.

One of the "special" studies was to be for research into the pulping of over 30 species of oak in the region, and yet another project the bank has agreed not to fund this study, although word has it the pulping of oaks is already under way.

For new-to-Mexico harvest methods important to change that.

Despite this warning, the project now faces many of the problems that were identified in the Bank's review of its prior Mexican projects. The project's objectives to improve the efficiency of forestry activities, (3) Improving productivity and efficiency of forestry activities, (3) Improving quality of life...especially to the indigenous world." Five project areas have been identified: strengthening the management and coordination capacities of federal and state forestry and conservation agencies, to change that.

The project area has one of the highest degrees of diversity, measured by endemism, in the world. Life is based on a deep respect for nature and an understanding that they are an integral part of the world. The culture is maintained through the sacred land and forest that has been the basis of community survival. This showed the way. Although the land and resources are officially owned by the communities, the governmental system was and still is used to guarantee Mexico's industrialists trees for their factories.

Overall, the project is not likely to reproduce trees at all. The World Bank states that it has four objectives for the project: (1) Improving environmental protection; (2) improving productivity and efficiency of forestry activities; (3) improving quality of life...especially to the indigenous world." Five project areas have been identified: strengthening the management and coordination capacities of federal and state forestry and conservation agencies, to change that.

The project area has one of the highest degrees of diversity, measured by endemism, in the world. Life is based on a deep respect for nature and an understanding that they are an integral part of the world. The culture is maintained through the sacred land and forest that has been the basis of community survival. This showed the way. Although the land and resources are officially owned by the communities, the governmental system was and still is used to guarantee Mexico's industrialists trees for their factories.
Battle Begins Over Mexican Spotted Owl Listing

BY CRUZ SMITH

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has proposed to list the Mexican spotted owl as a Threatened species throughout its range (Southwest high elevation forests) but refuses to designate critical habitat. That wouldn’t be “prudent” it claims, because it wouldn’t be “beneficial” to the owl. After all, a species reduced to 2,160 individuals by the relentless logging of old growth forests doesn’t need critical habitat! These guys have been drinking bad coffee and cream-ora in their government issue double-wides for too long. But don’t worry (???) Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund is gonna sue the bastards. The real work starts after they win, though, because you can bet that Manny’s Meanies are going to try to get away with the lamest critical habitat proposal possible. So take this as an invitation to move to the rad-est ecosystem ever, to help save a slim, cool bird and even cooler forests.

ILLEGAL DELAY DESTROYS 33,250 ACRES. The FWS completed the Mexican spotted owl Status Review five weeks prior to the 12 month due date for the listing decision. One week before the due date, the Regional Office strongly recommended listing. Yet its flummox, Manny “Noriega” Lujan, held up the listing proposal in Washington, DC for another 37 weeks. When finally published on November 4, 1991, the proposal to list New Mexico and Arizona spotted owls was 36 years late, violating the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, Sec. 4 (3) (B) and 50 CFR 424.14(b)(3). Not coincidentally, the delay (February 27, 1991—November 4, 1991) coincided nearly to the day with the Southwest timber harvesting season. By illegally holding up the proposal, Mount Graham Mannie allowed an extremely rare species continuing to continue unabated—further endangering the existence of species the FWS knew it would eventually have to list. So how many trees were murdered in those 36 weeks? The Freddies estimate that in the National Forests of New Mexico and Arizona alone, 41,800 acres of suitable Mexican spotted owl habitat were “disturbed” and 33,250 acres were mauled to the point of being unable to support Mexican spotted owls at all (Fletcher 1990). Freeddy didn’t include crucial owl habitat destroyed by logging in the National Forests of Colorado and Utah, Bureau of Livestock and Mining (BLM) lands, state lands, private lands, and Indian reservations.

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT TRASHED. The stated purpose of the Endangered Species Act is to “provide a means whereby the ecosystems upon which endangered species and threatened species depend may be conserved.” To this end, Congress provided for the routine designation of critical habitat, “to the maximum extent prudent and determinable” (Section 2(b)(2)). To the maximum extent prudent and determinable” (Section 2(b)(2)). To this end, Congress provided for the routine designation of critical habitat, “to the maximum extent prudent and determinable” (Section 2(b)(2)). By implementing the Act, however, the FWS has repeatedly flaunted Congressional intent when critical habitat threatens to disrupt the Industrial Machine’s food supply. In too many cases, it has designated critical habitat only after being sued and ordered to do so by the court. The northern spotted owl is a case in point; the Mexican spotted owl is headed that way fast. Designation of critical habitat adds a level of protection not otherwise available to species such as the Mexican spotted owl threatened by habitat destruction or modification. These species are protected not only by provisions that apply to all listed species, but are further protected by a set of provisions that apply only to designated critical habitat.

The FWS agrees that the biological concept of “critical habitat” and the protection afforded it by the Act are essential to the conservation of the Mexican spotted owl, but they claim that critical habitat itself, as a legal entity, is superfluous. “Ultimately, survival and recovery of the Mexican spotted owl depends on realizing that even small processes of habitat modification, if allowed to continue, will jeopardize the species. Therefore, any significant habitat alteration that will affect the ability of the habitat to provide the primary constituent elements necessary to ensure survival and recovery of the Mexican spotted owl must be avoided.

These guys have been drinking bad coffee and cream-ora in their government issue double-wides for too long.

To assure the availability of adequate habitat in the future, this protection strategy will have to be applied equally to occupied suitable habitat, unoccupied suitable habitat and presently unsuitable habitat that is capable of becoming suitable in the future. Because the formal designation of critical habitat would provide no additional benefit to the Mexican spotted owl, the FWS has designated “critical habitat” for the species in the Southeast, Southeast, South, and South Central areas. The FWS has designated “critical habitat” for the species in the Southeast, Southeast, South, and South Central areas.

For the Sierra Madre Occidental, continued

Mexico. Southern Durango has one of the highest endemic rates in North America. (In Southern Durango, nine foot diameter trees are feeding area mills.) There are over 7,000 vascular plants in the region. Almost 1,000 are endemic. One fourth of the 2,705 species of Asteraceae (sunflower family) are endemic here as well.

An endemic frog and fish species are threatened by river siltation from intensive logging. Scientists have not studied the species' relationships status or geographical distribution. Money from the World Bank loan has been targeted for studies of endangered and threatened species. Studies are underway for the thick-billed parrot and Mexican gray wolf (among others), species that can serve as indicators for general ecosystem health. The studies, however, are not scheduled to be finished for up to five years, just as the first phase of the destruction is scheduled for completion. Some studies will be nothing more than compilations of old data by people with little or no field experience. The grizzly bear is almost extinct in the region, although it still exists in a protected area of the Sierra. Bighorn sheep, jaguar, tuffed jay, Apache goshawk and Mexican spotted owl survive in limited numbers; other rare critters include ocelot, imperial woodpecker, Pacific parakeet and bighorn. The Mexican gray wolf, of which there are “officially” just 44 individuals remaining (all in captivity) may still be present in the Sierra Madre Occidental. The region is obviously important. Yet, no comprehensive compilation of information on the plant and animal species in the project area exists. One University of Texas Botanist collected four plants near says [sic] 30 other plants endemic to the region in a small tract of pine-oak forest in one three-hour period.

Given the large diversity of trees in the mixed pine-oak forests (at least 14 pines and over 30 oak species), the steep slopes and thin soils, intensive logging will cause major erosion. Regeneration of a native mix of trees is unlikely. The risks for some native species, such as Picea, Abies and Pseudotsuga family members, are great. These trees grow in small isolated populations that once cut will probably become extinct in the Sierra Madre. The forest mosaic of seasonally fruiting trees, needed for the survival of many animals will be disrupted. Because of the range in elevations and climates, certain regional areas provide food, seeds, nuts and fruit when food isn’t available elsewhere. Logging could therefore eliminate the feeding places for animals long enough to starve them to death.

From the Sierra Madre Occidental flow many large rivers: Yaqui, Fuerte, Mayo, Conchos. Most of the region’s rivers have been affected by previous and current forest practices, increased siltation and altered flow, as well as by dams for water collection and hydro-electric facilities, irrigation, sawmill effluent and the large floods of ’90-91 in Sinaloa state. The Sirupa (aka Rio Arios) and other tributaries to the Rio Yaqui have experienced fish kills as a result of sawmill waste. The Rio Conchos is by far the largest tributary to the Rio Grande. Rio Conchos at times provides the only flow to the Rio Grande at their confluence. Rio Conchos is the major source of
Spotted Owl, continued

posed to be guaranteed by law. Now we're not great fans of the law (neither is Hinnie, by the way), but the law is clear, stable, and can be enforced, while agency policy is vague, almost impossible to enforce, and subject to change at any time.

The Mexican spotted owl is not the only species threatened by the US Squish the Wildlife Service; critical habitat can be taken away from any listed species at any time. If this latest attack on the integrity of the Endangered Species Act is allowed to go through, it will set a precedent that could send critical habitat the way of the passenger pigeon.

HELP! The Mexican spotted owl, like the ancient forests of the Southwest, has not received near the attention that the northern spotted and its dumpy, dreary forests have. There is basically no ancient forest infrastructure down here. The Greater Gila Biodiversity Project (GGBP) and the Friends of the Owls, however, are starting an absolutely massive campaign to save the forests of the Southwest. In particular, we're launching a big-time spotted owl defense project to see that critical habitat gets designated, and is extensive enough to save the last shreds of old growth habitat remaining in this ecotone-under-seige. We need help!

I'm lame: Write Field Supervisor, USFWS, Ecological Services Field Office, 3530 Pan American Highway NE, Suite D, Albuquerque, NM 87107 demanding that critical habitat be designated. The comment period ends March 2, 1992.

I'm kind of spent: send more money than you can afford to GGBP POB 12835, Albuquerque, NM 87195.

I'm slim and cool: unplug your fax machine, strap your tipsi to the Suburu, turn left at Orem, and head for the Southwest immediately. Bring good beer but leave the wheat grass at home.

The World Bank's environmental policy states that the World Bank "will not finance projects that could significantly harm the environment of a neighboring country without the consent of that country."

However, as of November 1990, there was no consultation between Mexico and the USA about the Rio Conchos, as is required by the 1983 bilateral "La Paz" agreement between Mexico and the USA. The La Paz agreement provides for consultation on projects that could affect the border region. The EPA is responsible to oversee this agreement for the USA.

World Bank funding for pulp mills raises additional water quality issues. Pulpmill discharge into rivers will have serious effects. Despite all of this, the World Bank doesn't appear interested in monitoring water quality or flows of these rivers that it well surely degrade.

According to the 30-page project evaluation done by the Texas Center for Policy Studies, November 1990, the World Bank—SAH Forestry project is "violating or will violate all the World Bank's stated project objectives except for the increasing of timber production."

The project is "based on overly optimistic assumptions. Moreover, the project [will not replace] the logging that has caused problems in the past" and "provides funds for new harvesting while past abuses continue. Thus, cumulative impacts are increasing [and] some of the most important potential impacts of the project have not been anticipated by the World Bank."

"We just don't agree with that," explained World Bank Project Director William Beattie. This project amounts to disastrous. Do something! Call the Mexican tourism hotline 1-800-262-8900 and give a piece of your mind about wolves, grizzlies and native rights. Write of visit the Mexican Government Board of Tourism nearest you: they are located in Los Angeles, CA, Houston, TX, Coral Gables, FL, Chicago, IL, New York, NY, and Washington, DC.

Write livid letters of raging protest to: Sena­tor Patrick Leahy (VT), Chairman, Senate Appropria­tions Subcommittee on Foreign Operations; Rep. David Obey (WI) Chairman, House Appropria­tions Subcommittee on Foreign Operations; and your local Congressional delegation; Tell' em that since the World Bank's largest financier is the good ol' USA, the World Bank—SAH Forestry Development Project should be carried out under US standards and that the project must be halted immediately until an EIS is done for each endangered species and critical habitat areas are determined, demarcated and protected by road closures and law enforcement to combat illegal poaching and logging. Also, no pulping of oaks which are critical for feeding wildlife. Refuge­tion efforts should include all 14 species of pine, not just the four species that are commer­cially viable. More addresses are: President Salinas-Gotari, Palacio Nacional, Mexico City, Mexico; Patrick Coady, US Executive Director, World Bank Treasury Dept., Washington, DC 20220; Binswanger, Country Dept. II World Bank; 1818 H St, NW, Washington, DC 20433. Also you can call the EPA and tell' em to enforce the La Paz agreement: 1-800-438-2474.

Big Bend

The sky here is so thickly spread with light (the air is thin and rainless), single stars and constellations that I once could find are dimmed or lost. My lover loves this hard and fierce geometry of rock. In sun, the butte we're on could throw a jag of dark a mile wide or burn with color, stun the sky with orange, ochre, rose. My lover says that once the desert's cut or touched too hard, its healing is slow (no kudzo floods to hide or fill a space). It keeps its scars. They deepen and erode.

I tell him what I miss: the slap of leaves on skin and air that's like a damp embrace.

He says he had forgotten how to breathe. I lose my lover here. The shart-edged land, the sharp-edged night are things he wants to keep.

I seek to claim him back with urgent hands.

—Marisa de los Santos

Hunt Eco-terrorism Theme Continues

(from AZ Game & Fish)

The Earth First! publication may have moved to another state, but it is still espousing the same old theme—eco-terrorists disguising themselves as hunters to shoot livestock, said Arizona Game and Fish officials.

The Earth Firsters are now publishing out of Montana rather than Arizona and in this message has gotten more subtle, but it is clear the intent of one article in the November edition is to have terrorists pose as hunters to shoot cattle on public lands," said Game and Fish Deputy Director Tom Spalding.

"While the article never comes right out and says, 'Go shoot cattle' like an article in their publi­cation did last year, the massage is only thinly disguised. The article mentions shooting 'non-desirable four-legged species,' and 'all-season hunting.' There are even poems about shooting game warldens, hunters and cows with a post script 'P.S.... and for heaven's sake, don't shoot any Game Wardens or hunters!'" Spalding pointed out.

Public information Officer Rory Akens said that last year, the Earth Firsters claimed the article about shooting cattle was only done in fun and that there were no political overtones.

"I'm sure that this year, because they were more subtle about it, they will claim that the article is not even about shooting cattle. The article is not that thinly disguised."

"No matter what your beliefs, shooting cattle is just plain wrong. Even advocating such illegal acts is an affront to those true environmentalists who are working hard within the system to effect needed changes. The system may not be perfect, but acts of terrorism are counter-productive," Akens said.

Spalding pointed out that the article goes to great lengths to explain what caliber weapons can be used because they are difficult to trace and what types of bullets to use which the forensic experts can't trace.

"This is just an extension of the animal rights movement. Those are the same people who want to take the turkeys off your Thanksgiving table, ani­mals out of zoos and even dogs off chains. Anti-hunting is just one of their tenets," Spalding said.

Spalding advised hunters, cattlemen and others enjoying the outdoors to keep their eyes open for suspicious activities on public lands where there are cattle.

He added that the article is part of an ongoing hunter harassment efforts. "If you see something suspicious out there, or if you see suspected hunter harassment taking place, call operation Game Thief at 1-800-352-0700," Spalding said.

Spalding added that fortunately, as far as the department can tell, no one has actually gone out and shot any cattle.

But that's not to say it hasn't occurred or won't occur. We just don't have the evidence. In fact, the obvious intent of the Earth First! article is to inform their readers how to perform such dastardly acts while leaving as little evidence as possible," Spalding said.
Endangered Natives: Longleaf Pine Forests and Sherman's Fox Squirrel

BY JOANNE DUFFY

The longleaf pine forest, once the most abundant forest type in Florida, is endangered (de facto) along with its dependent wildlife species, the Florida mouse, pocket gopher, gopher tortoise, red-cockaded woodpecker, and Sherman’s fox squirrel. Historically 60-70 million acres, or 60%, of the Southeastern Coastal Plain was covered by the longleaf pine community; by 1936 7.6 million remained, and today there are just 0.95 million acres, or 2% of the historical total. The Sherman’s fox squirrel (Sciurus niger shermani) is the largest of the three subspecies found in Florida. Adults weigh 900-1200g, average 600-700mm in total length. Their pelage color ranges from all black to all tan. The squirrel’s most common color phase is tan, with the top of its head usually black and its ears and nose white.

Historically 60 to 70 million acres of the Southeastern Coastal Plain was covered by the longleaf pine community; today there are just 0.95 million acres, or under 2% of the historical total.

or tan. Sherman’s is endemic to northern peninsular Florida, east of the Suwannee River and north of Lake Okeechobee.

Except for reproductive activity, fox squirrels are largely solitary. This solitary behavior, along with characteristically small population sizes and large home ranges, probably reflects the relatively meager and variable resource base of the pine/oak forests. It appears that food supplies are a critical limiting factor for fox squirrels of the Coastal Plain. They feast on an assortment of plant and animal materials including pine cones, acorns, nuts, bulbs, vegetative buds, staminate cones, hygroscopic and epigeous fungi and insects. Fox squirrels are large and mobile. Important in considering habitat is the structure, age, diversity and size of the habitat, which must be adequate to supply food and nesting materials as well as more subtle sizes and large home ranges, probably reflects the relatively meager and variable resource base of the pine/oak forests. It appears that food supplies are a critical limiting factor for fox squirrels of the Coastal Plain. They feast on an assortment of plant and animal materials including pine cones, acorns, nuts, bulbs, vegetative buds, staminate cones, hygroscopic and epigeous fungi and insects.

Fox squirrels are large and mobile. Important in considering habitat is the structure, age, diversity and size of the habitat, which must be adequate to supply food and nesting materials as well as more subtle survival requirements (e.g. gopher tortoise holes for cover, tree cavities for shelter, mating, and rearing young). In north-central Florida these conditions are met in the longleaf pine/turkey oak sandhills, although the squirrel may also be found in other open pine forest, mixed pine/hardwood forests and in ecotones involving the above. When the squirrel’s preferred sandhill resource base is depleted (e.g. by clearcuts, mast failure, or devastating fires) it may be forced to occupy cypress swamps, hardwood hammocks, sand pine scrub, and bay swamps. Scientists have not documented the viability and reproductive potential of fox squirrels in these secondary habitats.

The fox squirrel’s recovery potential is low due to its low reproduction and recruitment rate. The squirrel’s preferred habitat, the longleaf pine/wiregrass sandhills, have a potential for recovery if the ground cover of wiregrass and its associated herbs are relatively intact (longleaf pine can be replanted, wiregrass and many herbs cannot) and if a natural fire regime is initiated.

HABITAT PROTECTION Habitat protection for the Sherman’s fox squirrel involves stopping any more degradation (e.g. by logging, habitat fragmentation, and fire exclusion with its associated hardwood and gray squirrel invasion) of the Sherman’s fox squirrel’s preferred habitat, the mature longleaf pine/turkey oak sandhill community.

Land-use restrictions (buffer zones) around protected populations, and protecting the habitat between protected populations (wilde-r corridors), are equally important.

Throughout Florida a system of wildlife corridors and buffer zones connecting both town and country, protected and unprotected land needs to be promoted.

The fox squirrel might fare best given a mosaic of habitats. The habitat represented should be predominantly pine/oak but also include large areas of edge, some open land and access to bottomland.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: The Fish and Wildlife Service has stated that biological evidence indicates that listing is warranted, but is precluded by other actions of priority. Federal and State Threatened status should be pursued.

WRITE: John Turner, Director, 1849 CST NW, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, DC 20240

Land-use restrictions, acquisition, restoration, and management of longleaf pine/turkey oak sandhills to mimic pre-Columbian conditions of the historic mature sandhill communities are all needed to insure the fox squirrel’s survival. The largest remaining intact longleaf pine/wiregrass forests in Florida are in Florida’s National Forests, where logging should be halted. WRITE: Steve Fetch, National Forests in Florida, 227 N. Bronough St. Suite 4061, Tallahassee, FL 32301

Given the detrimental affect hunting is believed to have on fox squirrels, it should be stopped pending verification of population size.

WRITE: Col. Robert M. Branil, Executive Director, Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission 620 S. Meridan St. Tallahassee, FL 32399

For more info contact FL EF!, POB 13864, Gainesville, FL 32604 (Bibliography available).

who took the dream of the land

who staked down "private property" through the soul of the deer

who diverted streams

who burned fields

seek to know my own name

seek to know why

after all that I have done to hurt her does the Mother continue to embrace

—charlie mehroff (for J.S.)
Playing God in Puddletown

by Francis Marion

In the early weeks of 1992, the city that sprawls where Stumptown once stood has played host to a series of hearings that might have made Franz Kafka laugh. The likely victims of these tortuously complex proceedings in Portland, Oregon, cannot comprehend, much less defend, the crimes of which they are accused. A species is on trial for holocaust. The survival of the prehistoric, pre-human, pre-agriculture, pre-world wars, the pre-nuclear, pre-atomic, pre-God Squad, pre-middle of the recession-cum-depression, pre-recession-cum-depression, pre-recessions-cum-depressions, pre-middle of the recession-cum-depression, pre-middle of the recession-cum-recession-cum-depression is at stake. The laws that protect this species have been challenged in a series of hearings that have garnered national and international attention. The species in question is Oregon's old-growth timber. The laws that protect it are the Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.

When the BLM “consulted” with the US Fish and Wildlife Service over its timber sales, the FWS raised concerns that the timber sales would harm the northern spotted owl, a species protected under the Endangered Species Act. The FWS found that the timber sales would lead to the loss of old-growth forest islands, which are essential habitat for the northern spotted owl. The FWS also found that the timber sales would lead to the loss of critical habitat for the marbled murrelet, another protected species.

The BLM responded by proposing to set aside a portion of the timber sales as “habitat conservation areas” to mitigate the harm to the northern spotted owl. The FWS rejected this proposal, citing concerns that the habitat conservation areas would not be sufficient to protect the species.

The BLM then appealed to the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which upheld the FWS’s decision. The BLM then appealed to the US Supreme Court, which sided with the FWS. The BLM then appealed again, this time to the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, which upheld the Supreme Court’s decision.

The BLM then appealed to the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit once again, and the court affirmed its earlier decision. The BLM then appealed to the US Supreme Court, which is currently considering the case. The outcome of this case could have significant implications for the protection of endangered species and the management of public lands.

In the meantime, the timber industry is pushing ahead with its plans to harvest timber from federal lands, despite the legal challenges. The conflict between the timber industry and environmentalists is likely to continue for years to come, as both sides seek to protect their interests.

As the legal battles continue, the northern spotted owl and the marbled murrelet remain at risk. The fate of these iconic species is in the hands of the courts, the timber industry, and the public. It is up to all of us to ensure that these species are protected for future generations.

Oregon

We hike the last of the old growth: the forest of Stumptown, Douglas fir and lodgepole pine, trees that dropped cones and needed long before the setting of Jamestown. My sister’s first and older lover acts as our guide. Born here, he knew these trees and trails, these bright knitting of rivers. I watch his silences, his quick, keen eyes.

his fingers on the seamless, skin-smooth trunk of a madrone. I watch my sister struggle to belong to all this, to nothing nineteen years of Southeast living have prepared her for. She drinks the river down in hard gulps, crosses a slick trunk high above fast water. At night, her face is tired, turned to angles by the fire. Clearcuts— their battlefield bareness— make my sister cry. The man she loves has shown us yam-orange circles of fresh stumps and failed replantings; how certain trees, acres and acres of them—thin-barked, meant for lower altitudes—were killed— frozen to the heartwood in the first night of sudden cold.

—María de los Santos
Amid congressional porkbarrel lackadassia, US government-confessed fraud, judicial conflict of interest, and academic arrogance, the University of Arizona’s proposed Mt. Graham telescope complex is moving right along. It appears that the telescope that nobody needs will be built.

In 1988, Congress passed legislation to permit construction of the telescope on the summit of Mt. Graham in southeastern Arizona. It granted the University an exemption from the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), which requires careful consideration of biological and cultural values, and consideration of less destructive alternatives. And despite strong evidence that the project would hasten the extinction of the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel, the University spent over $1,000,000 arguing in court that the project should be exempt from the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

On December 11, 1991, the San Francisco Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals gave the go-ahead to enable the University to build the telescope. Their reasoning was a curious mishmash of judicial ratification of congressional acceptance of admitted US Government fraud, claim saw justice, and legalistic conjecture. Judicial ratification of what? It seems that three US Fish and Wildlife Service employees admitted, under oath, that they broke the law and violated the Endangered Species Act in order to accommodate the proposed telescope construction. Two of those, Lesley Fitzpatrick and Sam Spiller, claimed that they were coerced into doing so by their supervisor, an old Reagan lackey, Regional Director Michael Spear. Anyway, the results of their misdeeds were incorporated into the USFWS Biological Opinion, which made its way into the law passed by Congress to permit construction of the telescope. The Court said that the fact that the law was based on a pack of lies was none of its concern. After all, the law’s the law in this fair land of liberty.

Note: The Inspector General of the Department of Interior was asked to prosecute the three admitted lawbreakers. He said words to the effect of “Nope! They ain’t stole none of our money.” This is the first example of chainsaw justice in a “through the looking glass” mode.

Chainsaw justice—Some More: An access road was being opposed in court. The road was built because one District Court Judge Alfred Marquez refused to schedule a hearing on a timely basis. The eminent jurist, it turned out, was a long-standing contributor to University programs, and is a buddy of the University’s former Chancellor Koffler. The two viewed many a football game from the University’s box until it was brought to light by some terroristic activists, at which point the two went underground. The esteemed Judge once actually withdrew from a University-related case, presumably for possible conflict of interest. The Appeals Court was “dis mayed” at Judge Marquez’s failure to do the right thing, but ruled, in effect, that life’s life. The road’s already there so what the hell. Boys will be boys. Let’s just forget about it. (Our question at this point is, “Who owns which judge?”)

Legal Conjecture: The Court ruled that as far as they could tell, Congress had intended to exempt the telescope project from the ESA, the NEPA (National Forest Management Act), and NEPA. That’s not a reasonable assumption since it’s doubtful that more than a handful of those august legislators knows what those danged things are, let alone any of their provisions. Moreover, the court castigated Congress for its legislative neglect and fuzziness in this matter. For some gory details, see below.

To make a long story short, the Appeals Court sent a couple of things back to the District Court. Judge Marquez (we assume) was ordered to reexamine the compliance and effectiveness of some proposed mandatory monitoring programs, and USFS compliance with some road closures, blah, blah, blah. Well, whom would you rather see up there, Marquez or Clarence Thomas?

There’s More: The Appellate Court criticized the way Congress went about its business. Certain matters were cited:

—Senator John McCain of Arizona, who supported the project in 1988 (“These telescopes will be built immediately. They can no longer be stalled by process, by litigation, or by whim.”), opened his mind in 1990 (“I have always believed that the Arizona-Idaho Conservation Act contemplated the possibility of re-initiation of consultation where new information has been found.”). Harrumph!!!

—Congress’ decision to exempt the telescope from the ESA was fuzzy, as was the decision to exempt the project from the minimal viable population requirements of the NFMA.

—Congress held no committee hearings on the projects but should have done so with The House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee (Chairman, Walter P. Jones, D-NC), the House Subcommit tee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation (Chairman, Gerry Studds, D-MA), and the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (Chairman Quentin Burdick, D-ND).

Nobody wants the telescope. At least nobody in this country except the University of Arizona. Every North American partner has pulled out. These include Cal Tech, Harvard, Ohio State University, the University of Chicago, NASA, and the Smithsonian Institution. So why is the University of Arizona so intent on seeing it go through when just about every other knowledgeable organization in the land believes it to be useless, and when it is biologically harmful, and when the enabling legislation is based on lies? Why has the University made itself the first American University to spend public money to obtain an exemption from environmental laws?

If indeed Chairman Jones, Subcommittee Chairman Studds, Senator McCain and Senator Burdick were misled by University of Arizona administrators and lobbyists and by Executive Branch lies into supporting the proposed Mt. Graham project, why do these legislators continue to deny their obligation to correct this historic error? Why do the legislators responsible for the Mt. Graham travesty continue to allow the perpetuation of a project based on fraud, and perpetuation of a project that sets the precedent for inappropriate circumvention of environmental law? The ultimate decision, unfortunately, rests in the hands of Congress.

Here’s what you can do:

—Get in touch with President Manuel Pacheco, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721, (602) 621-5511.

—Get in touch with your congresspeople.

—Get in touch with McCay and DeConcini (both of AZ), Gerry Studds, 23 Cannon, Washington, DC 20515, Walter B. Jones, 241 Cannon, Washington, DC 20515, Senator Quentin Burdick, 511 Hart, Washington, DC 20510. Tell all of these people that you object to the use of public funds to avoid compliance with environmental laws, citing specifically the Mt. Graham Telescope.

JUST A FEW MORE YEARS OF HESITATION AND THE ONLY TRACE OF THAT WILDERNESS WHICH HAS EXERTED SUCH A FUNDAMENTAL INFLUENCE IN MOLDING AMERICAN CHARACTER WILL LIE IN THE MUSTY PAGES OF PIONEER BOOKS AND THE MUMBLING OF TOURISTS... THERE IS JUST ONE HOPE OF REPULSING THE TYRANNICAL AMBITION OF CIVILIZATION TO CONQUER EVERY NICHE ON THE WHOLE EARTH. THAT HOPE IS THE ORGANIZATION OF SPIRITED PEOPLE WHO WILL FIGHT FOR THE FREEDOM OF THE WILDERNESS

—BOB MARSHALL "THE PROBLEM OF WILDERNESS" SCIENTIFIC MONTHLY FEBRUARY 1930
The Dynamic Face of Activism

BY MITCH FREEDMAN

I used to encounter all my friends and wild-land compatriots sitting in front of bulldozers and hanging in trees. Now I see these old friends in Washington, DC. We dress in monkey suits and do the lobbying thing for forests, wildlands, and other causes.

Washington, DC, is 3,500 miles from my home in Bellingham, Washington. But the flight there seems to transport me several centuries: the two places are eras apart. I'm sure glad Columbus didn't land on the west coast.

A trip to DC this past October put me in a mood to muse upon the reasons—as well as our prospects for success—in protecting sizable wild areas.

While in DC I took a trip with a friend to the Great Dismal Swamp, a national wildlife refuge in eastern Virginia. Nice drive: the hardwoods all in autumn color. If I'd wanted to we could have driven and driven, until all those trees were again in bloom, without ever traveling the same road twice. I couldn't believe how many highways grid even the wooded and rural landscape of southern Virginia.

I was looking forward to the Great Dismal Swamp. What a name! There are even tommygof snakes there. The Great Dismal is about 100,000 acres, quite a big reserve by eastern US standards. The large Lake Drummond in the middle of the swamp reportedly is still fit to drink from.

However, the Great Dismal has in times past been logged, and it bears scars from various attempts to drain it. In fact, some 200 years before I arrived on my Saturday drive, George Washington dug a damn channel through the area. This part of the inland waterway is littered with yachts and plastic jugs and other junk. Fuma are, of course, extinct in the reserve. Dis­mal indeed.

Columbus landed on the east coast, but the guy had built up some momentum. The tide of white invaders is still surging all the way out here in the gap in time. While this will involve far more than is presently being considered for it to succeed, even wild salmon protection, the result would be of much greater value.

But how deep does this spirit run? My organization, the Greater Ecosystem Alliance, is advocating conservation of these areas in such a way that they will sustain biodiversity—all native species and ecological processes—in the long term. That's different than the message most environmental groups have been sending to date.

We are the first major group in the state of Washington to work aggressively for recovery of grizzly bear and wolf populations, for instance. These positions have not been unanimously sup­ported even within the environmental and out­door recreation communities. Some people, it seems, are afraid of being eaten. The Daily Olympic, a newspaper published in Washington's capitol, has twice put the Greater Ecosystem Alliance in its "loser" column for our efforts to protect and restore native species to wild areas in the state.

One of these columns described grizzly bears as "predator predators and killers," which the Olympic complained would thrive on the carcasses of Oregon-clad rockhoppers. There is no way, in the Olympic's opinion, to assure the protection of the "human population" should grizzlies recover to viable numbers in the North Cascades. Perhaps recreationalists could join log­gers and miners on the endangered species list.

This is deep stuff, and I believe that it has caused a lot of weekend environmentalists to think. Are the green areas on the map to be wild and unmanaged, or simply managed for bikes and views instead of timber? This issue goes to the heart of what true conservationists stand for. I believe in the free­dom of self-determina­tion for species and eco­systems—evolution unconstrained and undirected.

The goal of protecting native diversity and evolutionary po­tential is quite ambi­tious. In most parts of the country and the world it is perhaps too late, or will at least re­quire massive restora­tion efforts. Of course these efforts should be made, but the never­ending highways of eastern Virginia symbol­ize the enormity of the task. In the North­west, however, several largely intact wild areas can be supplemented and connected to result in a viable reserve sys­tem. While this will involve far more than is presently being considered for it to succeed, even wild salmon protection, the result would be of much greater value.

But an understanding of what wild areas are for is absolutely essential. The editors of the Olympic are today no more able to see the North Cascades or Monashees as something more than a mountain playground than is George Washington able to understand the non­transportation values of the Great Dismal Swamp 200 years ago. As long as such mindsets prevail, the world will be lost.

It may seem undignified for the righteous Earth Warrior to engage in officious discussion (lobbying) rather than direct action. A lot of us are today leading lives that we never would have anticipated while looking down from tree plat­forms a few years back. Speaking for myself, my goals and commitment have not changed, so why would my tactics?

Believe me, the changes haven't brought me love or money. My time in the wilderness is less, my stress level is higher. My days are spent in front of computers or on phones, rather than in high-adrenaline confrontation. From any personal criteria, my EF! organizing days were much more satisfying.

Am I more effective now in working towards my goals? For short-term objectives, I have to say "yes." For larger and loftier goals—say those relative to the dominant paradigm, industrial civilization, and the ultimate fate of the planet—really I don't know. I have skills and abilities now that I didn't have years ago. These offer me different opportunities to have impact. At the heart of it, I'm too pragmatic to forsake these opportunities for reasons of purity or rhetoric.

During the last seven years, the period over which I've devoted my full-time to environmen­tal issues, we have made small gains and suffered great losses. I'm skeptical of anyone who dis­counts either. Looking specifically at Northwest forest issues, we've accomplished far more than we dreamed we would, though it is certainly been enough. We succeeded through efforts in courts, Congress, and the woods.

In planetary issues in general, we sometimes prevail on those factors within our control, but we fail to impact anything beyond our control (such as population growth, world trade, human ethics and animosities, industrial civilization). Is that news to anyone? What I'm getting at is that, when it comes to Earth-saving strategies, I've not encountered anyone who really has all their ducks in a row. Those who presume to have their ducks in a row are full of it.

So I, as one of the underdogs in the battle for biodiversity, will continue to be pragmatic. I will pursue opportunities as they arise and hope for the best. I will not allow grandiose delusions generated from within my skull with the likes of doing what appears effective at the time, be it direct action, fundraising, education, timber sale appeals, or dog-forbid, congressional lobbying. That is not my best.

So I'll continue to lobby in DC to protect from loggers and developers what the politicians will yield. That's an important, though admit­tedly narrow, part of it. I still see the role of conservationists (including myself) as the articulators of and fighters for a greater vision: The vision that the natural world has meaning beyond that which humans gave it, and direction more important than that in which humans would steer. I stand for wild.

Page 11 Earth First! Brigid 1992
British Columbia Betrayed

By SYDNEY HASKELL

The political situation in BC's forests has turned from anguish to hope, and then into shock and disgust as the New Democratic Party government (which won power at the last election) has turned its election promises and "values" into lies of betrayal.

We based our trust on the reasonable expectations that Premier Mike Harcourt, whose party had courted the environmental movement for years, could be expected to keep his word to spare sensitive areas from logging, and to include the public in the decision-making process. He made these statements in front of network TV cameras.

The first "promise" was made on October 11 at approximately 4 PM. I asked him, "Premier Harcourt, the Social Credit Party (previous government) has placed the logging industry in most every controversial area in the province. What will you do immediately upon being elected?" Harcourt responded that he would immediately instruct the companies to "log around contentious areas." However, nothing happened, and clearcuts and road building continued in the Walbran, Nahmint, Clayoquot, Alaska, and By Wy Watershed while environmentalists waited, expecting action soon, not wanting to "rock the boat" and piss the leaders off.

The second and third levels of these disregarded logging plans which the previous Social Credit government had stalled on passing prior to the election, as approval of the plans would commit the land base to five more years of destructive logging, and the Social Credit party did not want to deal with this prior to an election. Prior to being elected, Harcourt had stated that he would "deal the public in." His half-baked Minister of Forestry, Dan Miller, went on to approve a transfer of timber rights from a municipality to a provincial-based clearcutter. Seventy-five million dollars passed between the companies. Environmental confidence was dropped. During this period, I faxed letters to the cabinet, giving them a drift of what it might look like if they betrayed us. They seem to have made their choice, finishing it off with the signing of the plans for one-third of Vancouver Island. With no consultation or inclusion of environmental values, and the loss of options to make a real difference where the promise of "changes" could be translated into "new forestry" substance.

Miller has stated that decisions will be made on the controversial Walbran in January and in the fall for Carmanah. On June 13 of 1989, Harcourt had criticized the Social Credit government for not having appointed an independent commission to make the decision on Carmanah. It appears that power and influence have changed the need for "independence" over these extremely important areas.

Prior to politics, Miller was an IWA representative, suggesting that a conflict of interest is showing up in his decision making. The real question is whether the government is totally committed to the decision in Carmanah. It appears that power and influence have changed the need for "independence" over these extremely important areas.

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The EI Eco Climber Action Network is a newly formed network of tree climbers and tree sitters throughout North America and the world. Our purpose is to inform tree climbers of new techniques and strategies, to distribute them.

People could also write to our newspapers and government expressing your concern and dismay. Writing letters to the editors off. The leaders off.

Locally, we will be coordinating sit-ins and occupations in the legislative and cabinet offices to place them under siege. Committed individuals within Victoria can express their anger at our "new government of betrayal" in this manner. Disrupting their "business as usual" and shaming them for not having a forest ethic should be an effective strategy when combined with the freezing and walking, and this creating a sustainable pressure.

Actions in the woods will of course take place, but require structure, funds and committed individuals. As in last year's Walbran protest, we will be billeting, transporting and feeding people wishing to express their commitment to preserving the life of the forest. BC's forests need activists with skills and training are needed. Equipment, radios, and people with forest "smarts" will be required to formulate strategies, establish camps, build trails, and make our presence known. Hopefully, environmentalists can pool together. When the stop the destruction. The government is firmly in place, and we need to shame them on all fronts if we are to force them to the bargaining table. If we are ready, organized and effective in writing, faxing, and "monkey wrenching" the legislature, we may save ourselves the pain in the woods. Otherwise we will need to have all hell break loose, and so it should. We can do no less than our personal best to protect the nature that is so dependent on the forest, but cannot protect itself from human onslaught.
Walk for the Rainforest

BY SOXERY SUE AND SARENA

The Temperate Rainforest Action Coalition is sponsoring a 200 km walk from the Walbran Valley on Vancouver Island to the Legislature in Victoria, British Columbia, beginning February 8th.

With the preservation of Old Growth Ecosystems as our goal, we seek creative alternatives to the rapid destruction of the remnants of South Vancouver Island's original Old Growth forests. The walk will focus on communicating directly with logging communities reeling under the strain of logging this winter, and with First Nations (Canada's native peoples) who are feeling further and further alienated as the majority of their native land claims remain unsettled. We believe that without the interference of government and corporate interests, environmentalists, timber workers and native peoples can develop solidarity through better communication and work together to solve our problems.

The walk will not take place unless we make it happen. The past has shown that change comes from the people, from the grassroots, from you and me. We will visit communities talking to people whose lives are dependent on the forestry industry, to First Nations people whose lands are being desecrated, to environmentalists with categorical concerns, and to anyone else who cares to talk.

We will start from a base camp within the Walbran Valley. You will need a guide, so please call our contact number for more information. Planned events along the way include a demonstration at the Youbou Mill and the Crofton Mill, an evening of drumming and dancing around campfires at Gold Stream park, and a march on the Legislature accompanied by speakers and music.

These precious forests belong to the world, not a few wealthy timber lords. We invite you to join us for all or part of this walk. Prior to the walk we will hold a Nonviolent Pre-walk Preparation (see schedule) that we encourage all walkers to attend.

What you can expect on this walk is rain, and lots of it, possibly snow and cold. We will be providing some support for camping and some food, but we ask you bring as much cold weather camping gear and clothing as they can. There will be vehicles on the walk to carry gear so don't worry about having too much to carry (though don't go overboard). whatever food you can bring is helpful. People should bring their vehicles if possible for cold weather camping. If bringing a vehicle please call for details. Be sure to bring guitars, drums and chocolate!

Other ways to support this walk are needed. Donations of food are welcome and sponsors are needed to support individual walkers. Any donation of money is of course welcome; write checks to: "The Walbran Walk" (non tax-deductible receipt will be provided on request).

Write: Walk for the Rainforest c/o Sarena #3-1176 Yates St. Victoria B.C. V8R 3M8 Phone: (604) 360-0787 or (604) 383-5764. Fax: 604-386-445

Requiem in the Walbran

BY WILD WOLF

The night is still, and dark. Standing all around me, towering, are the ancient trees I have sworn to protect. Yet the forest is more than trees. The night air carries the sounds of frogs, and the river. My eyes close, and I let the spirit of the forest carry me off into sleep.

Early this morning, I don't know what time it is, I'm awakened. Voices, strange voices. I look over to see police officers in my shelter. They are bending over my friend, telling him to leave, threatening to arrest him. I remember that the tree platforms are unoccupied, and then I realize what this means: Today, this forest will die. The police leave. I crawl out of my sleeping bag, and pull on my camouflage clothing. The police have given us twenty minutes to leave. I pack my gear and instead of going to the end of the logging road as they ordered us, I disappear into the forest.

Confused, I run up the trail for about ten minutes, trying not to leave footprints in the fresh mud. I hide my pack behind a large fallen tree. Behind the tree, I try to gather my thoughts. I look back to the lazy days at the waterfall, to the evenings at the beach, to the strong hands of my friends. The night air carries the sounds of frogs, and the river. My eyes close, and I let the spirit of it all go.

The night air carries the sounds of frogs, and the river. My eyes close, and I let the spirit of the forest carry me off into sleep.

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Walk Events

Nonviolence Pre-Walk Preparation Saturday, February 1st at the University of Victoria Student Union Bldg. Upper Lounge. 10am-5pm A workshop to plan the walk and meet other walkers.

Join us for an evening of drumming, campfires and fun. 8 pm-11 pm Beat of the Forest Friday, February 21st at Goldstream Provincial Park

Of Rainforest Summer '92

Nonviolence Workshop Sunday, February 23rd at the University of Victoria Student Union Bldg. Upper Lounge. 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Contact: Sarena (604) 360-0787 Four Cities Washington State Roadshow To publicize upcoming Rainforest Summer '92 February 23rd to March 4th Contact: Kevin (206) 738-0637

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The scene appears much as it has for the last 10,000 years, when the last great glaciers finally released their stored waters and buried the land bridge over which humans had crossed to the New World. Shearwaters settle in flocks of thousands on the waves, sea lions throw sparkling droplets in the air as they play with their finny meals, walrus struggle out of the water to sun on their favorite haul-outs.

Something was causing the animals to abandon their homes and go elsewhere. Something was disrupting the age-old pact between human and animal; it had been called off and it was the human’s responsibility to make amends and restore the balance.

The Native’s voices were small and meek when they tried to explain their perspective to the overwhelmingly loud, technologically dominant Europeans who had invaded and taken over their lands and oceans. The Cheeckahans would not listen and they continued to exploit the land and the sea.

The Bering Sea, huge floating factory cities, mine the Bering Sea of its pollock, salmon, and yellow-fin sole. Nets as big as apartment houses scoop billions of pounds of fish from the waters and off the bottom every year, meanwhile destroying millions of other animals in the process and laying waste to the delicately-organized ocean bottom. The noise from these mobile industrial zones can be heard for miles across the water and for scores of miles beneath the surface, disturbing the normal activities of the ancient residents of this bioregion.

Increasing freighter traffic through these waters leaves an oily scum on the surface from ballast water discharges and small oil spills. The water birds that settle on the surface, their home, find their life-preserving feathers fouled with oily slime, and if they don’t die immediately from exposure to the cold waters, they die slowly from secondary poisoning as their accustomed food sources slowly absorb toxic hydrocarbons. Diving ducks are particularly susceptible to entanglement in fish nets, and even though drift nets, the clearcutters of the sea, are supposed to be outlawed, thousands of seabirds continue to drown in these huge plastic traps every year.

These sea birds that manage to escape the ravaging of their homes waters find conditions on land no better. The Yukon-Kuskokwim delta, on the southwest coast of Alaska, was once the nesting grounds of the Steller eider. Hundreds of thousands of these unique sea ducks used to be seen in this area, only 50,000 remain, mostly from nesting grounds in Siberia. A pitiful 300-500 remaining individuals are now known to nest in Alaska on the North Slope.


dates: by common sense, the delicately balanced ecosystems of the Arctic and sub-Arctic cannot sustain anywhere near this rate of destruction. Biologists estimate that most animal and plant species in Arctic bioregions can tolerate, at most, a 3 to 5% “harvest” (another ugly word) rate.

The ESA listing of these two eiders would result in badly-needed increased funding for research to tease apart which factors are most responsible for their decline. It would also give agency officials legal authority to monitor and control the direct, human-caused mortality of these eiders and to work for the protection of the marine ecosystems and nesting areas upon which the existence of these species depends.

Time is running out for these small marine ducks. By listing and protecting them now under the ESA, a needed national effort will be initiated to address the severity of the current rate of decline and develop effective recovery plans. Unless the FWS acts immediately to list the spectacled and Steller’s eider as threatened or endangered species, the BLF will exercise its right to bring an action in federal district court to compel the FWS to meet its statutory obligations under the ESA, 15 USC 1539(a)(1).

—Biodiversity Legal Foundation

Suit Threatened Over Imperiled Eiders

Recently the Biodiversity Legal Foundation (BLF) filed a formal 60-day notice of intent to file suit against the Interior Department for its failure to list and protect the spectacled and Steller’s eider, Alaska’s two endangered species. The Steller’s and spectacled eiders are small marine ducks that winter and breed at northern latitudes, even in relatively mild coastal bioregions. Over the past 20 years, when the last great glaciers finally released their stored waters and buried the land bridge over which humans had crossed to the New World.

The Natives’ voices were small and meek when they tried to explain their perspective to the overwhelming loud, technologically dominant Europeans who had invaded and taken over their lands and oceans. The Cheeckahans would not listen and they continued to exploit the land and the sea.

The Bering Sea is a relative pristines waterfowl breeding area in western Alaska, the Arctic Coastal Plain of Alaska, and eastern Siberia. Both species have experienced serious and dramatic declines in numbers in recent years.

A petition to add the spectacled and Steller’s eiders to the growing list of threatened and endangered species was submitted to the US Fish and Wildlife Service in 1990 by James G. King of Juneau, Alaska. The Service is required by law to accept or reject such a petition within one year, but to date has not done so. This latest legal action is designed to compel the government to act. If the petition is rejected, further litigation is possible by the Biodiversity Legal Foundation and other environmental groups.

The Biodiversity Legal Foundation recognizes that the specific reasons for spectacled and Steller’s eider declines are unknown. However, possible contributing factors include predation, habitat change, over-harvest, weather, ecosystem and atmospheric contamination, and changes in patterns of movement. Some of these factors may be the result of the cumulative impact of human activities in the Alaskan Arctic.

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maximized in all species, including wild hu-
man, and there is very little room left for excess production.

It should come as no surprise then, when commercial fish processors remove 3 billion
pounds of fish every year, that changes begin to appear in this delicate ecosystem. Commercial fishing by huge factory trawlers in the waters off Alaska selectively removes the largest fish from the population, leaving fish from 1" to 10" in length. This disrupts the predator-prey rela-
tionship, favoring those predators who depend on the smaller fish. In a system like that of the Bering Sea, the effect is similar to dropping a bowling ball into an aquarium. The combina-
tion of commercial fishing with its attendant disruption of population dynamics, plus the
noise, water and air pollution and ocean bot-
tom destruction that comes along with this
commercialization of what once was a low
level, subsistence activity, has proven devastat-
ing to the entire bioregion of the western coast of
Alaska. The Bering Sea is indeed an ecosystem
run amok.

Biologists express puzzlement over these
declines, unable to pin down any system-wide influences on population dynamics. Conse-
quently, Natives are beginning to demand that the European scientific establishment begin to pay more attention to their traditional knowl-
edge and observations of the Bering Sea ecosys-
tem, a knowledge based on thousands of years of
close cooperation with animals of this bioregion. Representatives of western Alaska coastal villages have formed a statewide marine mammal coalition, "to promote traditional knowledge as comple-
ment to the scientific method used by university and
government researchers."

Despite the earnest efforts of natives and the ignorance of scientists, the problem in coming to terms with environmental disruption caused by human activity is not one of scientific
realities as much as recognition of political influ-
ence. Commercial fishing in Alaska is a huge economic enterprise, benefiting not so much indi-
vidual fishermen as fat capitalist investors who own the factory trawlers that plow the waters of the Bering Sea. The multi-billion dollar fishing industry
packs a big wallop in the halls of Washington, where lobbyists heavily influence Alaska's so-called representa-
tives. The result is that policy
in such agencies as the US Fish and
Wildlife Service and the Northwest Fisheries Manage-
ment Council is generated by greed rather than ecological
reality. The field biologists
working in Alaska and even their immediate managers are
fully aware of the nature of the
problem and the steps necessary to rectify
the situation. But their recommendations are
forwarded to Washington, where other consid-
trations take precedence.

Only one thing is certain in this war waged
by commercial greed against the ancient inhab-
itants of Alaska and the Arctic: unless some-
thing is done very soon to stop the precipitous
decline of animal species in the Bering Sea, the
spectacled eider, the Steller's eider and the
Steller sea lion will join the list of species no
longer endangered. They will be extinct.

What you can do
1) Write to officials at the
USFWS and, of course, your congresspeople,
and let them know how you feel about destruc-
tion of delicate ecosystems for commercial gain.
There aren't enough concerned people in
Alaska to gain notice in Washington.
2) Visit these officials
and demand they snap out of it and
face facts and start fixing things, instead
of breaking them.
3) Acquire a large boat
and fix things your-
self. Go ahead, do it
your way.

Forest Service Lies! Announcing
A Day of Outrage against the US Forest Service!

The Time is Now to End All Logging On Our National Forests

1991 was the official 100th anniversary of the US Forest Service, but no one is celebrating.
Our US Forest Service is destroying forests twice as fast as Brazil is. And while 80 percent of
British Columbia forests still stands, at current rates, the unprotected remnants of America's forests
could be completely fragmented in fewer than ten years. It is time to put the Forest Service
out of business and let our forests live.

We are calling for a national Day of Outrage on John Muir's Birthday, April 21. Earth Firsters from around the country will take action, sing and shout, perform performances at Forest Service headquarters, Congressional offices or in the forests! Our mission is no less than to
reintroduce wolf, grizzly, and all extirpated species to the national forests, to completely restore
timber-raped land to end mining, grasing, logging and all human vampire sucking of resources from our fragile forests.

Day of Outrage? you say; we've been outraged at the US Forest Service for years! True
enough, yet amazingly, there may still be citizens in the land who don't know of the outlaw
ways of the agency, who still think Smokey the Bear's job is to protect the trees and forest
creatures, not to murder the forests by handling them over to clearcutting, corporate fiends!

More than one million acres a year are being brutally clearcut. In the process, 360,000
miles of roads have been built in the forests. No other government or government agency in
the world is responsible for such a huge road system. Over $2 billion a year in taxpayers' money
is spent building and maintaining logging roads and cleaning up after logging operations.

Timber companies pay less than $400 million a year for the trees, meaning they receive over
$1.5 billion worth of free services to help them ravage public land. The US Forest Service
administers this huge welfare program for the timber industry, while covering up the losses
with accounting schemes which "make the savings and loan business look like an angel,"
according to one investigator.

The abuses of the USFS have gotten so bad, even the mainstream media has noticed. A New
York Times headline (Nov. 3, 1991) asks "Why Let Chainsaws Pare the Old Forests At All?" In
an article in the October, 1991, issue of Atlantic Monthly, the author calls for a complete halt
to all logging in the National Forests, restoration of land damaged by clearcutting and tree
farming, and management of the National Forests exclusively for recreation and the mainte-
nance and enhancement of biodiversity.

The forests of the generations are dying, while environmental bureaucrats lobby politici-
cans paid off by the timber industry. They beg for tree museums, called Ancient Forest
Preserves. Election year vagaries mayor may not allow legislation to happen. As Congress
twiddles its thumbs, the forests continue to fall. No matter what, legislation will be a
compromise, with lines of protection drawn by political interests, not with respect for a healthy
forest.

Public awareness is growing, but it won't be ten enough to save forest ecosystems unless we
can transform awareness to outrage. The 100 years of Forest Service reign has been one of rape
and ruin. The National Forest is dying from their lies. Please join with other Earth First! activists
around the country and get out in the street, the woods or the desert to make Muir Day a
rowdy, outrageous and effective Day of Outrage.

Together we have a stronger message and a louder voice. Let's take action together on April
21 and honor John Muir and his message.

Start planning your local group action now. A coordinating group in the SF Bay Area is
putting together an action packet. The packet will include news clips, info sheets, artwork,
maps and more. The USFS needs to help you pull off a successful action. If you have ideas, materials
or artwork that would be appropriate for the packet please get in touch with us as soon as
possible! To get the packet or contribute materials, write to Earth First! Day of Outrage, P.O.
Box 410041, San Francisco, CA 94141. The phone number is (415) 921-3578.

MARK APRIL 21 ON YOUR CALENDAR AND GEAR UP!

Also: We need more creative ideas! Join the committee working on this if you can help!

—Karen Pickett
Stone Container Moves to the Tropics

BY JAKE JAGOFF

Having run headlong into fierce opposition from the environmental movement in the United States and following the stump-ridden capitalist credo of laissez-faire (i.e., let the forests beware), Stone Container Corp. (#93 on the Fortune 500 list) is extending its tentacles into Central and South America. Stone is involved in plantation forestry in Costa Rica and last September signed an agreement with Honduran President Leonel Cortes. This week, Stone's motives for shifting to tropical forests are a purely economic decision. Unlike previous multinational projects, Stone is not interested in a cheap pulp market for hardwoods in the US and Canada. Stone's $18 million plantation forestry initiative in Costa Rica will help Stone enlarge its business, and the tropics are to massive wood products companies what more than willing to go to Central and South America to ensure a steady supply of cheap pulp. Stone will plant 27 million seedlings (a pine species native to India) over the next five years, and starting in 1995 it will produce 600,000 tons of pulp annually. Stone is currently purchasing 25 million tons of virgin forest each year for its paper and pulp pushers. The project is a small investment, and represents only 2.4% of the company's total wood consumption. However, Stone is certainly beginning the transition from the temperate forests (over which they've run roughshod) to the tropics.

Like any typical multinational these days, Stone is getting heaps of praise for its efforts in planting new forests, and environmentalists are patting Stone on the back for these efforts; the environmentalists' attitude being that it is in Stone's interest to have a tree growing there than nothing at all.

Bullshit! Planting trees is not enough, dammit. We've got to plant the right kind of trees in the right places at the right times, as in healthy forest ecosystems. WHY NOT NATIVE SPECIES? Replanting one monoculture with another will not safeguard remaining primary forest nor will it increase the standard of living for local people. These myths, perpetuated by the Tropical Forestry Action Plan, ignore the fact that the crop plants this strategy replaces are nothing more than local media against industrial development in La Mosquitia, or the fact that such places know how much resistance there is in Honduras.

What are so many people in Honduras and around the world up in arms about Stone's plans? The answer is simple: La Mosquitia (a.k.a. The Mosquito Coast) is mostly roadless, undeveloped and home to the Pech, Lenca, Xicaques and Tahuayas and Miskitos tribes. Like other tribal people who live close to the forest, the forest dwellers of La Mosquitia have survived in the 20th century largely because of geographic isolation. In addition to harboring extensive pine forests, La Mosquitia is composed of millions of acres of primary rainforest with valuable tropical hardwoods, expansive wetlands, salt and freshwater lagoons, mangrove swamps and coral reefs offshore in the Caribbean. Supposedly, if you can believe Stone and Callejas, hardwood species are all there.

The Rio Platanos Biosphere Reserve (390,000 hectare World Heritage site and home to more bird species than the US and Canada combined) are safeguarded in the deal. However, the 16,000 hands over 400,000 hectares (980,000 acres) of tropical forest to Stone to do as it pleases.

According to George Draffan of the Task Force on Multinational Resource Corporations, "Honduras, a country strapped for foreign capital since the end of the US-sponsored Contra War, is about to embark on a program that may completely destroy their remaining forests, along with its indigenous cultures. If the Stone contract is approved, the deforestation of Honduras' last 'green frontier' will begin, causing large-scale soil erosion and sedimentation of rivers and lakes, loss of diverse flora and fauna, and a drastic change in the indigenous cultures of the Mosquito Coast."

The agreement is a travesty and needs to be halted NOW! Please write to Stone and make the following points.

1. Environmental Impact—No EIS or EA has been carried out.
2. "Sustainable Yield"—Stone claims it will be using "best management practices" and will be sustainable. In fact, it will be allowed to clearcut and will replant species not native to Honduras.
3. Reforestation—Stone claims it will replant as much as it cuts. Actually, it intends to plant 4. Thinning Small Trees—Stone says it plans only to "thin" small pine trees for pulpwood. In fact, the contract allows cutting of "any larger pine trees" if there is no existing "market for ordinary use as sawtimber."

MAARUDDI

I see a new man rising from the swamps of dumpsites and wastelands, taking a deep breath in air filled up with sulphur and carbon, swallowing greedily food soaked with chemicals and heavy metals. Only he, who never complains, never philosophizes, never grumbles, gains strength even from radioactivity.

—Hendrik Reyle

Translated by Matt Rahu from "Looming," an Estonian literary journal. "La Mosquitia" is a section of Estonia near Tallinn, which has been heavily stripped for phosphate and which has sustained air, water and soil quality damage from cement factories.
**Keep All Your Stones in One Basket**

If you've been following the escapades of the Stone Container Corp. in the pages of Earth First! (of course you have) you'd know by now that it has attacked the roadless native forest of the San Juans at Sandbend, failed to report a .52,000 gallon gas and oil spill into Water Creek Canyon, Arizona and shut down its mills in NM, CA, and OR. At the same time it has opened mills in MA and bought a major Canadian newsprint producer, and Southwest Forest Industries and Trinity Paper and Plastics and Champion International's three containerboard mills. According to a memo from Piper, Jeffrey and Hopwood (an investment firm) Stone is "the largest US producer of containerboard with about 15% market share. It also has about 7% of the North American newsprint market. The company produces linerboard, corrugating medium, and kraft paper at 17 of its 24 mills (and its 140 converting plants.)

Besides North America, Stone has plants in West Germany, the UK and Holland and a superette farm in Costa Rica. Recession? What recession?

The serious part of all this is that a lot of these people got Federal Conspiracy charges. Folks in the Shakerette also got conspiracy charges; Foreman got the same. I see a pattern here. I also see a buttload of light green cops everywhere. It seems that the agents of green darkness are being transported all over the country wherever they go and they slap you with conspiracy whenever they feel like it. It's trendy.

**Pagosa & Sandbend**

The twelve folks who gave public comment with their butts at the Pagosa District Ranger Station in southwestern Colorado plead NOT GUILTY and go trial January 22 in Durango, CO.

Of the nine people who publicly accessed their National Forest in direct opposition to a piece of paper, eight accepted a plea bargain which led to a nasty $400 fine, on which no more than half could be labored of. The ninth person, with the aid of the ACLU, has pleaded not guilty and plans a two-pronged strategy: Freedom to express outrage, and denying access to the public to the "newsworthy" event (good publicity—thanks judge.)

Of the following two folks who made themselves comfortable on a cattleguard in front of the green paddy wagons, one pleaded guilty and received a 30-day suspended sentence, $250 fine, and one year of probation (provided he does not go into the San Juan National Forest). The other person's case was postponed until Feb. 20th.

Actually Stone's exploits (including Canadian union difficulties) have been under-reported in the journal and elsewhere. The only exceptions are the fine report by the NM and AZEn newspaper and several Ancient Forest Rescue flyers to wit: there have been over 50 CD arrests in the Sandbend area, 10,000 acre federal forest closed and massive devastation (Sandbend is lost). What's to stop this mega-giant earth eater? YOU! That's who. Git yer ass down to the San Juans, to Missoula, to Holland, to the nearest Stone Corp. plant or office and let 'em know. We're not going to tell you why you are doing it. You have not met with remarkable success as of this writing and many might disavow (Sandbend is lost). What's to stop this mega-giant earth eater? YOU.

Me: "Hi, would you care to discuss the environment, or should I just go fuck myself?"

RVer: "Hey, you're one a' them hippies on that bus, ain'tcha?"

Me: "Watch who you're calling a hippie, Mac. I'm almost as old as you."

RVer: "How would you like it if I called you an old fart?"

Me: "Just try it. So waddaya tryna do? save the spotted owl? I hear they taste just like chicken."

Me: "Yeah, well so would you if we roasted you on a spit. Old Chicken!"

RVer: "Oh yeah? Well, what about jobs, huh, huh?"

Me: "What do we look like, a mobile fuckin' employment agency?"

RVer: "Watch your lip! Who pays your salary to do this, anyway, the Sierra Club?"

Me: "Excuse me, I think it's time for my nap."

So it goes, so it goes.

If you change your life, we have yet to receive much of the material we need for "presentations," such as slides, photos, etc., so we haven't really gotten started. In the mean time we're hiking and running through the desert on a daily basis; Cactus 50 would approve, we think.

Our present location is in the southeastern corner of California, right where it jumps into Arizona and Mexico. We're here to "network! (I think that means "mingle") with the hundreds and hundreds of RVers who winter here: the so-called "snowbirds." The goal is to raise their level of awareness on environmental issues and plug them into whatever level of activism with which they feel comfortable. (Rumors that we came here just to get warm and to work on our tans are malicious, unfounded, and counterproductive. We are lookin' good, however.)

Our efforts with these retirees have not met with remarkable success as of this writing and many might disavow that they don't agree that there are any problems out there, it's just that they have their own agendas, and like everybody else, they dissemble. A typical conversation with this writer might be as follows:

Me: "Hi, would you care to discuss the environment? We're, uh, involved with efforts to preserve the ancient forest for future generations."

RVer: "Hey, you're one a' them hippies on that bus, ain'tcha?"

Me: "Uh, hardly a hippie, sir. I'm a retired businessman and actually as old as you. Sir."

RVer: "Yeah? So waddaya tryna do? save the spotted owl? I hear they taste just like chicken."

Me: "The owl is merely a symbol of the degradation that is going on in our forests... We seek to preserve the biodiversity of the entire ecosystem of which the spotted owl is only a part."

RVer: "But what about jobs?"

**Stone Corp. Dissolved.**

The mighty Stone Corporation was brought to its knees by a small band of intrepid Missoula, Montana environmentalists. After several hours of intense negotiations, Roger Stone, Chief Executive Officer of the megacorporation, which ranked 93 on the Fortune 500, appeared on the balcony of the 89th story of his Missoula, Montana condominium, and announced the the was dismantling the Corporation. With tears in his eyes, visibly shaken by the events of the day, Mr. Stone read the following from a prepared statement: I have seen the error of my ways—I intend to join a monastery and transfer the assets of the corporation to the Earth First! monastery and transfer the assets of the corporation to the Earth First! corporation, that the movement's first priority would be the formation of a Board of Directors who would initially formulate a statement of purpose. A vote of all the Earth First! shareholders would be organized within 24 days (not including weekends).
San Bruno, continued

engineers behind the San Bruno HCP, as well as
other scientists supported the new habitat
development plans across the country. And it
was Marsh's firm that went to Washington and
pushed through this "Take 1," an amendment to
the ESA, exactly the loophole needed to legalize
the San Bruno HCP. This loophole allows the
killing of endangered species that they "incidental to an
otherwise "lawful" activity and accompanied by an
HCP.

The final agreement was hailed in the press as
a great victory for the environment. Develop-
er agreed to sell the ridge and sadder areas of
the mountain for a state and county park and
dressed the environment by having the local
residents have already been neutralized by
development schemes. As and if things weren't bad
enough, the HCP's architects added the "window
of opportunity" to the set of 136. Since purchasers
have already used this neat little loophole several times,
which waives environmental protections under the
HCP in return for token sums of cash and/or
promises to protect contiguous areas.

Meanwhile, David Shooley has carefully
documented the progress of the HCP mitiga-
tions, especially those designed to protect new bot-
terfly habitat where it has never before existed.
"The places where they're trying to plant lupine
are the shady, damp places specifically suited to
dense dwarf scrub. Lupine needs the dry, sunny,
on open slopes. This is the last place of its kind in the
world and these [HCP] mitigations are nothing more than
cruel joke."

The people of Brisbane have overwhelm-
ingly opposed the development plan for years,
even going as far as to win all but one of the city's
HCP's. The Committee's attorney, Tom Adams,
from the development plan to bulldoze the
city for violations of the permit process.

The attorney Lindell Marsh and his firm
Nossaman, Krueger and Knox were the main

Page 18 Earth First! Bright 1992

Brisbane Boardroom Bedlam

As dawn broke on Wednesday, December 13 in Brisbane, California, the HCP's
cardinal point, a key species like the
they have chosen to protect their

San Bruno has become a national precedent,
a test case for the dismemberment of
existing state and federal law. The
Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the California
Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) specifically
forbid any project, development, or resource
extraction that will take habitat at a poten-
tically other further strain any species listed by the
federal government as endangered. Signed into law in
1973, the ESA goes even further in mandating
"the use of all methods and procedures necessary
to bring any endangered species or threatened
species to the point at which the measures
provided pursuant to [this act] are no longer neces-
sary."

These words, added to federal law, helped
protect San Bruno Mountain from development for
ten years. San Bruno Mountain represents an
entire ecosystem in danger of extinction; even a
generally hostile California Department of Fish and
Game (DFG) acknowledged in 1988 that the
most important habitat reserve in the state. So
the stage was set for a battle pitting some dedi-
cated nature lovers, a few concerned citizens and
some poorly informed but enthusiastic eco-
political forces in the country. Almost everyone,
from business interests to building contractors,
were hostile to the intention of the new laws.

As Reagan entered the White House and
Deukmejian became governor it was clear that no one
other than private citizens would attempt to
enforce the laws designed to protect biological
diversity.

Amidst this political climate the agreed-
upon strategy was to search for an "administra-
tive solution"—a way to circumvent the ESA and
prevent citizen enforcement of the law. This
strategy was put forward by an amazing coalition
including U.S. Congresspeople, the Reagan ad-
ministration, State and local government repre-
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property owners. "Behind their efforts was not
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diversity.
Don McNulty cuts a coyote from a snare in south-central Utah.

The artificial boundaries that describe the land known as Utah mark off 84 million acres of canyons, deserts, lake basins, high grassy valleys, and craggy mountain ranges. It is a diverse landscape of geological artistry, and this diversity in turn makes it possible for various ecological communities to thrive as close neighbors in a relatively small area. With the unique geology, the scenic beauty, the ecological richness, come the usual problems imposed by an exploitive people who do not honor the inherent value of the Earth and her inhabitants, but must milk the land for all its worth (appropriately): coal and uranium and copper mining, oil and gas drilling, clearcutting, cattle grazing and sheep raising, and the attendant wildlife massacres executed by the Animal Damage Control (ADC). ADC: the ranching industry's accomplice in the theft of the West. Being a relatively small and young tribe in the movement, Wild Utah Earth First! (WUEF) has decided to focus energies on just one of the many heinous crimes committed against this land and those beings -- the chosen one is the ADC, and its forays onto public lands.

In Utah, the appalling activities of the ADC incense environmentalists and animal liberators alike, and so we are witnessing and participating in a powerful convergence of movements. Because of the cruelty, the ecological insanity, the waste of public funds, and the betrayal of the public trust involved in the administration of ADC's programs, we demand nothing less than total dismantling of the lethal control programs of the ADC.

And nothing would delight us more than to render ADC activity on public land a moot issue by prohibiting sheep and cows from roaming and raising public lands.

Woof! for the Coyotes
Wild Utah Earth First!
DIXIE NASTINESS IN UTAH

The FOGs (Forces Of Greed and Ignorance) in Utah are at work fighting their War on Wildlife. Yes, the Animals. Animals are being exterminated such as the ducks, turkeys, and even the swordfish. The total is in the thousands, perhaps even in the millions. So many millions of animals are being slaughtered by the tens of thousands. As y'all probably know, the ADC (Animal Damage Control) Department of Utah's Agricultural Division was established in 1931 and given authority to destroy wildlife considered a menace to livestock and agriculture. The agency was in a state of the century, with intents only to serve the livestock and agriculture industries. (According to Dick Carter of the Utah Wilderness Association, a primary impetus for creating the agency was the desire to ensure peak supplies of livestock and agricultural products during the Second World War.)

Obviously, ecological concerns were never considered. The ADC, which was established in 1926, claimed killing 4500 coyotes 2020 stainings, 213 ravens, 198 red foxes, 55 prairie dogs and 12 badgers, among other uncountable and uncounting critters. Nationally, the death toll on songbirds recorded during winter 2021. The animals were killed with leghold traps, snares, M-44 ballistic cyanide devices, and bulldozer employing such methods as aerial gunning and gasping or burning coyote pups in their dens. Most of the ADC's activities occur in public lands where livestock are grazed, and instead of requiring that the ranchers carry the burden of risk on their own shoulders, for instance by requiring better husbandry and other non-lethal methods — the same that the agency gives their Earth-papers yet another hand-out. Coyote get your lamb? Call the ADC. The ADC is the right outfit to exterminate the local coyote population.

The aerial gunning programs are especially nasty. The gunning occurs in winter months after snowstorms. Deep, fresh snow is necessary for this kind of an assault on two reasons. First, the pilots can easily spot the coyotes and second the deep snow prevents the coyotes from making a fast getaway. In the wintertime there are no sheep in the high country of Utah's national forests. Therefore the problem is not one of sheep, but instead is a problem of the coyotes. Furthermore, and most incredibly, the ADC admits that they have frequently flown aerial gunning missions on areas that received no predation during previous gunning seasons. This type of general predation is expressed as a "shock response." Furthermore, the ADC's "shock response" is a "shock response..." Predator ecologist Bob Crabtree was quoted by Michael Misleen in High Country News. "What they (the ADC, trappers and gunners) are doing makes absolutely no sense; killing coyotes like they do is like allowing every kid in town because someone stole a candy bar." IN UTAH WILDERNESS

On October 8, 1991 the Chief of the Forest Service, in a curt and unprecedented move spanned in part by political pressure from Senator Jake Garn, reversed the decision by the Wasatch-Cache Forest Supervisor Susan Giannettino to discontinue aerial gunning in the Mt. Naomi Wilderness in northern Utah. If you are amazed that indiscriminate slaughter of indigenous wildlife can be allowed in a wilderness area, you are in the right spirit. The Naomis is the only wilderness in this country — out of 500 — where such practices have been considered.

There is one sheep operator who holds grazing permits in the Mt. Naomi Wilderness. The Forest Service was concerned about the questionable effectiveness of the predator control being carried out at this permittee's behalf, and urged by appeals filed against the program, began a four-year environmental assessment/EA process and the permittee to document all coyote predation and use protective guard dogs. A 1991 Forest Service report showed the permittee failed to document the losses and did not utilize the guard dogs as prescribed (the same.) Since it was therefore not possible to determine whether there truly was need for the program, the Forest Service discontinued it. (Forest Supervisor Susan Giannettino is an uncharacteristically rational and far-minded freely. I hope my saying this doesn't get her fired. I'd gladly retract and pour devotion upon her in order to keep her on.)

The order has now been handed down from the top requiring the Regional Forester to conduct additional study to decide whether to allow aerial gunning, putting ham in the uncomfortable position of either to support the earlier Forest decision based on years of study and deliberation at a local level, or kowtowing to politics and allowing the previous decision to remain.

Wild Utah Earth First! has let it be glaringly known that if the decision is found against the program, Utah's wilderness will be forever scarred by the suffering of coyotes. Utah's National Forests are the only wilderness in this State and National Forests has the right to conduct the operation. The Forest Service, which was given the responsibility of managing the land, will be forever scarred by the suffering of coyotes. Utah's National Forests is the only wilderness in this State and National Forests has the right to conduct the operation. The Forest Service, which was given the responsibility of managing the land, has always been aware of its legal duty to manage the land as a wilderness area and protect the wildlife and wilderness resources. The Forest Service has taken steps to protect the wildlife and wilderness resources and has been successful in doing so. The Forest Service has always been aware of its legal duty to manage the land as a wilderness area and protect the wildlife and wilderness resources. The Forest Service has taken steps to protect the wildlife and wilderness resources and has been successful in doing so. The Forest Service has always been aware of its legal duty to manage the land as a wilderness area and protect the wildlife and wilderness resources. The Forest Service has taken steps to protect the wildlife and wilderness resources and has been successful in doing so.

The Dixie has been especially surreptitious and deceitful in dealing with the forest advocate. When it was pointed out, in an appeal, that the Forest Service had purposely misrepresented the costs of lethal control (according to the state ADC Director himself), the regional forester simply nodded and replied that it didn't matter anyway, since the costs weren't critical to the decision. (However, the EA refused to consider, as an alternative, reimbursement to livestock owners for predation because the cost was "prohibitive." All evidence that we can find demonstrates that it would actually save hundreds of thousands of dollars to the freeholders.)

Also, the appellants pointed out, during scoping, that some of the methods that the Dixie had been using were in plain violation of the forest plan. The Forest Service gleefully stated that they simply "interpreted" the plan to allow all the methods that they had employed. (Forest advocate Sharon Hatfield incredulously replied to the Forest Service: "I interpret the forest plan to allow running over coyotes with snowmobiles") A document later turned over to the predator's attorney contained "a Prey's statement by a lynx a year that shows the Dixie had always been aware of its illegal use of litter methods. In that document, a Dixie forester flatly stated in response to a permittee's request for lethal control that he could not comply with the requests because the methods requested violated the forest plan. Commentators have been critical of the recent decision. Most recent, the Dixie amended its forest plan. Most stark is the fact that the Dixie can demonstrate absolutely no need or justification for its use of indiscriminate lethal control. Studies over the past two years show that predation has actually increased, despite the fact that the ADC activities employed all of its tactics over a timeline of time and has killed about the same number of coyotes each year. There is no reason whatsoever to believe that population reduction is effective in reducing predation, and every reason to believe the contrary.

Some of the parties that unsuccessfully appealed the decision have joined in filing suit in federal district court, with the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance taking charge of the litigation. WUEP plans to keep the heat on in other ways as well.

ON BLM LANDS

ADC activities have been effectively attacked on BLM managed lands as well.

The Utah Wilderness Association has called the BLM's bluff on the Vernal district in northeastern Utah. UWA appealed the current Animal Damage Control EA as well as the plan that the district has been operating under for the past decade.

Amazingly enough, the BLM has openly voiced agreement with challenges to the effectiveness of lethal control methods. The BLM has halted all predator control activities in response to the appeals and the BLM's new large conservationist E. Dwight Nelson openly declared that "There is no indication that lethal predator control significantly impacts coyote populations. They are a versatile species, and indications of coyote populations have actually increased since 1900." Any BLM employee uttering such facts must certainly be looking for alternative employment, but at least the cat is officially out of the bag. Hopefully, a trend will be started on BLM lands, which have been comparatively ignored in the ADC battle.

By Sue Ring and Scott Williams

Special thanks to the Salt Lake Tribune and the Deseret News for allowing us to publish these photos without their permission.
Wild Utah Earth First! is entirely fed up with the ADC and determined to send it to hell where it belongs. As a fledgling tribe, we are big on spirit and zeal but short on resources. So we decided to focus on ADC crises—at the expense of other concerns that definitely need addressing—in order to maximize our effectiveness.

An article about the ADC appeared on the front page of the Sunday edition of the Salt Lake Tribune describing reporter Jim Woolf’s excursion with ADC trapper McDenny who in a flurry of self-aggrandizement proclaimed Coyote Dundee and man’s “best friend,” also saying “I’ll tell you, coyote killing gets in your blood.” WUEF decided the time was ripe for casting and raining. On Thursday, December 12th, some 30 coyote huggers descended upon the downtown Salt Lake Federal Building to do some public education. Banners went up, signs were carried, pamphlets were pamphletted, drums were drummed, and speeches were spoken. A space-tangling group howl capped off the protest. The reporters from all three major TV stations and both major newspapers showed up for the party; and Scott Williams got a live TV interview at noon.

Tribune reporter Jim Woolf interviewed a number of us. Skittles making the connection that this was the same reporter who had just gone out with Coyote Dundee on his vastly coyote snarling rounds articulated one perfect sentence in response: “Coyote Dundee is a bloodthirsty, anthropocentric hypocrite with testosterone poisoning.” Woolf did a double take and said: “Could you repeat that please?”

In December, WUEF made its unwelcoming and unseemly appearance at a National Senate Hearing concerning the 1872 Mining Law and Senator Dale Bumpers’ bill calling for reform of the law. The Hearing was held in Salt Lake City, in the Capitol Hill, where a Subcommittee of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee sat center stage and listened to testimony from witnesses representing mining interests and environmental organizations. The pro-mining eco-felling advocacy group People for the West staged a demo before the Hearing, and WUEF responded by conspicuously placing large banners on the Senate wall. One banner simply exclaimed Earth First! and signs we laced declared planetary plunder. The activity before the Hearing was a helluva lot more entertaining than the Hearing itself, but hey, beside from maybe two or three snores from the panel comprised by environmentalists and an eloquent Native American woman, it was a typical bureaucratic bastion of backwardsness.

"Some Forest Service employees came to gawk as we stepped up to the mike to lambast the ADC and demand that the FS and BLM IMMEDIATELY terminate use of all lethal control methods on public lands. Gary MacFarlane of the Utah Wilderness Association joined us and discussed the Mount Naomi scenario.

The next day, an article appeared in the Tribune. Unbeknownst to us, we had staged the demo on the very same day that Dixie National Forest officials in Cedar City announced that they would resume the aerial gunning of coyotes in that area. WUEF has since let the BLM and the forest service know that we will not go away, and that things will get hotter until they begin to introduce responsible decision-making into their game of charades. We are awaiting pending crucial decisions so see if anyone is listening, and if not, it will be showtime.

Here are some ideas for predator advocates. Keep on championing the No Grazing alternatives in the NEPA documents prepared during planning processes, not only because public lands grazing is a vile and insane practice in itself, but also because the absence of grazing on NFs and BLM lands would render the ADC issue virtually moot. Also, we’re sending out feelers for any study or information relating to the effectiveness—or ineffectiveness—of lethal predator control in preventing predation on livestock. The NEPA process demands scientific justification for decision-making that we believe simply doesn’t exist. Demand it of officials in your area.

The killing continues simply out of habit and custom. The time is now to just say no to the wildlife thugs of the ADC. The time is now to End the War on Wildlife.

Wendy Lee Bevins
I want to officially voice my respect and support for the important work that activists in the field are doing. I have great admiration for such people. And I am dismayed that such peaceful defense of Mother Earth could ever be met with violence at the hands of gun-toting fools. But I do not believe that publication of an article like “A Hunting We Will Go” appreciably increases such unfortunate tendencies. Allowing the article to dismantle the journal and the EF! network provides a victory for those whom activists battle everyday.

I will continue to support the EF! Journal as an effective and invaluable and informative activist networking tool, while using it to decry opinions such as were the subject of the current controversy, and violence generally. I will not abandon what I see as a viable mouthpiece for the movement, but will continue to use it to broadcast loud and clear what the true philosophy of No Compromise in Defense of Mother Earth includes.

Disassociating from the Journal merely puts the rest of the movement in the uncomfortable position of either choosing to follow suit, thereby ushering the demise of an effective networking facility, or looking as though we support the position in the article by failing to follow Ecotopia’s lead. As mentioned above, I think we need to stick together and formally and forcefully disassociate ourselves from the violent perspective, not from each other. The current reaction certainly gives the opposing forces of darkness a good idea of what to do to dismantle successful publications in the future, write a lettercondemning something that is contradictory to the philosophy of the movement, and watch everybody pull out.

Of course, the entire episode could have been circumvented by refusing to publish the article, which is what Ecotopia EF! suggests should have been done. But this response is amazing to me. If the journal is the voice of the EF! movement. But it is not a propaganda publication, it is a forum for members of a movement that includes a wide variety of viewpoints and perspectives under the common goal of biodiversity protection. Just as biodiversity is an important and necessary characteristic of healthy natural world, it is similarly important to the world of ideas and understanding. The importance of free speech, which I doubt any of the Journal critics would consider challenging, is a reflection of the need for expression of diverse viewpoints in the interest of understanding and truth. A viable and responsible publication must always operate with this understanding. I would be very surprised if any of the ship-jumpers would encourage censorship in any other form, but fail to see how what they demand of the Journal in this case differs in any significant respect.

— Scott Williams

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**Att: Great Basinites**

**Some of us, WUEFLERS Suffer From a Patience of Boughage, and as Such, We Have Irregular Meetings.**

**Please Contact Us For Info About Actions, Bashies, Events, Etc.**

**WUEF, P.O. Box 5142, Salt Lake City, UT 84113**

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**BUY A SPIFFY T-SHIRT! (OR 2!)**

The Animal Damage Control is a Federal agency that operates (often covertly) all across the US. No matter where you live, WUEF's 100% Organic shirts are sure to become controversy-shuffling conversation pieces. Hours of entertainment!

Of course, 100% cotton. Short sleeves, white, XL, L, M. "Stop war on wildlife," black on white. "Free and wild," dark turquoise, sylvan green on white.

Specify:
- Which shirt (U, H, O, S, or C)
- How many
- What size(s)

And send to WUEF, P.O. Box 51342, Salt Lake City, UT 84131

W/$12.95 per shirt, include your address (Thanks! (Make check payable to WUEF, Wild Utah Earth First!))

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**FULFILL OUR DEEPEST DESIRES!**

**We Want:**
- A filing cabinet
- Money/T-shirt buyers
- A Utah State Safety Inspection sticker for '92
- World peace
- Any scientific and/or religious effort to eliminate the peddy-peddy control
- Freedom for Leonard Peltier

**We Aren't Asking Too Much, Are We**
About the Journal...  

BY ARENGEIL, ORIGINALLY, WITH A REVISED VERSION BY THE ENTIRE COLLECTIVE.

In the beginning was the Movement and the Movement created the Earth First! journal and it was good. Over the aces, the ineluctable forces of evolution changed the Movement and, consequently, the journal was shaped as a result of the efforts of many of us who believed that Earth First! and the journal were eternal and monolithic. For better or worse, they have changed.

Well here we are. Seemingly eternal mono­liths have been shattered and myths have crumbled. That which was is no more. Or is it?

Will Earth First! continue? We believe it will. The emphases and methodologies may change, but the old familiar theme (whatever that may be) will remain.

Will the journal survive, and in what form? Will the editorial collective structure be retained or will it be replaced by a permanent staff? Will a guiding philosophy ("party line") be established for the Movement and the journal, and if so, by whom? How will continuity of such philosophy be maintained, without creating a Sierra Club-bureaucratic rigidity?

The current editorial collective will proceed under the assumption that some sort of evolution of the she may be. Lodging may be available at the office, and almost always is for those who want it. It ain't the Ritz Carlton, but would you live and work here if it were?

Theoretically, five positions are available per journal issue, but the actual number of one- or two-issue editors varies with the number of longer-term editors around. Currently, sitting editors decide who should be on future collectives, usually two or three down the road from the one making the decision. Each collective must have at least two female and two male humans, in accordance with guidelines agreed upon by activists from the Wild Rockies when they submitted a bid to publish the journal in Missoula. In addition, the collectives should avoid limiting their choices to personal friends or to activists from their own bioregions in order to avoid establishing a dynasty of sorts.

Beyond all this, the main criterion will be a dedicated commitment to the Earth First! principles. And regardless of what you may or may not have heard, such principles do exist... The Party Line

What is the Party Line? A principle, a goal, an objective, a tactic, a strategy? Who decides what it should be, who makes it happen? Who needs one?

All of this may strike some people as sophomoric or soporific, or pedantic, offensive, or fascist. But if the journal is to minimize the possibility of being subject to the whims of each successive editorial collective, if the journal is to become representative of the diverse Earth First! adherence, we must always think in the "party line". While we do not need to become obsessed with the finer distinctions, we cannot afford to anesthetize ourselves. Thus the party line is an inherent part of the editorial collective decision that it was not up to us, or to any collective, to articulate a statement of mission. We just couldn't sit back and declare that what we're all about is saving the wilderness or subverting the dominant paradigm. (What's a paradigm, anyway?) This approach hasn't been all that successful so far.

For the time being, the following will guide us in determining what should appear in the journal:

1. The overriding goal of Earth First! is to sustain and restore the wilderness and its biodiversity. 2. Earth First! uses direct action. 3. Earth First! takes no a compromise stance. What Goes In

We decide whether to include an article or letter in the journal by all of us sitting in a circle and debating the relative merits of each submission. We usually include every letter to the editors (the general exception to this is when we receive several letters expressing similar viewpoints on the same topic, in which case we choose a representative letter). We do not edit letters, and key them into the computer as received, regardless of creative works by the grammatically challenged. So if you see weird spelling and provocative sentence structure in the SFR section, it is of the author's creation. On the other hand, we edit articles for grammar and usage; we suggest substantive changes in conjunction with the author's approval. To date, the individual preferences of each collective have determined which articles are printed in the journal and where they appear in the journal. Since each collective makes these decisions individually, how can we assure continued adherence to EF! ideals in this decision-making process? Although activists at the Green Mountain RRR did not agree on the necessity for an advisory board for the journal, the concept was relegated for further discussion. At this point, we would like to open discussion on a possible journal advisory board, and its possible duties.

The movement should first determine whether the journal needs an advisory board. In making this decision, activists must determine what the duties of any such advisory board would be, and how the board would perform these duties in the real world of telephones and key­boards and roadless area encroachment. The movement would have to determine how any possible advisory board would be selected. If the EF! movement decides that an advisory board is desired, the movement needs to determine the board's functions and mechanics. If you have ideas or suggestions on the workings of the journal, this collective suggests that you consider writing a letter to the journal, participate in the annual journal workshop at the RRR, or, more immediately, attend the EF! activists conference scheduled for March 7-9 in Portland, Oregon. This collective is offering these explanations and ideas in the hope of stimulating debate on what it will take to make the journal more effective in serving and reflecting the diverse and dynamic EF! movement.

Earth First! Journal
Income and Expense Report
December 31, 1991

1991 Income

Donations 14,383.34
Subscriptions 42,259.76
Merchandise sales 17,377.35
Wholesale journals 4,893.60
Advertising income 940.00
Interest income 541.89
Misc. income 2,271.37
Total 40,686.61

1991 Expenses

Communication for services 13,559.00
Postal tax & shipping 18,725.34
Printing 15,434.13
Computers and office supplies 7,955.32
Merchandise 9,779.15
Phone 2,266.22
Merchandise refunds 1,084.74
Office rent 1,875.00
Advertising 419.64
Misc. expense 787.93
Total 73,594.34

Page 23 Earth First! Brigid 1992
Dear SFB,

I'm bewildered by the hue and cry surrounding Robert Martin's "A Hunting We Will Go." I have never before seen such a brouhaha over the presentation of a single article published in the Journal.

While Martin did provide some handy pointers on how to provide steak and mint for coyotes, inexplicably concealed the "idea of shooting human hunters. In fact, he condemned this idea twice! So why all the misrepresentation of his views? Because Martin spiced up his brew with some of Tom Lehtinen's "Virgin Hunting" rhetoric, we're left not... We are in pretty sorry shape if the use of Tom Lehtinen hilarious hunting rap has suddenly become taboo.

In any case, what is so bad about trying to encourage and enlighten the hunters that they will want to help? Even if Lehtinen's articles are "about what they are doing, it will still remain one of the best anti-hunting songs ever.

Dear Outraged Readers,

The November 1st submission, "A Hunting We Will Go," I must honestly confess that the article's literary merits are indefensible. I initiated these articles to deal with the use and abuse of terrestrial species, and their representation, and countermeasures. By adding Tom Lehtinen's "Virgin Hunting" rhetoric to my own format and setting, I determined to create a long-enough chamber of satire. Serious, factual data and satire are not always a good mix. I apologize to all offended parties and sincerely hope that the movement will be charitable towards me in my ignorance.

ROBERT MARTIN, A.R.A., SFB

Dear Half-decomposed slime between the best of the best,

Some comments about "A Hunting We Will Go." First, thanks to Robert Martin for working so hard to counter the pernicious conditioning wild animals are good in us, as in taking up unearned space and permits with-out killing wildlife.

When hunters try to kill cows it has been defaced before. Cows are not wild animals. They certainly have no place in Noir's "Virgin Hunting." There are noplace cow, as they exist today, could survive in the wild. So why do we need to worry about the integrity of ecosystems, one should not have a great deal to fear if human life is in the cow's life, which is significantly contribution to the destruction of ecosystems, and which is far removed from any non-human interests.

I refer to official Earth First! position, but there are certain values that arise when one puts the Earth First. One is the integrity of the ecosystem. The inherent value of all sentient beings is not one. I refer to the article encouraging shooting hunters, re-read the article! Mr. Martin made very clear his position on killing humans. Twice he explicitly states in strong words his opinion on this. I understand the beef mentality to be for impressing other hunters and for killing cows. I don't mean by humor.

Sincerely,

FALLEN LEAF, BLACK SWAMP EF
F.S. Keep up the good work, ed.

Dear SFB, cont."

I'm not sure about the legend in the foot note. I could have misread the notes. The foot note reads: "We suggest that the people referred to in this note are the people who have some of the people who we looked at in the previous journal issue on the Earth First movement. That is the only thing that I'm comfortable about in this note, and I don't think that this is where Bob was going with his note. The notes that I have made from my interview with Bob are: "The Earth First movement is far removed from any non-human interests." I'm not sure about this, but I think that it's probably an accurate reflection of what Bob was trying to convey in his notes.

I still think that it's important to note that the Earth First movement is not a movement of humans. It is a movement of non-human beings. I think that this is where Bob was going with his note, and I don't think that this is where he was going with his note. I think that this is where Bob was going with his note. I think that this is where Bob was going with his note.

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I've been reading some of the articles on both sides of the debate and I feel that the current movement is far removed from any non-human interests. I think that this is an important point to make in any debate about the Earth First movement.

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Dear SFB,

As the elected (unpaid) officer of a non-profit called Wilderness Defense!, I am writing to express our group’s support of the EFl Journal and its objective. We have been receiving mail from activists suggesting the EFl newspaper must be investigated concerning various controversies. I am writing to express my personal feelings since anything in the Journal, or the movement itself, we welcome the diversity, controversy, and thoughtful agenda in your publication’s pages. Yes, we were offended by “A Hunting We Will Go” by Lee Deval. The whole page is a total collective is doing a great job under different circumstances—we need them, thank you, and that’s why we subscribe.

But, as I have repeated before, selective slaughter is a WAR that really is a WAR. Only the most dedicated and passionate of the earth that they need to kill other people’s children. If you think the Earth is in better shape when there is a war going on, you’re in for a big surprise. We’ll be there for Rod Coronado and friends. The courage up a camp and a 24-hour-a-day armed guard. We don’t touch me—I’m a real live wire. . . . We may never have the manpower to stop all of this attacking, but we are a lot more effective than the most zealous Foreman and the local sheriff. What are you going to do? Run run run, run run run away!

Dear Scatskull,

A recent issue has provided some damned fine reading material over the years, which is why I wake up in the morning from some folks who talk about it. Is there anything that’s difficult to know the truth, believing you can read it. After all, it’s taken me quite a few hundred dozers later we would be able to see tangible results, instead of talk, with a doubt, just knowing what to do.

Defoe: have done actions as true as tree-killing and you know it. Anybody that could result in defining Earth First! let’s not be petty

Beluga’s are going EXTINCT!" Why? V. Bloch may have been right, but the idea that this is a deep ecology idea is far more efficient job than the most zealous Foreman and the local sheriff. What are you going to do? Run run run, run run run away!

Dear SFB:

I don’t own a gun. I have never touched one. I do nothing but plan to. I declare the whole stupid macho culture in America for what it is. And this is for what it is. And this is for the women who spend their time worrying about their balloon? Because they have accomplished everything in the Journal, or the movement or the Journal, you are on your own.

For Rod Coronado and friends. The courage up a camp and a 24-hour-a-day armed guard. We don’t touch me—I’m a real live wire . . . . We may never have the manpower to stop all of this attacking, but we are a lot more effective than the most zealous Foreman and the local sheriff. What are you going to do? Run run run, run run run away!

Stop your silence. Behave like Coyote. Bison not Cows. Yelling at the moon doesn’t do anything. We spend so much time worrying about our future because we are all in the same boat, and it’s time to work together, work towards unity. The Journal could be of even humorously suggesting something else: under the direction of a loudspeaker, a de facto de facto non-violent end of the non-violent end of the non-violent end of the movement.

We ope tao rs In...
Dear Earth First!

I have a question for you. What is the current state of the Earth? How are we doing? What can we do to improve the situation? What are our goals for the future? What kind of world do we want to live in? These are the questions that I, as a member of Earth First!, want to address in this letter.

First, I want to talk about the current state of the Earth. The planet is in trouble, and we need to take action now. The earth is being destroyed by human activities such as deforestation, overfishing, and pollution. This is causing a number of problems, such as climate change, loss of biodiversity, and loss of habitats for many species.

Second, I want to talk about our goals for the future. Our goal is to create a world where people live in harmony with nature. We want to protect the planet and all its inhabitants, and we want to create a society that is sustainable and just.

Third, I want to talk about what we can do to achieve these goals. We need to work together to make a difference. This means working with other organizations, governments, and individuals to create change. We need to use our voices to raise awareness and demand action.

In conclusion, I want to say that we must act now to save the Earth. We must work together to create a world where people live in harmony with nature. We must create a sustainable and just society. We must act now to save the Earth.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
Dear Scheinkopf and EFers everywhere.

It seems that trying to publish an environment-oriented paper in southern Colorado is a risky business venture. Some of you may have heard of the Arizona Journal, a biographical publication focusing on the four corners states. That journal was published by folks living just over a couple mountains from me, and it was mailed out from Walsenburg.

Now, I'm seeking to establish a newsletter, The Wild Ranch Review, which focuses on the work being done by tiny, community-based groups and persons, primarily those groups and persons who supports Wild Ranch, where a wildlife refuge is being carved out of cowbottom. There is little money, and at least some, perhaps even a majority of the sample mentioned here may not be aware of the country for review have not been delivered. They were sent out from August, 20 miles down the road from Walsenburg, in early November, and I even paid for first class postage. It is 1 and 1/2 months late as this is being written. There are suspicious circumstances, namely that the confused packages were missing out after several days. Thus this is not just a case of misplaced mailings. Problems involving the newsletter:

People wanting to help can drop a card in the mail bag. For a Donation, please make it 10.00 and 50.00, or whatever you think is reasonable. (I'll not say it will go to the newsletter because it's not.)

Another tribal value that I believe is important isacyclic TOGETHER through difficulties. And I know that our partners, and we can go around quitting until we get some results. We're related and we share the same home. We are going to make this better, the earth is our home. We're the people who are willing to fight for it. I've heard of others who are taking action. The earth is part of this movement, if there aren't any that are better than ours, then ours is the movement. I believe we're in constant danger of separating something other than the earth. I don't think it happens often, and I think we need to do some soul searching to figure out how to prevent. Earth First! was started by a group of people who declared they were ready to battle this movement. Their ideas sound right and good to many of us, so we get together, we do actions, and soon Earth First! was famous. And many of those involved were all those who did not care about having their white skin, or what plant they're being covered by, or the clientele. Send to The Wild Ranch Review, c/o Tim Haugen, PO Box 516, Gunnar, CO 81040.

Tim Haugen

Dear Dearest Shit:

I'm thinking of you, and of all the many times I've started this letter over, but this feels really important to me. I've been searching for the right words that you'll encourage you to really think about it. Well, maybe I'm No. One, but bear with me, okay? I believe we're in constant danger of separating something other than the earth. The earth is part of this movement, only there aren't any that are better than ours, then ours is the movement. I believe we're in constant danger of separating something other than the earth. I don't think it happens often, and I think we need to do some soul searching to figure out how to prevent. Earth First! was started by a group of people who declared they were ready to battle this movement. Their ideas sound right and good to many of us, so we get together, we do actions, and soon Earth First! was famous. And many of those involved were all those who did not care about having their white skin, or what plant they're being covered by, or the clientele. Send to The Wild Ranch Review, c/o Tim Haugen, PO Box 516, Gunnar, CO 81040.

Dear Aric, I'm going to say that perhaps Robin W (author of the piece "going beyond reform in Sarnham! 

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other privately-owned islands within the boundaries of Biscayne National Park, and the development of Soldier Key would set a precedent. We wanted to communicate directly with the grassroots and avoid relying on the media. Biscayne Bay is a good setting for grassroots activism, since the "grassroots" are all the public marinas on weekends.

We spent the first two months thinking up ideas, planning how to carry them out, and raising money to pay for our first flyer by begging change from cars in pre-Christmas traffic ("Joy to the Earth!"). In February we began to distribute leaflets at Dade County marinas to alert boaters to the threat to Soldier Key and ask them to join us in a marine action, the "Regatta for Soldier Key," to express their opposition to the development.

In mid-February Jim Sanders, Supervisor of Biscayne National Park, announced the Park's objection to the Florida Princess development plan, stating that he would deny the permits necessary to barge construction materials through Park waters. The Miami Herald subsequently published a misleading article, implying that the permit denial left the developers without recourse and that the issue was "over." Rowe wrote sympathetically about Soldier Key and informed the public. There was no time before the Regatta to distribute an updated flyer, but we locked out by connecting, indirectly, with one of the most outspoken advocates for wilderness in South Florida. On February 13th, the day following the misleading article, Miami Herald columnist Carl Haasen dedicated his column to Soldier Key. He emphasized that far from being "over," the development project first of our continuing "Bewildering Experiences with the Media," we found that we were SO WRONG! Regatta Day turned out to be the day the ground war started in Iraq, so there was absolutely no media coverage. At first we were disappointed, but we quickly figured out how to use the lack of media coverage to our advantage.

We had gotten two people to bring still cameras, and another borrowed a two-hour videocam. We took lots of pictures and, providentally, a few days later some Missourians called asking us to do the Blank Wall for the March edition of Flyer. We do what the developers and the press do: create our own news.

Once coverage of our action had been published in the National Blair, we sent copies to national, state and local media, boycotting publications, our elected representatives, Biscayne National Park, and the Interior Department. We also put a bunch on the windshield of cars at the University of Miami Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences to stir up the academic community.

Our second flyer called for three actions: writing to members of Congress, calling the Florida Princess office on its toll-free reservations lines to express our disapproval, and boycotting Princess cruises. Over the next six months we distributed about 8,000 flyers, reaching almost 20% of Dade's registered boaters, plus their families and friends. So many people responded that every Florida記得 congressperson contacted Biscayne National Park to express their constituents' objections to the scheme. Cut-up Blockbuster Video cards began to arrive from places as remote as Washiongton state and from every corner of Florida. When a Blockbuster key rang happened to walk into another video store in uniform, a couple approached to assure him that they were there boycotting Blockbuster, while a Blockbuster competitor sent in a whole box of cut-up cards.

In mid-February another Dewar reported in the Herald that Broid County Republican Congressman E. Clay Shaw had written to Manuel Lujan on Blockbuster's behalf to get the Interior Department to overrule the NPS. This play backfired because, due to our public scrutiny, the Interior Department denied Shaw's request. Shaw was tremendously embarrassed, as the article also revealed that Huiizenga had given him a $1,000 campaign contribution in 1989 and that Shaw had a 20-year friendship with the Broid. Meanwhile, Blockbuster denied having anything to do with the development project, repeating that the company had entered only into a "licensing agreement" with Lambert. We did not believe this for a minute!

In June, stone-walled by the Herald and feeling that we had saturated the local public, we contacted Sean Rowe, an award-winning investigative reporter for the New Times, our "alternative weekly." Rowe thought Senator Key had enough story potential to warrant a story in the New Times. We flew out 15th on the Bay with us while we carried out our first escort action. This day-long action was coordinated on land and sea by activists in two counties. Everglades EF! activists in two bowwrowed power boats intercepted the Entertainer I on route to its Miami destination, the mega-784 Bayside, where passengers disembarked for a three-hour shopping frenzy. We sailed the passengers and asked them to boycott the cruise line. Earlier that morning, Broward activists had given the passengers copies of the "deviled-Wayne" flyer as they boarded the Entertainer I in Fort Lauderdale. At the Bayside pier, more activists with banners and megaphones tried to dissuade him. Meanwhile, Blockbuster denied having anything to do with the development project, repeating that the company had entered only into a "licensing agreement" with Lambert. We did not believe this for a minute!

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In mid-July, about two weeks after Rowe’s article hit the newsstands, Blockbuster Entertainment filed two law suits against Florida Princess, claiming $540,000 of bad debt and misuse of the Blockbuster name. The Blockbuster law suit story made the headlines of the local business papers on July 24th. Two days later, in a small article on the back page of the Herald’s business section, Lambert responded by stating that the “bad debt” claimed by Blockbuster was simply cash infusions by a partner in the joint venture.

To discourage any potential investors Lambert might be trying to line up to replace Blockbuster, we carried out another escort action on August 31st, the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. We tried especially hard to enlist local boaters in this action by creating a Boaters’ Alliance for Soldier Key (BASK), saturating the marinas with the new flyer focused on Lambert, and setting up a BASK hot line. When boaters contacted us we sent them an information packet and asked them to confirm if they planned to participate. We also sent info packets to local residents who had joined the boycott. We even borrowed a portable marine radio and broadcast information about the BASK action several times on the preceding weekends. We had also requested for information we received, no one participated. One boater tried, but she had not confirmed and missed the boat.

We carried through on our own and, because Labor Day is possibly the slowest news day of the year (take note, fellow activists), a local television station covered the action. The land part of the action at Bayside was nearly disrupted by two City of Miami cops hired by Lambert to keep us from getting on the pier and speaking to Princess passengers. We avoided arrest and continued the action by moving to a parking lot right next to the pier. We had six demonstrators with posters designed for maximum TV appeal—one depicting an adult Hawksbill trailing by two hatchlings asking, in large script, “Please Save Soldier Key. Our Home Sweet Home.,” and another simply stating, “Shame On You Robert Lambert.” It was hectic with the cops threatening us with arrest and the TV crew setting up and taping while we harangued the passengers. The two passengers who were interviewed, a midwestern couple, said it wasn’t necessary to spoil an island just for a cruise. The video footage of Soldier Key taken during the Regatta came in handy, since, as the TV reporter explained, “This is television. You can’t do a story about an island and show a picture of a mall.” So we lent them our wdigets and the resulting two-minute segment was excellent.

Since then Florida Princess has conceded the two lawsuits by default and filed for bankruptcy. But Lambert must be taught that coverage of any action that he undertakes will continue until Soldier Key is safe as part of Biscayne National Park. The man responsible for this in November said it would remove them. We know that Lambert is trying to raise cash by selling his $900,000 water-front retreat. The boycott of Blockbuster Video and Entertainment Cruises (the new name of Lambert’s operation) will continue until Soldier Key is safe as part of Biscayne National Park. Various national boycott-oriented publications have articles in press right now. Huizenga and Lambert must be taught that actions have consequences and that they can’t just walk away.

In reviewing the past year, we have gained a sense of place, made mistakes, learned a lot. We find that we need frequent meetings to provide structure and focus. Because we are so few and because a project develops a life and a timetable of its own, we meet weekly to plan strategy, choose specific tasks, and allow plenty of time for creative interaction. The direction we have taken and the type of work we are capable of doing are determined largely by who we are: creative communicators who prefer to work for wilderness outdoors, and who have a horror of bureaucracy and formal meetings. We keep Ed Abbey’s advice in mind and have a lot of fun.

We have realized that the media include some very good people who are partsians at heart. But we also learned that we can’t rely on them to report to the public or follow up on a story. There are many influential forces (and advertisers—Blockbuster ads in the Herald have mushroomed) who would like the public to forget an issue. We find, in our dismay, that we cannot rely on the press for information that we can’t obtain ourselves; to our delight, as Rowe’s article showed, a well-timed story with just the right spin can work wonders.

We have been able to stay legal while accomplishing our objectives. When we first formed Everglades EF! in June, 1990 (Redwood Summer), the organization immediately began to build us, implying that coverage would depend upon our living up to the media’s “terrorist” image of EF! Instead of taking their bait, we decided to find creative ways to focus public attention on local issues. In making this decision we have again listened to who we are, what we are willing to do, and what we think is most appropriate for our bioregion. Though we completely support the solidarity expressed in the EF! Statement of Unity, we believe we can accomplish more here as free agents than in a jail cell or a courtroom. People, like the land, are stressed enough. And that includes us!

We have also tested the limits of what we can presently expect from the public. Leafleting worked great so long as we asked for private actions, but we were much less successful in getting people to participate publicly. The greatest public participation was in the Regatta, and even then, only about a dozen of the hundred boats we had anticipated materialized.

Losing the lack of active participation, we have realized several things about our bioregion: In South Florida people come and go; they come for a job or school, stay for a few years and then leave, or they immigrate here from another country and live in a cultural limbo that can last forever. In such circumstances, bioregionalism is difficult to develop. People do not become intimate with their bioregion; they live insulated from their physical environment by air-conditioning; they never learn about our ecosystems, wonder what type of landscapes originally occupied the land their houses are built on, or the native plants that should grow there. They know little about the urgent ecological threats to our region, and consider themselves good little environmentalists if they participate in curbside recycling. Further, the popular culture of our bioregion is a consumerist, play-now-pay-later hedonism that discourages serious involvement at the cost of leisure. We have decided that the next phase of Operation Mangrove Shield must be the purchase of a boat to maintain an ongoing, high-profile presence on the Bay. We plan to rig out a deep-vee hull vessel with tall masts at the bow and stern to hang a huge banner that can serve as a floating billboard. Miami is a financial center where deals are made that affect the entire Everglades Bioregion, from the Kissimmee River to Key West, from Biscayne Bay to the Gulf of Mexico. Because of their greed in monopolizing “prime waterfront,” we believe we can attract many of Miami’s developers, lawyers and bankers, as well as the media. With the boat we will be able to circumvent the media blockade and begin to inform and educate the human population who live, work and play on the Bay. Our goal is to find fellow carriers of what Dave Foreman calls the “wilderness gene,” and the public. Though legally the money machine that backs the developers who plunder our land and waters. Though direct action and personal contact with the grassroots, we will create a network of relationships—a real hometown team!

Finally, The Soldier Key campaign cost about $750, which the Direct Action Fund has reimbursed. We have found it easy to work with DAF as its quick reimbursement for direct action expenses allowed us to keep up the pressure. The EF! editorial collective asked us to be critical of our actions. I hope that this critique of a campaign by a small, young, urban group in the Everglades Bioregion will be helpful to other fledgling groups everywhere.

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**REGIONAL ROUNDUP**

**ALF TORCHES OREGON MINK PLANT**

*Ed. Note: This missive arrived anonymously, attached to a copy of a December 22 Salem Statesman Journal article which reported the blaze but raised doubts about the cause of the fire. A telephone call to Oregon State Police Lt. Richard Hein confirmed that the fire was indeed arson and that as of 1-2-92 there were no suspects.*

December 21, 1991—Western Wildlife Cell members of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) raided Malecky Mink Ranch in Yamhill, Oregon, and set an incendiary device that destroyed the processing plant of this fur farm near Salem.

Intelligence sources revealed that the fur farm was to be sold, with intentions to continue exploitation of fur. Malecky Mink Ranch was a recipient of information from Oregon State University's Experimental Fur Farm, and had developed innovative methods of commercial exploitation of mink for the fur trade.

No mink or humans were injured in the ALF's fourth action against the United States Fur Farm industry. Fleshing machines, drying drums, skinning racks, feed mixers, freezers, and a workshop were all effectively destroyed in this economic attack against the tools of death and destruction.

This action was taken to avenge the lives of mink murdered on the ranch in Yamhill and to prevent the further imprisonment of native wildlife in the future. 750,000 mink were slaughtered every winter in the Northwest for the fur trade, and over four million nation-wide on over six-hundred fur farms.

The Animal Liberation Front also announces a new campaign against the fur trade, one that directly targets the insensitive humans who wear fur garments. We will fight the fur-wearers in the streets. No longer shall the ecological arrogance of the public supporters of the fur trade go unchallenged. ALF members shall arm themselves with battery acid and dye, and will inflict damage on the fur worn by humans. Fur is for four-leggeds, not two. The lives of fur animals will be avenged.

The fur industry is responsible for the demise of not only native North American wildlife, but the destruction of native peoples' cultures as well. Over the last four-hundred years this business has waged a genocidal war against animals and humans. Through the introduction of social and physical disease, the fur trade has forced native people to participate in their bloody practice, or perish like so many animals in traps and cages.

It is time to eliminate this anthropocentric profit-driven want before the last howl is heard. ALF calls on all people to join in the battle against this ecologically destructive regime, and to defend the defenders of the oppression of our species. We must destroy which destroys the animals, earth, and ourselves.

**WA-BC Border Action**

Approximately 150 people, including about 30 stalwart British Columbians, protested BC's atrocious logging practices at Peach Arch Park on December 15th. Peach Arch Park is a neutral area on the border between Canada and Washington, attended, with about 30 coming down from Canada. Shuksan and Seattle EFlers, along with many community groups sponsored the event, and a good time was had by all. Media-watchers all saw the fun on prime time, with the help of two Canadian TV stations and the front page of the local newspaper. We finally found a use for the sickly white 40 foot high "Peach Arch," when several drum wielding eco-terrorists camped under the arch and began to play. Spontaneous, primeval drumming erupted in a most unignoble manner. Apparently, this activity scared off any official presence, and not a cop could be seen.

The protest was in response to the continued destruction of the last intact ancient temperate rain forest on southwest Vancouver Island. A recent provincial election yielded many promises to stop cutting in contested areas. But, as usual, this is political bullshit. The roads and cutting continue. So do the activists.

Unfortunately, people remained civil. Several activists did carry banners into the road where frenetic "Happy Birthday Baby Jesus" shoppers lined up to tie through their teeth to the Customs agents about all the merchandise they didn't have. Our determined eco-fascists distributed flyers explaining how the timber drones were exporting the profits, as well as the logs, from BC's native rainforests and leaving them bedrock clearcuts in return.

The only threat of violence came when one disgruntled Shuksan EFler, after almost stepping on a scavenging Camus frivolous remarked, "That dog wouldn't last two days in the Walbran Valley." The owner of the patriotic muck took offense, but there was no sympathy.

_Tatshenshini Wilderness_ 1530.

**Tatshenshini Wilderness**

We have an historic opportunity to protect the British Columbia portion of "North America's Wildest River," the Tatshenshini and its surrounding wilderness.

Write to the new BC premier, Mike Harcourt, recently elected on a pro-environment platform. Ask him to use his powers of "executive order" to create a 2.3 million acre Tatshenshini Wilderness Park, to honor his campaign pledge to protect 12% of BC wilderness, to respect US interests to preserve Glacier Bay National Park and the Alaska Bald Eagle Preserve, to abandon the flawed Mined Development Review Process, which has ignored US interests and treaties, and to make public all comments on the Win-Crazy project, as promised sixteen months ago.

Address your letter to The Honorable Mike Harcourt, Premier of British Columbia, Legislative Buildings, Victoria, BC V8V 1X4, Canada SOURCE—LYNN CANAL CONSERVATION, INC.

_Elfand_, the site for the new UC Santa Cruz Colleges Nine and Ten, is a 12-acre area which was once a quiet, spiritual place of huge ferns, old redwoods, tiny highland meadows, and forest sinkholes overlying limestone caverns. People from all over the state have visited this special area for spiritual renewal. But Elfdand's peace was shattered by the bulldozers and chainsaws of Big Creek Lumber Company on December 16, 1991. Forty-two people were arrested, many in brutal fashion. Among those arrested were local Earth Firsters, members of the community, an attorney for a student group and a KSFW-TV camera man. Peter "Peat Moss" Neuh sustained bruised ribs and a head injury for the crime of haggling a felled redwood tree.

The work crews from Big Creek Lumber Company were escorted into the construction site by thirty-eight campus police officers equipped with riot gear. Many of the arrests were assaulted by police in the forest. "People would rush in like guerilla warfare and try to disrupt the logging. Our people would see the motion of someone moving and blow an airhorn, and then the police would rush in and grab them," said Bud McCrery, owner of Big Creek Lumber Company.

The forest was logged early Monday morning on the 16th to circumvent the possibility that a temporary restraining order (TRO) might be issued by Superior Court Judge Stevens. A student group had filed a lawsuit to stop the construction, arguing that the University had violated its own Timber Harvest Plan and Environmental Impact Report. According to Debbie Shalin, an attorney for the students, the University ordered the logging operation for Monday morning only after she had notified them on Friday of her intent to file for the TRO. When the TRO was denied on Tuesday morning, nearly all the trees were already down. The meadows were rutted and left cluttered with debris.

_During this bout of logging, a patch of Elmer's Fescue, a species uncommon to this area, was destroyed. The plant was supposed to be transplanted elsewhere, but the University was unable to find a suitable location. A temporary monitoring plan for two years and after that, the Fescue will probably be overwhelmed by competition with non-native grasses._

If you want to write to UCSC about this and future building plans and logging plans, the address is: Chancellor Karl Pister, UC Santa Cruz, 1156 High St., Santa Cruz, CA 95064.

Please contact any of the following if you have questions or can offer assistance: Edda Ehrke (408)427-9560, Peter Hughes (408) 476-9355, Ecops: Hughes, Vicky Petterson (408)429-5179, Miriam Sachs (Eftine) (408)429-1350.

—_KAREN DERBAAL_
Banff Earth First!

Needless to say the corporate robber barons and their government surrogates haven't yet converted to the theology of Thomas Berry. The biosocieties working for the Mitsubishi and Diashowa and the rights of wild bison. The winds of change are sweeping up the lentic habitats, the provincial governments of Alberta and British Columbia have been soliciting the corporate "Johns" to "violate" our "virgin" forests. Eco-defenders must move to block the bedroom door. Earth is not a willing participant in these sadistic pursuits. The acquiescence of a few greedy premiers and cabinet ministers doesn't constitute consent.

Mitsubishi has no right to impose the world's largest bleached Kraft pulp mill on a fragile ecosystem, to starve the aquatic life of the wind into a tributary of the Yellowstone, no matter what the cost. Mitsubishi and Diashowa have left us no choice but to try them before the court of world opinion. Let the boycott of Mitsubishi and Diashowa begin. For crimes against our beautiful water planet, consumers, investors and employees will be ashamed to be associated with their names. Chrysler dealers will be notified on their computer link-ups to avoid the Mitsubishi connection. Investors and brokers will be notified throughout the country in their financial journals to avoid Mitsubishi and Diashowa securities. The Japanese people and their neighbors throughout the world will be made aware of the corporate roles in species depletion, cultural genocide, deforestation, toxic contamination and the disruption of acid, carbon, weather and oxygen cycles. The contamination of mother's milk, immune deficiencies, reproductive failures, and cancers do not look good on a corporations "green" resume.

MT Guns Down Bison

Yellowstone EFF is calling for an international boycott of Montana Tourism and Montana-made products in the wake of the killing of 150 wild bison, encouraged by Montanna's Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

SURVIVORS OF GENOCIDE

Bison are native only to North America. The species was nearly extinct at the turn of the century due to rampant slaughter on the Great Plains. A tiny remnant herd of 25 wild bison escaped the slaughter and now roam the remote Pelican Valley. The present-day Yellowstone bison are direct descendents of those 25 survivors, which interbred with ranch-bred bison released into the park. These symbols of North American wilderness, essential components of the famous Yellowstone ecosystem, are being killed once again at the behest of— who else—the livestock industry, which claims the bison are a threat to livelihood. Wild bison carry brucellosis, a disease given them by cattle which can cause cows to abort. The Montana Department of Livestock, eager to retain "brucellosis-free" status for the state's cattle herds, has ordered the killing of bison which leave the borders of YNP and enter Montana. MURDERED TO PROTECT KOWZ

For various reasons the bison, once a plains animal, are now a herd of boxy beasts, the ancestors of which浏览 through the 1988-89, 569 bison were gunned down near the northern entrance to YNP. When the killing began again the next winter, activists (including Wild Rockies EFFers) intervened in the "hunt" and created so much controversy that in 1990 bison hunting was outlawed in the park. The killing is now done by state officials, and the kills are so heavily publicized that no intervention has yet been attempted by activists this season.

Almost all the bison killed this year were on land owned by the Church Universal and Triumphant (CUT). CUT is infamous for building bomb shelters and trailer parks up and down Paradise Valley, issuing hysterical predictions about the imminent end of the world, and spilling diesel fuel into a tributary of the Yellowstone River. Now it has the blood of bison on its hands. It claims the bison are running its cattle grazing land, scarifying potential cattle grazers, and destroying properties to protect its cattle. The fact that the bison has usurped the bison's rightful winter range, and has rejected money offers to let bison graze on its land.

The State of Montana and CUT are largely responsible for the recent attack on the bison. EFF calls on CUT and Montana to work towards an equitable settlement with the bison; allow bison to wander beyond the borders of Yellowstone, as the State has recently (to its credit) been doing with bison leaving the park on the West side. Until such an agreement is reached and the bison are left to roam unmolested, Yellowstone EFF encourages you to BOYCOTT MONTANA!

We who love the Earth and are dependent to some extent on tourism and Montana-made products to sustain our economy. But some of us feel that the rights of wild bison are more important than our ability to make a living. Don't give your hard-earned cash to Montana. Call the Montana tourism hot-line and tell them why you won't come to Montana again. Dials 442-2405. Can NOT do CUT and give them a piece of your mind: (406) 846-7441 or 7381. Write to them at Corwin Springs, MT 59021. Encourage people you know to avoid vacationing in Montana or buying Montana-made products. Contact Yellowstone Earth First! If you have ideas for defending the bison if you can help in any way: P.O. Box 6151, Bozeman, MT 59715 (406) 585-9211.

—RANDALL RIBBLE

CLAW addendum: All shit floats—for awhile. When cross streams/steep steppes. This is a rare occurrence/maybe this gift horse has no teeth. Th "strategy" recognized th impacts of th human herd (as a given) but refused to discuss th population measures/hmm...haven't we seen this movie? Does FWS wanna "cooperate" with FWS? Does FWS wanna "facilitate" th PAW proposal? Will state "game" commissions listen to anybody that doesn't kill for pleasure? Who knows. In the meantime, the 300 wild bison gone. YNP is the new home. Extinction is forever. The whooping crane, the wood bison, all need space not waste. Mitsubishi has no right to impose the world's largest bleached Kraft pulp mill on a fragile ecosystem, to starve the aquatic life of the wind into a tributary of the Yellowstone, no matter what the cost. Mitsubishi and Diashowa have left us no choice but to try them before the court of world opinion. Let the boycott of Mitsubishi and Diashowa begin. For crimes against our beautiful water planet, consumers, investors and employees will be ashamed to be associated with their names. Chrysler dealers will be notified on their computer link-ups to avoid the Mitsubishi connection. Investors and brokers will be notified throughout the country in their financial journals to avoid Mitsubishi and Diashowa securities. The Japanese people and their neighbors throughout the world will be made aware of the corporate roles in species depletion, cultural genocide, deforestation, toxic contamination and the disruption of acid, carbon, weather and oxygen cycles. The contamination of mother's milk, immune deficiencies, reproductive failures, and cancers do not look good on a corporations "green" resume.

For more information or comments (please do contact): Susan McDowell, TEPI coordinator, Environmental Planning Section, US EPA, Region III, 841 Chestnut Building, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

Thanks Y'all!

—MA JONES

EF!—EPA Alliance

Ecosystem components, including wetlands, riverine and terrestrial habitats, are interrelated and interdependent. These mosaics of communities require the coordinated, long-term commitments for their protection and rehabilitation. The role of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in promoting ecosystem protection has been established. However, the Agency's Region III recently identified the adverse physical modification of terrestrial habitat as one of the foremost ecological issues in the region. The EPA has decided to commit itself to preventing further degradation of terrestrial habitat as well as to promoting habitat restoration.

For a good accounting of the Diashowa situation visit http://www.EarthFirst.org

For more information or comments (please do contact): Susan McDowell, TEPI coordinator, Environmental Planning Section, US EPA, Region III, 841 Chestnut Building, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

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Direct Action Gets the Woods

A five-day logging road blockade in Northwestern Ontario has forced a logging company to remove its equipment from native land.

The Gull Bay Band erected the roadblock on November 7, 1991, after the Provincial Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) reinstated a tree-cutting license for Buchanan Forest Products. The license was reinstated after Buchanan representatives falsely reported to the Ministry that, following months of negotiations, the native band had agreed to the cutting. No such agreement had been reached and the Ministry somehow neglected to check the validity of Buchanan’s claim with the band itself.

When band members noticed clear cutting equipment being brought within the boundary of the disputed area of Black Sturgeon Forest, they held an emergency council meeting, and by 7 pm a roadblock had been erected. At 8 pm, three vehicles carrying night logging crews were turned away by the unarmed blockaders. The crew were to have begun logging immediately.

Buchanan Forest Products has a long history of severely-damaging forestry practices, and the evidence can be seen along hundreds of kilometers of highway north of Thunder Bay. This area has been ravaged by the clearcutting method employed by Buchanan.

As well as subsistence hunting and trapping in the proposed-to-be-cut forest, Gull Lake Band members fish in the waters beside it. Topsoil dynamiting out of the Gull Bay Block of the Black Sturgeon Forest. Because of the blatant attempt by Buchanan and the MNR to sabotage the negotiations, the natives of Gull Bay are trusting neither, and are maintaining a watch on the blockade.

—AUTONOMOUS GREEN ACTION

Oz Rondy

After an action-packed year of media (and personal) attacks on the E!F! movement in Australia, we looked forward to the summer gathering with some trepidation. The logical extension of the campaign against us was for someone to burn a bulldozer (insurance job) and blame Earth First! The Forest Protection Society was mobilized and ready, the newspapers were ringing to see if we were planning to spike trees, and the publicity man from the Association of Forest Industries was predicting unprecedented damage to machinery.

What actually happened was something of an anti-climax. We had 2 days of workshoppping and informal raves which were filling in the newcomers and forging friendships, laying the groundwork for more in depth strategizing. Then the rain arrived and the next 2 days saw much tent huddling and stay dry and warm workshops.

One contingent of hard-core folk soaked it all up (literally) by climbing Howitt Spur and spent the night up amongst the snow gums.

New Year’s Eve saw a new phenomenon for our gatherings—electricity music; Earth Reggae and Penelope Swales, and the storm and continual rain was celebrated rather than endured.

The site was in the Alpine National Park on the upper Howqua River in the Victorian Alps. We saw first-hand the damage caused by once-only logging in the park and those hooved van­dals trampling vegetation and fouling the rivers. We Australians are mighty proud of our mountains, and is adjacent to the Wonnangatta Wilderness.

About 150 people put in an appearance; many new faces, lots of old friends, and some useful alliances were forged. We realised that E!F! is still in its formative stages in Australia, and are looking at ways to establish groups in new areas. Bit by bit we’re clarifying our vision and our niche in the environmental community. What was especially apparent was that there are people working in a vast diversity of groups and organisations who share our sense of urgency... time is running out unless people get organized and TAKE ACTION NOW.

The media spent the last three months of the year hounding us about eco-defense, and never once questioned the untold vandalism being waged against Australian ecosystems by big business. It should come as no surprise that most of the media have decided that they stand with the forces of destruction, but their willingness to paint us as the new terrorists has been a little worrying. (My favorite heading so far has been “Green Terror: Eco-guerilla sabotage book tells how to kill to save the planet” from the “Truth” newspaper.)

Now (early January) the papers tell us the greens are responsible for the recession...there never were many Jews in Aus­tralia so I suppose someone has to take the blame.

Individual members of E!F! are also coping with following newspaper articles in October, we re­ceived death threats, were trailed, and had a house and a car broken into (with a box left under the bonnet; cute, hey?)

These sorts of occurrences are meant to isolate, intimidate, and silence us. And for me this was the most empowering thing about the gathering. We didn’t get around to in-depth strategies, but we did get a glimpse of the diversity, passion and commitment of our fellow ac­tivists just by finding out about the struggles being carried out in every corner of the continent. I felt very un-alone, and all the stand-over tactics of the misguided and downright evil paled into insignificance. As we drove out of the Howqua and over Mt. Stirling on our way home, there were small contingents of Forest “Protection” Society folk, doing their best to look threatening. After a gathering of just a few elements of our tribe, we considered seemingly less scary.

—CAM WALKER

Ecodefense Banned in Oz

Last December, Ecodefense was officially banned from being imported into Australia. We’re not sure if possession of the book is an act of defense, however we will send an update for the Eostar issue. In recent weeks, the Victorian newspapers have published several inflammatory ar­ticles about Ecodefense and monkeywrenching in general. It seems that the timber industry, spe­cifically Steve Guest, Public Affairs Manager of the Victorian Association of Forest Industries, is escalating their smear campaign against Earth First! to distract attention away from the real issues of logging and woodchipping the last of Victoria’s primary forests. A Melbourne E!F!er did a debate with Guest on radio and he talked about that “jerk terrorist Jake Jagoff” from the USA—it seemed at first he thought Jake was here to train us in ecoterrorism. Guest speculated Jake’s trip was probably financed by E!F! in the States (obviously Guest doesn’t know Jagoff’s past fi­nancial track record) as part of a plan to export monkeywrenching to Australia.

—MELBOURNE E!F!

This map shows the locations of tribal blockades of logging operations throughout Sarawak. As of November, 1991, there was some type of resistance at all of these sites. The number of Dayak tribes now involved indicates how widespread the resistance to the timber industry is. It is not just the Penan who face loss of livelihood and cultural genocide from rainforest destruction.
Communication Gap

In USFS “newspeak,” the new word for canopy destruction is “gap phase dynamics,” another typical Freudian attempt to subvert the truth. What follows is an abridged tale of Forest Wars II in the Shawnee National Forest. (Forest Wars I occurred from 1787 to roughly 1812, when the Shawnee, Miami, and Cherokee tribes rallied with Tecumseh, the Great Shawnee chief. They staunchly defended their forest lands and heritage from the armies of William Henry Harrison and George Washington, who were enforcing the federalizing, parceling, gridding, and selling of the Heartland.)

1987: East Perry Lumber Co., the biggest hardwood mill in the midwest, slashed large clearcuts from steep slopes, fragmenting the big canopy of the Shawnee hardwoods of Alexander County. A record 12 million board feet (mmbf) was removed from the forest, and $798,000 were removed from taxpayers’ pockets.

1988: The USFS was preoccupied by negotiations of the Land and Resource Management Plan and no hardwoods or pines were cut. Spring of 1989: Eight big clearcut sales were stopped for reevaluation, due to one appeal.

Fall of 1989: The Shawnee lost a beautiful hardwood area to the first so-called group selection “patch clearcut,” a place called Town Hall, going down as 1/2 mmbf. The Shawnee lost $800,000 that year on below-cost pine sales, and one hardwood sale.

Fall of 1990: After the Fairview Vigil of 80 days, another 1/2 mmbf “patch clearcut,” nightmare occurred at a lofty woodlands known as Big Ranch, the next-to-last unbroken corridor in Alexander County. Veneer trees went down for Germany, but over 50% of the robust hardwoods got wasted for shipping pallets. 1.2 million tax dollars went down the tubes.

Fall of 1991: Fairview Farewell! (1/2 mmbf) a half million tax dollars vanished in the fiasco. The blows to the taxpayer were heavy. The Fed’s law enforcement bill was estimated to be $315,000 plus the unrevealed bills of the Sheriff’s Departments of Jackson County and Union County, plus the court costs incurred by the counties, all to ruin an unequaled Jackson County woods.

Fall of 1991: Burner Hill Hello! (1 mmbf) A Shawnee Defense Fund press conference from the treetops announced Alexander County’s last stand, with a big pochmarked map to prove it. East Perry was the highest bidder.

Abenaki Court Hearings

On Monday, January 13, Abenaki Chief Homer St. Francis went before the judge of the Franklin County Superior Court in Vermont to confront a bogus felony charge of false swearing. The maximum penalty for this offense in fifteen years imprisonment. Packing the gallery at the hearing were numerous representatives of Native American tribes, the American Indian Movement (AIM) and Earth First!

Chief St. Francis was indicted by a grand jury because he did not claim tribal property, which he and Abenaki tradition believe cannot be owned, on a form requesting a public defender from a prior offense.

In court, the chief and his tribal lawyer submitted numerous motions to have the case thrown out because the State of Vermont is violating the United Nations Genocide Act, federal genocide acts, the International Bill of Rights and a variety of treaties regarding indigenous peoples. Chief St. Francis refused to enter a plea because he does not recognize the court’s authority over the Abenaki. The hearing was postponed to a later date. Recently the Abenaki Tribal Court tried Chief St. Francis and found him innocent under tribal law.

The Abenaki, in response to the state court’s allegations, are charging the State of Vermont with genocide. They will be serving subpoenas to all elected officials in the state to appear in front of the tribal court of elders.

On Wednesday, January 11, EFiers met with State’s attorney Howard Van Benthysen to express their outrage at the State’s harassment of the Abenaki. EF presented Van Benthysen with documentation of 653 species that are rare, endangered, threatened or extirpated in Vermont due to the encroachment of civilization and pledged support for the resistance of the Abenaki, who for centuries lived in balance with the natural world. We concluded our meeting with the state’s attorney calling on us, our congress people of your choice, to lower the boom on the Northwest timber industry, and to stop funding the USFS timber sale.

Abenaki Chief St. Francis was wrongfully arrested, maliciously prosecuted with a felony aggravated battery, and held in jail for 29 hours without an opportunity to make bail, continued to dangle in never-never land. To seek justice in a jury trial, or to cop a plea of misdemeanor charges of mob action with no public defender, since the state waived the threat of jail time. That doesn’t count the 48 hours they already spent in the slammer.

Joe Glisson, Bill Cronin, and Mindy Harmon, three of the thirteen arrested at the Fairview gate on August 26, 1991, for trespassing, decided to proceed to trial. The others accepted plea bargains and were sentenced to 25-75 hours of community service, 6 month probation, and court costs.

Jan Wilder-Thomas, wrongfully arrested, decided to proceed to trial. The others accepted plea bargains and were sentenced to 25-75 hours of community service, 6 month probation, and court costs. That was the question.

CHALLENGE: Please, go to Washington, D.C. Make appointments with the members of both the Senate and House Appropriations Committees and Subcommittees on Interior and Related Agencies. Gang up on the eastern congressional law, Shawnee “patch clearcutting” was out, but “gap phase dynamics” was in.

CHALLENGE: Make appointments with the members of both the Senate and House Appropriations Com­mittees and Subcommittees on Interior and Related Agencies. Gang up on the eastern congressional committees, and their subcommittees on the Interior and Related Agencies. Gang up on the eastern congressional law, and the Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies.

To receive an action alert, send a 29 cent postcard, requests for information, and a letter to Washington, D.C. Make appointments with the members of both the Senate and House Appropriations Committees and Subcommittees on Interior and Related Agencies. Gang up on the eastern congressional committees, and their subcommittees on the Interior and Related Agencies.

Clearlake, California, October 1991. For the third year, we hiked the oaks and chaparrel trying to stop the slaughter of the rare Tule Elk. There were as many as twenty-five of us covering the immense hunt area during the second week of fifteen critics. To our advantage we found a new base campsite to escape the intense harassment we have experienced during the last two years. This year was full of many quiet days with saboteurs of neither hunters, game wardens, or elk. The last weekend we expected a rush of hunters but the weather turned bad (or good) and it was very quiet. I have to admit, we went home wondering how much we really accomplished, but I have a feeling there’s a few elk left that otherwise wouldn’t be there.

Kofa National Wildlife Refuge, Arizona, December 1991 The Kofa refuge, named for a square miles and is home to nearly 1000 desert bighorn sheep. We didn’t have the resources to sabotage the sixteen day hunt of sixteen sheep, so we switched our tactics some. We decided to sabotage every day and definitely slowed the hunt down but then had to leave with a lot of hunting days still to come and a very docile sheep population. It seems the mountain lions don’t eat sheep, they eat at will from a terrorized deer herd. Arizona Game and Fish thinks that’s healthy. I will not forget the experiences I had high on the ridges talking and looking into the eyes of the bighorns. They must be protected from the scum.

-SABINE KENDALL

Sab’s Stories

Page 33 Earth First! Bread 1992
Oil Drilling on Coastal Plain

Texaco just got the OK from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to drill its first exploratory well on the coastal plain. The site is in the headwaters of Pope's Creek, a few miles upstream of the Rt. 301 bridge on the Potomac that connects southern Maryland with Virginia. Pope's Creek is just 3.5 miles long. It descends a narrow wooded valley as a tiny brook, widens as tributary streams enter from forested side canyons, and passes through a mile of brushy vertical marsh before shifting into the Potomac. Beaver colonies, raccoon, deer, soaring hawks and eagles, testify to the area's isolation from human sprawl. The bottom third of the watershed is mostly classified as a Nontidal Wetland of Special State Concern. Texaco is leasing much of the upper third of the creek.

Besides spills of oil from transporting the oil, the diesel engines powering the drill will run nonstop for 12 weeks, and send a plume of toxic smoke equivalent to that of 5,000 automobiles down the Pope's Creek valley. The effects of this upon the resident Bald Eagles is unknown. Charles County, where the Pope's Creek Valley is located, has already been found by the EPA to be out of compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standard. This wild area doesn't need more bad air.

The pro-oil faction of the DNR has won the first round. It is up to us to come out swinging in the 2nd round! We need to mount a multilayered campaign, using biological, legal, political and psychological tactics. This will require the talents and energies of many people of diverse backgrounds. Whatever ultimately happens to Pope's Creek will happen to dozens of other wild watersheds of the coastal plain. Regardless of your background, you can make a vital difference.

The local public has been made somewhat aware of the issue, and of the opposition through demonstrations, press releases, interviews and noisy attendance at public hearings; media events need to be organized to keep the issue in the public eye. What you can do: In addition to the basic organizing work, administrative appeals need to be written and submitted at once! There are multitudes of appealable points. Contact Ron, (301) 855-4241.

Florida Black Bear in Peril

On Thursday, January 2, 1992, the US Fish and Wildlife Service decided not to designate the Florida black bear as threatened. Thus the hunting of this marvelous creature will continue. HAPPY NEW YEAR!

James W. Pulliam, the Southeast regional director for the US Fish and Wildlife Service, stated that the threatened listing under the Endangered Species Act was "warranted but precluded" because the agency was working to list other species considered in more critical danger.

The Wildlife Service said 150 other species, including the Florida mastiff bat, the Alabama shovel-nosed stingray and the southeastern snowy plover, were considered higher priorities for federal protection than the bear under the agency's ranking system. The agency goes on to state that threats to the population of Florida black bears were moderate to low when compared to other species that are candidates for protection. Granted, these other species are certainly prime for protection, but hey, are they being chased up trees and blasted at by "good ol' hunting' boys" in pursuit of their "God given right?" I think not!

Also the Wildlife Service goes on to state that the Florida black bear ranks lower in priority than other species because it is a subspecies of the wideranging American bear which black is still abundant in some areas. WELL SHIT! Just wipe 'em out in Florida. Then, honey, let's go around. When Florida's black bear is gone just import a few from North Carolina. They won't miss 'em. Gotta keep them hunting' boys happy.

To not slam the Wildlife Service completely, is did, in its infinite wisdom, grant threatened status to the Louisiana black bear, whose population is estimated at 100, although this will still not stop logging in bear habitat.

Gee! If 400 to 600 Florida bears are slaughtered, we can expect a threatened status for them also.

The Fund for Animals has notified the Wildlife Service of its intention to file a lawsuit to force the agency to speed up the listing of species. According to The Fund, 600 to 3600 species warrant listing as threatened or endangered.

The Florida black bear once roamed throughout this state. Now with each year that passes it edges closer to extinction. Its habitat is destroyed daily. It is run over by automobiles. It is hunted down by hounds with guns and dogs. THIS MADNESS MUST STOP!

What you can do: When hunting season opens this spring, get out in the woods of North Florida. Help out the black bear. Save a bear hunt. They'll love you for it.

-MAD HATTER, CANEBRAKE EF!

Pensacola EF!

In Pensacola, we call our group "Earth First." Simple huh? Anyway we started the group last semester sensing the need for something that would demand results in this area of political apathy. We work closely with the Greens and any others who are willing to help, even the Sierra Club, good god! Most of our protests are geared towards the local paper mill's use of chlorine and their discharge into the local waterways. Very bad for the fish. We had some test samples in which male fish were becoming female... hmmm. I don't have many hangups, but sex changes should be reserved for the real wierd species: humans! Anyway, we are planning more CD/demos. In the past, we were able to do fun things to tracks that trains ran on to bring chlorine into the pulp mill. Actions are up- coming.

-CORIN McMULLEN

Canebrake EF!

Says Stop the Slaughter!

Canebrake EF! participated in Fur-Free-Fri day the day after Thanksgiving.

This year's demonstration was held outside Countryside Mall in Clearwater, Florida and although outrage against the fur trade in general is the main idea, our target was Burdine's, a department store that is still under the impression that the wearing of furs of dead, tortured animals is still chic. As usual, Canebrake EF! showed up with a large banner that called for a ban on fur trapping. An estimated 74% of all fur garments are produced from the approximately 34 million fur bearing animals killed annually in the leghold trap. Approximately 5 million more animals, called "trash" by trappers (because they have no economic value), are either crippled or killed by the leghold trap. The leghold trap is banned in more than fifty countries as well as in Florida, Rhode Island, and New Jersey. Representative James Scherer (D-NY) has introduced legislation, HR 1354 which would end the use of the steel-jawed leghold trap in the US, so write your congresspeople and tell them to sign on as sponsors of HR 1354.

-BILL BROOD
Envideos Available

THE CRACKING OF THE GLEN CANYON DAM
On VHS by Earth Image Films, available FREE to Earth First! contacts. We have four copies left, so contact the journal office soon if you want one.

JAMES BAY
If you want a video about the James Bay Hydro-electric project in Quebec, send a blank tape and money for postage to Kurt Nelson, 224 Jive St., Binghamton, NY 13904. They can be used for public education events or your viewing pleasure of impending ecological disasters.

THE PENAN'S LAST STAND
Video footage and slide photos available from the Rainforest Action Network depict the desperate actions by over 500 Penan indigenous people of Sarawak, Malaysia who have been blocking logging roads on their ancestral homeland for over five months. Video footage available on Beta SP includes: building of blockades, community life at the blockades, police confrontation and interviews with native people. Write to RAN, 301 Broadway, San Francisco, CA 94113.

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WASTE of the WEST

Waste of the West by Lynn Jacobs thoroughly explores public lands ranching and its environmental, economic, political, and social impact. 8 1/2" x 11", 602 pages, 4 lbs., more than 1000 photos and graphs. ETC. Why is ranching the West's most destructive influence? What can we do about it? $28 (postpaid)

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The book is an exhaustive, comprehensive and thorough overview of livestock grazing—its past, its present, and what Jacobs would like to see as its future. Although this book could easily substitute for a text book on livestock grazing, Jacobs has a clear, easy-to-read writing style which makes the information accessible to everyone, but particularly to those without special knowledge of range or other resource management issues.

It's clear from the start that ending the domination of the ranching industry over public lands of the West is one of Jacobs' objectives, and he proceeds to provide ample justification for his position. Jacobs makes no bones about how he feels about livestock grazing and ranching, nor does he purport to provide an unbiased and equal treatment of the pros and cons of livestock grazing. Readers should keep this perspective in mind.

However, those who might be inclined to think his book is nothing more than a raging tirade against the perceived evils of livestock grazing would be short-changing the author. He spent more than three years researching the topic and writing Waste of the West. Without exception, his conclusions and observations are based on extensive documentation and well reasoned arguments.

Waste of the West is encyclopedic. In its more than 600 pages, complete with literature citations, are chapters on the history of the livestock industry, a discussion of public lands history with particular reference to livestock use, descriptions of various range ecosystems, range ecology, wildlife and domestic livestock interrelationships with the landscape, and a thorough discussion of the socio-political aspects of livestock grazing in the West and what the author feels are myths and justifications of the livestock industry. In particular those who have heard that Allan Savory and Helictic Resource Management offers a solution to public lands grazing abuses should read Jacobs' penay. The book is attractively laid out, set off with numerous highlighted quotes that are fun to read all by themselves. But in addition, since each chapter stands more or less on its own, it's possible to read individual chapters, and still learn a great deal, and not lose too much of Jacobs' theme.

Finally, the book is wonderfully illustrated with dozens of charts and graphs and over a thousand photos. Just scanning the photos, reading the captions, and reviewing the maps and illustrations would give any reader new insights and a head full of statistics and concepts. Want to know how many acres of land are grazed in the West or how much forage is allotted to public lands grazing would be short-changing the author. He spent more than three years researching the topic and writing Waste of the West.

REVIEWED BY GEORGE WUERTHNER

Lynn Jacobs is a very quiet, gentle, humble person who has a deep affection for the natural world. He does not seem like the kind of person who would try to lead a revolution, but that is just what he may accomplish with the publication of his book, Waste of the West.

Is Jacobs right? Has livestock wasted the West? Read the book and decide for yourself.

This book is for everyone. Those who agree with Jacobs will find plenty of information to defend their positions. Those opposed should read it to know how those committed to ending public lands ranching think. Those undecided or who feel there is a place and need for livestock production on public lands in the West would do well to read this book if for no other reason than to obtain a more balanced perspective to counter the ever-present livestock industry and agency propaganda which purports to show the benefits of livestock grazing and production. Is Jacobs right? Has livestock wasted the West? Read the book and decide for yourself.
The Desert by John C. Van Dyke

Publisher: Gibbs Smith

REVIEWED BY DESI CRATION

Answer quickly. Which came first, Civilization or Wilderness? Right—Civilization. Before Civilization, nobody was smart enough to call rocks and Gila Monsters and black crows anything at all, much less some word with three syllables, like "Wilderness." But John C. Van Dyke enlightened us. He made the American Desert, in the course of one slim book, a wilderness fit for civilized people.

Van Dyke was qualified to write such a book. When he didn’t happen to be wandering through the Mojave desert with only a gallon of water and a shovel to sustain him, he taught art history at Rutgers University, lectured at Harvard, Columbia, Princeton, and wrote forty books, one called Books and How to Use Them (he was also librarian at Sage Library) and another called The Desert. With things like that in his past, it’s hard to see how even the Sierra Club would admit him.

But his book The Desert, first published in 1901, is pointed to by writers from Mary Austin to Edward Abbey as the first and best book ever written about North American deserts. It is easy to see why. His ideas about preservation are hard to criticize: "They are the breathing spaces of the West and should be preserved forever." He hated the Imperial Valley project with a black hatred.

And he moves the art of appreciating the desert into spiritual and esthetic realms to which it had never before, in the minds of white people at least, aspired. He describes a mirage:

Yet its illusiveness adds to, rather than detracts from, its beauty. Rose-colored dreams are always delightful; and the mirage is no more a dream than the golden haze that lies in the canyons at sunset. It is only one of nature’s veilings which she puts on or off capriciously... It is one of the desert’s most charming features because of its strange light and its softly glowing opaline color. And there we have come back again to that beauty in landscape which lies not in the lines of mountain valley and plain, but in the almost formless masses of color and light.

Van Dyke painstakingly, with all the implications of the word, explores the desert. In the course of twelve chapters, he discusses "The Approach," "The Make of the Desert," "[The Bottom of the Bowl]," "Light, Air, and Color," and so on. The book is a collection of war of elements and a struggle for existence going on [in the desert] that for ferocity is unparalleled elsewhere in nature," a struggle which Van Dyke loves and which Van Dyke loves, with all his heart. And he knows that the place is beautiful, too. He climbs a mountain, probably in the Panamint range, and tells his reader not to look down at the desert floor, but to look up. "You have read and heard many times of the ‘deep blue sky.’ It is a stock phrase in narrative romance, but I venture to doubt if you have ever seen one. It is seen only from high points—from just such a place as you are now standing upon. Therefore look up first of all and see a blue sky that is turning to violet below." Only an art professor could have told you this—an art professor who had lived off the land for two years in the Mojave, Sonoran, Chihuahuan, and Great Basin deserts. And only in the early twentieth century could be have such a sky, or such a desert. The sky in the desert has a yellow sulfur dioxide tint to it now, and the desert has been hugely reclaimed.

John C. Van Dyke was a Eastern, college-bred weakling with asthma. But he wandered around in the desert until his asthma went away (and turned into malaria) and then he wandered around some more. He was pretty tough. And intelligent, and as civilized as it is possible to be in 1901. All of which enabled him to say some of the smartest things about the desert that any white person has ever said.

The Desert is the book that made North American deserts accessible to people back in civilization—like us, modern-day Americans who could not possibly walk across them but like to read about them and then maybe drive around some. It’s an important book. Reading it, you may begin to wonder if Van Dyke, with his great love for the desert, could have wanted it to become so important. Those who feel even the faintest stirrings of the desert rat when they smell creosote in the air should read The Desert, but they should be aware of the question it raises: What exactly did our desert gain when Van Dyke taught us to appreciate it as wilderness?

Medicine Wheel for Peg Millet

by Peggy Sue McBride

I'd sing these songs when we demonstrated for the wounded land. Now singing my songs is the only way I can be an activist and spread my message in defense of the wounded Earth. Singing makes me feel good. It's how I pray. Peg Millet peg sang "Forever Wild" as her statement to the court when she was sentenced. Her haunting rendition of this song is on her tape "Gentle Warrior" (available through Earth First!). Her tape is a collection of beautifully sung prayers for the Earth. The tape is dedicated to the Arizona Earth First! Five and the defense team.
Trinkets & Snake Oil

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**Notes:** Ecodefence is temporarily out of stock.
Dave Foreman is in the process of selling his rights to the book, and no copies will be available until the rights are transferred and a new publisher prints an edition.

**Trinket Deals**

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  - ECO! Tools
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1992 Earth First!
Round River Rendezvous
June 28 through July 4
Committed environmental activists are in-
vited to participate in the 12th Earth First! Round
River Rendezvous (RRR). Located this year in
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Whether you come for the whole week or
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Come equipped to camp. A small donation is
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information, contact EFi RRR, PO Box 1166,
Boulder, CO 80306.

1992 RRR Committee Asks for Outreach Help
To help broaden our impact, the Earth First!
movement and the deep ecology-no compromise
message must be expanded. The 1992 RRR Com-
mittee needs you (if you wanna) to spread the EFi
message. So consider sending out the pre-
pared press release on the RRR printed right here
in the journal for your convenience. Tear it out
or photocopy it. Use discretion: send it to people,
organizations, and magazines and newspapers
whose constituency has a hope or a prayer of
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WILLOW RIVER WILDERNESS SCHOOL
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