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# Earth First!

Yule

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December 21, 1996

THE RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL

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## CLEARCUTS BRING KILLER LANDSLIDES

BY FRANCIS EATHERINGTON

I live six miles from Rock Creek, where on November 18 a landslide crashed down a hillside, obliterating the Moon family residence and killing four people. On the same day, a landslide spilled onto Highway 38, pushing a car into the river and killing one woman.

So far this winter, five people have been killed by landslides coming from slopes that had been clearcut. The mudflows came on the heels of massive landslides last February—landslides that came far more often from clearcuts than forested slopes. However, in February, only fish died.

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) claimed the slide on Highway 38 came from land they had tried to buy to protect the highway. It was clearcut instead and killed one person and seriously injured two others. ODOT said forested areas above the highway produced far fewer and less severe landslides. ODOT came right out and proclaimed, "Logging increases the risks of slides."

The Moon family built their house on Rock Creek, near Hubbard Creek, in 1973. They were part of a group which had purchased the land together and called their community Stump Acres. Thirteen years later, in 1986, they discovered that the slopes above their house were to be clearcut. They voiced concern, but the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) began the process of issuing a clearcutting permit to Champion International. An ODF forester kept track of "pre-operation" work hours in a little handwritten diary. On September 3, 1986, the ODF forester wrote that a resident of Stump Acres had stopped by the office and was concerned that, "If the slopes above his house were clearcut, it might result in a slide that could damage structures like the Roseburg



Irresponsible logging practices resulted in this landslide which killed four people. The remains of the house are in the background.

Lumber Company clearcut on Hubbard Creek." He was referring to a 1982 RLC clearcut that collapsed and destroyed a neighbor's house in 1983. In that case, no one was injured and RLC settled by purchasing the property. Despite the concerns of the Stump Acre residents, and despite the fact that

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## Headwaters "Deal" Rejected

BY JOSH BROWN, TIMBER WOLF AND ROBERT PARKER

In the pre-dawn drizzle of October 15, 20 sleep-starved forest defenders moved down deeply cut skid trails in All Species Grove in the Headwaters Forest complex of northern California. On the advice of their 23 jailed comrades who had shut down salvage operations the week before, the group aimed to locate and lock to logging equipment before the crews arrived. For over a week Pacific Lumber, under the guise of "forest health," had been ripping ancient redwoods from the forest floor. What had been an intact, old-growth grove was now having its future dug out from beneath it.

Upon reaching the main haul road, it was only a half mile further to the landing where the equipment resided. Reconnaissance had established that only one security guard watched over the death machines.

At 5:20 am, they rounded the last corner and approached the loader and two CATs. The startled security guard, switching on his headlights, illuminated the log deck. Six people, including an ex-logger ("Biggest tree I've ever cut was a twelve-foot redwood"), were now able to see what they were locking to and try out different positions for comfort and dryness. Meanwhile, support worked to calm the near hysterical security guard, who was screaming, "I've been waiting all summer to beat the \$#+ out of you scumbags!" Several battered peace keepers were lucky to escape with only bumps and bruises.

The action succeeded in stopping operations for five hours and added 13 to the over 1,300 people arrested for Headwaters since September.

The recent deal brokered by California Senator Dianne Feinstein, Clinton Compromiser John Garamendi and Corporate Criminal Charles Hurwitz does not protect Headwaters Forest and left four of the ancient groves open to continued plunder. The deal also gives Hurwitz a mind-boggling \$380 million in properties and cash in exchange for the main Headwaters Grove, the smaller but murrelet-rich Elkhead Springs Grove and surrounding forest (some already clearcut) for a total of 7,500 acres. Taxpayers and enviros, who were in no way represented at the negotiations, will owe Charles over \$50,000 an acre! The goal of saving all 60,000 acres and all six ancient groves was sold down the (silt-laden, salmonless) river.

With politicians failing us again, Pacific Lumber began logging on October 8. Any hopes of legal relief were dashed in an Environmental Protection Information Center case before the California Board of Forestry. The Board, though voting in a majority to stop Pacific Lumber's salvage operations, "due to the threat

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## FBI Lawsuit Lurches Forward

BY JUDI BARI

After years of pre-trial wrangling, *Bari vs. Held*, our lawsuit against the FBI and Oakland Police Department (OPD) for their handling of the 1990 car bombing, may finally be moving towards a trial. On November 22, in a hearing in Federal Court in Oakland, California Judge Claudia Wilken ordered the FBI and the Oakland Police Department to consolidate their motions for dismissal. The ruling should severely limit procedural foot-dragging by the FBI and OPD, and could take years off the trial's duration.

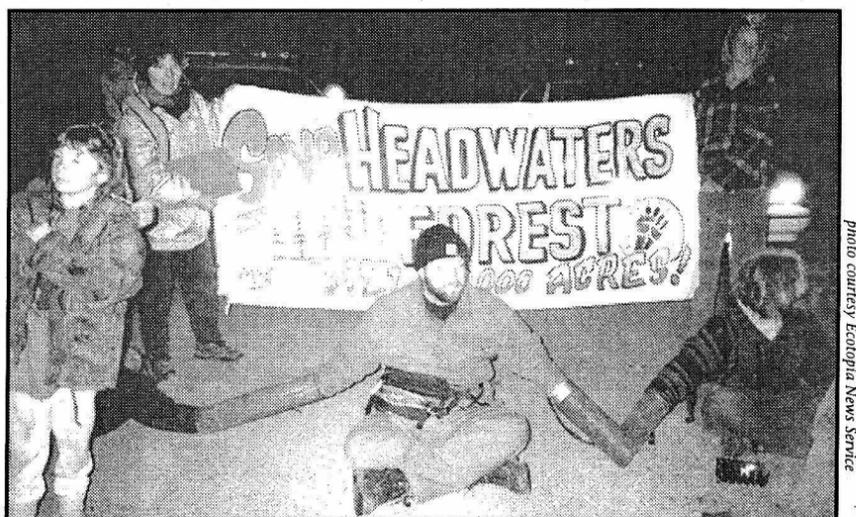
The lawsuit charges the FBI and OPD with civil rights violations including false arrest, illegal search and seizure, denial of equal protection of the law and violation of First Amendment rights. We claim that they knew perfectly well that we were the victims, not the perpetrators, of the bomb that exploded under my car seat on May 24, 1990, as we were organizing for Earth First! Redwood Summer. Yet, they arrested Darryl and me for the bombing and conducted a smear campaign against us in the press in order to discredit us as terrorists and neutralize Earth First!

The hearing on November 22 stemmed from the FBI's fourth attempt to have the case dismissed without a full trial. This time they made a motion asking the judge to dismiss just our claims about the illegal searches. In briefs we filed for the hearing, we noted attempts by the FBI and OPD to delay the trial with endless procedural motions to dismiss the case. The FBI has bragged that they will make the trial last 20 years. Judge Wilken quashed this tactic at the hearing, however, and gave the FBI and OPD 20 days in which to return to the court with all motions to dismiss they wish to present.

Judge Wilken's order to consolidate motions was a procedural victory, but we still have one major hurdle to clear before a full jury trial: a hearing in which Judge Wilken decides whether there is enough evidence to support our charges. Fortunately, our evidence is so strong that it is hard to see how we could lose. For the past three-and-a-half years, this lawsuit has been in the "discovery" phase, during which we have won access to 7,000 pages of FBI and police files, viewed the physical evidence and compiled 6,000 pages of sworn testimony from the FBI, OPD, and other witnesses.

This evidence proves that the FBI and OPD knowingly lied when they arrested us for the bombing.

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Lockdown on Fisher Road, October 30

Photo courtesy Ecotopia News Service

# EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH

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## Why not talk to the FBI?, Or... Burgers, Burnings and the BATF

In the early morning hours of October 27, someone set fire to a US Forest Service pickup parked at the Detroit Ranger District office near Detroit, Oregon. They also vandalized four other pickups and left behind spray-painted slogans including, "STOP RAPING OUR FOREST USFS" and "EARTH LIBERATION FRONT." Two days later an unburned incendiary device was found on top of the same District office, and the Oakridge Ranger District office, 70 miles south near Warner Creek, was completely burnt to the ground.

Immediately following the first fire, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF) and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) were in the area to investigate "Eco-terrorism." (This means the FBI was in the area when the Oakridge RD was torched. How did someone get an incendiary device on top of the Detroit RD with the FBI snooping around? Or, why did it take the FBI and the BATF two days to find an incendiary device on the roof of a federal building they were in???)

The FBI and the BATF have been asking a lot of questions of a lot of people. First, they questioned Forest Service employees who work in the area. Next, they questioned the residents of Oakridge. Then, they questioned two Earth First!ers in northern California and two local environmentalists here in Eugene. Gentlemen wearing BATF jackets have been seen chomping burgers at our local greasy spoon, and there is a camera in the window across the street pointed straight at our friends' door. Most recently, enviros from Portland and Salem were questioned by Department of Agriculture special agents regarding their whereabouts and statements that they made which were covertly recorded at recent demonstrations.

The two Earth First!ers the FBI grabbed a month ago at the Eureka courthouse were doing jail support for Headwaters defenders. Two sheriffs approached and "escorted" (one on each arm) the EF!ers to a room to be questioned separately by two FBI agents. In both cases, the EF!ers answered some questions about their activities, beliefs and whereabouts on the night of the arson.

What worries me is not that the FBI and the BATF are snooping around town making people nervous—that is what they do, after all, and we have nothing to hide. No, what worries me is that there are still people out there who don't know NOT to talk to the FBI (or the BATF, CIA, IRS, police, etc...). After all the disruption and harassment they have caused Earth First! and other movements, it really surprises me that people will still talk to them and fall for their seemingly innocent line of questions. (If you haven't already, read *War at Home* and *Agents of Repression*.)

In talking this around with folks, there seems to be two reasons given why it might be okay to talk to the FBI. The most common reason people talk to the FBI is because they ARE innocent, and they just want to get the FBI "off their backs." However, if you talk to them once, they are MORE likely to think you will talk again. Also, "innocent" informa-

tion given to them indicates you are *willing* to talk, and the information you give them can (and will) be used against you and other people you talk about.

The other reason I have heard for talking to the FBI is to cooperate on "legitimate" investigations. The FBI rarely does anything legitimate. What about investigating the militia and right-wing thugs, you say? If it wasn't for the media fallout after the Oklahoma City bombing, the FBI wouldn't be doing anything but hanging out at the shooting range with the militia.

No, there's hardly anything legitimate about the FBI. So why *do* people talk to them? I think it's because people in the US had it ingrained in them that the police are their friends, especially when they're innocent. For example: When a crime is committed, who do you think to call? When your life is in danger or you find yourself in a bad neighborhood, don't you wish a cop would drive by? This programming, which began at an early age through TV and PR is hard to break, but it is this myth that must be dispelled if we are ever to live without police oppression. With their track record of racism, brutality and intimidation, we can't afford to continue to empower government thugs with our belief that they are helping us in any way. We need to "police" ourselves.

THE POLICE ARE NOT OUR FRIENDS. There, I've said it. You've probably heard it before, but I think we need to *say* it, again and again. Let it become our mantra. I envision a world where the FBI knows that when they approach EF!ers, enviros, activists, (heck, anybody, for that matter) they will be treated with distrust and silence.

Don't lie to them. Don't think you can "outsmart them" or just have a casual conversation with them. They are trained professionals, and they *will* make mountains out of your molehills and see through your screens.

What we need is to make a shift in consciousness. Whenever you consider any actions by the FBI, BATF, CIA, other government "intelligence" or law enforcement agencies, don't speculate on what they are investigating. Just remember that their primary directive is to disrupt political movements. That is what they do, that is what they are all about.

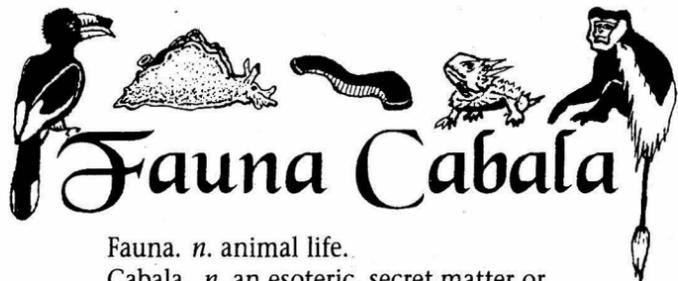
Just remember your mantra. Repeat after me: THE POLICE ARE NOT MY FRIENDS.

—JIM FLYNN

## Editor's Notes...

We would like to welcome Lacey Phillabaum to the long-term editorial staff. Lacey comes to us with strong journalistic skills and lots of front-line activism experience. We still need another long-term editor, however. So, if you have good editing skills, work well in a tight affinity group, and love the smell of newsprint, contact us right away.

**CORRECTIONS:** For the last four issues, our cataloging number has been incorrect. The November issue is always No. I, not No. VIII, which makes this issue Vol. XVII, No. II. Also, last issue we failed to give credit to the artist of the woodcut print on page 27, Suzanne DeJohn.



Fauna. *n.* animal life.

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

The avian bell miner (*Manorina melanophrys*) is a psyllid lerp connoisseur. An aggressive green honey-eater, it inhabits the upper canopy of southeastern Australia's eucalypt forests and defends its colonial territories from competing bird species. A large part of the bell miner's diet consists of lerps. Lerps are carbohydrate coverings secreted from the bodies of psyllid bugs (*Homoptera: Psyllidae*). They are derived from the sugary contents of leaves and provide the

little bugs protection from ants. A bell miner will delicately remove and eat a lerp—usually refraining from consuming its producer, even though psyllid bugs tend to have an equally high caloric value. The psyllid will then grow a new lerp in a day or two, to be plucked off by a bell miner again. In turn, psyllids are defended by bell miners from bird species that eat them. Psyllid populations thrive where accompanied by bell miners, while the eucalyptus trees suffer from sugar depletion. A colony of bell miners can inhabit the same territory for over 40 years. When, for whatever reason, a colony leaves, the psyllid population plummets as bird species that dine on them invade the area. Thus, this set of relationships is defined by mutualism, interspecific territoriality, and as one biologist noted, not eating the psyllid who lays the golden lerp.

BY FAITH WALKER

## Earth First! Journal

Yule

December 21, 1996

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

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

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### SCHEDULE

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January 13

# Renewing the Soul of the Environment

Why is the environmental protection movement, comprised of so many impassioned defenders, faced with such a rugged battle? The answer lies beyond the world of progressive politics, in the pervading society of egoism, selfishness and materialism that has fostered this culture of mutual distrust and a breakdown of solidarity and community that allows corporations to move around the globe and exploit people and our planet.

This ethos of self-centeredness has permeated every crevice of our civilization. It has eroded our alliances with others, so we are less ready than we would have been a century ago to take a stand for fellow underpaid workers. Selfishness and egoism are strangling our planet, leading corporations to consider environmental degradation only an unfortunate side effect of profit-making. The long-term result of this cynical materialism is that we care about fewer and fewer people and things, as our market society replaces the spiritual societies of times past. Our communities and our communion with the earth are decaying in a society that upholds the individual and individual rights over the common good, an egoism that is bringing about our demise.

It is hard to teach an ethos of responsibility when the most powerful entities in our society encourage self-interest. The example set forth is that it is okay to exploit living people, future generations and the planet for the sake of material gain. We all know corporate interests control politics and that no serious pro-environmental legislation receives support. But how can we explain the complacency of so many Americans in the face of the overwhelming evidence of environmental degradation? Why are so many in denial of this crisis? We are a society of people whose spiritual needs aren't being met, in which many feel terrible about themselves and their lives. It is understandable that people who haven't seized control of their personal lives don't feel able to tackle our staggering ecological dilemma. When a clear majority of Americans claim that they *do* support environmental concerns, how can we explain the inactivity that we all see around us every day?

As a movement we pour a lot of energy into piecemeal victories for our planet, rather than focusing on the underlying cultural crisis we have been steeping in for the larger part of two centuries. Mind you, the efforts made by our siblings through direct action, civil disobedience and within the system, as well, are not to be discounted. There are many courageous, dedicated people in the trenches who fight this war on its ugliest front. My appeal, however, is that we also rethink our approach to environmental protection and spend more time, energy and resources nurturing our spiritual and cultural relationship with the earth and each other.

It is time to generate alternatives to living in the painfully materialistic and selfish society that faces many Americans. The observation alone that an ever-increasing number of people are visiting our nation's parks upholds the claim that it is human nature to behold the world with awe and wonder, not degrade it.

The political Right increases its appeal by adopting the issues of spirituality, community and connection to a higher meaning (though the economic policies they uphold in the name of the rich and powerful accomplish the opposite). But we can't let the Right co-opt and define the search for spirituality. Personally, I derive passion for the natural world from my connection to it and the spiritual energy that surges throughout the universe. I suspect that many other defenders of the earth feel similarly. Let people in search of higher meaning find it expressed within our movement. If you also feel that the earth is a holy creation and eternally precious, warranting our deference, put aside the technocratic and scientific theories upon which so much of the environmental movement relies, and focus awhile on the spiritual and ethical issues at the root of the crisis at hand. Many people have begun to address these aspects through renewed spirituality and holism; but these are seldom seen as being expressions of a new way to view the world and instead seem like isolated expressions of compassion. Let's *articulate* the spiritual reasons we defend the earth and all its inhabitants, for the love of nature or the love of God.

The environmental crisis is directly connected to the spiritual impoverishment we experience in today's world. But as awareness of spiritual connection increases, self-interest and greed decrease. People would not accommodate materialism and self-centeredness if they believed their desire for a more meaningful communion to each other and to the natural world could be fulfilled. In a world of loneliness and disconnection that values wealth and might above all else, and does not credit people as being holy manifestations of a higher force, it is understandable that many people feel they don't have time or energy to protect the environment. Keep in mind that selfishness and egoism are only the dominant trend, not human nature or the absolute rule; it hasn't always been this way. No amount of legislation passed or lawsuits won can address the underlying absence of meaning and connection in our society. People will only listen for so long to the needs of our planet and its most oppressed inhabitants before they turn a deaf ear to rhetoric that doesn't clearly outline a connection to their needs.

But even in the plushiest of circumstances, "successful" individuals in this society are not free to experience much genuine pleasure. They spend hours fighting highway traffic, unable to smell the proverbial roses, looking out for themselves and suppressing natural desires to show love and compassion. They return to their plywood box homes too exhausted to spend time with their loved ones and fall supine in the glow of the television's inculcation. Corporations spend billions convincing us that we need more material goods than we really do, so we engage in this cycle, and our days melt into weeks, then months and years.

Similar thoughts are developed more thoroughly by Michael Lerner in *The Politics of Meaning*, as well as by other authors. The focus is to recruit people to our ranks with the dialogue of meaning and communion, because unless we confront this epidemic of meaninglessness that transcends politics and economics, we will go the way of liberalism in this country and become yet another political relic that neglected the most profound needs of the very people it was trying to attract.

—AYELET HINES



## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Friends:

The *Earth First! Journal* is becoming, in my view, an ever more important publication to our culture of resistance. In its own unique style, or mix of styles, *EF!J* now provides not only vital news of local struggles but, increasingly, airs discussion of tactics and analysis of the totality we confront.

Despite an antipathy to analysis on the part of some, I think it is as essential as information about particular sites of struggle. After all, how we see the whole—whether this outlook is consciously examined or not—has a bearing on what we decide is worth doing and what we may see as actually serving to reform or reinforce a malignant system in the guise of resistance to it.

Thanks for a strong issue, especially the excellent, thought-provoking insert from Black & Green!

—JOHN ZERZAN

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Rod Coronado's piece was very eloquent, he showed great courage and grace and being Indian I took personal pride in his acceptance of his plight... we all understand his sacrifice, but he is the one who wakes up behind

bars each morning. At Sundance in '97 I will remember Rod as I do my family, my grandfather, my ancestors.

—ROY BLACKHORSE  
(QUOHADA COMANCHE)

Editors:

This letter is written on behalf of KOA. Kampgrounds (Kampgrounds of America). KOA has become aware that a piece run in your November 1, 1996, newspaper, "Earth First! Meet Move," in the section titled "Black and Green," scurrilously and maliciously used the letter K to represent and symbolize racism and fascism through creative spelling, to wit: "Amerikkka," "kourt," "kops," and "konstitution." We find it both juvenile and offensive that your use of the letter K implies such dark and evil ideologies in contrast to the lighthearted and breezy intent of KOA. We understand that your organization, like KOA, promotes recreation in the great outdoors. However, we believe that your continued use of the letter K in a negative fashion both harms and slanders KOA. KOA Kampgrounds requests a published apology and demands that this slanderous use cease immediately or we will

have no choice but to pursue legal action.

Sincerely,

—CAL M. NEADER  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

Dear SLAPP SUIT for brains:

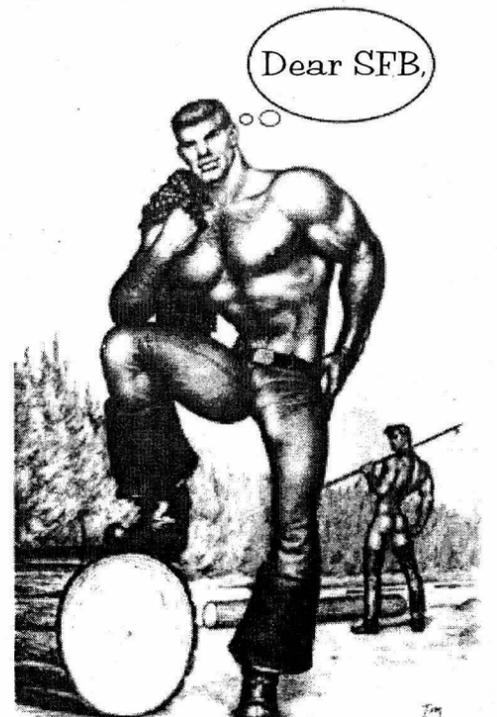
A judge in Grangeville, ID just awarded Highland Enterprises, a road building company, about two million dollars, divided among a number of people, in the infamous Cove/Mallard lawsuit. The people who defaulted on the lawsuit, many of whom are exceedingly difficult to find, have had judgments entered against them of \$233,000 each. They should know that this is, in a way, a bit of a victory, because judgments under \$250,000 can be removed in bankruptcy. However, interest is accruing right now and the \$250,000 figure will be reached in just a few more months, so they must act quickly. Also, any debts they may have currently will be added to the \$233,000. After the 250k figure is reached, there is nothing to help you and the judgment will remain for life. Highland has indicated it will go after inheritances and any money or property defendants may acquire years from now. I would advise all victims of this lawsuit to seek

the services of a top-notch bankruptcy attorney RIGHT NOW.

—TRYNA HELP

Editors:

I just wanted to write a brief note regarding the inclusion of MOVE prisoners in your "jailed activists" section and Janine Africa's inclusion in the "Wolves and Poodles" section. As a resident of Philadelphia, I am relatively familiar with the MOVE organization. I am baffled and concerned as to how they have made it into the *Earth First! Journal*. They are not an environmental, conservation or animal rights organization. They would be most appropriately described as a political cult. I know of absolutely no constructive activities that have been initiated by the MOVE organization, in terms of raising environmental consciousness and/or improving government policies in the city of Philadelphia. To the contrary, they terrorized their neighborhood and they stock-



piled weapons. They were more like an urban David Koresh organization than anything. Regardless of the incredible mishandling of the situation, the police bombing, etc., MOVE was just a group of unprincipled lunatics who espoused (and continue to espouse) a bizarre, unintelligible set of beliefs. Allowing MOVE to use the *Earth First! Journal* as a vehicle for their propaganda machine sets a dangerous precedent.

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# Road Project Sparks Spectacular Protest in Germany You Can't Cut Down Our Spirit!

BY KIRSHA AND LU

In October, 50 German anti-road activists squatted several trees and kicked off what turned out to be the most spectacular anti-road action in Germany so far. After nine days of growing villages both in the trees and on the ground, the resistance camp was evicted by 2,500 police in a ten-hour marathon. The protesters' action was strongly supported by many citizens who now join in regular demonstrations and other actions.

## The Road

The protests were directed against the construction of the highly controversial, four-lane B31. This road is supposed to be the first part of an east-west transport north of the Alps. The Freiburg mayor sells the road as a simple remedy to traffic jams in Freiburg East. The population is split over the issue. The anti-road activists recognize the chaotic traffic situation in Freiburg East but promote alternative solutions to reduce traffic.

## The Action

"Oh, it seems like we are—hmmmm—a little too late this time," said the police officer looking up on a Sunday morning in October. Above him several platforms dangled about 15 m (50 feet) above the ground in five of the 200-year-old oak trees in a huge grove of oaks to be cut down for the road. Next to the platforms, activists were busy finalizing the construction and connecting the trees.

During the first day of the action, a base camp was set up on the ground with a mobile kitchen, information pavilion and several tents and huts. High above this busy scene, under the eyes and cameras of the stunned police, the climbers constantly worked in the pouring rain.

A week later they had built a complete hanging village in the tree-tops with a computer platform, rope connections between the trees and a "sky-chair" to pull up photographers and camera people. The climbers also hung a huge circus net between four of the trees. Musicians, poets and acrobats entertained the crowds of people that came to the park. Children played all over the place. On the ground someone was always busy talking to people.

After nine days, the eviction came. The police used cherry pickers to put climbers (Swiss professionals) into the tree tops, where they started chasing the activists. One of the last protesters was brought down when the police cut the tree in which he was sitting.

## The Impact

With the spectacular nonviolent protest, the activists have stirred up the debate about the B31 at a time when many people had already given up. Press reactions were in almost all the national newspapers, often discrediting the so-called eco-capital Freiburg. The protest's absolute peacefulness impressed everyone, including the police. It has strongly remotivated the local anti-road campaigners, who have been fighting this road for years.

The experience of living in the trees has strongly influenced the activists on a personal level and made quite a lot of them question their lifestyle choices.

Although the logging of the park had been hard to accept, the spirit of the activists remains unbroken. The logging has actually led to growing anger and support for the protesters among the people of Freiburg. Weekly demonstrations, cultural activities and church services are taking place. Many crazy ideas are yet to be realized.

The activists' strategy is clear: We are going to make the construction of this road as difficult and as expensive as possible!

It will help us if you send a postcard, especially from countries other than Germany. This will show international support! Boemische Doerfer GmbH, Konrad-Guenther-Park, 79117 Freiburg, Germany, e-mail tree-camp@3landbox.comlink.apc.org; <http://mach2.faveve.uni-Stuttgart.de/greenpeace/F/baumhaeuser.ht>.

## Village Life

*The following is the diary of a tree-sitter from the Freiburg action. It is a compelling narrative about the innovative strategies of the Germans and a beautiful summation of the universal appeal of living in a tree.*

### October 20

Early Sunday morning 50 environmentalists squat the park. Experienced climbers go up the trees in complete darkness and start fixing the ropes. We pull up platforms, water and food. Everything goes very fast. Before it gets really light, we start pulling up the first people—activists like me, who aren't particularly experienced in climbing. We had been training before, of course, but I'm afraid. It's starting to rain.

Then the police come. I have no time to be afraid anymore. I have to concentrate on the ropes and what I am doing. Alamudin, our climbing guru, is next to me and that's calming me down.

### October 22

Third day of the camp. The weather is beautiful, blue sky and bright sunshine. I stayed up late last night, listening to music at the campfire—soul medicine. Many people are up in the trees today, fixing the platforms, installing more ropes, etc. They are laughing and joking. I climb up to fix another banner and take photos. I am not afraid anymore. Climbing is totally great; I love it. And it's just a great view up here. People are building a tent on our biggest platform. Later we will have a computer there. Many people visit us in the park. Most of them really like our action. People who live nearby let us use their taps and showers, others bring cake and coffee, quite a few spontaneously donate money. All kinds of different people come to the park: old ladies, parents with children and young people.

A 60-year-old man comes and tells us of previous activities to protect the park. "If I were young, I would go up there, too," he exclaims. He gives us a mandate to protect these trees for him. "And if they try to cut down this tree, I will maybe still come and sit in front of it."

### October 23—Tree magic

Fourth day of camp. It's a beautiful evening, the sun is setting, no clouds. The moon is almost full. As I climb up slowly, the night is falling. It is dark and quiet all around. The moon is rising, the light is silver-blue. The dark branches and leaves are all around me. I reach the platform. Alamudin shows me how to fix my rope system in the tree and how to move on the platform. It is a magical night. Below us the camp is meeting and discussing something. Sometimes we hear sentences or laughter. We are just sitting in the mighty tree and enjoying the night. After a while I get used to the height and dare to move more freely. When it gets too cold, we take out our sleeping bags and lie down. A pile of rope is my pillow and the sky is my tent. About 20m (66 feet) above the ground, I fall asleep.

### October 29—The eviction

At 4 am the alarm goes off. Somebody shouts: "They are coming and they are very many!" Suddenly people are all over the place, running and shouting. Fires are lit on the ground and the additional climbers go up the trees in the rain. People are gathering quickly and quietly around the trees. The wind is howling and it's raining. I am glad I put on my waterproof trousers. Big vehicles are moving into the park, spotlights are shining. Then the park is surrounded and closed by police; no one is allowed to get in anymore. Roman comes down to our platform. He squeezes over to Michel and me. The three of us are a team. "Now I am afraid," he says. The night had been stormy and with two people per 70 cm wide platform we did not get too much sleep. We know that they will not start picking us out of the trees until it gets light.



Probably it will still take several hours until they have removed all the people on the ground. The weather is bad and the ropes are wet, which makes climbing more difficult.

"The weather is our ally," Roman says, "We are used to climbing in the trees, they will be more afraid than we are." I hope so. The three of us cuddle up together and try to relax.

About 700 protesters have to stay outside. As the day proceeds, the number grows. The activists in the park handcuff themselves around the trees, which causes the police problems. Under police eyes, the activists in the trees pull up their breakfast (spaghetti with garlic). First the blockaders on the ground are removed, but they keep singing. "Stop the road" is the answer in the park to the "Stay—Hold on," from outside. It's absolutely peaceful; there is no chaos. Behind the ring of police, other people are gathering. "Stay up there! Stay up there!" they shout. We shout: "How many are you?" They answer: "We are many!" We hear that some of our friends in town have blocked one of the main roads into the area.

The spirit is great. It has stopped raining, but the wind is still blowing like hell. Below us the musicians are singing as if their lives were at stake. People are feeding those chained to the trees. Somebody says, "This is the greatest party I've ever had!"

The police move closer. People are chanting, "Let the trees live." The singing is so loud that it is almost impossible to hear the police megaphone. Somebody offers a candle to the head police officer. He takes it and it reminds him of our peacefulness. More people come together with a camera team and offer the police candles. They take them and look embarrassed, not really knowing what to do with them. Right this moment, the sun comes up. I feel that it is right, what I am doing here.

The singing goes on for another half an hour or so. Nobody from the police will carry us away. They just can't. The symbol is so strong. Finally they get units from outside who have not heard the chanting. They start carrying away the first people.

You can't cut down our spirit!

# THE STRANGE AND WONDERFUL TALE OF HOW I GOT 11 MILLION DOLLARS RICHER IN JUST ONE SINGLE DAY

BY ERIK RYBERG

Grangeville, Idaho is an ugly, dark, little farm town teeming with cheap dinginess and violent failure. It is the sort of town many people are proud to live in because they think it is a frontier town and that merely by living there they are civilizing the wilderness, and they like that. It is a town built more on image than Hollywood ever was, a town built and populated by people whose entire identities are tied up with being John Wayne or John Wayne's wife.

Every so often, when I forget why I drink, I pay a visit to Grangeville in order to catch up on things. Recently I spent three whole weeks there, on account of a man named Don Blewett suing a bunch of my friends and me for 12 million dollars, if you can believe that.

He made a whole lot of wild allegations during the course of the proceedings, nearly all of them true, but none that I could tell was worth 12 million dollars. His main theme was that my friends and I are a bunch of dirtbags who don't care for logging, so we tried like crazy to tie up his roadbuilding operation, and so we should kindly hand over the cash and get on out of town.

Don is a big man, a hulking thing who has eaten, in my opinion, more than his share of double bacon cheeseburgers and has logged plentiful hours on the Barcalounger. I mention this because there isn't much more to say about Don, other than that he is a vindictive and greedy man who will go to hell when he dies. The only thing that animated him much was when he got to talk about money, which fortunately for him was kind of often in these circumstances.

When Don took the stand and his brother Ron, acting in no persuasive capacity as his attorney, questioned him regarding money, Don positively brightened. Do you know how those poor kids you used to beat up in second grade because they were really fat and their pants were too tight used to get all sweaty and rub their hands together and their pupils would get small and their mouths kind of move around when the subject of lunch hour would come up? That is how it was with Don when he got to discuss his profits. He would hunch over in his seat, lick his lips, rub his hands together and just generally resemble somebody you probably read about in a Charles Dickens novel.

His brother Ron would wax on and on about the terrible losses suffered at the hands of five people who had chained themselves to a gate one morning in the summer of 1993 and how we were all just lucky nobody had been killed. Don would sit there forlorn, recalling the profits forever gone, the potential shopping irrevocably lost. That people could do such a thing to him was an affront to everything decent and surely an insult to God Himself.

Don would grow sad and his head would droop, pondering the many things at the Wal-Mart those demonstrators prevented him from buying. But then Ron's tale would take a turn, the theme would change, and he would begin a narrative characterized by attention to profit. Don would raise his head, scenting—was it true? Yes! Oh yes, yes—

profit, oh how he loved to make profit and talk about profit. Why, once he made close to a hundred grand on a logging project in Montana, and did he remember to mention the real estate business he has on the side? A very profitable one, too.

Our own fortunes diminished with every tale. A grim jury of my peers leveled its gaze at me, often the sole representative of the loathsome dirtbags who brought all this shame to Grangeville, every time a new revelation of our wrongdoings was brought to light, which was often.

The judge, a mysterious admixture of Michael J. Fox and the judge on Night Court, was a fabulous lesson in the Dada School of Judicial Conduct.

His mouth went all the way around his head, even back to where his hair was, and there were teeth in the whole entire thing. His mouth was the feature he liked to show off the most; and he could make every single shape with it, except for those shapes which are taller than they are wide, because width of mouth was his strong point. And when he spoke he would put long, long pauses in just the strangest places along the sentence, big unlikely gaps of dead air hanging around wreaking total havoc with his articulations.

He bore no particular ill-will to us other than that we were weak and hated and clearly the party to side against, which he made no hesitation in doing. My very favorite part of the trial was when he ruled that the sound on a video tape to be played for the jury was, for mysterious legal reasons, not admissible in court. Our admirable team of lawyers argued quite lucidly, I thought, that the rational thing to do would be to show the video with the sound turned off. This would require that the person running the tape would have to reach her hand up approximately twelve inches from the "play" button and rotate the "sound" knob about 180 degrees in a counterclockwise fashion, and so, involved an extra step in the whole video procedure.

Apparently this was too much for the judge. He ruled against our lawyers, stating that it was much more prudent merely to ask the jury not to listen to the sound as it echoed its way at full volume through their eardrums. Our lawyers, thereupon, retired to a private corner of the courtroom and began to weep quietly, but it was alright because you couldn't hear them over the sound of the sheriff on the tape explaining to the camera that we were all a bunch of no good guilty criminals bent on destroying the lives and children of all the good people of Grangeville, so it was alright.

Anyway, the whole trial was pretty much like

that, only not quite so fascinating, and I just can't find a reason to go into it much. In the end we lost. The jury voted 9-3 to find us liable for about a million dollars, give or take a hundred and fifty grand, and 11-1 to find us liable at all. What that means is that one person didn't much like the idea of us paying Don Blewett anything for the rest of our lives and two others didn't much like the idea of us paying him a million dollars, but all the others thought the idea was just fabulous.

My own attorney fairly danced a jig in the courtroom when the judgment was read, much to the consternation of the jurors. I didn't really care much one way or the other and was busy

just trying to remember how many zeroes there are in a million, so my notes would be right. Anyway, my attorney had begun to sweat a little bit when that 12 million figure was brought up. A lawyer, apparently, does not like to lose 12 million of his client's dollars. But when the judgment came along and it was only a million, he explained to me that I was 11 million dollars richer than I probably deserved to be, given my fatal mistake of running afoul of anyone who lived in or near Grangeville and was associated with destroying the earth. He then naturally credited himself with making that 11 million for me himself, and if it makes him feel better, I don't begrudge him the reasoning.

Actually, I want to make something perfectly clear about this:

our lawyers gave up a lot to pull our collective asses out of the sling. We had the good fortune to land three excellent and dedicated attorneys who endured no small amount of personal sacrifice to spend three weeks, unpaid, in Grangeville, Idaho so that we could mount a defense that was extremely costly to the opposition. Our theory from the beginning was that we didn't have a chance in the world of prevailing until appeal, so the object was to put up enough of a fight that Blewett and his moron friends the world over wouldn't get overly attached to this sort of thing.

It's the same strategy that brought Napoleon down, and it has the unholy name of the "scorched earth retreat," whereby you leave nothing for your enemies to feast upon after they've run you over, in the hopes they'll soon go away and you can get back to your life. It is my belief that this unappealing strategy mostly worked, but it would not have worked had we not had the attorneys we did to make life difficult and costly for Blewett. He believed that this would be easy, and thanks to our legal team, it was not.

All of the defendants, including those who were found in "default" for one reason or another, may file for bankruptcy, because our attorneys reduced the final judgment to a figure which is dischargeable in bankruptcy court (amounts over \$250,000 are not dischargeable). Those who were defaulted got judgments of \$233,000 dollars each, for complicated reasons which are lacking justice.

Blewett told the *New York Times* that he would pursue collections indefinitely, and he has immense power to do so. Any defendants who do not declare bankruptcy will be vulnerable to his gaping, greedy maw forever and will have little or no recourse when he comes to collect.

All in all it was a pretty good three weeks. I give it two and a half stars, at least. The judge's amazing mouth was a big draw, and the scenes where Don got to talk were really excellent. The food was the foulest, most God-awful, loathsome stuff you'd ever find outside the Graham County Jail, and the lighting was bad. But for an educational event, I found it quite useful. A little too long, maybe, and overpriced, but useful nonetheless.



## FEDERAL COURT CONVICTS SQUATTERS

BY SHOELESS

Following the most spectacular road blockade of the Cove/Mallard campaign, the trial of the Filthy Five has finally concluded. [See *Jack Squat in August and September EF!* 1996.]

At the trial, the defendants sat quietly while their names were dragged through the horse apples and bureaucrat after bureaucrat took the stand and gave woefully inaccurate accounts of what happened on Jack Road on August 7, 1996. Included in these inaccurate accounts was a stone-faced denial from Jill Barnett (Freddie Law Enforcement Officer) of a tripod plummeting 10 feet to the roadbed and landing on top of an activist's head. This information was also mysteriously missing from the video account provided by the sheriff department's video

specialist, who is evidently not familiar enough with his own camera to keep his wool-mittened thumb off the pause button at critical moments.

Testimony from Forest Service Special Agent Mike Merkley and a deputy US Marshal (present at the raid wearing camo and armed with an AR-15) revealed that the raid on August 7 had been planned at least 20 days in advance. The Forest Supervisor testified that the final decision to issue the closure order had not been made until August 6. In spite of this obvious inconsistency, the judge found that there was no evidence of prior action on the part of the Forest Service.

As expected, the defendants were found guilty on all counts, and are scheduled to be sentenced on January 22, 1997. Their ride on the Idaho Federal Railroad has thus concluded—for the time being...

# The Burning Mystery of the Oakridge Ranger Station

BY MICK GARVIN

Did elves visit two Freddie facilities in the Willamette National Forest, deep in the heart of Cascadia? Or was it a COINTELPRO-style set-up, designed to weaken the ties between mainstream and radical enviros and snuff the widespread public support that Earth First! and Cascadia Forest Defenders have enjoyed in their fight for truth, justice, and Northwestern wildlands? Whichever, a truck at the Detroit Ranger Station took a great, flaming leap toward boat-anchor status in the wee hours of October 28. The perpetrators spray-painted mystical runes on the premises—an anarchy sign and ELF (an allusion to the Earth Liberation Front). The cheap aluminum body had scarcely cooled when 90 miles to the south, on October 30, the Oakridge Ranger Station was burned. The station and all its contents, including the data for the Research Natural Area proposal for Warner Creek, was heat, smoke or ash. (Oakridge, for the info-impaired, is the Ranger District that Warner Creek lies in, as well as the town nearest the old blockade site.)

Fire trucks were still hosing things down when faxes from Barry Clausen (our favorite wish'dhewas) about Earth First! and Earth Liberation Front (and Sea Shepherds and Greenpeace...) were hitting the press. BATF, FBI, NBC, AP, KVAL—everybody who was anybody came by to investigate, pontificate, eulogize and deplore. In an attempt to prove the enviro-community was as innocent and properly outraged as any other right-thinking hominid, Oregon Natural Resources Council and the Sierra Club actually outdid the federal government and the timber industry in offering a reward for the arsonist(s). In fact, the offer preceded the finding of arson itself by almost a week.

The Oakridge fire is reportedly the biggest hit on a federal building since the Oklahoma City bombing; taken together the Willamette events are on par with the arsons and violence directed at park officials and enviros in the Adirondacks in the early 90s. A "device" was found on the roof of the Detroit station the day of the Oakridge fire that the media described as a milk jug with wires attached filled with a dark fluid. A note to the same station a week later reportedly read "Boom! Boom!" There were headlines in the biggest paper in the state spewing "Eco-terror" the minute the fire started (hardly out of character for the *Oregonian*). We have special agents out the ass, an article from the last issue of the *Earth First! Journal* calling for the usual elven pranks and sabotage over the Samhain season, and a finding of arson at both sites but no (officially) declared suspect.

I suspect Mr. Green did it, with a monkey wrench, in the... no, that's not funny. But seriously, check these scenarios:

A) Eco-vato strikes again! Yes, blows against the Empire and all that shit. It's possible, and with the recent ELF article to wave in their hands, the Yellow Ribbon and Wise Use twinkies are trying their darnedest to smack the local activists, blame the success of Warner Creek for encouraging outlawry, and otherwise insinuate that we are evil nigh unto being Iraqi or Communist bleh bleh bleh.

As far as activists in the region were concerned, however, the first part of the Warner Creek campaign has been won, and the next part has yet to be defined. No notice of an auction for the balance of the Warner sales has been posted. On the other hand, the proposal for the Research Natural Area, the best strategy for permanently protecting the burn, is presumably lost with the Oakridge fire. One local EF!er said it best: "Not our style." Picks, Kryptonites and perhaps abrasives are the more popular tools of the trade. The sheer competency and (misguided) ambition of the act has this scenario stumbling out of the gate.

B) We've been framed! The Willamette Valley, the Siskiyou and Northern California have seen a surge of direct action over the last year and a half. The radicals and the mainstream have been seen on the same field, often smiling at each other. What successes the forests have enjoyed this last year-and-some have frequently come about from the work of

alliances and some bit of mutual respect and cooperation. From Warner Creek and Sugarloaf to the Headwaters of Baja Cascadia, the feeling has been that anyone can do direct action and everyone should.

Besides, the cottage industry of Clausen and the rest of the Wise-Use All-Stars—selling fear of environmental "extremists" to the public—is languishing in the face of drums, consensus groups, tripods and banners. The timber industry patrons have taken to blatant lying in the press to paint an extremist image. To JQ Public, enviros may be weird but not awfully scary. In addition, the far-right has demonstrated a pattern of violent acts including death threats, assaults, bombings and arson directed at government agencies and environmental groups (read *The War Against The Greens* by David Helvar; it's excellent and hilarious and you may find a few friends inside). With the growing strength of the forest protection movement in the Northwest, I'd put my money on some Wise Use/COINTELPRO machination, except for my (unqualified) disrespect for the average intellect of that population.

C) The butler did it. Oakridge, the town, has... er, had a wealth of Freddy offices. The Rigdon station on the north side of town was going to be closed and the personnel shifted to the Oakridge facility—you know, downsized. A minimum-security prison is slated for the Rigdon site. Now, a community activist that was looking out for local property values might have decided that with the Oakridge station gone, they couldn't move the freddies out of Rigdon to move the prison... or maybe someone just missed their Prozac and went postal on the place. Nah, long shot.

D) An inside job. Someone stationed at Rigdon didn't want to clear out her desk.

Actually, I bet on Alternative B/C (modified). I've always felt that the first arson, the 1991 Warner



The charred, smoking remnants of the Oakridge Ranger Station

Creek fire that started all this, was a spite crime in response to the Habitat Conservation Area designation. The same mindset that produced the "don't see any owls now" comment during the '91 fire could have caused this one. My gut tells me that these incidents, especially the Oakridge fire, may have been set with the half-baked idea of pay back on the enviros who have not only broken the rules publicly, frequently and with impunity but "won" as well.

Despite being the major employer in the community, the Forest Service is rather despised, even by a number of its employees. Regardless of a path to the corporate culprits that couldn't be clearer if it had been carved by stampeding bison, timber communities usually view the Forest Service as the agents of their destruction, in cahoots with the moneyed, urban bunny-huggers, college students and hippies. Oakridge, like other former timber towns, is particularly susceptible to the Wise Use/Yellow Ribbon Coalition brand of brainwashing and propaganda. The Yellow Ribbon stalwarts are especially miffed that the activists who defended Warner Creek have thus far gotten off without being branded domestic terrorists and jailed for life. No devious plots against the larger movement are necessary in this scenario, just double-revenge with a pretty good frame-up.

As far as solutions go, this horse might run.

## Wild Wimmin Wickedry on Coconino Plateau

Samhain. Halloween. All Soul's Eve. The day of the dead. Pick your tradition, ours is a reclaimed one. The motley array of eco-chicks who comprise the elusive Wild Warrior Wimminz Society chose November 1 to commune and conjure up a cacophony of Wickedry. Fifteen wild wimmin rendezvoused at Roxaneworld on the Coconino Plateau in Northern Arizona for a weekend of raising and drinking spirits, home repairs, a ceremonial lightning-and-hail dance, music and much merriment. Amidst the festival-like atmosphere, a modest agenda for the coming year was eked out by the dedicated deviltresses: smash patriarchy, rewild the planet and reinstate the goddess.

The wild witches concluded the gathering with a hexing action at the Kaibab National Forest supervisor's office, where Supervisor Connie Frisch and her cronies are machinating to bust the Southwest forest injunction with a 33 million board foot salvage sale on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. A binding spell cast on the forest service should, however, ensure a new appreciation of fire and respect for the uninterrupted process of the forest. The witches cackled, chanted and circled, gleefully reclaiming the trees of the Kaibab from the outstretched arms of the timber industry Specter of Death. Cringing in despair, with nothing left to offer the dark ones she serves, a bothered and bewitched Forest Superliar soon succumbed to the spell and melted, leaving a piddling puddle on the pavement. In the enchantress's wake were found mysterious markings identifying those inside and providing sacred instructions for the care of the forest: LIARS. ZERO CUT.

A new breed of Loba-ites will be convening in the spring on the Green River in Utah. Write for details: Sue Ring, POB 621, Carbondale, CO 81623.



Forest Supervisor Connie Frisch cringes behind the skeletal remains of the timber industry.

# GRAND JURIES: A MONSTER WAITING TO STRIKE

BY JONATHAN PAUL, NATIONAL ACTIVIST NETWORK

In the wake of many actions by the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) and the burning of the US Forest Service building in Oakridge, Oregon, I get an uneasy feeling about the possibility of a grand jury coming to a city near you. I am writing because I want to warn people about how the government uses grand juries to intimidate and destroy movements.

The English government formed grand juries in the 1800s to investigate governmental wrongdoings. Eventually, grand juries were adopted by the US government. In time, grand juries were used not to investigate corruption within the US government, but against civilians who opposed the corporate state.

The First Amendment, which gives us the freedom of expression, freedom of association and freedom of the press, and the Fifth Amendment, which gives us the right to be silent in order to not incriminate ourselves, are abolished within the grand jury process. In fact, all constitutional rights and freedoms are suspended, and grand jury witnesses are not allowed to have an attorney present in the courtroom. Grand juries are conducted in secret, and people are still unaware how the government has abused this process against political activists, including myself. (I spent five months in 1992-93 in jail for refusing to talk to a grand jury in Spokane, Washington which was investigating the actions of the ALF and other political activists.)

When a grand jury looks into the actions of a political movement, their motive is usually not just to solve a "crime" but also to gather information on people and on the movement. The underlying purpose of a grand jury is to cause fear and chaos in a movement in order to neutralize it.

In order for a grand jury to start up, a "crime" must take place. So, let's say arsonists burn a Forest Service building down. First, special agents investigate the crime scene. After declaring the cause to be arson, a list of suspects is drawn up. Surveillance and wire taps are then set up (legally or illegally). Information gathering at this point is not always legal or constitutional; the idea is just to get suspects to subpoena.

In the process of the investigation, the feds will approach activists they think will talk. Some people cooperate because they feel they have nothing to hide. This is a grave mistake! Do not discuss anything with feds, even if you think you do not know anything about what they are asking. Be

polite or be rude, but tell them to buzz off! The fact is, if you do talk to them, they will likely keep coming back. Experience has shown that activists who do not talk and resist their questioning are not approached again. Remember, the FBI and the BATF are not your friends.

After the initial investigation, people will be subpoenaed to testify in front of the grand jury. There are two types of subpoenas. One is a subpoena ordering you to appear in front of the grand jury and the other is an invitation to talk to the grand jury. (Usually, the subpoena indicates if you are a target of the investigation.) I have received both. The first was an invitation, which I did not accept, in fact I did not even call them back. Three years later, I was in a parking lot in Eugene and was approached by a couple of feds with another subpoena which ordered me to testify. I chose to cooperate and was flown to Spokane by the US Marshall Service and put in front of a grand jury. In this case, I made two key mistakes. One was that I did not have a lawyer present (you may have one outside of the room). The other mistake was that I answered a few questions I should not have. The questions were: my name, where I was born, and who came to Spokane with me (my sisters). Though these were not questions that put anyone else at risk, they were asked to loosen me up.

When the real questions came and photos of activists were put on the table, I refused to talk and by that night I was in jail. I had connections to both the animal and the environmental movements. Jailing me sent a message to both movements. The feds used me as an example of what would happen if other people chose not to cooperate. (There were at least three other grand juries operating at that time.)

The feds may offer you immunity if you compromise your beliefs and start singing. Normally, if you refuse to testify you are given another date to appear and will be offered immunity. The reality is that it is limited immunity. You are immune to prosecution based on your testimony, but if someone else testifies of your involvement, you can be indicted. So, even if you testify with immunity, you can still be prosecuted.

Grand juries are very serious and can be difficult to resist. My advice is: *Never, never, testify!* Keep your mouth shut, even if you do not know anything! Do not lie, or you may perjure yourself. The safest and most honorable thing to do is to not cooperate. Never compromise others or the cause at hand. Never talk to the feds if they come to your

door. Never take a subpoena for someone else. Make sure your family and friends do not talk to the feds or accept subpoenas for you! If you are aware that there is a subpoena out there for you, go on an extended trip or go hiking. Make them work to find you.

It is also very important to contact politically astute attorneys if you are subpoenaed to a grand jury. I have seen cases where attorneys not informed on political cases really messed things up. In one case, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) hired an attorney for activist Roger Troen who ended up making a deal that included testifying against other activists about an ALF break-in. I caution against offers by large mainstream groups, like PETA, of an attorney. They may have the money, but they also have a self-serving agenda. I have seen many cases involving direct action (night stuff, if you know what I mean) when attorneys hired by PETA have encouraged activists to take deals when there was a good chance they could have gotten off or spent less time in jail had they fought their prosecution. In one case in Europe, the defendants were encouraged by PETA attorneys to plead insanity and take a psychological test.

Paying for an attorney yourself can be financially intimidating. If you do not have the money to pay for a lawyer, you can get help. For instance, in a case in 1993, a person was subpoenaed to a grand jury in Portland, Oregon. The National Activist Network and our attorney were with her at the hearing. Because of our knowledge of the grand jury process, we were able to postpone her appearance through discovery demands until the grand jury's term expired. She never had to face the grand jury and never even came close to going to jail.

If you do not cooperate with a grand jury, you may go to jail. So be it. If others have spent up to five months in jail, you may have to do it too. Support will be there.

If you choose to testify, the community will find out and not only will you have to deal with that but also with your own conscience as well. Honorable commitment to the cause is the most spiritual choice you can make for yourself. If you are not willing to honor the cause at hand, then you should reconsider your role as an activist.

If you are subpoenaed or have been approached by any federal law enforcement for any reason, please contact the National Activist Network at (916) 452-7179.

## Wolves...

•Packs of live wolves to the warm blooded activists who froze their butts off and did all the dirty work to make the Yukon wolf kill moratorium a political reality.

•A group howl to the Headwaters jail support and media teams. With up to 83 people in jail at any given time, the jail support team deserves a big group howl. The media team needs to hear our howls as well (instead of a phone ringing).

•A howling sea wolf to the group of Greenpeace founders who used their 25th anniversary celebration to release a devastating report detailing Greenpeace's failing membership and lack of "inspirational initiative. The report detailed the six-figure salaries of Greenpeace directors and their hierarchical structure, both of which alienate their own canvassers and other supporters.

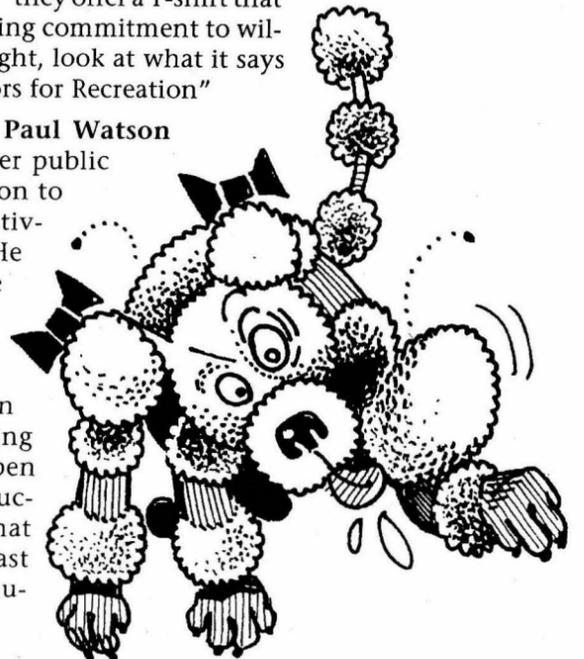


## and Poodles

•Pukey the poodle to the Walt Disney Company for planning to capture endangered African elephants, hippos, and rhinos in South Africa for importation to Florida for Disney's "Animal Kingdom."

•A poodle lost in the woods to Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI). On page 15 of their "Holiday Gift Book" they offer a T-shirt that "...celebrates REI's long standing commitment to wilderness preservation." Yea, right, look at what it says on it: "Protecting the Outdoors for Recreation"

•A wet, smelly poodle to Paul Watson who stood up at a Vancouver public hearing and voiced opposition to a city bylaw banning the captivity of marine mammals. He spoke in support of the Vancouver Aquarium and chastised all of the animal rights activists present for wasting their energy when there are "real issues affecting these whales" out on the open sea (hunting, habitat destruction, etc.). Does that mean that if whales are in captivity, at least they're safe from harm by humans, Paul?



# Multinationals Target Vermont Forests

BY ORIN LANGELLE, ANNE PETERMANN AND  
MELISSA BURCH

The global demand for paper and timber products is increasing exponentially while the forests of the world are being depleted at a drastically unsustainable rate. If this reality is combined with the fact that the Eastern seaboard is one of four places in the world where the forests are growing faster than they are being cut, it becomes clear why the multinationals are focusing on the East.

This reality is evidenced by trends in the Southeast and Vermont. The Native Forest Network (NFN) has launched a campaign that questions Vermont's forestry practices and offers solutions to preserve ecosystem health and community stability without the influence of multinational corporations. The NFN has called for a permanent ban on aerial herbicide spraying, an end to clearcutting statewide, to raw log (and/or woodchip) export and to commercial timber extraction on federal and state land. The NFN also calls for a divestment campaign against Monsanto Chemical and revoking of the corporate charter of Champion International.

## Aerial Herbicides

Champion International, the largest private landholder in the state (140,000 acres), wants to spray an aerial herbicide (Accord) produced by Monsanto Chemical (a corporation that gave us PCBs and dioxins) on their land. This spraying would kill off the native hardwood species and create conditions favorable to the softwood species of spruce and fir. The boreal forests occur in island-like stands containing many unique and endemic threatened and endangered species. They are extremely vulnerable to disturbance. These areas need to be preserved as biodiversity reserves, not turned into monoculture plantations. Because Champion's primary product is paper, they favor softwoods, which have longer fibers. Champion exports the raw logs to their paper mills in New York and Maine.

Glyphosate, the active ingredient in Accord, has been shown by scientists in Japan to be lethal to humans in amounts of only six ounces. Champion intends to spray 26,560 ounces on 1,000 acres per year. Additionally, the lab that Monsanto Chemical hired to study the effects of glyphosate has been indicted by the federal government on 20 counts of falsified results. For the sake of the immediate and future health of the local population, this spraying must be banned.

Champion International has shown the reality of their aerial herbicide programs to be far from the perfect picture that they paint. In New Hampshire this past September they completely missed their target and sprayed lands owned by International Paper.

As we have seen elsewhere in the country, the multinationals have the advantage of exploiting the resources of a region until they are gone and then moving to a new location. In Montana, Champion liquidated over 800,000 acres of forest, including large tracts of old growth, then left the state and the workers high and dry.

## Clearcutting

Clearcutting is a growing threat to Vermont's forests. A report by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation shows the overall rate of clearcutting in the state rising dramatically. The study showed that in the past 19 years, over 200,000 acres of the state's forests have been clearcut, with 17 percent of the forests in Vermont's Northeast

Kingdom clearcut since 1977 (144,000 acres combined in three counties). In addition, the report also states that many of the state's counties have seen the rate of clearcutting at least double in the last four years. If that is not bad enough, in the northwestern counties of Chittenden, Franklin, Grand Isle and Addison the acres clearcut per year have more than quadrupled.

## Raw Log Exports

The increase in global timber consumption requires new sources and industry "specialists" (private landowners, loggers and state and federal officials) agree that the international timber market is dramatically changing, placing new pressure on Vermont's forests. In Vermont and Maine approxi-

mately 30 percent of the total saw log harvest is exported. Ninety-five percent of these exports go to Canada. There has been a four-fold increase in hardwood exports from the Northern Forest in the past four years. In Vermont, 14 percent of the state's softwood harvest was exported in 1966, whereas 46 percent of the state's softwood saw log

harvest was exported in 1991. From '93 to '94, while the total saw log harvest in Vermont increased by only 17 percent, exports increased by 20 percent and the export of hardwood logs almost doubled. Raw logs bound for other states and countries leave no benefit to the communities from which they were extracted.

## Commercial Timber Extraction on Federal and State Lands

There is no good reason for industrial forestry on any land. On public land it's an absurd slap in the face to the public and the species that live there. State and national forests are supposed to be managed for "multiple use," which includes recreation and wildlife, but they are actually managed mostly for timber extraction.

The US Forest Service continues to demonstrate that they are an agency out of control by repeatedly violating laws they are mandated to follow. Recent

Forest Service actions in the Lamb Brook area of the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) are a perfect example. Lamb Brook, the largest roadless area in southern Vermont, is critical migratory songbird and black bear habitat. Since December of 1995 there has been a court ordered injunction against road building and timber extraction. But the Forest Service was caught recently cutting and bulldozing trees and moving large amounts of earth and rock in order to expand the Old Stage Road to accommodate virtually any type of vehicle (including log skidders). All of this was done under the auspices of snowmobile trail repair—a blatant violation of the law. Green Mountain Forest Watch and others forced the Forest Service back into court on December 6 over this flagrant violation.

Lamb Brook is a perfect example of a below-cost sale. The Environmental Impact Statement and road building will cost the Forest Service more than they will make on the timber sale. This is corporate welfare. The public shouldn't have to pay for the depletion of its resources. The GMNF is the largest contiguous tract of land under one ownership in Vermont. It is our best opportunity to create a forest sizable enough to support deep woods species, many of which are threatened. There are over 250 endangered species in Vermont to be concerned about.

Vermont's state forests are also under the gun. For example, Groton state forest, valued for its "sense of wilderness" and "quiet remoteness," is threatened by plans to manage over 65 percent of it primarily for logging. Biodiversity will not even be considered as a factor in management until the year 2000!

## The NFN Corporate Campaign

The NFN believes the citizens of Vermont have a right to know the records and practices of multinational corporations and their devastating impacts. From clearcuts and community devastation in Montana to "Widowville" in Tennessee, Champion International is not a good corporate neighbor and its corporate charter should be dissolved. The NFN will work with all citizens opposed to multinationals in this effort.

Monsanto Chemical is the source of all PCBs in the US and the pioneer of biotechnology for profit. Monsanto's complicity in workers' deaths and its production of rBGH for dairy products leads the NFN to call for a divestment campaign (especially at the University of Vermont which invests heavily in Monsanto).

For further information please contact the Native Forest Network, Eastern North American Resource Center, POB 57, Burlington, VT 05402; (802) 863-0571, fax (802) 863-2532; e-mail: nfnena@igc.apc.org.



The Bread & Puppet Theatre troupe performs during a rally against Champion International and Monsanto Chemical. Bread & Puppet did an artistic presentation of a forest assaulted by timber industry attempts to spray herbicides.

Photo by Langelle/NFN

## MUTANT FROGS DEVASTATE MIDWEST

BY AYELET HINES

When a middle school class went on a nature walk last year near a pond in the Minnesota heartland they were greeted by a macabre reception of deformed leopard frogs. Some of the frogs had as many as nine legs, and others had missing eyes and crippled or missing limbs. There were as many frogs with mutations as there were normal ones. From California to Vermont mutated frogs are showing up, giving the heebie-jeebies to even the most thick-skinned herpetologists.

Explanations for the mutations vary from theories about parasites, radiation and pesticides to ozone depletion and heavy metals, or a combination of these. Whatever the cause, the mutations seem to be happening during the metamorphosis stage of development from tadpoles to frogs. Other than that speculation, the EPA and other researchers are coming up empty handed. At this epidemic rate of mutation, it's a pretty sure bet that the problem is the result of a combination of factors. The culprit most likely ends up in the water, though it might first be airborne, because from state to state, the more aquatic frogs have more abnormalities. In one pond, 91 out of 94

frogs were mutated, and at another pond over 64 percent of the frogs studied were deformed.

Historically, frogs have been the sentinel indicators of environments gone bad. With their very permeable skin they are extremely sensitive to even the most subtle changes in balances within their habitat. Nature's Chicken Little is clamoring shrilly that the sky is falling. Hell, what thunderclap could be louder and clearer? Will it have to be that over 50 percent of our children are born three-armed elephantitic cyclopeses before the policy-makers extrapolate the consequences for the rest of life on this planet? Cindy Reinitz, the seventh grade teacher whose class discovered the mutants and who is now known as "The Frog Lady," claims that at least one person in every house in the wetlands area near the pond has cancer, though scientists are still working on that link.

Meanwhile, we hope the Nine-legged Frog of Calaveras County is not the wave of the future. The state of Minnesota has set up a telephone hotline for people to report sightings of mutant frogs and the EPA is conducting its own investigation. I shudder to think what more of a wake-up call is needed by the polluters and politicians.



# GIFFORD PINCHOT NEEDS PROTECTION

BY IVAN

Bad things are happening in southern Washington's Gifford Pinchot National Forest (GP). The Louie/Rosey, Middle Fork, 20/35, Jammin', Little White DEMO, McToo, Paradise Hills and Greenhorn timber sales are all in violation of the President's Northwest Forest Plan. Combined, these sales contain close to 50 million board feet and over 2,000 acres of never before logged native and ancient forests. All have been sold or will be sold by the end of December '96, the expiration date of the Salvage Rider, making their obvious violations free from citizen challenge.

In the Little White Salmon River drainage, the Jammin' (8.3 million board feet, 400 acres) and Little White DEMO (seven million board feet) sales are located in the Little Huckleberry Mt. roadless area. This area is adjacent to the 30,000 acre Lava Beds/Red Mountain/Bear Creek roadless area complex, which in turn borders the Indian Heaven Wilderness Area. This huge block of roadless country is amazing habitat for gray wolf, grizzly bear, goshawk, spotted owl, and many other species. The Little Huckleberry Mt. area also contains many unique plant communities, including remnant chinquapin trees at the far northern edge of their range.

Another couple of bad sales with big problems are Walupt Cispus (six million board feet, 400 acres) and 20/35 (11 million board feet, 400 acres). Located in the Cispus Adaptive Management Area, these sales plan to "regenerate" perfectly healthy, classic old growth and extirpate known spotted owl pairs. Some units in Walupt Cispus border the Goat Rocks Wilderness Area and all provide habitat for over 18 critters listed under the ESA. Adaptive Management Areas place emphasis on integrating innovative approaches at timber harvest with maintenance of late-successional forests, healthy riparian zones and high quality recreational values.

## The Forest Service wants you to trust them about Eagle Creek

BY SUZY SALAMANDER

The minds behind the Salvage Rider must have counted on the public's short attention span—now that everyone's eyes glaze over at the mention of salvage, a whole new batch of timber sales are being auctioned before the Rider's December 31 expiration date. One of these is the Eagle Sale, located near Estacada in the Mt. Hood National Forest. Released under the President's Northwest Forest Plan, the sale has caused an outcry from environmental activists concerned about watershed quality and the protection of several species of threatened fungi.

The 6,500 acre Eagle Creek drainage holds a vibrant native forest of western hemlock, Douglas fir, noble fir, Western red cedar and some Pacific silver fir. Most of the trees are about 150 years old, but some 250-500 year old survivors of forest fires in the mid 1800s still live in the area. Most of the forest is classified as Late Successional Reserve under the forest plan, with sizable spotted owl habitat. The Eagle watershed is home to coho and chinook salmon and wild cutthroat trout. Although logging has clearcut 775 acres in the recent past, a sizable area remains roadless.

The sale plans call for logging 26.4 million board feet from 1,030 acres. Slopes in some areas are quite steep, up to 90 percent in grade. About eight miles of forest bordering the Salmon-Huckleberry Wilderness Area boundary will be cut.

Many have voiced concern over the sale's planned destruction of 126 acres of spotted owl habitat. But what galvanized activists into strong opposition to the sale was the discovery of three fungal species and one plant species listed as "threatened, endangered or sensitive" by the Northwest Forest Plan. Federal agencies are required to "manage known sites" of listed species. Threatened flora found within the Eagle Sale area are two *Ramaria* species (one commonly known as red-tipped coral fungus), a bright yellow cup fungus (stalked orange peel fungus) and a saprophytic plant species, *Allotropa*. This plant (commonly known as candystick), depends on a relationship with a fungus in the soil for nutrients instead of photosynthesis like other plants. Similarly, the mushrooms depend on mycorrhizal soil relationships with the trees in the forest, which maintain proper moisture and shade conditions for the fungi to prosper.

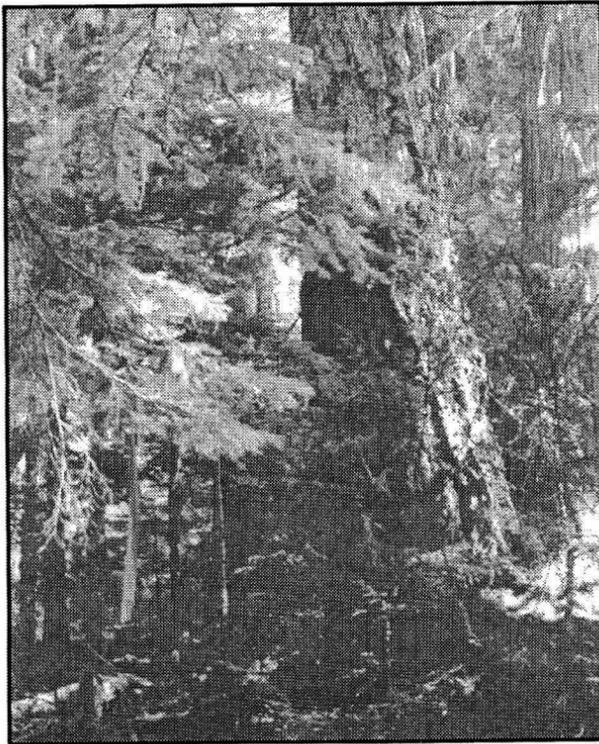
When activists with the Cascadia Forest Alliance brought these threatened species to the attention of the Forest Service, it caused them to delay signing the final record and to send agency botanists out to survey the sales. Botanists have marked additional trees to be

In September, environmental groups, including the Northwest Ecosystem Alliance and Cheetwoot Wilderness Alliance, filed an appeal with the Forest Service over the Louie/Rosey, Middle Fork, 20/35 and Walupt Cispus sales. This appeal was symbolic and was accompanied by a demonstration at the Vancouver, Washington headquarters of the GP. Over 50 people carried blank signs and wore gags over their mouths to protest the "gag rule" of the Salvage Rider.

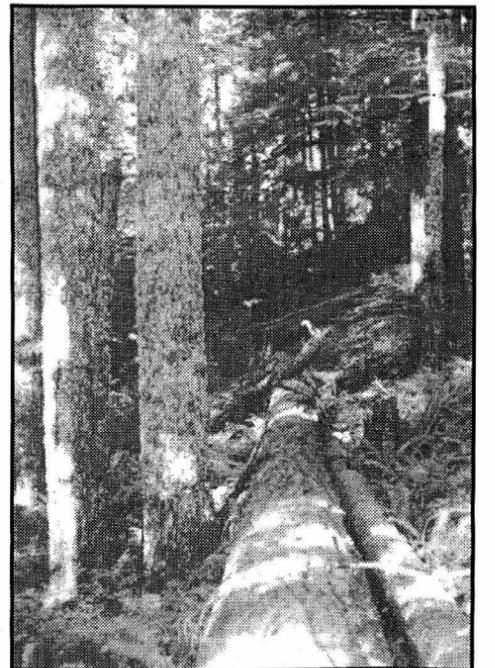
The Forest Service did not even respond to the appeal before awarding the Louie/Rosey sale to Bugaboo timber company of Mill City, Oregon in late October. Louie/Rosey contains a 15-acre unit where many trees marked for cutting are over 500 years old. A few protesters appeared at the auction including local Sierra Clubbers and former Congressman Jim Jontz (now head of the Western Ancient Forest Campaign) to eyeball the timber purchasers. Some riff-raff type videotaped the purchasers while warning them that they may become involved in a legal challenge if they went ahead and bought the sale. By the end, the law enforcement was asking us if we were planning any property destruction—quite a speculation and clearly revealing a bias against legitimate activists.

To get to the point, these sales can all be cut beginning this spring. Every sale is full of pristine native forests and hidden away deep in a lot of the units are some of the oldest forests around. We can't let the Clinton Administration get away with cutting these sales without a huge effort to stop them. Now's the time to remind the world that the Clinton Forest Plan is a crock and doesn't protect a thing. Although the Rider is expiring it is no time to sit back. Let's build on the momentum of 1996 and shut down every new timber sale in 1997.

Call the Cascadia Forest Alliance in Portland at (503) 241-4879 to learn how to get more involved in the spring campaign to stop the Clinton Forest Plan in the Gifford Pinchot.



The Walupt Cispus Timber Sale



Unit Two, Eagle Sale

saved around the mushrooms and to protect the soil from machine disturbance. Forest Service botanist Marty Stein says the agency has done its best to afford these species some protection. But activists believe the response of the Forest Service has not been adequate. The botanists have only surveyed four of the 26 units and have no plans to survey the entire sale before the auction. From a biological standpoint, it is impossible to tell which trees may have mycorrhizal relationships with these mushrooms, as the fungal bodies often extend long distances under the soil and may not produce a mushroom above ground in the same place every year. The resulting change in microclimate that accompanies the loss of canopy discourages mushroom growth. One timber unit would be impossible to buffer, as the coral fungi proliferate throughout it. The area is a very special one of high diversity which deserves protection as a Research Natural Area.

Despite public pressure to drop or delay the sale, the Forest Service still plans to auction the sale mid-December. The sale will just scoot in just under the expiration of the Salvage Rider. Forest Supervisor Roberta Moltzen certified that the Eagle sale meets all environmental laws. The agency public relations officer had only apologies about lack of time and resources when asked why a strategy to protect the threatened species in all the units has not been developed. For those not ready to simply trust the Forest Service to comply with environmental laws, there will be no recourse through legal appeals channels. Sound familiar? Stay tuned for opportunities this spring to tell the Forest Service what you want to see done on your public lands.

Call District Ranger John Berry of the Estacada Ranger District (503) 630-6861 to complain.



# OSU PAYS BIG TO KILL RED SQUIRRELS

Ohio State University (OSU) officials have announced their intention to join the controversial Columbus Telescope Project planned for Mount Graham in Arizona. Mount Graham's unique old-growth boreal forest is an evolutionary wonder that would be seriously degraded by the proposed telescope. If completed, the Mount Graham International Observatory would destroy one-quarter of the mountain's remnant virgin forest, critical habitat for several threatened and endangered species, including the federally listed Mount Graham red squirrel. Traditional San Carlos Apache Indians have long opposed University of Arizona (UA) plans to desecrate their most sacred mountain, *Dzil Nchaa Si An*, calling the development "an act of profound disrespect" which would prevent them from practicing their religion. OSU's participation would provide the University of Arizona with much needed political and financial support for a project which has been internationally disgraced as environmentally and culturally destructive.

Since withdrawing from the controversial project in 1991 (OSU was one of the original four partners in the Columbus Telescope), OSU officials have been negotiating in secret with astronomers from UA to re-enter as a one-eighth share partner at a cost of over \$12 million. They have apparently learned from UA the finer nuances of university conduct involving unethical activities. While denying their involvement to student activists, OSU astronomers have hired personnel and shifted department funds to enable them to rejoin the project with little opportunity for opposition. They spent undisclosed thousands of dollars to have an "independent" public relations report prepared which negated any credible controversy to the telescope project. Telescopes on Mount Graham are actively opposed by almost every major US conservation group and American Indian tribe; two lawsuits also pose threats to the construction of the observatory.

A recent visit to OSU by a traditional Apache spokesperson has put the school in the hot seat. They no longer can innocently cite the fabricated "neutrality" of the Apache tribe without supporting UA's divide

and conquer plan to suppress Apache freedom of religion on Mount Graham. OSU will also find it hard to escape international protest if they choose to be the first North American institution to support UA's two congressional exemptions of all US environmental and cultural protection laws. To date, over 25 North American institutions have withdrawn from the Mount Graham International Observatory, leaving only foreign investors who are relatively insensitive to American land use and immune to protest.

What has been described as a "sweet deal" for OSU (the UA is so desperate for an American investor that they are giving OSU \$4 million to rejoin the project!) may well become a financial and political nightmare, as the Columbus Telescope is currently ten years behind schedule and has been subject to severe engineering changes and cost overruns.

OSU President Gordon Gee recently told Apache and environmental activists that the university has an open ear and is very concerned about the issues surrounding the Mount Graham International Observatory. He also said that the university will move forward with its plans to join the project. Since that meeting and the escalation of local protest, however, the University has started to show some signs that this is not a done deal. There has even been talk of "a compromise." Taking the lead from the UA, OSU would like to make a deal for the support of some San Carlos Apache tribal members, disregarding the uncompromising stand of the traditional people whose religion is not for sale. Regardless, OSU is putting this project on the fast track. A Memorandum of Understanding is currently being prepared for UA and a contract

may be signed as soon as February. If this issue is brought into public debate, it is likely that OSU will recognize the risk it poses to its reputation and will not support the desecration of Mount Graham.

Please take action to help protect Mount Graham. Call, write and fax OSU's President today: E. Gordon Gee, President, Ohio State University, 205 Bricker Hall, 190 N. Oval Drive, Columbus, OH 43210; (614) 292-2424; fax (614) 292-1231.

For more information contact Arizona Earth First!, POB 3412, Tucson, AZ 85722; (520) 740-0810.



Ohio State University students protest plan to rejoin telescope project

# WARD VALLEY DUMP DEBUNKED

BY DANIEL PATTERSON

On November 22 in Irvine, California, in a show of unity and strength, members of the Colorado River area Tribes and the Ward Valley Coalition held a press conference to tell the nuclear and biotech industries, "It's over!" They made it clear that environmental and spiritual concerns over a planned radioactive waste dump can not be mitigated and industry efforts to build the dump should be halted, for good.

The ten year fight over developing a radioactive waste dump in the eastern Mojave desert centers on a proposed BLM land transfer of 1,000 acres of critical habitat for the threatened desert tortoise. California Gov. Pete Wilson has been trying for years to get the BLM to transfer the land to the state so the dump can be built. The site is sacred to all lower Colorado River Tribes and is surrounded by six wilderness areas and the Mojave National Preserve. Radioactive wastes from California, at least three other states and possibly the US Department of Energy would be buried in unlined trenches in Ward Valley.

Concurrent with the press conference was a California Radioactive Waste (CalRAD) Forum conference and strategy session on building the dump. CalRAD Forum member groups include utility companies and industries that support the building of the Ward Valley dump. Opponents, however, insist that there will be no dump at Ward Valley. Period. "CalRAD Forum members and government officials have consistently ignored our concerns," said Claudette White, councilwoman, Quechan Tribe. "As such, they continuously advocate the desecration of our ancestral sacred lands in order to bury their radioactive wastes... There is no way to mitigate our concerns. It's over."

Added Steve Lopez of the Mojave Tribe, "The valley and our brother the tortoise are sacred to the Mojaves. It is too close to the Colorado River and we will not allow the nuclear industry to destroy our life blood... the environment is our mother. We will not allow our mother to be killed by nuclear waste."

Activists from San Diego and Orange County EFL, Greenpeace, Christian churches, Alliance for Survival and the Orange County Green Party also spoke out forcefully against the dump project. Tribal members tried to peacefully make a statement to the CalRAD Forum conference but were turned down by a spokesperson. No surprises there. CalRAD Forum organizers seemed still shaken from a past meeting where a coalition member infiltrated and locked-down. This time, notes were directly delivered to the CalRAD organizers that said, "It's over." One EFL activist calmly ripped up industry propaganda and dropped it on the floor in front of conference organizers. There were no arrests.

The BLM is currently preparing a supplemental EIS for the proposed dump. The draft will be out this winter. Contact BLM to request a copy as soon as it is released: BLM California State Office, 2135 Butano Drive Sacramento, CA 95825, (916) 979-2845; fax (916) 979-2925. It would also be great to send respectful letters to BLM California State Director Ed Hastey, urging him to protect public natural resources and oppose the Ward Valley dump.

If you are in the Southwest this winter, please visit Ward Valley. Take Water Road exit off I-40, about 22 miles west of Needles, California (site and camp are south of the highway). The coalition plans to maintain the encampment at the site as long as needed. Serious activists welcomed. Contact the Ward Valley Coalition office in Needles, 107 F Street, Needles, CA 92363, (619) 326-6267, fax (619) 326-6268; email savewardvalley@rippers.com.

# Walton Landowners Fight Lawless Logging

BY LISA WISNEWSKI

Roseburg Forest Products, the largest family-owned forest products company in the nation, is openly disregarding provisions of the Endangered Species Act on their private lands by refusing to apply for an "incidental take" (i.e. permission to kill) permit for the Good Hominy unit of their timberlands known to support the northern spotted owl.

Good Hominy is located near the town of Walton, Oregon, about 35 miles west of Eugene. In this locale, only seven percent of the original spotted owl habitat remains. One pair is known to be nesting in the area. A marbled murrelet was also sighted in the unit, however the federal agencies claim it was just "incidental." Below the steep slopes of the unit runs a Class 1 fish-bearing stream known to support coho and chinook. This area must be preserved if there is truly a commitment to the survival and recovery of these species.

In 1993, a Fish and Wildlife Service biologist declared the unit suitable habitat for the northern spotted owl, thus requiring the land owner to apply for an "incidental take" permit if the unit was to be logged. This would then obligate the land owner to enter into a Habitat Conservation Plan where some suitable habitat on their private lands would be reserved for the endangered species. Roseburg Forest Products is taking a no-compromise stand on the right to exploit their private lands by knowingly and deliberately sidestepping this process and getting the cut out anyway. They assumed the FWS had better things to do than check up on them, but they didn't reckon on the watchful eye of the Organization of Walton Landowners. They now find themselves in federal court defending their decisions. This court case will set a precedent on the rights of private property owners with regard to endangered species that may reside on their lands.

Cutting began in late October and 15 of 94 acres have trees laying on the ground. An injunction was prepared by the FWS in Portland demanding Roseburg Forest Products "cease and desist" any further cutting of the unit and begin negotiations for a land-swap agreement. Still, the cutting continued.

In the courtroom, things are not much better. The case will be decided by Eugene Federal Judge Michael Hogan, the judge who expanded the reach of the Salvage Rider last year. Biologists from the BLM and FWS are reportedly poorly prepared and given to caving in to industry. This precedent-setting case needs more public outrage!

Please vent in the following directions: US Fish and Wildlife Service POB 59 Portland, OR 97207; (503) 872-5275; Governor John Kitzhaber, 160 State Capitol, Salem, OR 97310-0370; (503) 378-3548; and Roseburg Forest Products POB 1088 Roseburg, OR 97470; (541) 679-3311.

# COMMUNITY FORESTRY IN THAILAND

BY LYNDY WORSHAM AND MARTY BERGOFFEN

*The Gourd may Sink,  
and the Stone may Float,  
and the World may Turn Upside Down,  
but We still must Care for the Forests.*

—KAREN POEM, TRANSLATED FROM THAI

The forests of Thailand have suffered severe exploitation and abuse over the last century. Such maltreatment ultimately led to a ban on all commercial logging throughout the country in 1989. However, the logging ban is fraught with loopholes, poorly enforced and remains controversial. Since its imposition there has been a dramatic increase in illegal logging. Many people and organizations seek a more permanent solution, including ethnic minorities who retain much of their historical and cultural dependence on healthy forests.

One practical solution arising from the grassroots level is community forestry (*bah chum chon*), which was developed and adopted by people living in forested areas throughout Thailand. This program sets aside large areas of relatively healthy forest for preservation and applies special remedial efforts for degraded forests, designated as recovery areas.

Community forestry has been accepted by various factions of the Thai government, and a bill officially adopting the practice has been written by lawyers representing a coalition of ethnic minorities, academics, NGOs, farmers and Buddhist monks. In celebration of the 50th anniversary of King Bhumibol's ascension to the throne, this coalition has initiated a campaign to preserve 50 million trees through *Buad Bah* tree ordination ceremonies, including the forests of Black Turtle Pond (*Nong Kishu*).

In September 1996, the Karen and Hmong hill tribe villages around Nong Kishu in Northern Thailand adopted the policies of community forestry, declaring their surrounding forest sacred and essential to their survival and well being. The weekend's events included meetings with government officials and local NGOs, but the highlight was a Buddhist ceremony called *buad bah*, literally "Ordained Forest," held in recognition of the sacredness of the forest. The mutual commitment among the villages' Buddhist monks and government officials aims to heal the forest. More heavily abused areas will receive special rehabilitation efforts. Finally, the agreement is designed to improve the surrounding villages' access to healthy forests essential to their way of life.

Hill tribes have occupied the forests of Thailand for centuries, despite the presence of logging concessions. One group may arguably be considered indigenous and includes the Karen and Lua hill tribes. These typically seden-

tary peoples settle in low-lying valleys where they practice subsistence agriculture, mostly wet rice-paddy cultivation. On the surrounding hillsides they practice shifting cultivation, in which the land is cultivated for one year and then left fallow for ten years.

In order to reduce the dependence of some of the hill tribes on opium cultivation, the Royal Forestry Department (RFD) established a program to replace poppy cultivation with other cash crops, mainly cabbages. While this program is laudable for its antidrug tone, it has led to at least two serious problems in the villages. First, growing non-indigenous crops requires massive inputs of pesticides and herbicides which contaminate soil and water. Second, growing cash crops creates a dangerous dependence on the whimsical "free market" and alters the style of living for the villagers. The villagers are thus forced to poison their land and water, and further compromise their already fractured culture.

## *In a tree ordination ceremony, monks ordain trees by praying and wrapping saffron robes around the trunks.*

The RFD was established to curb the mismanagement of Thailand's forest by colonialists, but has a reputation of exploiting indigenous hill tribes in the forests of Thailand. RFD has not complied with the 1989 logging ban. After the original teak forests were cut, RFD made a point of removing the hill tribes (by force when necessary) and then planting the cut-over areas with fast growing mono-crops such as eucalyptus, under the guise of "reforestation efforts." The hill tribes, many of which were relocated onto lands unsuitable for cultivation, were thus forced to turn more forest into agricultural land, allowing the RFD to scapegoat them.

The area around Black Turtle Pond, inhabited by Karen and Hmong hill tribes, lies in a valley poisoned by the waste products of the mining concessions granted in the region in the early 1950s. The effects of rampant logging (silt among them) and mining (water poisoning) combined to cause fertility loss in the valley's prime rice paddies, leading to a crisis for the villages. The formerly self-sufficient Karen are now relying increasingly on cash crops. The Thai government is aware of this crisis, and attempts have been made at finding alternative solutions. However, government implementation has been slow.

The villages of Black Turtle Pond, already forced to radically change their life-style, have taken courageous steps ahead of the government to preserve the forest which sustains them. In the late 80s environmentally concerned Buddhist monks adapted the *baud* ceremony to address the earth crisis assailing the community.

Traditionally the word *baud* in the Thai language refers to a Buddhist ceremony that men undergo to signify their entrance into monkhood. Now the adapted ceremony *baud bah* (which means "ordained forest") is used to raise environmental awareness and

teach all Thai about the value of forests by ordaining trees. In the *baud bah* monks pray and wrap saffron robes around the trunks of trees to declare their sacredness. *Buad bah* has worked well because most Thais deeply respect the saffron robe. In short, nobody would dare cut the sanctified trees out of respect for the saffron robe and its inextricable link with Buddhism.

## **The Event**

After traveling to the valley on September 28, visitors were treated to a meal of soup and rice. Following the meal, people from the surrounding villages joined the visitors for a meeting in the village headman's house. Using large maps with overlays, various villagers explained the history of the valley, and the leaders explained their plan to preserve the forest.

The procession to the forest started around nine in the morning, while members of other villages joined in as the parade passed their village. After hiking about three kilometers, the parade numbered a few hundred, and everyone congregated in the forest. An outdoor temple had been built for the day's event, with a shrine containing Buddha images and a picture of the King.

After everyone was seated, seven monks arrived, dressed in their saffron robes. The ceremony began with prayers chanted in *Pali*, the Buddhist's religious language. After a short pause, the head monk told the villagers it was an honor to sanctify their forest. He then said a prayer to honor and protect the forest, and after more chanting and prayers, people ate together.

Following lunch, members of local NGOs and government officials offered gifts to the monks and a small sum of money to each village to be used to protect the forest. Each offering included a brief speech extolling the virtues of forests, and the importance of their preservation.

Finally, the head monk rose, led a last chant, and, with the village headman, wrapped a saffron robe around a large teak tree. Robes were distributed to the entire congregation, which joyously wrapped hundreds of trees in the surrounding area. The ceremony ended with the Buddhist custom of tying twine around each other's wrist with a prayer for good luck. This custom symbolically binds the group in their commitment to preserve the forest.

## **Black Turtle Pond, Nong Kishu**

The area in which the community forest program is to be carried out comprises about 6,000 *rai* (1 *rai* = 0.37 acres). Of this, the plan calls for 4,000 *rai* to be a permanent forest reserve, with no timber cutting allowed. One thousand *rai* of highly degraded land will be designated for recovery, most of which is former opium fields or sites of intensive logging along the creeks. Finally, 1,000 *rai* will be used for human needs, either agriculture or timber production.

An important part of this plan is the provision authorizing timber extraction from the forest. The plan states that timber cutting will be limited to local needs only, and any logging must be approved by a committee of representatives from all the villages. Projects which don't benefit the entire community are likely to be rejected. Furthermore, rather than using destructive, even-aged management, the villagers will select tree-by-tree which one to cut. And the compact requires intensive reforestation efforts, with 10 trees replanted for each cut.

People who violate the plan by illegally cutting trees will be subject to harsh fines of 500 *Baht* (US \$20) per tree (as well as forfeiting the trees) for the first violation, with higher fines for subsequent incursion. The sale of land to outsiders is forbidden under the plan with similar sanctions.



Buddhist monks chant while the head monk and villagers wrap saffron around a tree to ordain it.

## Implementation

While the plan is admirable for its foresight, there are at least two potential problems. First, the plan continues to allow cattle grazing in all parts of the forest, including recovery areas. This has proven to be a problem in other parts of the world, but may not have such a heavy effect in *Nong Kishu*, where there are subsistence cattle rather than agribusiness' herds.

Secondly, mining continues to plague *Nong Kishu*, as elsewhere around the world. Placer mining adds massive sediment and significant toxicity to streams and tears up entire streambeds. Toxic chemicals continue to be a problem downstream, making surrounding lands unlivable. As one villager stated, "Our whole livelihood has been destroyed by the presence of greedy mining companies." Thailand continues to fail to implement effective regulation of mining operations. For community forestry to be truly effective, the Thai government must give the local villagers a say regarding the mine, and require the mining company to restore the land to its original healthy state, or at least fully compensate the villages for their loss of livelihood.

After many successful community forest designations, following loud demonstrations in Bangkok by thousands of ethnic minorities and environmental activists, the Thai government agreed to support a bill legalizing the practice of community forestry. Subsequently, a coalition of NGOs and local villages drafted a bill based on their experience.

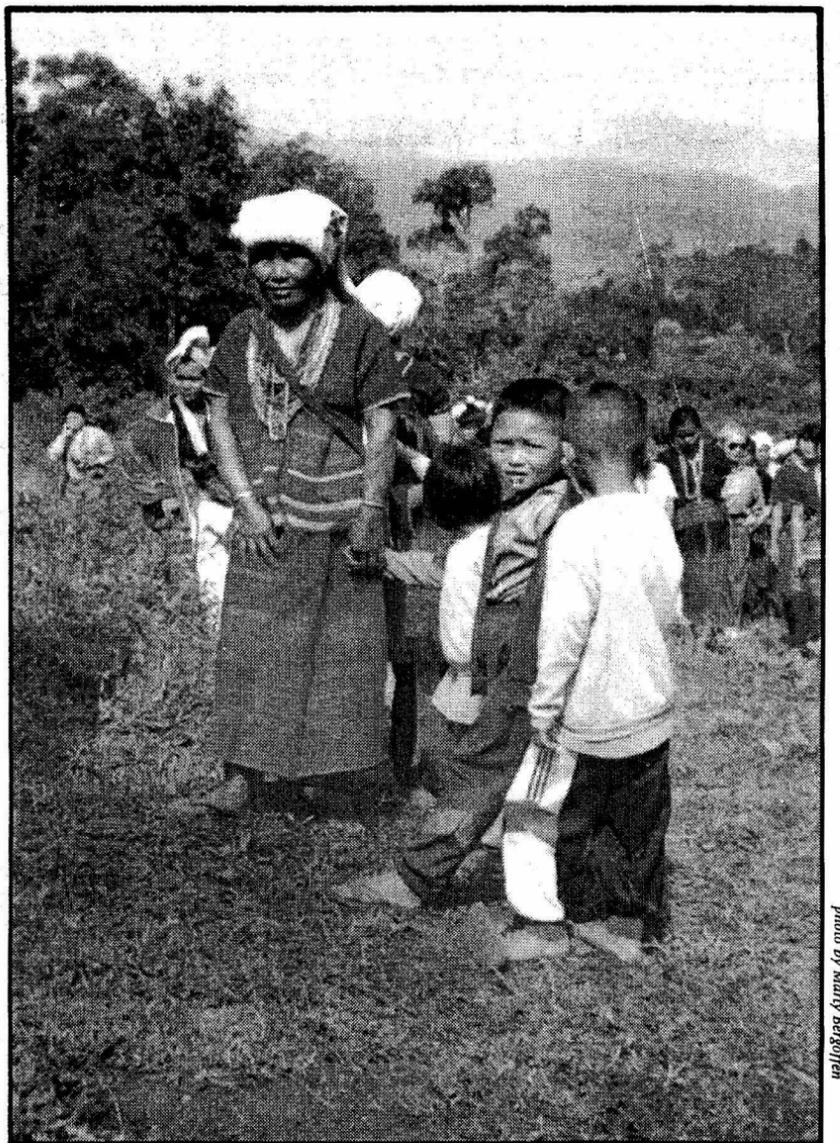
While the bill found this support in the previous administration of Prime Minister Barnharn Silapa-Archa, Thailand's new Prime Minister, General Chavalit, is well known for his pro-logging stance and may not allow the forests to escape the control of RFD. Certainly, if Chavalit's recent actions are any indication, forests in and out of Thailand will be heavily at risk (in January, he illegally brokered the purchase of 1 million cubic meters of wood from

Cambodia to benefit his logging company cronies). Therefore, more public pressure is needed to ensure that a community forestry bill is passed to Parliament and signed by the King.

Pressure on the government is needed to introduce and pass a community forestry bill. This pressure must come from all Thai people, not just the hill tribes. Ultimately, all of Thailand is dependent on forests for clean air and water, and a plethora of other benefits. A Community Forestry Act will present an excellent model for all countries that strive to conserve their forests and can only serve to advance badly needed forest protection efforts elsewhere, including the United States and the rest of the "developed" world.

By combining spiritual elements with a government-approved plan to preserve the forest, the villagers of *Nong Kishu* have taken a bold step forward, proceeding ahead of the Thai government in forest protection efforts. Although the hill tribes are not predominantly Buddhist, the villagers have participated in a Buddhist ceremony to bring a reverence to their commitment to protect the forest. Community forestry allows local villages to live autonomously in their local land. The people of *Nong Kishu* have incentive to maintain healthy forests for the benefit of themselves and future generations.

For further information contact:



Woman of the Karen hill tribe with kids

Photo by Mary Bergoffen

Regional Community Forestry Training Center, POB 1111, Kasetsart University, Bangkok 10903, Thailand; (662) 940-5700, fax (662) 561-4880; email: corveer@mozart.inet.co.th

# ABUSE FLOWS FROM BURMESE PIPELINE PROJECT

Unocal 76 and Texaco are involved in natural gas ventures with one of the world's most brutal and repressive military regimes, Burma's State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC). SLORC has been condemned by the US Congress, the US State Department, the European Parliament, the United Nations Human Rights Commission, the International Labor Organization, Amnesty International and ten Nobel Laureates for human rights violations. SLORC maintains financial solvency and political legitimacy largely through partnerships with foreign oil companies.

In February 1995, Unocal signed a contract with SLORC to extract and transport natural gas using a pipeline from the Yadana Field, located 43 miles off Burma's coast, to Ratchaburi, Thailand. This gas pipeline will run for 218 miles, of which 41 cross southern Burma's Tenasserim province.

The Yadana Field is estimated to have a market value of \$6.5 billion. Unocal's current net share of payments to SLORC to gain the concession is about \$10 million. Unocal and its partners will get \$400 million annually from Thailand for the gas.

Texaco is drilling for gas in the Gulf of Martaban, the Yetagun Field, 260 miles south of Burma's capital city, Rangoon. Texaco's gas pipeline will connect with the Unocal pipeline project for transport of the gas to Thailand.

Exploration, development and production of natural gas has risks similar to those of oil extraction. Impacts from gas exploitation include dumping toxic drilling muds (with radioactive material), air pollution from drilling rigs and releases of toxic chemicals such as hydrogen sulfide into the sea and air.

The ecology of the pipeline area is very diverse, ranging from coastal wetlands to one of the last mountainous dense tropical forests in Burma. Just south of the pipeline area the local people have established a protected wildlife sanctuary which contains tigers, rhinoceros, elephants and other rare species.

Unocal has not publicly released any environmental assessment study. Projected environmental impacts from the pipeline include destruction of wetlands and mangrove ecosystems, forest clearing, fragmentation of habitat, disruption of biological corridors, establishment of logging concessions, and increased poaching of endangered species.

The pipeline project is connected to some of Burma's worst human rights violations. The pipeline area is the homeland of the Karen, Mon and Tavoy peoples. This venture is linked to involuntary village relocation, the forced labor of tens of thousands of local inhabitants and fatalities at the hands of the SLORC troops. The entire region is a war zone due to the ethnic people's need to defend themselves against SLORC attacks.

In reference to threats by the Karen and Mon armies, who are trying to protect their people, Unocal president John Imle said: "If you threaten the pipeline, there's going to be more military. If forced labor goes hand in glove with military, yes, there will be more forced labor. For every threat to the pipeline there will be a reaction."

In the late 1980s a democracy movement gained widespread support from the entire spectrum of Burmese society, including its diverse ethnic nationalities. People took to the streets to demonstrate for democracy, but the military retaliated in the summer of 1988 by gunning down thousands

of civilians. Soon afterward the military announced that SLORC would rule the country. Years of ruthless and violent repression against all citizens have been the result.

On May 27, 1990, SLORC held elections and the National League for Democracy (NLD) gained 80 percent of the seats. SLORC nullified the election results and placed NLD leaders under arrest, including Aung San Suu Kyi. In 1991, Aung San Suu Kyi won the Nobel Peace Prize, but remained a prisoner under house arrest until her release in July of 1995. Despite Suu Kyi's release, which many hoped would spark an improvement in human rights standards, widespread political repression, human rights abuses, abject poverty, forced labor and summary executions continue unabated.

What you can do:

•Write or call the CEOs of Unocal and Texaco. Tell them to withdraw from Burma.

•Don't buy Union 76 or Texaco gas and other products and tell them why.

•Cut up your credit card and send it back to Unocal or Texaco.

•Send \$5.00 to the International Rivers Network to receive an activist's packet and become more involved: IRN, 1847 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94703.

•Join the Free Burma Coalition. Call (608) 256-6572; email zni@students.wisc.edu.

Roger Beach, CEO, Unocal Corporation, 2141 Rosecrans Blvd., Suite 4000, El Segundo, CA 90245; (310) 726-7600.

Mr. Peter Bijur, CEO, Texaco Inc., 2000 Westchester Avenue, White Plains, NY 10650; (914) 253-4000; fax (914) 253-7753.

—International Rivers Network

# BIALOWIEZA FOREST

BY TOM FULLUM

For more than a year, the chainsaws have been silent in the Bialowieza Primeval Forest of Poland. Thanks to a multi-year international campaign led by the Polish environmental group, Workshop for All Beings, the government declared a moratorium on the logging of old-growth trees in July, 1995. However, an impending decision by the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection and Forestry could unleash the chainsaws again.

The Bialowieza Primeval Forest, which covers approximately 1,400 sq. km., uncomfortably straddles the Polish-Belarusian border. It contains the last remnants of native lowland temperate forest in Europe, and is famous as the most important refuge for European bison which were extirpated during World War I and reintroduced in 1929. It is also home to wolf, lynx, beaver, masked shrew, moose and numerous threatened birds.

For generations the Bialowieza served as hunting grounds for Russian Czars and Polish Kings and was thus spared from conversion into agricultural lands. Even the Nazis protected the forest for similar reasons during World War II, a war that devastated many other Polish forests. The Bialowieza Forest survived in its natural condition for thousands of years, after which it began to suffer intensive timber exploitation in the 1950s.

At the center of the Bialowieza campaign is the demand to set aside the entire forest area as a fully protected national park. The Polish government and the scientific community have long accepted that the core protected area needs to be greatly enlarged in view of the immense biological importance of the whole forest. The logging moratorium was seen as an interim measure by environmentalists to protect the old-growth forest while national park designation was secured by the international campaign.

Prior to the 1995 moratorium, only a small "island" of 47 sq. km. (18 sq. miles) was completely protected as a national park, while logging in the remaining 550 sq. km. (212 sq. miles) on the Polish side accelerated, due to a large forestry development loan from the World Bank in 1993. (The 800 sq. km. of forest on the Belarusian side has been designated a national park but it is unclear what kind of protection this status affords.) A little more than a year later, in August, 1996, the Polish government finally acted on the national park question and disappointed environmentalists when it decided to only double the size of the national park, leaving more than 80 percent of the forest unprotected should the moratorium be lifted.

Soon after the enlargement of the national park, Stanislaw Zelichowski, Minister of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection and Forestry, announced he would rescind the logging moratorium. Immediate public pressure organized by the Workshop for All Beings forced Zelichowski to postpone his decision until December 15, 1996 in order to receive "expert" opinions from three advisory bodies, one of which is completely made up of foresters openly hostile toward protecting the primeval forest.

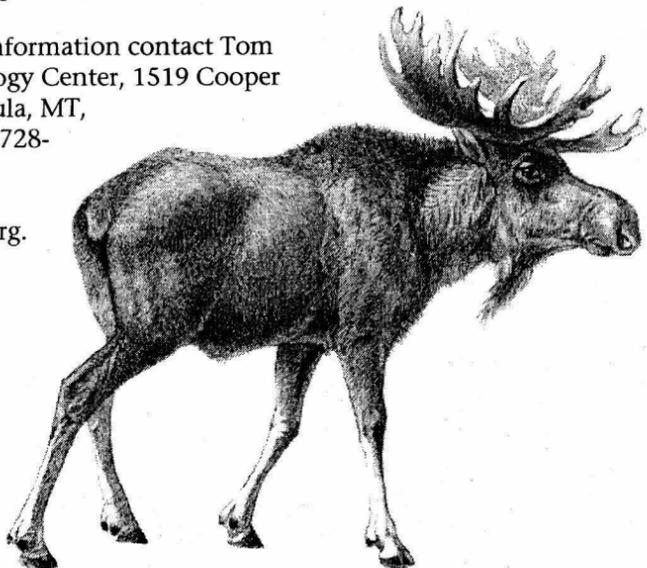
If the logging moratorium is lifted logging could resume in the spring of 1997. The Workshop for All Beings estimates that the remaining old growth in Bialowieza would disappear within three to five years at pre-moratorium logging levels.

Now is the time to act. The Workshop for All Beings says that international pressure, letters and demonstrations have been instrumental in the success of the campaign so far. They are requesting politely worded letters and faxes to the government officials listed below. Let these decision-makers know that the logging moratorium should be left in place and that the whole forest area of the Bialowieza Primeval Forest should be designated a national park. Send copies of your correspondence to the Workshop.

Write letters of concern to Minister Stanislaw Zelichowski at MOSZNIL, ul. Wawelska 52/54, 00-922 Warszawa, Poland; fax 48-22-25-33-32; Premier RP Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz, Urzad Rady Ministrow, Al, Ujazdowskie 1/3, 00-950 Warszawa, Poland; fax 48-22-628-42-22 or 628-68-46.

Workshop for All Beings, Pracownia na rzecz Wszystkich Istot, ul. Modrzewskiego 29/3, 43-3000 Bielsk-Biala, Poland.

For more information contact Tom Fullum, Ecology Center, 1519 Cooper Street, Missoula, MT, 59802; (406) 728-5733; email: tfullum@wildrockies.org.



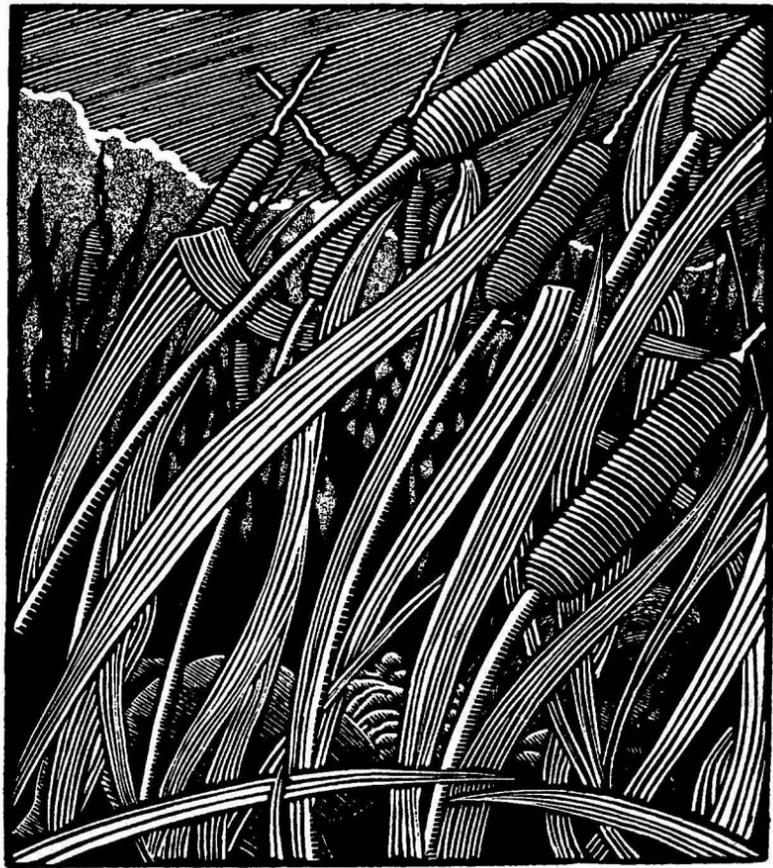
# BRIDGE TO NOWHERE

BY SLAVA YASHCHENKO

*We're living on the edge.*

—AEROSMITH

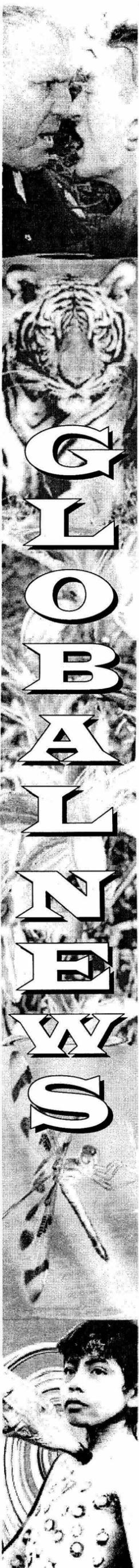
The Volgo-Alitubian bottom land in Southern Russia is a very unique place. We can endlessly sing odes to the sky praising its beauty and benefit but, unfortunately, it is being condemned to a future of degeneration. What do we lose here, apart from banal mushrooms and crayfish? The Volgo-Alitubian bottom land (VABL) is an important part of the ecological biosphere that actively reproduces biota and oxygen. The swamp area of the VABL is the fundamental core of this ecological system, with a biological reproduction rate 20 times higher than the neighboring steppes and semidesert region. Hundreds of kilometers of inundated meadows of bottom land from Volgograd to Astrahan provide for the existence of numerous reservations of biosphere significance. Even within the international scientific community the swamp area of the VABL has been given status of international importance. The Astrahanian biosphere reserve was organized by UNESCO's "Person and Biosphere" program. Approximately one-fifth of the



swamp area's territory is in the Volgograd district. The people of Volgograd can rightly be proud of this fact. But how long can we be proud of what we have when what we once had and what we have now are two very different things?

The first problem arose ten years ago with the construction of a waterpower station and hydromeliorative works in the territory of VABL, resulting in extensive agricultural erosion and pollution. With the construction of the hydropower station, people took long and reckless steps into their future. People took no notice that VABL is a frail world. Irregularities in the ecological regime produced by the waterpower station across vast territories of bottom land caused considerable degradation of the environment. Floods stopped bringing natural fertility to the region. The transit of water through a system of creeks and ponds was broken. Siltation began, as well as eutrophication of pools. Meadow soils were exposed to salinization. The biota of the VABL yielded to biota representative of steppe and semidesert regions. The fall in natural soil fertility of VABL prompted a rise in the use of fertilizers which, with the expansion of arable lands, resulted in an abrupt rise in soil and water pollution. Now it is possible to see the consequences of these actions: the quality of agricultural production has dropped, the fish population has declined, the quality of hay has deteriorated and so on. Big concerns have been aroused by the appearance of oak trees because the VABL is south of the oak trees' indigenous boundary.

VABL verges on disappearing. Our bottom land is dying. Instead of finding measures that will give it life, we are strangling it with our own hands. Our district government, amid loud applause, has reported they are going to begin construction of a bridge across Volga. It will be 21 km.! This wide highway will go through VABL. There will be new misfortunes. New dams will break the water regime, which is already poor. New settlements and industry will appear, with bad consequences for VABL. We can only wait for the health of the population to decline. Our lives will be shorter and sadder. We are on the edge of a new, local ecological catastrophe. It is near! It is inevitable! To avert disaster and protect our VABL, we must create a nature park. Let's rethink the hell-bent idea of constructing a bridge which leads to nowhere!



# SUPPORT THE GANDALF SIX!

You'll say people can speak freely until the speech begins to threaten your idea of so-called freedom, then folks ain't free to speak, they're kicked, punched, clubbed, stomped, handcuffed, shot, jailed by the cops and jailed again by you the judges when the trial takes place.

—JOHN AFRICA

On January 16, 1996 the British police, acting for the Animal Rights National Index (ARNI), launched a series of dawn raids all over England resulting in the arrests of four editors of *Green Anarchist* magazine, the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) press officer and the *Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group* newsletter editor. Though the raids occurred hundreds of miles apart,

one was incited or that any "conspirator" had any connection with anyone doing anything illegal. All that must be shown is that people intended others to be incited and that when illegal direct action occurred the defendants would have wished it to happen.

A normal defense in cases of incitement is that the alleged inciting material wasn't circulated. You cannot incite someone with something they have not seen. However, in a conspiracy to incite, this defense does not hold; anything written by a defendant can be used as evidence of intent. In the case of one defendant, a book he had written and was having checked by a solicitor (so any material deemed inciting could be re-

ALF's press officer. For years, ARNI has been trying to frame the ALF press officer in an attempt to silence him and stop him from contradicting the lies the police have been telling the media about the ALF.

During the course of Operation Washington, the officers involved discovered *Green Anarchist* magazine also reports animal liberation direct action news. Although this animal liberation news came from sources entirely independent of the ALF press office, the police hope to link the ALF press office with *Green Anarchist* magazine so they can silence both and use the conspiracy laws to scuttle any defense. The linking of the former *ALF Supporters Group Newsletter* editor with the "conspiracy" is also aimed at widening the "conspiracy" and attacking another source of information about the ALF.

Another aspect of the case involves the Earth Liberation Front (ELF). In 1993, ARNI extended itself into the militant green movement. Since the early 90s militant green activity in Britain and across Europe has escalated dramatically. Probably the most spectacular action was when ELF broke into the Department of Transport's central London offices and trashed more than 100 computers before making off with some of the hard drives.

*Green Anarchist* regularly reports the activity of ELF, and at least one of its editors is known to be heavily involved with the Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network (ELP), an international support group that circulates the details of people arrested/jailed for eco-defence. This is another reason why the police want to target the Gandalf defendants. Prison is designed to isolate the jailed activist. Groups like the ALF Supporters Group and ELP help break down that isolation, and the state wants revenge.

The attack on the Gandalf defendants should not be seen in isolation. Across Europe police are cracking down on militant publications and groups

that support direct action. In Holland, the eco-zine *Ravage* was raided after publishing an ELF press release that claimed responsibility for a bomb explosion in an empty building owned by a toxic-waste dumping German company. In Germany, police used a series of arsons as their excuse to raid *Tierbefreiung Aktuell*, a radical animal liberation magazine that reports ALF activity in Germany. In Finland, the Finnish ALF Supporters Group was actually forced to close down after the police launched a series of raids and continual harassment against known animal liberation activists after two high-profile *Elainten Vapautus Rintama* (Finnish ALF) actions.

## What happens next?

The Gandalf defendants have no intention of presenting themselves as victims. Such spectacles may please the state and gutless fluffies with no stomach for direct action, but such apologists do not help create change. This is not about the guilt or innocence of six individuals. It is about making the movement strong enough to withstand police repression. If the police can outlaw support for the ALF/ELF, if they can criminalize the reporting of criminal actions, then the police will have the power to close down any group or publication whose attitude they don't like. If reporting ecotage is a crime, then isn't promoting Earth First! style site invasions and protests? The Gandalf Defendants are on the front line fighting against legislation that will be used against the whole Animal/Earth liberation movement, not just in Britain but across Europe and possibly further afield. Defending the Gandalf Six is about defending yourselves.

For more information about the case and how you can help, contact the Gandalf Defendants Campaign, POB 66, Stevenage, SGI 2TR, England. Should the defendants be found guilty they will face a maximum of ten years. This time it is them. Next time it could be you...

*The most spectacular action was when ELF broke into the Department of Transport's central London offices and trashed more than 100 computers before making off with some hard drives.*

all six were taken to one of two neighboring police stations in the New Forest area. After being kept in police cells all day, the six were eventually charged with conspiring to incite persons unknown to commit criminal damage (despite the fact that most of the six had never met each other and some hadn't even heard of each other).

The Gandalf (Green Anarchist and ALF) defendants' crime is publishing animal liberation news in *Green Anarchist* magazine, speaking about Animal Liberation Front activity, or being connected to those that have. As police questioning demonstrated, connections may be as tenuous as having attended the same rally or receiving a letter sent out by another.

As British law now stands, the state does not have to prove that any actual criminal damage was done, that any-

moved) is being used as evidence of "intent" to incite. A "conspirator's" associates or beliefs can also be used as evidence against the defendant. The burden of proof is on the defendants. They have to prove they did not intend to incite anyone. The defendants also cannot quote other newspapers to show there was no intention to incite. When the *Times* reports animal liberation direct action, they are not inciting that action because they would not have wished it to occur. However, if *Green Anarchist* reports the exact same news, then that is evidence of intent to incite, as *Green Anarchist* supports such actions.

## Why Green Anarchist?

The case against the Gandalf Defendants is a culmination of ARNI's Operation Washington against the

## Global companies control world economy

The global economic power of giant companies has grown to the point that they have become bigger than most of the countries where they do business, a new study reveals. Mitsubishi is bigger than Indonesia. Ford is bigger than Turkey, and Wal-Mart is bigger than Israel, according to the report from the Institute for Policy Studies, a Washington-based think tank. In fact, more than half of the 100 biggest economies in the world are corporations, not nations.

Taken together, the world's 200 biggest companies control no less than 28 percent of the globe's economic activity. These companies are the powerhouses of globalization, weaving together the economies of the world's nations. Sailing before this tide, these huge firms are moving goods, money and jobs across national borders that become less important by the day.

The multinational companies have the power to go anywhere, to make or buy anything, to be sold anywhere else in the world. Big countries, like the United States and Japan, are trying to cope with this new economic reality. Other countries, as the study made clear, are too small to do anything but

try to stay afloat. For most of them the might of the big companies challenges their sovereignty and their ability to run their own economies. The global firms can go where wages are lowest, can move their money to minimize their taxes and can wring concessions from governments eager to create jobs.

The study, titled "The Top 200," was written by Sarah Anderson and John Cavanagh using statistics largely drawn from charts published by *Forbes*, the business magazine. It measured the companies' annual sales against the nations' gross domestic products.

Two giant Japanese companies, Mitsubishi and Mitsui, are the 22nd and 23rd biggest economic powers in the world. Both have annual sales of more than \$180 billion, bigger than the gross domestic product of 24th place Indonesia. General Motors Corp., with \$168 billion in sales last year, ranked 26th, bigger than Denmark or Thailand.

Ford Motor Co. was 31st, bigger than the four countries that come next—Hong Kong, Turkey, South Africa and Saudi Arabia. Wal-Mart is 42nd. From its Arkansas base, the cut-rate retailer had \$93.6 billion in sales last year, which gives it more economic clout than Poland, Ukraine, Portugal, Israel or Greece.

—EXCERPTED FROM THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE



# STAYING ON MESSAGE WITH THE RUCKUS SOCIETY

BY FEZ VELOUR

Everything changes: people, loves, friendships, and movements; this is inevitable. The question, therefore, is what form will the changes take? Will there be growth and maturation or decay and a loss of vigor?

In the case of Earth First!, and EF! activists, the changes have run the gamut of possibilities. One of the most notorious EF! figures of the late 80s now runs his own portable sawmill in the name of economic security and sustainable forestry. Some are only part-time activists, and some have quit completely. Others have abandoned the EF! name as an albatross, but continue to do what they have always done: work to protect the environment with a wide variety of tactics.

The general public's impression of Earth First! has been mostly one-dimensional: the wild-eyed monkeywrencher. I would submit, however, that the single unifying theme of EF!—and its worthwhile spin-off groups—is not a tactic, or set of tactics, but the familiar slogan: "No Compromise in the Defense of Mother Earth." The EF! name is mostly irrelevant; as long as groups put the earth first and don't compromise and deal away wild lands and wildlife, they're still doing important work. Tactics are negotiable, but not the message,

not the land, not the wild and all its denizens.

The Ruckus Society, based in Missoula, Montana, is one such group spawned, at least in part, from the EF! legacy. It claims a mission of direct action with serious technical and media support. Ruckus holds "action camps" around the West, training campers on the ins and outs of banner hanging and the like. But Ruckus' big focus is on using media in the context of direct action. An article in the October, 1996 issue of *Outside* magazine outlined Ruckus and its action camp philosophies. The messages Ruckus conveyed in the article are disturbing at best.

Ruckus' ideas are the result of many years of toil by very accomplished, hard working and dedicated activists. I thoroughly believe in effectiveness, and I welcome tactics, techniques and attitudes that further the defense of Mother Earth. But the mindset of Ruckus, and other neo-traditionalist enviro-groups, is fundamentally flawed. The formula-action recipes based on rules of conduct and public relations hocus-pocus espoused by Ruckus are not going to save

the planet and ultimately will do more harm than good.

The power of grassroots environmentalism comes from very simple places. One source is the people involved, another is the passion they bring to the debate. There is also power in knowing the scientifically based, factual cases for protecting bears, bull trout and redwoods. These are the ingredients for highly effective activism, activism that accomplishes far more than what thought realistically possible. These aspects of activism need to be nurtured and developed, not stuffed into a box to fit a media relations guide. The Ruckus philosophy devalues these power bases and substitutes coldly manipulative spin for substantive action. It is important for grassroots groups to get "The Message" across to the general public, but the cynicism inherent in the Ruckus formula of media manipulation will work heavily against environmental groups. Activists cannot just tell the public the environment needs to be saved; they have to also act on that belief, and those actions have to be genuine or they don't count. Much of the public may not question the validity of actions focused strictly on the media, but the small segment aware enough to see through the ruse is exactly the group that needs to be engaged in the debate, not alienated by cheap tactics and conduct.

The *Outside* piece is an excellent example of the danger of relying exclusively on media manipulation as activism. When the manipulation is exposed, the message gets lost and, more importantly, the participants lose credibility. I assume Ruckus wanted to be seen as the leaders of a more mature, progressive and huggable green movement. Instead, Ruckus was portrayed as *trying* to be seen as these things. A huge difference, and one that has exactly the opposite of the intended effect.

The most interesting and exasperating feature of the article was the dichotomy between what Ruckus was trying to teach the "kids" at camp and what they failed to do with author Tad Friend. Ruckus trainer Bill Walker told campers they "must develop message discipline," and told Friend that "...we [Ruckus trainers] need to teach them [the campers] about sound bites." Then Mike Roselle tells the same writer, "If hope was a requirement, I'd stay home all day and smoke pot." Way to stay on message, Mike.

Bill Walker then admonishes his disciples to, "Never break the frame...Never acknowledge that you are using the media." But wait a minute Bill! You just told Tad Friend that Ruckus is all about manipulating the media!

Twilley Cannon is quoted as saying, "All actions are symbolic. Pipe plugs blow out, tree sitters come down, blockades end through bladder action—their effectiveness is symbolic. Reduce the issues to symbols, then manipulate the symbols so the public sees it the way we want." Not only does this sound like a quote from a Phelps-Dodge board meeting, it is about as endearing. It is true that all of our best victories, our most cherished moments of triumph, have been temporary or have fallen short of our expectations. This is the nature of what we do. It is absurd to think a mere decade or two of activism can turn the tide of institutionalized environmental genocide that has raged for centuries. Most of us nowadays are completely unsuited to seeing the big picture, the long view, and this means we're impatient. We want the world saved and we want it now. Activists toil, sweat and put their all into saving the world, and for what reward? The partial victory, the incremental advance, one step forward and if we're lucky only a fraction of a step backward.

It's important to reevaluate tactics and methodology, but beware the desperation that leads to wholesale rejection of tactics and worldview. Especially when the "new" tack and tactics make activists more fuzzy-huggable and palatable to funding groups. The Ruckus camp philosophy retreats from the moral high ground and embraces the ideals of the beast we intend to fell.

Consider these gems from the article: "You need to adopt the corporate attitude and play to them to get your message across," and, "With all respect, you won't get your point across unless you play by their rules" (Bill Walker); "Traditionally, we've explained about wildlife...But now it's economics" (Jake Kreilick); or, "Never let a real fact get in the way of good image" (Ruckus Media Guide).

The point is to appropriate the tools that are useful to convey our message, not to get swallowed whole in the process. The corporate attitude is the *problem*, not the solution, and I don't understand how becoming the problem will help make it go away. Integrity is often the only weapon we possess and often the only newsworthy feature of our actions; giving that power away is insane.

Earth First!'s tactics and sincerity come from recognizing that we face a critical time for environmental protection, and that traditional tactics of playing the "insider game" are ultimately bankrupt. The insider game is predicated on appearing "reasonable," trading one area for another while mitigating this effect with that band-aid. The insider game accepts wholesale ecological collapse while trying to preserve small tokens of functional biological systems. This is not only morally repugnant but futile as well. It is becoming increasingly apparent that small, token areas are not ecologically viable. Traditional groups playing an insider game have provided some victories, but ultimately theirs is a dead-end tactic. Ruckus' philosophies are in large part a throwback to the insider game, but Ruckus courts the press, not Congress or the Fredies.

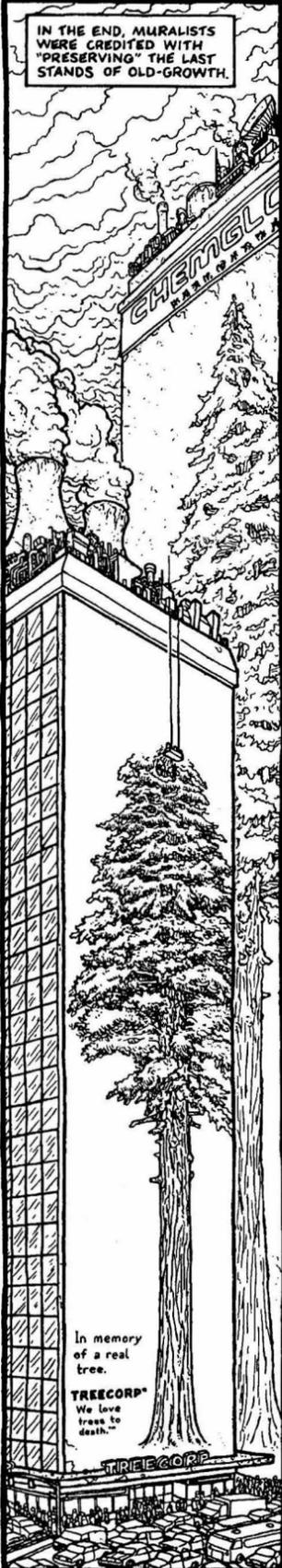
The neo-traditionalist enviro groups are abandoning the organizing tools of EF! out of frustration with incremental gains in environmental protection. This is a huge tactical error. We don't need to legitimize the discrediting of "No Compromise in the Defense of Mother Earth." The best actions I know about conveyed the dedication of the activists and the importance of the issue. Media work was important, but the compelling feature was that of doing what needed to be done. These were actions to protest an injustice first and foremost, and to tell the world about it secondarily. These were also the actions that got the most press, the ones that went national and international. These were actions that rang true.

Media stunts are fine, sometimes. But a strict diet of media actions will marginalize activists as completely as a strict diet of deep ecology and tree-spiking. Even the smallest of western logging town papers reject covering media actions after the novelty wears thin. The biggest failing of EF! is/was not conveying the overwhelming need for no more compromise. We don't need to retreat from hard-hitting actions, rather we need to convey why these actions are not radical, but simply necessary. Abandoning substantive actions forfeits the impact of the message and in doing so creates the image of activists as dilettantes without substance.

I believe in making the movement more accessible, but when activists stop talking about biodiversity and ecological process, and instead speak of economics and media manipulation, we put the debate back into the comfort zone of the ravagers. We have spent years wrestling the debate from the level of human preferences to the higher level of biological (and spiritual) necessity. Do we abandon this tack simply because it is difficult to sell to the media?

Meaningful, long term, biologically based environmental protection is only possible with a concomitant radical change in our culture's attitudes towards nature. Daunting task? Absolutely. But we have to continue the long, slow process of swinging the debate from what humans want to what is necessary for environmental preservation. Reshaping ourselves as Madison Avenue PR flacks merely drops environmental protection to the level of which toothpaste to purchase, and puts environmentalists in the same class as RonCo with a new Bass-O-Matic to sell.

## TALL ORDER BY JON ARMSTRONG





# PRAIRIE ISLAND COALITION

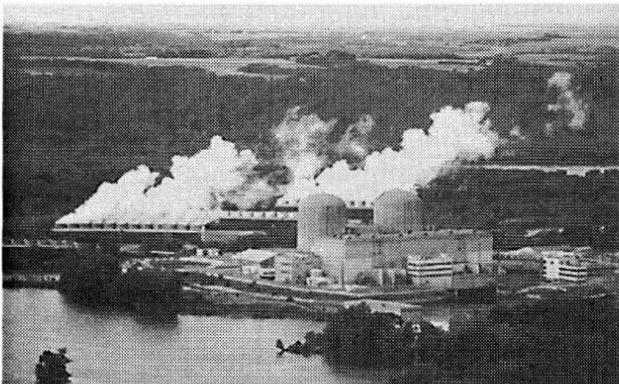
## Demystifying And Replacing The Nuke

The Prairie Island Coalition (PIC) was formed in 1990 as a citizen/activist group with a mission of phasing out the Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant in Red Wing, Minnesota. In our efforts to phase-out this plant, PIC has worked to limit storage of nuclear waste and uncover the secrets of the nuclear industry—this is what we've discovered. This two reactor plant, labeled by the industry as "the best in the world," is a typical nuke—it is plagued with problems. Located about 35 miles southeast of Minneapolis on the Mississippi River, it is sited right next to the Prairie Island Mdwakanton Dakota Community, within a block of their day care center.

### Background

Of all the nuclear reactors built in the world, not one has been operated to its designed and intended end. Whether internal parts failed or the reactor melted down due to operator error—as in the case with Chernobyl and Three Mile Island—nuclear technology has *failed* to live up to its promise. And, each reactor continues the nuclear chain with all of its health and political problems (see "Confronting Nuclear Racism").

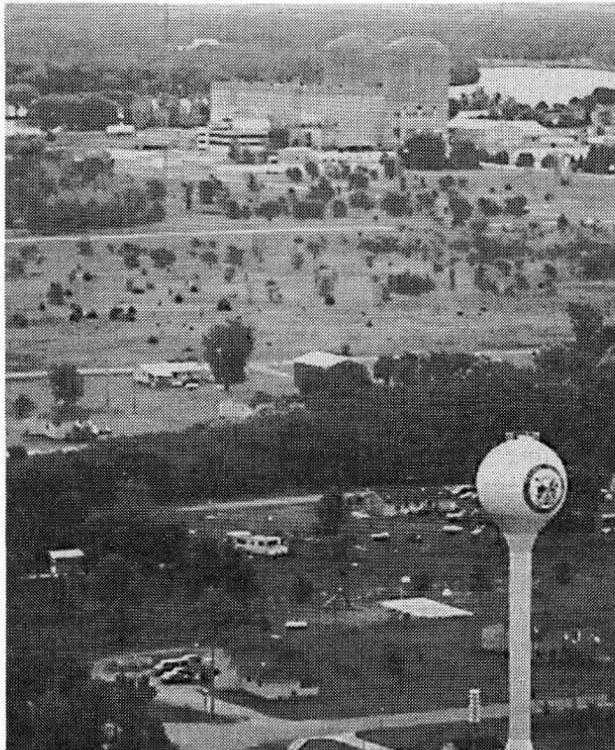
In the beginning, the nuclear industry promised that nuclear electricity would be "too cheap to meter." The federal government promised to take all the highly-radioactive waste (in order to build bombs). Now there are over 400 reactors worldwide, (110 in the U.S.), continually releasing radioactive materials into the environment, threatening catastrophe. And with the Cold War over, tons of radioactive waste is piling up at reactors.



*The Prairie Island Nuclear Plant has problems with reactor parts and waste storage and releases massive amounts of radioactive materials into the environment, as do all nuclear plants.*

### Nuclear Operations Create Problems

- There are 2 basic reactor designs in the U.S.: Westinghouse – a triple loop system (Pressurized Water Reactor) prone to heat exchanger failures; and General Electric (GE) – a double loop system (Boiling Water Reactor) prone to containment cracking problems.
- Highly-radioactive "spent" fuel has built up at reactors with no safe place or way to store it. Nuclear utilities are forcing communities with reactors to accept risks while pushing congress for a bail-out (see "Nuke Boys On Capitol Hill"). "Temporary" canisters are being loaded with waste without tested and approved plans or means to safely unload them.



*The Prairie Island Mdwakanton Dakota Community is the closest community to a nuke plant in the U.S. The MN Dept. of Health has estimated that the community is 6 times more likely to get cancer than the rest of Minnesota (see "Confronting Nuclear Racism").*

- Regardless of problems, all reactors *regularly* release radioactive materials that mimic nutrients our bodies need. These radioactive materials are ingested and mistakenly incorporated into our bodies, causing carcinogenic and mutagenic problems.
- Reactor parts fail frequently, in part due to being run at near capacity in order to increase the profit margins of the companies that own them.
- Nuclear utilities hide reactor and waste problems from the public and federal regulators, and regulators rarely investigate beyond the surface.

### Catastrophic Radiation Releases Are Possible At Any Reactor

- Tubes carrying radioactive water in the heat exchangers of Westinghouse reactors are cracked, rupturing and releasing radiation. The main safety mechanisms are also cracking. Both problems can cause reactor meltdowns. Seventeen utilities have sued Westinghouse over heat exchanger failures.
- The inner containment of many GE reactors are cracked due to radiation and pressure. Despite this, GE is assisting some of these nukes to put out more power, thereby increasing the likelihood of meltdown.
- While cutting corners to maximize profits, utilities are rushing to load highly radioactive waste into dry casks for on-site, outdoor storage and transport to a national site (see "Nuke Boys On Capitol Hill"). Public exposure to unshielded, indefensible waste would cause innumerable health problems.

### The Public's Interest Not Served By Utilities Or Regulators

- Nuclear utilities and federal regulators have deliberately kept the whole truth about nuclear problems from the public. Groups like PIC have only recently gained access to nuclear secrets.
- Radiation monitoring at all reactors is, by design, misleading and hides releases, while government studies ignore clear data. PIC has begun a monitoring and information database to be publicly accessible.
- The Prairie Island Dakota are asserting their legal right to claim compensation and a relocation opportunity for their community. This would set precedent for other communities living near reactors and waste sites.

### De-Regulation Of Electric Industry Creates More Nuclear Problems

- Billions of dollars will get "stranded" paying for aging nuclear plants as they fail all over the country and demand attention and dollars.
- Who owns, is accountable, and responsible for safety of reactors and waste becomes less clear as utilities form holding companies to shield assets.
- The clean-up of shut-down reactor and waste sites will cost trillions and likely be the responsibility of tax-payers, and not the companies and shareholders who profited from them.

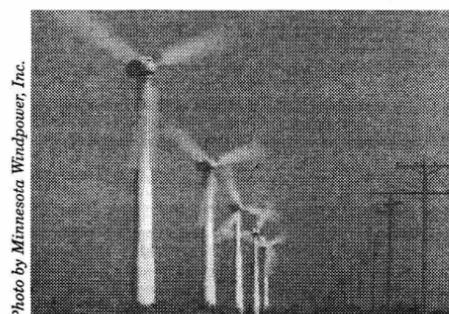


*Art by Studio Flux*

### Stop Making The Waste—Now!

The solution to this nuclear nightmare is evident and obvious. Nuclear power supplies only 20% of U.S. electricity. We can save over 50% of our electricity through efficient lighting, heating and ventilating systems, refrigeration, windows, and industrial motor controls without losing any electrical service.

The efficient and local use of wind, solar and biomass energy can economically strengthen communities while helping phase-out nuclear and coal power. It is *only* flawed utility regulations, which reward pollution with profit, that prevent these conservation and renewable technologies from replacing nuclear power.



*Photo by Minnesota Windpower, Inc.*

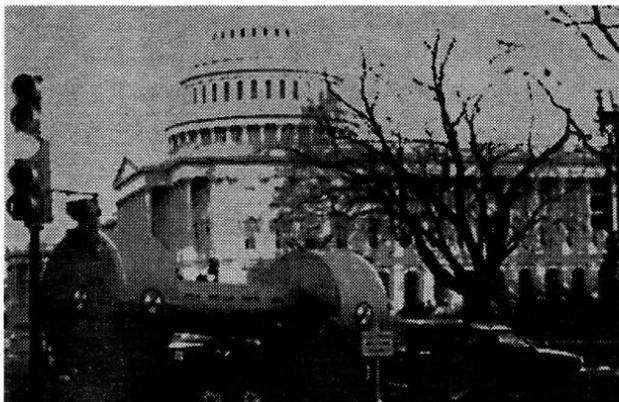
*These five wind turbines supply enough electricity for 120 homes in Southwest Minnesota.*

# Nuke Boys Are On Capitol Hill

**Their Goal:** Put up a parking lot in Nevada on Western Shoshone Land and ship their high-level nuclear waste out of sight and out of mind.

**What They Forgot:** Getting it there will involve tens of thousands of shipments, for over 30 years, through the front yards of 50 million people who live 1/2 mile from the shipping routes. We call it the Mobile Chernobyl Bill. The proposal also hands the ownership of this most deadly waste to the citizens, letting the generators (commercial nuclear power industry) go free to make more.

Irradiated fuel from the core of a reactor can deliver a lethal dose of radiation in less than 30 seconds to those nearby. It contains radioactive elements like plutonium and americium that remain a poison in the environment for hundreds of thousands of years. That is why we must shield and contain these wastes from the living biosphere. Radiation has the potential to cause cancer and a host of health problems. Putting this waste on the road does not make it safer.



The "mock" waste cask sending a message at our nation's capitol. All real transport casks emit radiation. Radiation on the road. Don't be tailgating that!

Citizens working through national, regional and local groups were able to keep the Mobile Chernobyl Bill from a final vote in the 104th Congress, but the Nuke Boys plan to bring it back. They are spending millions to promote their bill, but we are reaching out with a wake-up call. Part of this is the "Cask Tour." Citizen Alert, a Nevada grassroots group—the target for the high-level dump—built a replica of a nuclear waste

shipping cask, and now they have a second cask. In collaboration with other grassroots activist groups these "mock" casks have been hitting the road with a simple message: wake up and stop this legislation before it is law and nuclear waste is coming through your community. Over 20 feet long and 12 feet high, these "mock" Nuclear Waste Casks make the point: this nasty stuff really does exist, and might affect you directly. A powerful tool.

There are a number of cask tours planned for 1997—contact the regional groups to find out how to support these efforts. Here are tales from the road, including use of the casks for regional nuclear waste issues, and some ideas for wake-up calls that can be done without a Mock Cask.

## Southeast

**Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League**  
Contact: Lou Zeller (910) 982.2691

In 1995 BREDL did a swing with the Mock Cask in commemoration of the 50th anniversaries of



the conscience of the human race from the doubts which assault our history."

BREDL has also used the Mock Cask for wake-up calls on the transport of foreign research reactor fuel from Europe coming back to the U.S. (The U.S. supplied the fuel before it was highly irradiated). "Our telescope is perched on a lookout tower on Fort Fisher, a Civil War fortress which once provided protection for blockade runners. Claude's van is equipped with a cellular phone.

## ... And They're Trying To Rewrite The

Trinity, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and as the beginning of the fight to stop Mobile Chernobyl. "From the official starting point of the tour at the Trinity test site in New Mexico on July 16 to the Washington Monument in DC on August 6, I logged 3,709 miles... [from Lou's journal].

July 16: I woke the next morning before dawn at the end of the world. I parked the Mock Nuclear Waste Cask at the entrance of the Test Site and went in alone.

The events of the day are distilled in the actions of Gene Stilp who, having thrown "blood" on the Trinity site monument, was wrestled to the ground by military police. The M.P.s are nervous, pushy young boys who defend the monument from the public like a strategic target.

But the armies of the world cannot defend

Our mission tonight is not to blockade but to provide an alert to the people of North and South Carolina... the highly radioactive fuel rods will be transferred from the ship to railroad cars for transit to the Savannah River Site [South Carolina].

Our peaceful rebellion would end the international traffic in nuclear materials by revealing it to the people most at risk, residents of the towns and countryside along the transport route."

## Northeast

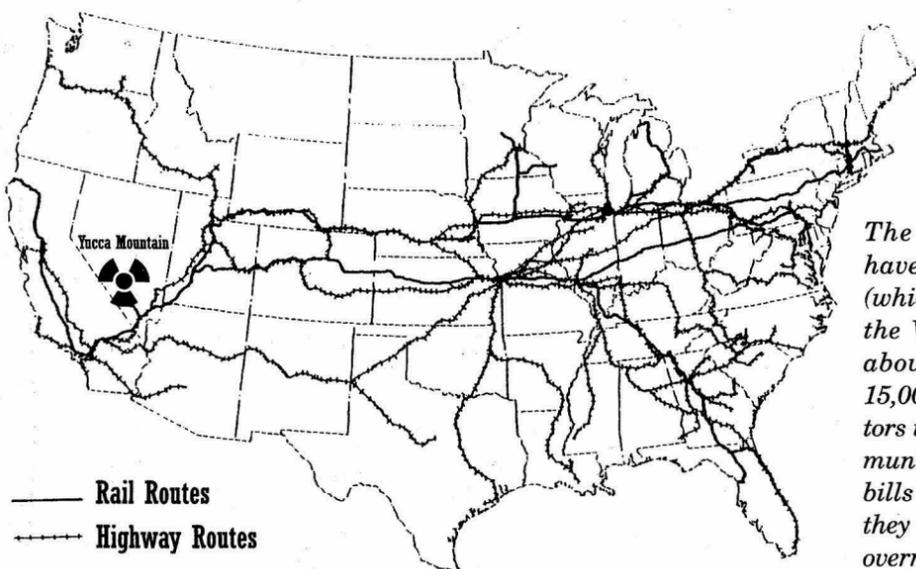
**Citizen Awareness Network**

Contact: Debby Katz (413) 339.4374

"CAN, with Greenpeace and MASS ALERT organized the "Paul Revere Alert" which transported a dozen local organizers through communities along the transportation route [of a large reactor component going to a so-called "low-level" dump in South Carolina]. Their job was to warn citizens of the impending shipments of radioactive waste from Yankee Rowe through their neighborhoods.

A Funeral Procession marched ahead of the steam generator in our local community. Citizens carried coffins 6 miles to acknowledge those citizens in our valley who had given their lives for "safe", "clean" nuclear power. We wanted to express our sorrow for the contamination of Barnwell, SC with our waste as well. "A caravan consisting of a school bus and an automobile traveled along the transport route... a network of grassroots groups organized to facilitate press conferences, publicity, and lodging. Contributions of food and other supplies were donated by citizens along the transport route. The

## Nuclear Waste Shipment Routes



Source: State of Nevada



The nuclear industry and Congress have targeted Yucca Mountain, Nevada (which is geologically-active and home of the Western Shoshone) for an "interim" above-ground nuclear waste site. Over 15,000 shipments of waste from 110 reactors would pass through thousands of communities on trains and trucks. Though the bills were defeated in Congress last year, they will come up again. The bills would override state and environmental laws and make taxpayers foot the bill for accidents.

Caravan engaged in street theater that included music, skits, and speeches informing and educating citizens of the dangerous shipment coming through their communities. Media coverage helped raise awareness about nuclear transportation, safety and health issues. The public response was outrage, indignation and action."

## Southwest

### Citizen Alert

Contact: Rick Neilson (702) 796.5662

### Shundahai Network

Contact: Reinard Knutson (805) 927.8030.

[End of summer 1996, pulling the new Mock Cask:] "We traveled over 3200 miles through five states in 32 days, participating in over 20 public events in 16 towns and cities.

These events included press conferences, community forums, rallies, marches, parades, benefit concerts, information tables, and countless tours through the streets of our host communities—23 television pieces, 18 newspaper articles and pictures, 6 radio interviews, 4 radio talk shows, 3 documentary film crews. During the entire organizing and tour period we distributed over 4200 pieces of information and collected around 1300 signatures on petitions.

"We did manage to have some fun with the cask, like driving through the valet parking lane at Bob Dole's hotel in San Diego during the Republican Convention, and asking the crowd (of mostly secret service agents) and all the television cameras if they could park our nuclear

# Nuclear Waste Laws!

waste cask for us. We promised that we would come and pick it up in 25,000 years....

During a public meeting on these proposed shipments, a DOE (Department of Energy) official told the local groups gathered that the only way to stop the shipment of nuclear waste is through a groundswell of public opposition. That is our job as activists and concerned people: to be a part of the catalyst movement that provokes the coming groundswell! We still have much work to do."

## National

### Nuclear Information & Resource Service

Contact: Mary Olson (202) 328.0002

"We beat the bill last time because people let their elected officials know that they would be held accountable for nuclear waste coming through their home town, especially on the way to a temporary site just so that nuclear power reactors can make more."

### What You Can Do!

"Contact your Senators and Rep—it does make a difference—the transportation issue is the key. Tell them that there is no place that is out of sight and out of mind, that we need a real plan before they start moving this stuff!", says Mary Olson. Capital Switchboard: (202)225-3121.

To get a specific projected route map for your

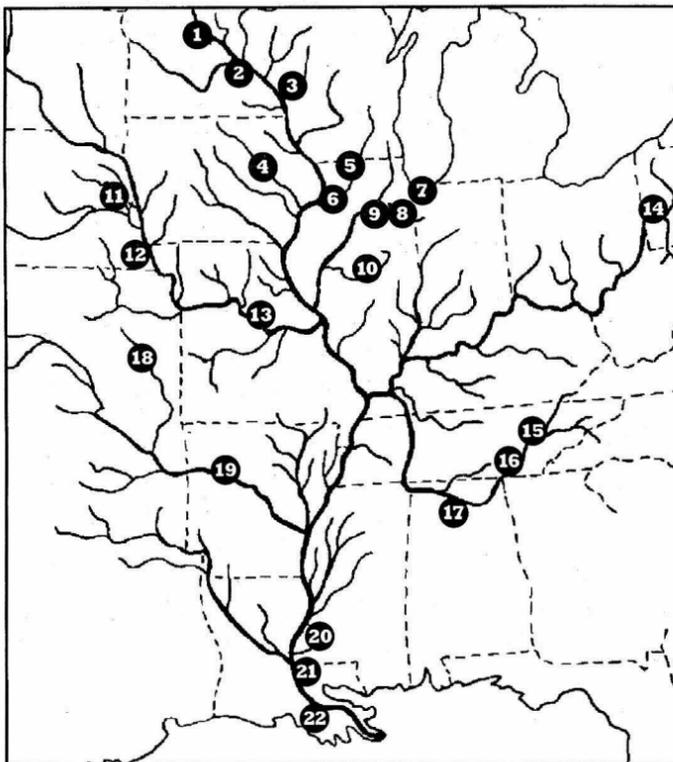
state, visit the NIRS Web Site and check out the *Don't Waste America Campaign*. Or, call NIRS for a hard copy.

Do press work or actions to let folks know that you are on the nuclear trail to Nevada. One easy action is to make poster-sized placards and label the routes in your area. "Caution, Nuclear Waste Shipping Route" works well. Follow up with a *Letter to the Editor*, or some other way

to tell folks what it is about and what to do. Saturate the airwaves—get a few friends and pick a week to call in on all the radio shows in your area that take calls—no matter what the subject is you can link it to the nuke waste shipments. Wake folks up; get the word out. Get the *NIRS Don't Waste America Petition*—we have about 40,000 signatures and we need more.

STOP A MOBILE CHERNOBYL!

# Nuclear Reactors On The Mississippi River Basin



## Nuclear Waste Piling Up In The Mississippi Basin

Highly-radioactive wastes are piling up at reactors on the Mississippi Basin with no safe way to store or transport it. With irradiated fuel pools rapidly filling, nuclear utilities are using dry cask storage and pushing Congress for a bail-out. It appears that dismantling reactors will also be tax-payer's responsibility within a de-regulated electric industry.

Flooding of reactor sites can inundate on-site wastes, disrupt safety systems, and complicate emergency escape during an accident.

The 23 nuclear plants (with a total of 35 reactors) have reported releasing over 84,000 curies† of Tritium (radioactive water routinely released with a half-life of 12 years) directly into the watershed. Of that, over 58,000 curies still persist in our environment and in our food chain. And still more is being produced and released every day.

Code	Facility	Type	Designed By	Location	Owner	Condition	Liquid Tritium Releases†
1.	Monticello	BWR	GE*	St. Cloud, MN	NSP	Cracked reactor shroud	0.0043 / 0.0021
2.	Prairie Island 1 & 2	PWR	Westinghouse**	Red Wing, MN	NSP	Ruptured steam tube October 2, 1979	11,400 / 6,700
3.	Lacrosse	BWR	Allis/Chalmers	Lacrosse, MN	Dairyland Power	Closed 1987	1,500 / 690
4.	Duane Arnold	BWR	GE	Cedar Rapids, IA	Iowa Electric Light & Power Co.		132 / 58
5.	Byron 1 & 2	PWR	Westinghouse	Rockford, IL	Commonwealth Edison Co.		10,000 / 8,000
6.	Quad Cities 1 & 2	BWR	GE	Moline, IL	Commonwealth Edison Co.	Hit by strait-line winds Outer containment damaged	430 / 230
7.	Dresden 1, 2 & 3	BWR	GE	Joliet, IL	Commonwealth Edison Co.	1- Closed in 1978	542 / 270
8.	Braidwood 1 & 2	PWR	Westinghouse	Joliet, IL	Commonwealth Edison Co.	Ruptured steam tube October 1993	3,700 / 3,000
9.	LaSalle County 1 & 2	BWR	GE	Ottawa, IL	Commonwealth Edison Co.		12 / 8
10.	Clinton	BWR	GE	Bloomington, IL	Illinois Power Co.		17 / 13
11.	Fort Calhoun	PWR	CE***	Omaha, NE	Omaha Public Power District	Ruptured steam tube May 1984	4,000 / 2,400
12.	Cooper Station	BWR	GE	Auburn, NE	Nebraska Public Power District	Within 2.5 ft. of flooding July 1993	160 / 98
13.	Callaway	PWR	Westinghouse	Columbia, MO	Union Electric Co.		8,700 / 6,800
14.	Beaver Valley 1 & 2	PWR	Westinghouse	Pittsburgh, PA	Duquesne Light Co.	Ruptured steam tube July, 1998	6,300 / 4,300
15.	Watts Bar	PWR	Westinghouse	Rockwood, TN	Tennessee Valley Authority	Open Feb. 1996, 23 yrs. to build, \$5 billion, last reactor built	-
16.	Sequoyah 1 & 2	PWR	Westinghouse	Chattanooga, TN	Tennessee Valley Authority		11,900 / 8,500
17.	Browns Ferry 1, 2 & 3	BWR	GE	Dacatur, AL	Tennessee Valley Authority		314 / 170
18.	Wolf Creek	PWR	Westinghouse	Emporia, KS	Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corp.		5,700 / 4,500
19.	Arkansas Nuclear 1 & 2	PWR	B & W****	Russelville, AR	Entergy Operations Inc.	Ruptured steam tube, 03/92 Largest single source of tritium in river basin	11,900 / 8,000
20.	Grand Gulf	BWR	GE	Natchez, MS	Entergy Operations Inc.		230 / 180
21.	River Bend	BWR	GE	Baton Rouge, LA	Gulf States Utility Co.		250 / 200
22.	Waterford	PWR	CE	New Orleans, LA	Entergy Operations Inc.		4,750 / 3,700
23.	Fort St. Vrain	Gas	General Atomic	South Platte River	Public Service of Colorado	(Closed, Not Shown)	

† First number refers to the amount of curies of tritium released into the environment over the course of the plants existence. The second number refers to the amount of curies of tritium that have not yet decayed and are currently in the environment, causing damage.

†† A curie is a measure of radioactivity. It measures how fast the radioactive material decays. As it decays, it emits damaging radiation. One curie represents 37 billion atoms decaying per second. Radioactive materials (such as tritium, strontium 90, iodine 131, and cesium 137) routinely-released from nuke plants are not x-rays (as so-called "background radiation" is), but rather are substances that can be ingested and cause harm from inside a person's body.

\*GE: Reactors designed by General Electric. Many of these have core shrouds that are cracked. Core shroud cracking can lead to loss of reactor shut down ability during accident conditions. The containment buildings of Boiling Water Reactors (BWR) include safety systems that vent radioactive pressure into the environment to avoid a core meltdown. BWRs can release as much as 1000 times more airborne tritium, which is far more dangerous (full data unavailable at this time) than liquid tritium.

\*\*Westinghouse: Reactors designed by Westinghouse Electric Corp. There have been 17 nuclear utility lawsuits against Westinghouse over cracked and leaking steam generators. The steam generators were made with a bad design and the wrong metal. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) estimates that cracking in the Pressurized Water Reactors (PWR) steam generator tubes is now so bad that a given plant can "have cracks in the 10s" and by only 18 months later, have cracks "in the 100s—or 1000s." Nuclear steam generators make up about 50% of a reactor's pressure containment (the water doesn't boil because it's under very high pressure). Multiple steam generators tube ruptures can lead to reactor meltdown. There have been a total of 5 single tube ruptures in the Mississippi River Basin so far.

\*\*\*CE: Reactors designed by Combustion Engineering. These PWRs are having the same steam generator problems as Westinghouse reactors.

\*\*\*\* B&W: Reactors designed by Babcock & Wilcox. These PWRs are also having steam generator problems.

Sources: Steam generator failures - PIC intervention in the NSP vs. Westinghouse lawsuit and NRC inquiries. Tritium releases: NRC reports.

## Get More Info!

### Nuclear Information & Resource Service

1424 16th Street North, Suite 601

Washington, DC 20036

Telephone (202) 328.0002

Fascimile (202) 462.2183

NIRS Web Site: [www.nirs.org](http://www.nirs.org)

Contact: Mary Olson

# Confronting Nuclear Racism!

## Nuclear Racism As Old As The Industry

The following quotes are from a coded phone conversation about the first nuclear fission chain reaction held between Enrico Fermi's lab in Chicago and Harvard University on December 2, 1942 (taken from the cover of Earth Island Institute's "Race, Poverty and Environment Journal," Spring/Summer 1995).

Lab: "The Italian navigator has landed in the New World."

University: "How did he find the natives?"

Lab: "Very friendly!"

From the very start, the nuclear industry was disrespectful to people of color.



Photo by Tom Berry

*Pueblo of Laguna miners at the Anaconda Jackpile Mine, the world's largest open-pit uranium mine. All 5 miners in this picture have died of cancer-related illnesses. Though the mine is now closed, negative health effects continue to plague the Pueblo.*

## The Nuclear Industry's Practice Of Racism

Now, at every link in the nuclear chain, communities of color and the poor bear a disproportionate share of the destruction and risks associated with radiation exposures from nuclear waste and failing nuclear technology. Minnesota-based Northern States Power Co. (NSP), a telling example, operates two reactors on Prairie Island next to the Mdewakanton Dakota Community near Red Wing, Minnesota. During construction of the reactors, NSP-sponsored bone digs of burial mounds at the reactor site.

The continued operation of reactors means the continued accommodation of the entire nuclear power chain—from uranium mining to reactor operation to waste dumps—and all of its crises and failures. Nuclear utilities, such as NSP, are running out of space to store nuclear waste inside reactor buildings and are turning to dry cask storage technology to store the waste outside—either on site or off-site—on concrete slabs.

In the mounting crisis, NSP is playing a leadership role to accommodate further profiteering off of the production of nuclear waste by targeting communities of color and rural communities for storage of its waste. With pressures to accept nuclear facilities, community members are often pitted against each other and other communities.

Nuclear racism is a fundamental link in the global nuclear chain. Without racism, the whole nuclear industry could not continue or exist. Uranium is mined and milled on Hopi, Navajo, Pueblo and Cree lands in North America, and on aboriginal homelands in Australia and South Africa. NSP owns part of a uranium fuel fabrication plant

proposed next to an African-American community in Homer, Louisiana (this project was recently defeated).

Through Congress and private deals, NSP heads up the nuclear industry's attempts to dump U.S. utilities' radioactive waste on tribal lands throughout North America. Communities affected include: Western Shoshone at Yucca Mountain in Nevada, Skull Valley Goshutes in Utah, Mescalero Apache in New Mexico, Meadow Lake First Nations in northern Saskatchewan and Sagkeeng First Nation in Manitoba.

## Confronting Nuclear Racism

On September 11 and 12, 1995, the Prairie Island Coalition brought together representatives of the communities of color listed above—communities from around North America affected by NSP's nuclear chain and local activists. The purpose of the retreat was to educate the public about the realities of nuclear racism. "Confronting Nuclear Racism", the report generated from the retreat, tells the stories of seven of the communities, illustrated with photos of the speakers and related events.



Photo by D. Karkhat

*Rufina Laws of the Mescalero Apache traveled up from New Mexico to Prairie Island to add her voice to the 800 other people protesting on August 27th. In the report "Confronting Nuclear Racism", she states, "Nuclear energy and its waste were created in arrogance and corruption, and continue to expand the power of wealth and corruption throughout the entire world by the sacrifice of people of color upon its unholy altar."*

These communities—and others—are coming together to share the responsibility and the solutions to nuclear racism in a democratic fashion against the pretend democracy that links the nuclear chain.

## It's Time To End Nuclear Racism

The solutions to nuclear racism are evident and obvious. Throughout North America, we waste over half of the electricity we consume while nuclear power only supplies one quarter of our electricity. Utility regulations prevent investments into conservation and renewable energy technologies from earning a fair return. So long as electric utility regulations protect centralized power station investments, such as nuclear and coal-fired power plants, the contradiction created between the profit that utility investors want and the energy services that society needs will not be resolved.

From society's perspective, utility regulations should be changed to reward the efficient use of renewable energy resources. When that happens, society can finally work to minimize the effects of the nuclear chain.

Public utilities must serve the public, not private profit interests. Empower the people, not enrichen the powerful. It's time for decision makers and the nuclear industry to heed this call—End Nuclear Racism!



Photo by Rob Meyer

*On August 27, 1994, 800 people marched to the gates of the Prairie Island nuke plant, a mere few hundred yards from the center of the Prairie Island Mdewakanton Dakota Community. The PIC-sponsored rally showed the massive opposition to the proposed dry-cask storage system that would not only further endanger the tribe and the Mississippi river, but also perpetuate the production of highly-radioactive nuclear waste.*

## We Need Your Help!

We need your support and your cash to continue our work. In addition to what you've read about here, we want to make our information more accessible to the public and we need your help to do it.

Please send contributions to:

**Prairie Island Coalition /  
North American Water Office**

P.O. Box 174  
Lake Elmo, Minnesota 55042-0174

Dec. 1996 Designed by... *Studio Flux*  
"Facing the '90's head-on with creative, ecologically-minded design solutions."

## Get More Info!

**Prairie Island Coalition /  
North American Water Office**

P.O. Box 174  
Lake Elmo, Minnesota 55042-0174  
Telephone (612) 333.5807 or 770.3861  
Facsimile (612) 333.2326  
Email: e-cycles@spacestar.net  
or bdrew@igc.apc.org  
Contact Shean Bjoralt or Bruce Drew

To obtain a copy of the 1996 PIC report "Confronting Nuclear Racism", please send \$15 c/o Confronting Nuclear Racism to the address above.

## Dear Princess Di, Stumps don't lie.

BY DAVIS REDWOOD ACTION TEAM

It was a large, imposing edifice seemingly constructed to strike fear in the most dedicated of activists. Across from it, six of us stood ready to take action for the sake of preserving all 60,000 acres of Headwaters Forest. Forest fairies had constructed a 600-pound, bark-covered, reinforced-concrete stump, complete with rebar and PVC pipes for lockdown enjoyment. Now, the task of transporting the tree effigy up to the 36th floor of 525 Market Street in San Francisco loomed before us.

Our destination? The office of the Dishonorable Senator Dianne Feinstein. While Canis and Sage tried to distract the formidable matron at the security desk by asking for directions, Frog and Simple wheeled the stump, disguised as a computer monitor and printer, through the cavernous lobby in an attempt to reach the elevators. The matron, unimpressed by the diversion, marched to confront our uniformed delivery men. We all thought the action had been thwarted, but she directed them to the freight elevator. Meanwhile, Strix and Flora proceeded to the 36th floor, as planned. "Looking like America," they were dressed in their best corporate costumes and were never questioned. As they rode up the elevators they slipped chains around their wrists, anticipating the lockdown.

Meanwhile, Simple and Frog tried to negotiate the 600-pound delivery over the three-inch ledge of the freight elevator. Boom! "Hmmm... them computers made out of lead, son?" They bravely persevered and delivered the goods to Di Fi's front door. Flora and Strix quickly locked their wrists to the stump. Sage and Canis started calling the media. Strix and Flora had a statement prepared for Di Fi staffers—all 60,000 acres and all six ancient groves should be preserved, and they weren't leaving Princess Di's doorstep until she reopened negotiations with Prince Charles (Hurwitz).

It wasn't long before the Federal Protective Services showed their faces and tried to negotiate with Flora and Strix. After the Feds ousted Canis and Sage from the building, Strix and Flora were isolated but prepared for intimidation. The G-men wanted them to unlock themselves in exchange for the ear of "Dianne's right-hand man." Flora and Strix informed them that they had faxed, phoned, e-mailed and sent letters to her with no reply. For the next hour and a half, the Feds tried to convince Strix and Flora to unlock, using various methods ranging from threats of arrest and repayment for "damages," to talking about pizza, mochas and scones. Strix and Flora did not budge. TV and radio reporters arrived on the scene but were banned from the 36th floor. One courageous KGO reporter made it to within 15 feet and tried yelling questions. But the now-obnoxious Feds turned the squelch on their radios to the maximum, drowning out the protesters' voices.

Then the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) showed up, sending the Feds on their way. The SFPD called the Fire Department and asked them to free Strix and Flora by cutting through the concrete stump. Muttering under their breaths that they too found Di Fi's deal rotten to the core, the firefighters used a sledgehammer in an effort to break up the concrete. When this proved futile, they tried using a chisel, then an electric drill. "This isn't normal concrete," they declared in awe, having made almost no progress. The red fuzz resorted to using a penlight and peering down the PVC. Unfortunately, the pipe was wide and the protesters' forearms narrow. The firefighters were able to see the chain around Strix's wrist and used a diamond saw to cut through it. After Strix was cuffed, they asked Flora to unlock. She stalled. Finally, the cops realized they had one female officer whose forearm was small enough to fit in the PVC pipe. She fumbled for ten minutes, then slipped the chain from Flora's wrist.

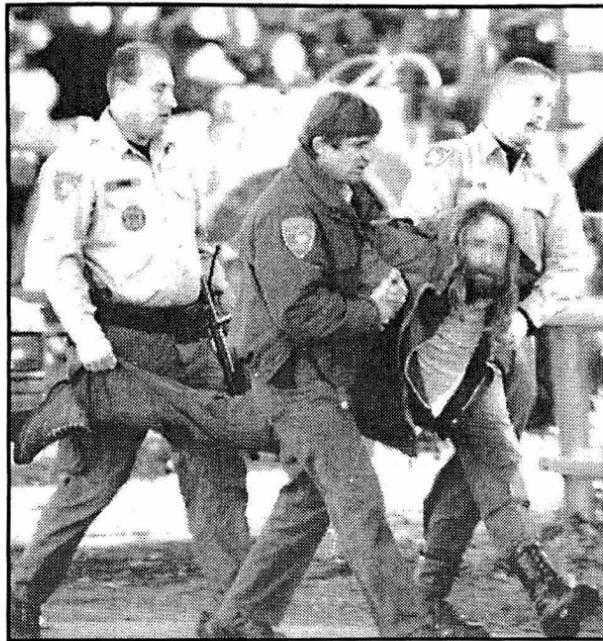
Flora and Strix were booked on charges of conspiracy (a felony), resisting/delaying arrest and trespassing. However, charges were not pressed by the SF District Attorney but will not be officially dropped until a year after the arrest.

# Headwaters Forest Actions Continue...

*continued from the front page*  
salvage operations, "due to the threat to public peace and the general welfare," failed to reach the required five-vote quorum.

In a separate case in federal court, Judge Bechtel, the same man who granted the 1995 salvage logging injunction for Headwaters, refused to allow evidence documenting Pacific Lumber's violations of their salvage logging agreement. Bechtel ruled that the evidence had been gathered while trespassing and therefore was not admissible.

To slow Pacific Lumber's continued operations, activities at base camp reached a frenzied pace. Non-violence and backwoods trainings were provided daily as new activists continued to arrive. Documentation and reconnaissance missions by the "Ecotopia Department of Forestry" (EDF) kept a watchful eye on salvage operations. Recon teams had little time to rest as



Citizens taken for a ride by the Headwaters Forest "deal"

Pacific Lumber swiftly moved logging crews from grove to grove. One reconnaissance on November 4 became a spontaneous action as three forest defenders were forced to cat and mouse a crew working in Allen Creek Grove. The surprised salvage crew spent the whole afternoon trying to contain the quick activists, while their CAT D9s sat silent.

Fisher Gate, Pacific Lumber's main entrance to Headwaters became the focus of weekly lockdowns and blockades. Morning crews on October 12 found eight activists locked together in a human chain with concrete and steel lockboxes. Logging traffic was held up for hours as brave human shields faced a variety of saws and jackhammers.

Steel lockboxes were used by the Thorns of Justice affinity group at a 4:30 am blockade on October 30. Humboldt County Sheriff and Pacific Lumber employees were stymied for hours, unable to cut through the heavy gauge metal (never use anything less than 40 gauge steel). Loggers arriving to work were forced to step over the forest defenders and walk to shuttles. The festivities were enhanced by the spontaneous blockade of a log truck attempting to circumvent the Thorns by way of public access on Fisher Road. As more log trucks arrived, those sitting in the road refused to move despite police threats of pepper spray. Their convictions strong, the blockaders prevailed, howling wildly as the log trucks retreated and the police backed down. By morning's end, 13 more forest defenders had been arrested (some were brought to jail still linked with uncut lockboxes).

On November 12 the Wooden Shoes affinity group, largely comprised of the jail support folk who had waited patiently for their turn at action, blockaded Fisher Road. A flare lit the pre-dawn darkness illuminating a fence made of chicken wire, yarn, bike chains, forest defender artwork, a walker, a VW rabbit with holes for three lockboxes and eight forest defenders (including two grandmothers for Headwaters). The hoedown heated up as California Highway Patrol officers tackled the tango-ing Feinstein and Hurwitz clones. All 15 arrestees went on a hunger strike, refusing to eat until their demands of the increasingly violent Humboldt sheriffs and Highway Patrol were met. The demands included an independent review

board, mandatory non-violence training for all officers and an end to the deputization of Pacific Lumber loggers to arrest protesters in the woods.

In addition to direct action that focused on slowing Pacific Lumber at the point of destruction, numerous rallies, demonstrations and jail vigils kept hammering the message home that Headwaters Forest had not been saved. Rallies were held at the California Department of Forestry, Pacific Lumber's main mill in Scotia and in the Arcata town plaza. The Earth First! Anarchy Theater troupe materialized in many public forums with a 15-foot-tall Charles Hurwitz holding hostage Dianne Feinstein, the Humboldt sheriffs, Pacific Lumber President John Campbell and Congressman "Rank Piggs" on puppet strings. A Critical Mass bike ride against police brutality resulted in 13 arrests and hundreds of citations when overzealous Humboldt sheriffs pulled riders at random from Highway 101. On October 25, a banner declaring: "Salvage Logging Kills Coho" appeared over the USFWS building in response to the delay in listing of coho salmon (an old-growth dependent species) as endangered because of corporate timber interests.

As November 15 approached, organizers wanted to mark two months of actions with a demonstration for folks to renew their commitment to defend Headwaters. In theory it was easy; folks in salmon costume would cross the line, much like the 1,033 did on September 15, be cited, then released. Mailers and PSAs went out to thousands, and communication with county sheriffs was even established to find what their response might be.

The demo, which attracted over 400 folks, began peacefully with music, speakers and continued cries for all 60,000 acres. Over 100 law enforcement officers in riot gear were on hand to remind us of their commitment to allow Pacific Lumber to pillage the last of the ancient redwoods. As willing arrestees with salmon cutouts in tow approached the "blue line," it became obvious that law enforcement had plans for a statement of their own. Police riot lines formed, bullying the crowd up and down the narrow Fisher Road. In true Gestapo style, riot cops in two's and three's marched out into the crowd arresting videographers and known rally organizers. Our hours of non-violence preparation paid off, as the crowd and appointed peacekeepers kept their cool despite the earnest attempts of riot cops to provoke a riot and find an excuse for pepper spray and tear gas. By darkness, over 70 fresh activists clogged the Humboldt Co. Jail.

Unexpectedly, the tactics meant to "teach us a lesson" have landed the County Sheriff and Humboldt County Board of Supervisors a giant public relations crisis as mainstream, community-based Headwaters activists voice their outrage at the violent and riot-provoking police behavior on November 15. Our demands for a genuine Citizen Review Board and mandatory non-violence training for all law enforcement officers in Humboldt County could become a reality.

Salvage logging ceased on November 13 with an announcement by Pacific Lumber PR hack Mary Bullwinkle that two million board feet of "salvage" had been taken out of All-Species, Shaw and Allen Creek Groves.

Our ability to kill the deal and save all 60,000 acres of Headwaters forest depends on our future ability to get as many forest defenders into the woods and at the point of destruction as possible. Our collective political power, spoken largely through nonviolent direct action, came close to stopping the logging this year. With large-scale community support and the Headwaters name in the fight to save ancient forest, 1997 could very well be the year we win a crucial victory that could turn the tide.

To the thousands that came to Humboldt to defend Headwaters, local organizers extend their deepest thanks. We couldn't have done it without you. As one organizer testified at the recent Humboldt County Board of Supervisors meeting, "Last year we had 350 arrests, this year we had over 1,300 arrests and next year, with public outrage growing, we could easily have four or five thousand arrested. As long as MAXXAM is cutting ancient redwoods, we'll be in the woods and at the gates to stop them..."

# MITSUBISHI BOYCOTT FOCUS OF WORLD RAINFOREST WEEK

BY SABRINA ALONSO

The Mitsubishi corporate family hates October. Every year, for the World Rainforest Week celebration, activists mobilize internationally to protest Mitsubishi's involvement in forest destruction, human rights abuses and cultural genocide. This year, actions in Washington State, San Francisco, Portland, Los Angeles, Boulder, Phoenix, Tokyo and Australia tar-

geted ships, corporate offices, banks, university offices and even pro-basketball games with non-violent civil disobedience.

largest single-line, bleach-kraft pulp mill in the world. Mitsubishi also controls the largest milling operation, Eidai do Brazil, in the Amazon. All over the world, Mitsubishi has its hand in environmental destruction and devastation.

On October 16, Union Bank of California offices in Portland and San Francisco were targeted. Union Bank of California is 81 percent owned by Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, the financial arm

representation for students, staff and faculty on the Investment Advisory Committee, which oversees university investments. Students also asked school officials to expand this committee's oversight to include environmental concerns, human rights and other social and political issues.

Other demonstrations occurred in Phoenix, Arizona and Los Angeles, California. In Phoenix, activists from Apu's Son Rainforest Alliance and Tucson-

Mitsubishi's investment with UNOCAL in building a petroleum pipeline through the middle of Burma's rainforest and Mitsubishi's cooperation with the State Law and Order Restoration Committee, Burma's tyrannical military dictatorship. [See article p. 13.] Mr. Yosikawa's response was that Mitsubishi cannot interfere with human rights violations in a country they do business in. "We have a responsibility to our shareholders... regardless of what we think, we cannot interfere in politics."

Australian activists from the Native Forest Network and Friends of the Earth protested at an Australian National Basketball League game sponsored by Mitsubishi. Activists asked the League to drop Mitsubishi sponsorship of games and demanded that Mitsubishi stop buying woodchips from North Forest Products.

On the morning of October 29, activists shut down the *Super Rubin*, a massive log-export ship at the Port of Longview, Washington. Three climbers repelled off the side of the ship with a 60-foot banner reading, "Protect Our Forests! Stop Raw Log Exports! Boycott Mitsubishi!" Two activists locked to the cranes, while two others locked into the crow's nest. Around noon, police started removing activists from the ship and didn't finish until the end of the day. The activists were each held on \$25,000 bail and charged with felony sabotage of interstate trade.

Rainforest Action Network will continue its campaign of non-violent direct action against Mitsubishi until Mitsubishi ends its destructive operations and human rights violations around the world. RAN works to protect the earth's rainforests and support the rights of their inhabitants through education, grassroots organizing and non-violent direct action. If you would like more information or would like to get involved in the Boycott Mitsubishi campaign, contact RAN at 450 Sansome St. Suite 700, San Francisco, CA 94111; (415) 398-4404.



Rainforest Action Network climbers shut down the *Super Rubin* from exporting raw logs with a banner on one side and climbers on the cranes.

of the Mitsubishi "kerietsu" (corporate family).

At the University of Colorado-Boulder, students continue to demand an end to the university's financial ties with Mitsubishi. Fearing student pressure, the Board of Regents recently adopted a stance of "institutional neutrality in social and political matters." The decision denies students, staff and faculty say in how university money is spent. It also means business as usual for Mitsubishi. Following a rally on campus, 40 student leaders representing several campus groups marched to the President's office. They demanded

based Rainforest Action Group kept pressure up with a 25-foot banner reading "Mitsubishi Destroys Rainforests," seen by thousands of motorists. In Los Angeles, activists from the LA Campaign for a Free Burma protested outside the warehouse of a TV wholesaler that sells Mitsubishi Electronics' big-screen televisions and held a candlelight vigil for justice in Burma.

In Tokyo, Japan, human rights activists met at Mitsubishi Corporation's world headquarters with the Director of Mitsubishi Corporation's Asian Environmental Section, Mr. Shegeki Yosikawa. Activists discussed

## Mitsubishi Shutdown in Portland High-Rise

BY JEANNE PATTON

As part of Rainforest Action Network's (RAN) international day of action protesting Mitsubishi's global forest destruction, October 16, Portland RAN activists "delivered" a non-violent direct action at the Pacwest Center in downtown Portland, which houses both Mitsubishi International and Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi. It was a two-part action involving a banner hang and a lockdown in the lobby.

On the morning of the action timing was crucial! At 8:15 am, activists gathered at a parking lot a block from the building. Six people were needed to remove each 600-pound steel drum from each vehicle. At 8:20 am, two climbers, dressed in trench coats and carrying a huge duffle bag, headed for the building with their support person. Their goal: to reach the 25th floor, walk through a Merrill Lynch office onto the balcony and set up for a banner hanging without alerting security. At 8:25 am, three lock-down people headed for the building. Through the back entrance, two "delivery people" dollied in two 600-pound boxes, accompanied by two "bicycle messengers." Meanwhile, one "light-headed, confused patron" approached the security desk.

By 8:30 am, a rally was forming and media was gathering. On the balcony, the climbers secured anchor points and climbed over the railing before the first security guard appeared. In the lobby, the "light-headed, confused patron" fainted at the security desk, providing a distraction while the "delivery people"

wheeled in boxes with the help of the "bike messengers." The cardboard was quickly torn away, and three activists locked into two bright yellow steel drums painted with the message, "Save The Rainforest-Boycott Mitsubishi." By 10 am, 17 police cars, a paddy wagon and a hook-and-ladder truck had arrived with 34 police officers and 15 firefighters.

Before agreeing to leave the building, the activists asked the vice-president of Mitsubishi International's Portland office to meet with RAN representative Michael Marx. Having been publicly embarrassed, Mitsubishi was quick to comply. Within two hours Marx met with the vice-president and arranged a phone meeting with the vice-president of communications for Mitsubishi International in New York City.

The activists successfully reached their goals: meeting with Mitsubishi's corporate heads, sending a strong message to the public to "Boycott Mitsubishi" and standing in solidarity with activists around the world to let multinational corporations know that we will no longer put up with their destructive practices!

The action teams voluntarily unlocked and climbed back to the balcony. Six were arrested. The three locked down were charged with criminal trespass. The climbers' support person was charged with criminal mischief and the two climbers were charged with both criminal trespass and criminal mischief.

The group is currently organizing a benefit in Portland to raise funds for legal defense. For more information please contact Jeanne Patton at (503) 233-1139.

# Mitsubishi Bank Target of Rainforest Action Network Protest

BY HEATHER SARANTIS AND JIM ACE

In San Francisco, the Boycott Mitsubishi Campaign had a message to send to the Mitsubishi corporate family: pressure will continue as long as Mitsubishi invests in and profits from destruction, exploitation and oppression of the earth and people on nearly every continent. The target this time: Mitsubishi-owned Union Bank of California.

The climbers' demands included a meeting between Rainforest Action Network, the President of Union Bank of California and the Branch Manager of the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi. RAN wants to meet with bank officials to discuss investments in Mitsubishi Corporation's destructive operations. Union Bank of California is 81 percent owned by Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, the financial arm of the Mitsubishi corporate family.

At the 5:40 am "go" signal, the team left the staging area for the unsuspecting bank. Other peacekeeping/support people were already in place on the street, lingering discreetly at a distance. The team walked nonchalantly down the quiet, semi-lit financial district street wearing backpacks, climbing harnesses and diapers while connected by a curtain line. The building had been scouted extensively, so only one security guard was expected.

With adrenaline peaking, the climbers did what they had practiced for months. The climbing devices (stirrups made from one inch tubular webbing) were wrapped around the 16-foot circumference columns and locked into carabiners. After a final safety check, the climbers began the ascent. The race was on. The climbers had to get out of reach before discovery by security.

Minutes later, at 5:50 am, an ambitious, nosy employee who was going to work early noticed people climbing the columns of the bank and rushed to the security desk. If the guard had grabbed the climbers it could have endangered their lives and certainly the action. If not for the quick thinking of the ground support people, it could have gotten dangerous. JC and

Mokai began using their brooms to sweep the columns and sidewalk. When the security guard came to investigate, JC used his Jedi mind control talents and calmly told the security guard that the climbers were column washers simply doing their jobs. The security guard bought it and the climbers had the time they needed to get out of the grabbing range of security, police and angry employees. As the climbers ascended the columns, a bank custodian came out to watch.

Stirruping the fluted columns was no easy task. The climb was painstakingly slow and difficult, especially with the weight of a banner and gear. The climbers had 20 to 50 pounds on their backs and it took over two hours to climb 33 feet. After police and media arrived, the climbers decided it was time to deploy the banner.

The supporters quieted as the 35 x 25-foot banner was fed out across a curtain line. Finally, after the weights were attached, the banner went "poof." It hung taught and flat, reading "Stop Earth Destroyers! Boycott Mitsubishi's Union Bank of California! Rainforest Action Network."

By about 8 am, the San Francisco Police Department had called a commander to the scene. The SWAT team was summoned, along with a ladder truck from the Fire Department. The ladder truck swung its massive ladder around the front of the columns. The intensity built quickly with the threat of a SWAT team assault on the non-violent climbers.

The climbers worked to slow down the progress of the police using "good



Union Bank Of California employees were in for a big surprise when the "pillar cleaners" were actually banner hangers!

activist/bad activist" tactics to buy more time for the action. Heather seemed to cooperate and communicate fully, while Jim yelled about the dangerous situation and safety issues. After several trips up and down the ladder, the cop finally cut the banner as the crowd booed and hissed. Heather delighted the media and the crowd by pulling a second, smaller banner out of her backpack.

Meanwhile, a massive support demonstration was building. Hundreds of onlookers joined Earth First!, RAN, SF Food Not Bombs, Industrial Workers of the World, Friends of the Forests, Sierra Club and other organizations supporting the climbers and lightening the mood with drumming, songs and chants.

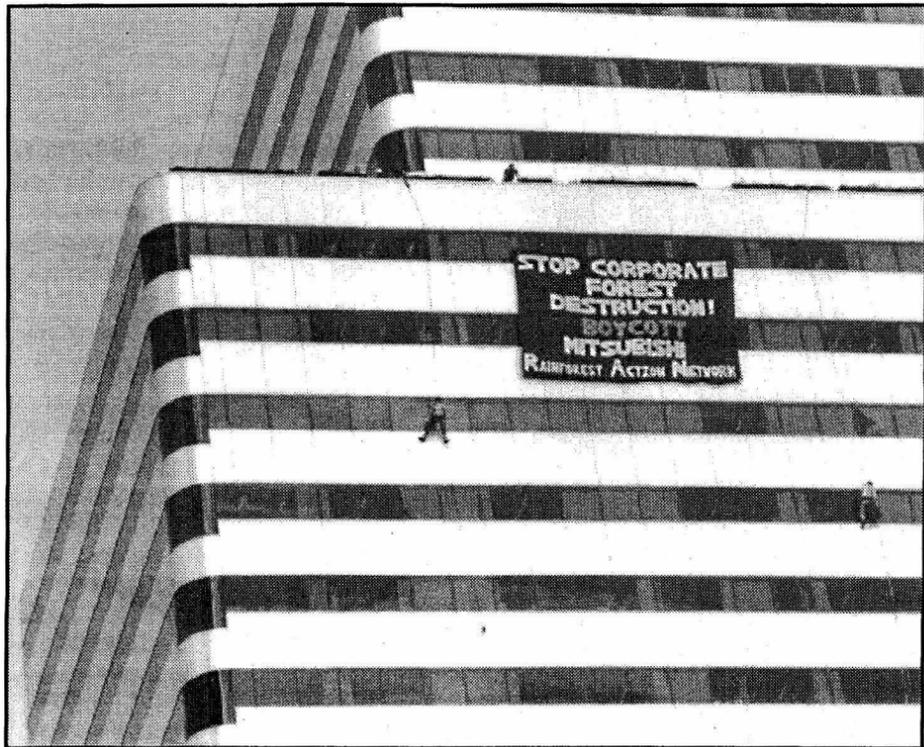
While the "authorities" scratched their heads, the climbers began to work the media. Reporters who showed up from radio, TV and print were invited to speak directly to the climbers via UHF radios. Heather called other media outlets by cellular phone to give live interviews while hanging from the building. The media loved it!

Finally the SWAT team turned at-

tention to the climbers. As media and hundreds of supporters and onlookers waited, the climbers and their support people had to make a strategic decision: to come down now and get the "arrest shot" or stay and hang out. For safety and media exposure the climbers decided to come down. It went smoothly as each climber reached the bottom of the extension ladder and began yelling sound bites to the whirring TV cameras. The message got out: Mitsubishi is one of the world's worst corporate forest destroyers.

The raucous demonstration on the ground continued until after the climbers were down and included breakfast by San Francisco Food Not Bombs. For days following the action people continued to hand out flyers at the bank, establishing a clear impression of consistent pressure.

Plans are already in the works for the next action in San Francisco to keep pressure on the Union Bank of California. Thanks to people all over the world who made the October 16 day of International Action a success and thank you for your support! Boycott Mitsubishi!



In a daring action high above the streets of Portland, Rainforest Action Network climbers get the Mitsubishi boycott message across.

## SEA TURTLE STRANDINGS SOAR

Sea turtle strandings soared in 1996 and conservationists blame shrimp fishers and government inaction for the slaughter. By October, 2,326 sea turtles, including 282 highly endangered Kemp's ridleys, had washed up dead on US beaches, with two full months left in the shrimping season. The stranded sea turtles are only a fraction of the number actually killed; most do not wash ashore and are never found and recorded. Some scientists believe strandings represent only 10 to 20 percent of true mortality.

For the past three years record numbers of endangered sea turtles have washed up dead, resulting in three separate lawsuits filed against the National Marine Fisheries Service. Two years after stating that it would eliminate inefficient Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) to slow the massacre, the agency re-

mains paralyzed in inaction. TEDs are simple mechanisms that allow sea turtles to escape shrimp fishers' nets.

Please write Undersecretary of Commerce of Oceans and Atmosphere, D. James Baker and ask for immediate action. Demand shrimp fishing moratoriums in critical areas, increased enforcement of current regulations (including undercover operations), a ban on soft TEDs, and the use of TEDs in try (sampling) nets.

D. James Baker, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution, Room 5230, Washington, DC 20230; (202) 482-3426; fax 408-9674.

Please send a copy to Rolland Schmitt, Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

# FBI Lawsuit Update

continued from the front page

For example:

Lie #1—The search warrant states that FBI Special Agent Frank Doyle claimed that the bomb “was on the floorboard behind the driver’s seat when it detonated” (and therefore, supposedly, we should have seen it and known it was there). This is disproved by the police’s own crime scene photos, which show the hole in the car’s floorboard to be clearly under the driver’s seat and the back seat still intact. Also, the FBI’s own bomb expert from the Headquarters lab in DC, Special Secret Agent David R. Williams, has testified that the bomb was fully hidden under my car seat, and that this was obvious from the damage to my car.

Lie #2—The search warrant also quotes Special Agent Doyle as saying that “a separate bag of nails was discovered in the vehicle that are identical to the nails taped to the explosive device.” We have studied the evidence lists and viewed and photographed all the nails. We can now prove that the nails taped to the bomb were finishing nails and the nails found in a bag in my car were roofing nails or sinkers, different to the naked eye from the nails in the bomb.

Lie #3—FBI bomb expert SSA Williams has also testified that the bomb was triggered by a motion device, consisting of a large ball bearing that had to roll to connect two contact points. We have also seen and photographed this ball bearing in the FBI’s evidence room. The fact that the bomb was hidden under my car seat and triggered by the motion of my car certainly undermines FBI/OPD claims that a reasonable officer could have thought I was anything but the intended target of the bomb.

Lie #4—In the warrant for the second search of my home, OPD Sergeant Sitterud claims he was told by FBI lab expert Williams that nails were found in my house that matched nails in the bomb “in a batch of 200-1,000 nails.” Williams has testified that he never said that, and that nails are made in batches of millions, and cannot be matched on that scale.

## FBI Prior Knowledge

Besides this physical evidence and testimony revealing their lies, we have learned quite a bit in the past year about the FBI’s operations against EF! at the time of the bombing. We are still battling the FBI for release of files and information, but the information that we have succeeded in prying loose has been very interesting, revealing new layers of FBI wrongdoing.

Throughout their sworn testimony in this case, the FBI agents have repeatedly said that they had never heard of Darryl or me before the bombing, and they were not investigating Earth First! In 1991, the FBI even made this claim in writing to Congress, in a reply to a set of questions from Congressman Frank Riggs.

Yet the Oakland Police have said in their sworn testimony that the FBI appeared at the bombing scene and told the OPD that Darryl and I were known terrorists, that we were Earth First!ers and that we were “the type of individuals who would be involved in transporting bombs.”

One small victory that we have won in the past year was forcing the FBI to reveal the file passages (which they originally blacked out) that show who is lying. And surprise! It’s the FBI. Their own field report, written minutes after the bomb exploded, states that Darryl and I were already known to the FBI and were “the subjects of an investigation in the terrorist department.” This charge, along with references to Earth First!, is also repeated in two other reports written just after the bombing and originally withheld from us.

This information is important for several reasons. First, it shows that the FBI lied under oath and that they lied in writing to Congress in 1991. It also gives credence to our claim that the true motive for the bombing arrest was to discredit Earth First!.

But even more importantly, it shows the FBI engaging in illegal spying and targeting political activists in phony “terrorism” probes. Of course we are not terrorists, and we were not involved in any illegal activities that could justify the FBI’s interest in us. Instead, we were highly public organizers of mass nonviolent demonstrations, and the FBI had no right and no authorization to investigate us.

This is the exact kind of abuse of activists’ rights that

the FBI was found guilty of and ordered to cease in the COINTELPRO hearings in 1975. And this is why they lied and tried to cover up their prior knowledge of Darryl and me before the bombing.

## The Arizona EF! File

Another of our accomplishments this past year was to win a court order forcing the FBI to turn over their long-withheld San Francisco field office file on the Arizona Earth First! FBI sting operation. This operation, which lasted from 1988-1990, was a classic COINTELPRO-style campaign in which the FBI infiltrated Arizona Earth First! with agent provocateurs. These provocateurs, including Undercover Agent Michael Fain and paid FBI informant Ron Frazier, won the trust of a small group of activists over a period of two years, then convinced them to cut down a power line. The FBI agents bought the tools, taught the activists how to use them, chose the site, drove the activists there and, of course, busted them in the act.

The FBI claims that the Arizona EF! case has nothing to do with us. We claim that the case is key to ours, because it shows that, at the time of the bombing, Earth First! was an active target of an FBI COINTELPRO operation designed (in the classic words of J. Edgar Hoover) to misdirect, discredit and neutralize us.

Even more important, the FBI’s plan in Arizona was to misdirect and discredit EF! by associating us with explosives. The FBI’s code name for the Arizona EF! case

was “Thermcon,” an acronym for Thermite Conspiracy. This name is very revealing of the FBI’s motives, since there has never been thermite or any other explosive used in any EF! action, ever. But, as shown in the file, the two provocateurs spent years telling the EF!ers they could get them thermite, and trying to convince them to use it.

Eventually the FBI had to settle for getting the activists to cut down the power pole with an acetylene torch, as they were unable to convince them to use explosives. But it is important to note that Operation Thermcon did not consist of the FBI infiltrating EF! to break up a thermite conspiracy. It consisted of the FBI using provocateurs to infiltrate EF! to create a thermite conspiracy to bust. It is in the context of this ongoing COINTELPRO operation against EF!—this attempt to discredit us by linking us with explosives—that the FBI terrorist squad moved in after I was bombed in Oakland and declared Darryl and me to be the bombers.

## Local Surveillance

The San Francisco FBI field office file on the Thermcon case details the FBI’s local activities in support of the Arizona sting operation. The file shows that the very same FBI agents who were central to my case also worked on the Thermcon case, bringing into question their repeated claims that they knew little or nothing about EF! before the bombing.

Much of the local activity in the Thermcon case involved routine spying and information gathering on various public EF! leaders. Special Agent Frank Doyle, for example, performed the task of finding the directions to EF!er Karen Pickett’s house. A man named Mark Berry, who lived in Marin County and was not an EF!er or even an activist, was placed under total surveillance by the FBI because he was visited by EF!er Mark Davis, the central target of the Arizona sting. Davis and Berry were old friends who used to work together in a cabinet-making shop. Even though there was no evidence of Berry being involved in any crimes, the FBI placed a phone and mail cover on him, had agents parked outside his house following his every move, and flew surveillance planes over him. They even sent a pregnant FBI agent and a male FBI agent to check out Berry’s cabinet shop, posing as husband and wife shopping for baby furniture.

The Thermcon file pages that we have seen do not specifically show them surveilling Darryl or me, but much of the file is blacked out and there are pages missing (see below). The file does show that the FBI was conducting undercover operations against Earth First! in Mendocino County, where I live, as early as 1988. And, although the Thermcon case was closed in January 1990, the San Francisco FBI continued to put

local reports in the file in March 1990, which show that an undercover FBI informant was meeting with an undercover FBI agent once a week, somewhere in northern California. We can’t tell the subject or content of these meetings because the document is heavily blacked out. I was bombed two months later.

## Missing Documents

The strangest part of the San Francisco FBI’s Thermcon file is not what is there, but what is missing. In between the first and second documents that show the weekly meetings of undercover agents in 1990, there is a page that simply reads “Serials 141-159 were missing from this file when it was processed.” The next document in the file is from June 1990, one month after the bombing. So the missing documents cover the exact period that we are interested in, beginning right before the bombing.

The FBI lawyer has told us that there are not really any missing documents. It was just a clerical error, caused by changing their computer system. But the fact is that those serial numbers are indeed missing, and if it was just a computer error you have to wonder why the person who processed the file included the page that acknowledged the missing documents.

This is not the only case of missing file numbers in our FBI files. The main file on the bombing case seems to be missing whole sections of information. For example, there are absolutely no FBI reports in my file that document the FBI’s inspection of my bombed car and the conclusion that the bomb was in the back seat. There

are also no files that document the FBI Headquarters lab expert Williams’ trip to Oakland to inspect the bombed car, in which he informed the local FBI that the bomb was hidden under my car seat and triggered by a motion device.

And, strangely, nearly all the file numbers in the bombing case file have been crossed out and new file numbers written in. The new file numbers seem to contain hundreds of pages fewer than the old file numbers. But just as in the Thermcon file, the FBI lawyer has assured us that the files are not really missing. He says that at the time the file was made the FBI had an incompetent rotor clerk (the secretary who keeps the files), and they had to fire her and redo her work. But when we asked for the names of the incompetent rotor clerk and her replacement so we could question them under oath, the FBI simply refused to produce them. Even though we have now gotten a court order telling them to produce the rotor clerks for questioning, they have been dragging their feet and have so far not done so.

## Lingering Questions

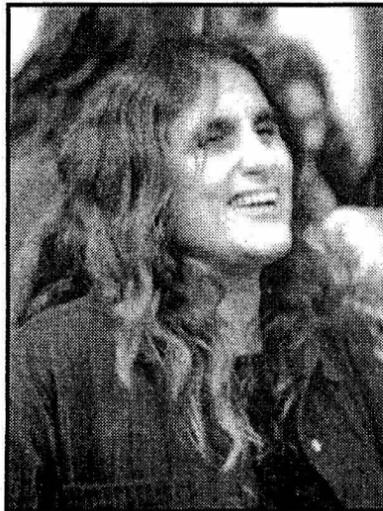
So, even though we have learned much about the bombing frame-up and the FBI’s wrongdoing in this case, there are serious questions that still need to be answered. For example, since the FBI’s records state that, at the time of the bombing, Darryl and I were “the subjects of an investigation in the terrorist department,” what were we being investigated for and where are the records of that investigation? And, if we were being investigated, were we under FBI surveillance at the time of the bombing?

These questions may never be answered. But the FBI lawsuit is the only way we have to even try to find out. We hope you will continue to support our efforts in this lawsuit, both to gain justice for the FBI abuses we have already proven and to try to get to the bottom of what really happened when I was bombed in 1990.

## Fundraising Plea

Keeping this lawsuit going for these five-and-a-half years has not been an easy task. Even though our legal team works for a small fraction of what they are worth, and often for free, the costs of pursuing a case in Federal Court are enormous. The only way we can keep this case going is with your help. Please contribute what you can to help us pursue justice. This case is not about me, Darryl or Earth First!. It is about the right of all activists to work for social change without fearing repression by the government’s secret police.

Checks should be made out to Redwood Justice Fund and mailed to Redwood Summer Justice Project, POB 14720, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. All donations are tax deductible. Thank you.



Judi Bari

Photo by Nick Wilson

# UMPQUA CUTTHROAT TROUT LISTED AS ENDANGERED, FINALLY

BY FRANCIS EATHERINGTON

On September 9, 1996, the Umpqua cutthroat trout was officially protected under the Endangered Species Act. It's about time. The trout used to grace our waters by the hundreds of thousands. Only ten returned to spawn in 1991.

What happened? Logging destroyed their habitat, says the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). More is known about the effects of timber harvesting on fish habitat in the Umpqua River than perhaps in any other Oregon river, because there has been a fish monitoring station in place since 1946 on the North Umpqua. In that year, the Umpqua sea-run cutthroat trout migrated by the thousands from the river to the ocean. The average over the last ten years has been 35 fish.

NMFS is the government agency in charge of endangered fish species that spend at least part of their lives in the ocean, so NMFS is the guardian of the trout's recovery. NMFS, being a federal agency, did not come by the listing decision quickly or easily. Environmental groups petitioned for the protection of the trout in March of 1993. In May of 1994, NMFS had to be threatened with a lawsuit to force them

to act on the petition. In July of 1994, NMFS finally proposed listing the Umpqua trout as endangered, pointing out that it was "virtually extinct." According to the ESA, NMFS had to wait another year after this "proposal" to "decide" on the final listing. July, 1995, came and went without the required action from NMFS.

But in July of 1995, the timber industry was on the fast track to grab thousands of acres of old-growth forests by convincing Congress to pass the Salvage Rider. Twenty-three timber sales in the Umpqua River Basin, previously stopped for environmental reasons, were revived without any environmental safeguards.

The Salvage Rider made some provisions for endangered bird species, like the marbled murrelet, but it didn't breathe a word about endangered fish species.

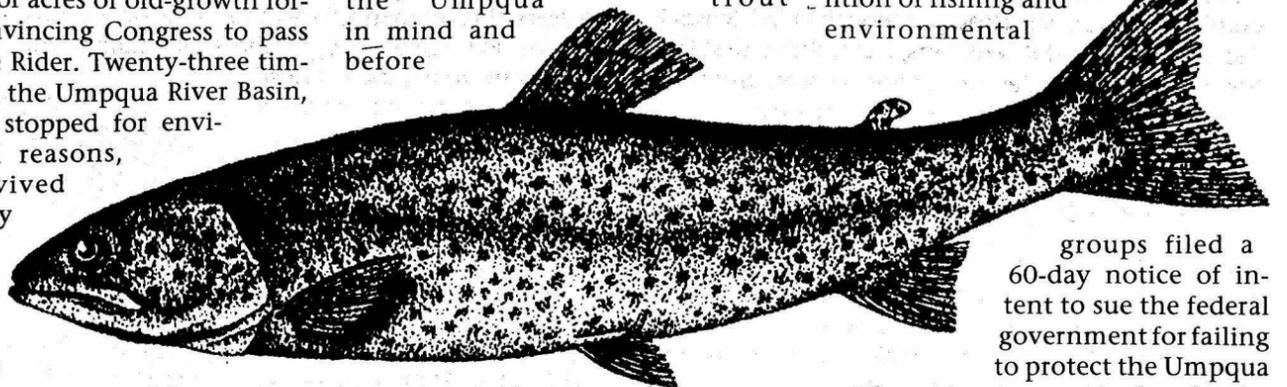
Rare fish habitat was put at risk. Even though NMFS was silent on official protection, they warned the Forest Service and BLM that 18 of the Rider sales would put the Umpqua cutthroat trout in immediate danger of extinction. The timber industry, however, demanded their right to pilage our resources, so all but three of the sales were cut.

Finally, in September of 1996, NMFS officially protected the Umpqua cutthroat trout under the Endangered Species Act. It's important to know what "protection" means in the Umpqua because what is happening here will happen again next year all over Oregon, Washington and California when the West coast steelhead

and coastal coho salmon are protected under the ESA (hopefully).

The ESA required NMFS to take at least two steps after listing the Umpqua trout. First, it was required to decide what is needed to protect the remaining population. The main question they were to ask: is the Northwest Forest Plan adequate to protect trout habitat? It was, after all, developed in 1993 without the Umpqua trout in mind and before

Scientists tell us that the most important areas to protect for the trout are headwaters, where many of these 63 timber sales are happening. Protecting an endangered species requires more than clearcutting as usual. It should mean following the law. But NMFS doesn't seem able to do anything right unless they are threatened with a lawsuit. So, on November 18, a coalition of fishing and environmental



groups filed a 60-day notice of intent to sue the federal government for failing to protect the Umpqua cutthroat trout as required under the Endangered Species Act.

The Umpqua cutthroat trout is in trouble. As a species it is in even worse danger than the spotted owl or marbled murrelet. These birds are listed under the ESA as threatened, but the fish are listed endangered. We must force government agencies to take this seriously.

During the 1950s and '60s, the Summer steelhead run from the south Umpqua and the spring Chinook run from the main Umpqua went extinct. These two runs are gone forever, and at least three other runs are dangerously close to following them into extinction. NMFS, the Forest Service and BLM need to proceed with extreme caution to prevent yet another symbol of our natural heritage from slipping away on our watch.

## A Letter for Judi Bari

Saying, "I don't know the reason for this—whether it is the hormone-laden foods I was brought up on, or the estrogen-mimicking poisons with which L-P and CalTrans are blithely drenching our county—or none of the above..." Judi Bari announced to friends and family in late October that she has breast cancer which has metastasized to her liver.

My rage is unparalleled. Rage at the world we live in, where we are bombarded constantly with poisons, where our ozone is depleted, where you're lucky if your tap water is drinkable. The bombardment does not respect activism, even if that activism is keeping the planet healthy. Sure, eating organic foods helps, but none of us are safe from the effects of the poisons dumped on us by greedy corporations in the name of profit. Forty years ago, one out of 20 women got breast cancer. Today, the rate is one out of eight, and here in the San Francisco Area, it is one out of seven.

Judi is fighting, as you would expect. Few have the strength of will she has. She is fighting not only the cancer, but she is still fighting the FBI, doing the lion's share of the legal work. Her lawsuit against the FBI stems from the bombing that targeted her and nearly killed her in 1990. [See article on the front page.] Her spirit is indomitable. We're all pulling for you, sister warrior.

To support Judi, you can write to her and contribute to the Judi Bari Trust Fund at the Mendicino Environmental Center, 106 W. Standley, Ukiah, CA 95482. Donations will go towards medical expenses and support for her two daughters. Prayers help. Judi has said that what she really wants those who wish her well to do is to stay on the front lines: climb those trees, lock those gates, stand in those roads, and keep the spirit.

—KAREN PICKETT



# Letters for the Predators

continued from page 3

While Earth First! is a movement that doesn't prescribe a rigid orthodoxy, I think that at the very least we should have some standards as to which individuals and organizations are "one of us." The MOVE organization is definitely not part of our tribe.

Sincerely,

—THE GREEN PHANTOM  
FROM PHILADELPHIA

## MOVE Responds:

In response to "The Green Phantom from Philadelphia," I would like to say that this person obviously does not know anything about the MOVE organization, our beliefs or our history. Being "from Philadelphia" doesn't make this person an expert on MOVE. What people should be asking is what makes "Green Phantom" qualified to speak on what MOVE is or is not: How many MOVE members has "Green Phantom" ever spoken to personally?

For the information of EF! readers, let me inform you that the MOVE organization emerged here in Philadelphia by initiating demonstrations against the Philadelphia and NY Bronx Zoos, the Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey circus, puppy palace, furriers. We participated in symposiums/conferences on the "energy crisis" and the environment. Most importantly, the way MOVE is coordinated to live by the teachings of our founder, John Africa, is the best indication of MOVE's belief. In other words, go to our Bible—the guidelines authored by our loved founder John Africa if you want to know what MOVE believes in. The one true thing the "Green Phantom" said is that MOVE has not sought to improve government policies on environmental issues here in the city of Philadelphia. That's because we're not dumb enough to go to our enemy and expect them to act contrary to the way they've conducted themselves historically, that's like Jews hallucinating that they could petition Hitler or members of his regime to do an about face.

If people want to know about the MOVE organization they should come to MOVE members to find out. If the "Green Phantom" or anybody else wants to honestly find out about MOVE, contact us at POB 19709 Philadelphia, PA 19143; (215) 387-9955; fax (215) 476-7551; email [move11ja@adl.com](mailto:move11ja@adl.com)

On the move,

—RAMONA AFRICA,  
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE  
MOVE ORGANIZATION

## Dear Shit fer Sermons,

There was suuuuuuuure a whole lotta preachin' goin' on in the Mabon and Samhain issues. Is this because we feel a deep-seated need to rekindle our fascist religious upbringing, with it being so close to the holidays and all? Goddess, save me from your followers! Or is it because we have no social and moral guidance now that gentle Miss Manners (bless her heart) has retired? Whichever, I suggest you clip the following three easy questions, tape them to your inkwell, and consult with them the next time you pick up your pen:

1. Am I male?
2. Am I female?
3. Would I describe what I am about to write with the words "superbia," "hoity-toity," "over-

weening," "priggery," "supercilious," "contumelious," or "de haut en bas"?

If the answer to any of the above is "yes," then I implore you in your reflection or your fury to infuse some respect, heart, intelligence, tolerance, and "I believe you should's" into your writing. Or save the journal space and the readers frustration by instead repeating my Aunt Betty's favorite mantra:

I am not an -ist  
and I do not subscribe to your  
-ism  
PREACHETH THEE NOT  
else I'll put my fist  
through your high-falutin anal  
prism.

Much love,

—FAITH WALKER

## Journal Folks,

What the fuck!? I can't believe you printed the hideous article entitled "Hollywood comes to the Ancient Forests; Baywatch Star Visits China Left Road Blockade." While it is wonderful that Alexandra Paul cares about forests and that she visited China Left, it is an insult to those who dedicate their lives to activism that this article appears rather than one which celebrates real heroism. Why not write one about one of those people who not only risk incarceration but endanger their very lives as they sit vulnerable to attack (with only our beloved pigs to hold off the angry loggers) with their arms or necks locked to some (hopefully) immobile object to protect that which cannot defend itself.

An article about a TV actress who pays a token visit to the blockade does not belong in the EF! Journal. Perhaps in a mindless rag such as *People* magazine some sexist, horny and impressionable people would be so impressed with Alexandra's breasts that they would quit their corporate jobs and drive to Oregon to save the trees. (It could happen.) But, are the readers of the *Journal* so shallow? I'd like to think not.

Ms. Paul speaks of integrity but where is hers? Her life's work is not only lacking any positive effect on the situation of our environment, it advocates values (or lack thereof) which have brought our society to the fucked up state in which it currently resides quite cozily. By writing and printing this trash YOU are helping perpetuate and further the materialistic, sexist, looksist TV culture which is the root of the greed we fight daily.

—BAY

## Alexandra Paul responds:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to respond to Bay's letter: I understand Bay's disgust with our celebrity culture. I, too, am troubled that it is famous people

that bring out the media instead on important issues like the future of our forests (and therefore our planet). I am troubled, too, that people tend to pay more attention when a celebrity speaks than when an expert speaks. I worry that one day an issue will not be considered worthwhile unless a celebrity is attached.

However, when it comes to environmental matters, there is no time to waste. And news coverage is the fastest way to "get the word out." So, I set aside my aforementioned concerns and do what I can because what is most important to me is that our planet be saved. And what I am able to do is draw media interest. If it is because I happen to be on a television show that is seen around the world, then I am grateful for that.

I am sorry that Bay feels that I lack integrity and that my visit to China Left was a token one. Nothing about the environment has ever been token for me: I have been a vegetarian for 19 years, I do not wear leather, wool or silk or use any product tested on animals, I recycle, compost, have owned an electric car for seven years, been arrested more than a dozen times for civil disobedience at the Nevada Nuclear Test Site, walked five-and-a-half weeks on The Great Peace March, have spoken to thousands of schoolchildren on the overpopulation issue and have written and produced an educational film on overpopulation.

I do wrestle with the paradox that I am in a business that perpetuates many values with which I don't agree. However, at the end of the day, I know that my strength in the environmental movement is that I do live pretty much in the mainstream and that I can reach so many people because I am an actress. Other activists have other strengths and that is what makes "grassroots" so beautiful: it is everyone helping in their own way to create change.

I admire all of you who were involved in the blockade at China Left and am honored to have been a small part of it

—ALEXANDRA PAUL

P.S. Unfortunately, I don't think that my 34As are enough motivation for anyone to quit their job and drive to Oregon.

## Hello fellow EF!ers,

Thank you for putting out a great publication. It has inspired me to act instead of talk. I live in central New Jersey and there is not much nature around here. Affluent people reside here and nature is "out of sight out of mind." After years of feeling helpless and alone in my struggles I have found hope within me. I am very inspired and I am motivating people to get involved. I am currently working on a project to protect a lake from pesti/herbi/insecticide pollution. Me and a friend took a few days to collect garbage around the lake. Next

thing I know I met a guy who is doing water-quality testing on the lake and is working to preserve what is left of it. Those few hours I spent around the lake in itself has made me think about pollution and development. The leaves are turning colors and they are beautiful. The ducks roam peacefully and there are still some fish who jump in and out of the water. I WILL see the day when that lake is undisturbed by human intervention (maybe not, I could die tomorrow). No more talk without action. I thank you and everyone involved in the movement for being honest, caring, compassionate human beings. You keep me going. Thanks for being real.

—MIKE TURIS

## Dear Earth First! Friends,

How are you doing? I just wanted to write and say that your organization is doing a great job. And to keep up the good work. I'm currently in a California prison. But a friend of mine let me take a look at your August '96 issue, and I was real interested. I don't have much money. If you could please send me an edition I would really appreciate it. People really need to open up their eyes and see what's happening around them. And once again, keep up the good work.

Your Earth First! friend,

—LARA D. MATTHEWS

Ed. note: We send out free subscriptions to anyone in prison.

## Dear SFB,

I'm responding to Steve Donkin's demand that EF! articulate a "political agenda beyond that of disruption." Donkin misunderstands the EF! agenda as "blowing things up," like the Unabomber. The Wise Use and mainstream media have been torturing themselves to connect the Unabomber with EF!. They've been unsuccessful because EF!ers aren't blowing things up, nor is Ted K. an EF!er. Does Donkin have a real political agenda beyond slander?

So, Lenin said that without revolutionary theory there can be no successful revolution. Lenin also founded a vast, fascist, environmentally destructive empire. So much for Lenin. Do you want an Earth First! theory? Here it is: No plan, no theory, no society is going to work if the biosphere is not intact. That doesn't answer any questions about what the good society should be, but it's enough to take action. Now. Because the biosphere is being destroyed.

Case in point: Among the thousands of people who turned up to protect Headwaters grove, there must be a huge span of political opinion. If they had taken the time to hammer out a unified political theory, they would probably still be debating theory and Headwaters would be hot tubs. I can anticipate Donkin's response; I've heard it before: If we had a brilliant theory, the workers would stand with us and the forest would be saved. I've faced off with loggers and mill-workers. Most of them are quite capable of theory. They're not asking us for more theory. They're asking how they're going to feed their fami-

lies. Maybe Donkin and his comrades in the International Socialist Organization could provide their working class brethren in Pacific Lumber with some tangible, material support while we pull the plug on junk-bond forestry. Do I hear a real offer, or are you too busy theorizing?

If it's not too "neo-anarchist," I'll close with a quote from Emma Goldman: "Our most vivid imagination cannot foresee the potentialities of a race set free from external restraints. How, then, can anyone assume to map out a line of conduct for those to come? We, who pay dearly for every breath of pure, fresh air, must guard against the tendency to fetter the future. If we succeed in clearing the soil of the rubbish of the past and present, we will leave to posterity the greatest and safest heritage of all ages." Enough said.

—MATTHEW HAUN

## Dear Editor:

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) is a little peeved that you gave us a "mangy, ankle-biting poodle" (although we have nothing against poodles) for our efforts to educate the public about the cruelties inherent in "sport" fishing ("Wolves... & Poodles," September/October, 1996).

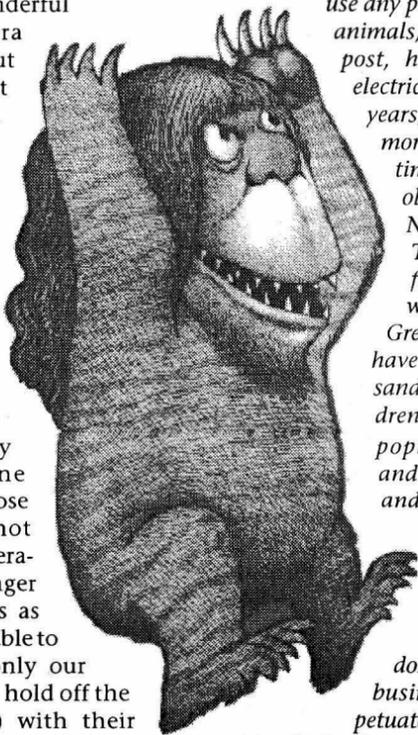
We agree that commercial fishers are wreaking havoc on the environment, but ordinary anglers are far from eco- (or animal) friendly.

As your readers may know, countless animals and water birds become entangled in lost or discarded fishing line every year—some lose limbs, some their lives. Other animals fall victim to "impregnated baits" (plastic worms with scents inside them), which can look and smell like a swimming smorgasbord. A few years ago, a veterinarian in Florida discovered that some sick otters' intestines were full of undigested plastic worms.

When environmentalists called for a ban on lead sinkers, which poison birds, ordinary anglers raised a ruckus. The American Sportfishing Association complained that a ban would inflict "unnecessary hardship on fisherman." Non-toxic sinkers are readily available, but they're a little more expensive.

And look at the damage done when ecosystems are artificially manipulated for anglers' benefit. Biologists recently announced that the number of frogs in Yosemite National Park has declined dramatically since the early 1900s. One culprit: Trout, introduced in the lakes for sport fishers, gobble up frog eggs, tadpoles and even adult frogs like guppy food. Glacier National Park, on the US/Canadian border, has similar problems. Until 30 years ago, the park stocked its lakes with trout for anglers; the fish have all but wiped out some microscopic animals, changing the entire food chain to this day.

And in Colorado, things have totally spun out of control. In the late 1980s, hatchery trout infected with whirling disease, a fatal cartilage disorder, were introduced into the Colorado River for the benefit of anglers. Since



then, 90 percent of the wild rainbow trout in some parts of the river have died from the disease.

If you think anglers are friends to the environment, you've fallen for a whopper of a fish story—hook, line and sinker!

Sincerely,

—PAULA MOORE  
CORRESPONDENT

*Editor's note: The "mangy, ankle-biting poodle" given to PETA was not for its sportfishing campaign, but for its ridiculous appeal to the town of Fishkill, New York to change its name.*

*In the nation-wide Associated Press article that covered PETA's Fishkill campaign, a PETA spokesperson was quoted as saying that the fact that the "kill" in Fishkill is Dutch for stream is besides the point, because most people are too ignorant to know that. Such arrogance serves only to reinforce the self-righteous image of the animal rights movement and, by extension, the ecological movement as well. We stand by our poodle.*

—CB

Hello friends,

My name is shady. I've been looking for your address for 5 years it was after seeing your great people in action on TV, I was 16 years old and I cried for two reasons, happiness for finding out that there are people like me in the world, and anger for not being able to fight with you. A long time has passed and I already finished my law studies and now about to finally begin studying what I always wanted to study forestry.

We have been connected to the Internet 2 weeks ago and that's how I finally found your address and e-mail and I thought I must write you this letter even though my spelling is a catastrophe.

I don't know much about Earth First! but fighting for nature has always been my goal and I know that Earth First! does that and I thank you for it. I tried and still

try to do something to prevent the destruction of the land I live in (Israel) but alone I didn't achieve anything I used to set in my room look at the nature posters I have all over the walls and cry, I don't cry anymore for it only makes my life sad while destroyers of my earth laugh. I will start studying forestry on the beginning of October in Germany (we don't even have this subject in Israel) and after that I will do what I can do.

I was already in the US, I was 17 years old, I tried to find your address but I couldn't, I loved it in your country the nature is still somehow there, people like you are fighting for me and for others that want the remaining part of the land to stay untouched by the filthy hand of the modern man, thank you.

In 4 or 5 years I will be making my own fight to protect the thing the no body owns but many act as if they do.

What I saw 5 years ago on TV was a 30 minutes program about nature and there was five minutes about Earth First!, I will never ever forget the words they said about not wanting to live if there will be no more pumas in the Rockies or no more crying of eagles in the blue sky. For many years I had the dream of sitting among you near the camp fire, many years have passed and I have changed a lot but I still want to once meet and go camping with members of the group and learn about Earth First! and about the earth.

I thank all the members once again and wish you happiness, luck and above all success.

love,

—SHADY

Journalistas,

Among the letters published in the last issue was a missive from Eve, who takes exception to a tactic advocated by some of us; that of a reviving corporate dechartering process that enabled state legislatures to shut down miscreant corporations during the first century of this country's history. In reading her critique, it seems to me that Eve would have us manifest a degree of ideological purity in our struggles that would guarantee that we ultimately lose, at least in the context of current political reality.

Eve begins by decrying the "lame-ass glorification of the 'Founding Fathers' and their precious 'revolution' to end 'corporate dominance'." Fair enough. The so-called "Founding Fathers" were, in fact, a cabal of hypocritical, racist patriarchs. But to criticize their distrust of corporate power on these grounds brings to mind

the following questions: If someone were shooting at you, would you refuse to jump behind the nearest wall just because you happened to know it was built by bad people?

Certainly, Eve is correct in saying that "... the Founding Fathers and the system... that they set in place, are NOT an inspiration..." If the majority of Americans agreed, then there would be no reason to grasp at such straws as the corporate dechartering process. However, most Americans still regard those dead white males as demigods. That is what gives their distrust of corporate power its usefulness today. "It's not just an unwashed bunch of lowbagger hippies calling for an end to corporate hegemony. It's Washington and Jefferson..." That may not impress us, but "normal Americans" may just sit up and take note. And if distrust of corporate power doesn't build among the general public, then corporations will not end. Period.

In this vein, Eve states she's not interested in ending corporate dominance. She wants to end corporations. This constitutes little more than spurious semantic hairsplitting, since there's no way that you're going to end corporations without first ending their dominance of society.

Eve reveals her misunderstanding of what we are trying to accomplish by bringing back the corporate dechartering process when she describes it as a "false solution." In reality, it's no solution at all, false or otherwise. Rather, it's a tactic, one among many, which has real-life applicability in the context of today's socio-political reality. It can be used to draw public attention to the fact that corporations now wield unprecedented power over the political process, over the shaping of public opinions and values, over the day-to-day lives of people... It's a real tactic that can be used to mold the broader public awareness, shifting it in the right direction.

Eve's ideologically pure alternative is that people "look to their own power to create something new." Right. A few thousand activists "looking to their own power" in a society rapidly approaching 300 million will have about as much impact as a bunch of fleas farting. We need to find ways to impact the opinions of the broader public.

Using the corporate dechartering process may be Machiavellian, but if we insist on using only pure, nebulous, New Age tactics such as those advocated by Eve without discussing interim steps that could lead in the right direction, then we'll never get anywhere at all.

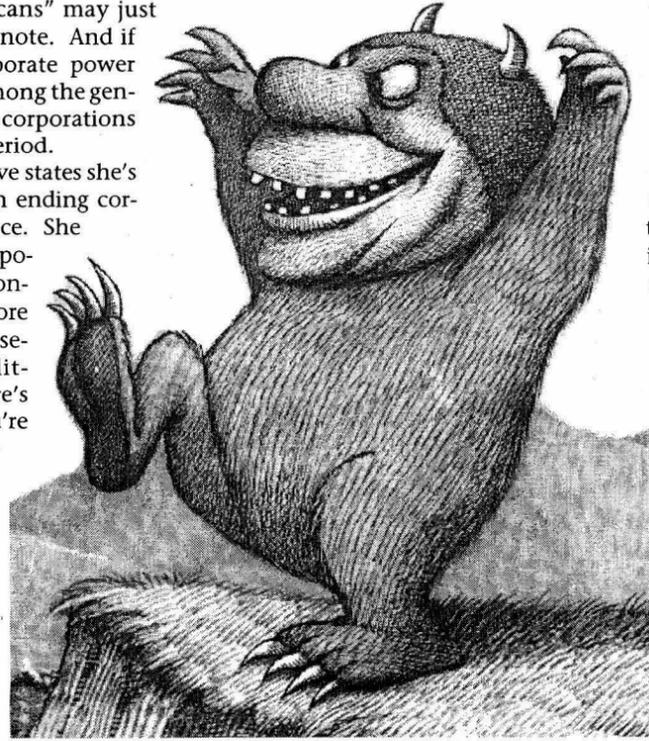
—TIM HAUGEN

To the Editors:

I'm astounded that the *EF! Journal* would print an article by a pseudonymous entity denigrating the character of a well-known environmental activist who has supplied the *Journal* with a num-

ber of essays in the past without checking the source (the Gorge Citizens for Environmental Ethics, a group no one in the Gorge environmental community has ever heard of) or providing any opportunity to answer the accusations. The *Subdivide and Conquer* article you ran in your Sept./Oct. issue regarding my development in the Columbia Gorge was so filled with lies, half truths and omissions that it would take pages to address them all. I feel compelled to respond to some of the article's accusations.

A recent article in the *Amicus Journal*, also titled *Subdivide and Conquer*, noted that according to a 1996 landscape survey 1.2 acres of open space are being developed every hour in the West. This is an astounding pace,



and the urgency to protect what we can is tremendous. Pristine landscapes deserving protection in the Gorge and everywhere else in the West compete for dollars in very short supply. Three years ago when I discovered the 170 acres now called Rowena Wilds, it had been approved for a 21 unit development. When the development went bankrupt a year later and came up for sale I tried to interest the Forest Service, the Trust for Public Land and the Nature Conservancy in acquiring it. None were interested in this land just outside the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area. When all other protective scenarios were exhausted, I decided to attempt a small-scale, "environmentally sensitive" development rather than sit and watch the land I loved be brutalized on a larger scale. Yes, I became the "lesser of two evils." Not financially capable of just sitting on it, I decided to create and sell eight lots on land zoned for 20. (If I was out to make "enormous profits" as the article suggested I would have created many more lots.)

The article for the *EF! Journal* did not mention that Rowena Wilds land was already heavily roaded with a large gravel pit in the center. It was crisscrossed with barbed wire fences and had been grazed for most of the last century. (According to the Nature Conservancy, it was "so nuked by cows" that they could not even take the ten acres I offered them as a gift.) The old ponderosa pines had been logged off in five stages over the last 90 years. The article failed to mention that

I am removing all fencing, that never again will there be livestock grazing on the land, that an aggressive native plant restoration program is being implemented and that the old oaks will be fully protected. According to a hydrological study commissioned by the state of Oregon, Section 16, which contains Rowena Wilds, has an abundance of available ground water and usage would not impact nearby lands. It said nothing about the 40-acre Rowena Creek Sanctuary I am creating in the midst of the land nor about the restoration planned for the gravel pit. It alluded to a land trust but failed to note that already an additional 20 acres of neighboring land has adopted the Rowena Wilds conservation covenants and restrictions which are far more environmentally stringent than those of the neighboring National Scenic Area. Nary a soul (let alone a conservationist) in the six months I have owned the land has inquired about the possibility of purchasing it for protection. Nature needs solutions, not deception and slander.

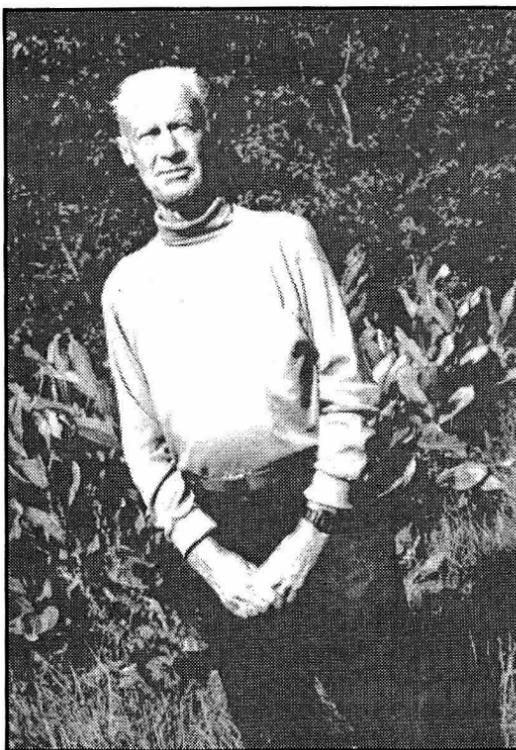
As much as we wish it possible, there is simply not enough money to protect all our favorite places and it is heartbreaking to watch them fall to development. Yet, with over an acre of land being developed every hour in the West, good models are extremely important. It's my hope that Rowena Wilds can be such a model, and be a community too, co-existing with nature as

much as is feasible and defending the 5,000 acres of wilder ranch and protected lands next door. It is a hopeful vision during a time on Earth when reasons for hope are in short supply, when we all long for a way to stop the human onslaught that is gobbling up the Earth. I could have been a purist and smugly stood aside as this land was developed in the typical ranchette, five-acre, cookie-cutter fashion. However, I took the karma upon myself to do what I believed was, considering all the options, the best do-able scenario for this land.

Given the extent of our predicament, it's pathetic for those in the environmental community to throw stones and condemn each other's efforts just because they differ from our own. How draining it is to spend time doing damage control as I am doing now (and reading about it as you are doing now) when there are so many battles screaming for our attention.

Nature desperately needs solutions and in these precarious times they will not always be pretty or picture perfect. We need to use every tool in our tool chest and yes, occasionally, as hard as it may be for some to swallow, an environmentally conscious development can, as a last resort, be such a tool. In this instance I sincerely believe it is. For the moment, yes, I am a developer—the last thing I ever thought I would be. Condemn me if it makes you feel good but know that all the other tools in my tool chest are well oiled and in good working order.

—DANIEL DANCER



*As difficult as it is to recognize their mortality, it is easy to celebrate the spirits of our biophilic brothers and sisters. When we honor their lives in our own, we become part of a life force that transcends the human realm. This force has been made all the richer for the life of Arthur Setzer, Zorro, who passed from this world in September. Zorro was a lover of rivers and mountains, a builder and pilot of airplanes, a philosopher whose words often graced these pages, a wanderer who touched many lives, a master of simple living, and a tribal elder whose generosity will not likely be forgotten.*

—DWIGHT METZGER

# Deadly Landslide at Stump Acres

BY SHANNON WILSON

The following is a firsthand account of the slide at Stump Acres. It only begins to describe the devastation visited upon the site.

Pulling up to the site I immediately notice a three-foot wall of mud and boulders blocking Hubbard Creek Road. Proceeding to the two-foot-wide running stream, I am surprised to see gouges up to 40 feet wide in the stream banks. Logs four feet in diameter are strewn on both sides of the washed-out road. Intermingled among the boulders and logs are the remains of the house that had been above: pieces of roofing sheet metal torn and bent, clothes and other personal items hanging from logs and branches, a car luggage carrier or refrigerator crushed between a standing tree and debris, a heavy duty wheelbarrow which had been crushed and molded to the rocks that surrounded it, the tire being the only thing identifying it. This was more than just a simple dirt bank or cut-bank collapse.

Walking up the driveway, it is mind-boggling to realize the power of the slide. I pass a small Toyota pinned up against a group of trees with all its tires off the ground, its rear panels on each side crushed in. Nearby a Peavey guitar amplifier lays in the mud with plugs still attached.

As I slowly continue up the driveway another 50 yards the fog clears just enough to see a near vertical clear-cut face towering above the small settled valley. Also clearly visible is a sight wit-

nessed many times in the Siuslaw River drainage near Mapleton, Oregon after the February 96 flood: near the top of the extremely steep clear-cut face is an area where the channeled runoff from heavy rains has caused all soil, rocks and vegetation to simply slide off the solid rock below it.

Finally, I reach the site of the house, but evidence of the house is virtually nonexistent. I stand at a distance, not wanting to get in the way of the remaining family and friends mourning and looking for personal belongings. This area is at least 100 yards wide and the mud and rocks are thickest here. It is quite clear that this was a debris-mud torrent that had rushed down the stream gathering whatever was in its way. Whole trees two to three feet in diameter, root wads and all, many broken in half and boulders as big as small cars decimated anything in the path. It appears that the debris torrent coming out of the narrow steep channel quickly expanded at this wider point, engulfing the houses and tumbling them and the victims 300 yards or more across the road into Hubbard Creek. The victims had no chance. The teenage children, hearing their closest neighbors screaming to get out of the house, escaped, only to watch in horror as their home was destroyed and their mother, father, next door neighbor and a family friend crushed to death by hundreds of tons of mud, boulders and logs.

My mission is to take the video camera and find the origin of the debris-mud torrent. I proceed up

the stream, but soon find it much too narrow and steep to follow its banks. So I start for the ridge on the south side after crossing the stream. Approaching the ridge and a six to seven-year-old plantation, I look ahead and spot the origin of the deadly debris torrent. As expected, it is a nearly vertical clearcut. About 200 feet below the top of its peaklike ridge I can see where the soil, rocks and vegetation had been torn away by the channeled runoff coming from the rock faces above. In turn, that mass broke away in an avalanche, flowing down the 400-foot clear-cut face, taking everything with it that was not bedrock. Further down the stream the debris torrent gathered hundreds of tons of mass and momentum. Nothing could have stopped it.

Back down the mountain I pass one of the victim's closest neighbors. She asks me, "What did you observe up there?" I tell her and say, "This madness has got to stop!... and it may take a lifetime to make it," as I trudge away through the debris.

Here are people to petition for an end to clearcutting in the Western US:

Oregon Governor Kitzhaber, 160 Capitol Building, Salem, OR 97310. Dan Glickman, Secretary of Agriculture, 14th St. and Independence, Washington, DC 20250. Kathleen McGinty, President's Council on Environmental Quality, 722 Jackson Place NW, Washington, DC 20503.



But for car problems, the driver of this vehicle would probably have been the fifth victim of the Hubbard Creek landslide.

## Clearcuts Kill...

*continued from front page*

landslides happen three times more often in clearcuts than on forested slopes, preparations for the Champion clearcut continued. On October 27, 1986, the ODF forester wrote in his diary: "Worked on maps—soil and slopes—identified four structures, three of which are located in areas a debris slide could reach. One structure located up Rock Creek and right on edge of creek (high potential for slide damage)."

The forester was looking at the Stump Acre houses, and identified the Moon house as particularly at risk. ODF classified the Champion land above them as a "high risk area" for mass soil movement. It is unclear if this information was ever given to the Stump Acres residents, but even if they had known, there was little the Moons could have done after investing so many years building their home and raising a family. Susan Moon was a nurse and Rick Moon was a carpenter. In 1986, their two children

were three and six.

On October 29, 1986, the ODF forester wrote in his diary that he talked to Rick Moon: "We let him know what we were doing there and what was proposed for the area. He does not oppose the logging, but is concerned about any slide that may block the creek and flood out at a later date."

Logging started in early 1987. The slopes were extremely steep, an average of 80 percent and some up to 120 percent. It was so steep that the loggers had to use rappel ropes to get in to cut the trees down. They completely clearcut 168 acres, not even leaving a single tree along the edge of Rock Creek.

A 1975 USFS study concluded that the risk of landslides from a clearcut continues for 20 years after the hill has been cut. Slides happen after the stump roots decompose and no longer hold the soil. Nine years after Champion clearcut the land, it slid. On November 18, 1996, during heavy rains, the water and mud moved through the clearcut and down the slope to Hubbard Creek, crushing a home and four lives in its path, including Rick and Susan

Moon. Their two children, now orphaned, were able to flee the catastrophe.

In response to this preventable tragedy, ODF District Forester Steve Truesdell acknowledged that the Department of Forestry knew about the danger of landslides in the logging units in 1986, but had no power to prohibit the logging. "It's all private land. We don't have the authority to not allow activities."

The residents of Hubbard Creek now know they live in "unstable" mountains. One recently said, "I am willing to take my chances with Mother Nature regarding slides, but I am not willing to see the chance of a slide increase threefold just so a company can make some money."

Less than two miles down the road from the former Moon house, new roads are being built above the homes of Hubbard Creek. The roads would access a potential Roseburg Forest Products clearcut directly above five people's homes. According to ODF, some of the new roads are being built on slopes up to 65 percent on sites with old slides and evidence of small failures.

In response to recent events, ODF area director Craig Royce said, "The Oregon Department of Forestry is not in the business of protecting houses." Indeed, human habitat is not included in the ODF goal of "sound management of fish and wildlife resources." Considering the plight of our endangered fish and wildlife species, ODF doesn't seem to be in the business of protecting the home of any species.

But now a new voice can be heard above the roar of chainsaws and mudslides in the up-to-now unchallenged area of sacred, "private" industry land. It is the voice of the old-timer, who's lived on Hubbard Creek for 50 years: "I don't want to be labeled an environmentalist, I feel in a bind over this. But wondering what Roseburg Lumber will do is like waiting for destruction. It's like having a sword dangling over your head and not knowing when it will fall." It's also the voice of a nurse and neighbor on Hubbard Creek: "Cut away the old growth forest above me and what will happen? Will we be the next people on Hubbard Creek to lose our home? Will we be the next to die? At least if we get killed in a slide, there will be some good documentation of our feelings before they logged. Please help us stop destructive logging in hazardous, slide-prone areas."

For more information: <http://www.teleport.com/~francis/umpquawater/ccresults.html>.

# From the Front Lines

BOOK REVIEW BY ATOM

Earth Firsters intrigued by the UK's militant enviro movement will be interested in a couple of recent books. Stacey Wakefield and Grrrt's *Not For Rent: Conversations with Creative Activists in the UK* and George McKay's *Senseless Acts of Beauty: Cultures of Resistance Since the Sixties* are both wonderful documents of Great Britain's political and cultural underground. Both tomes focus extensively on the anti-road campaigns.

*Not For Rent* is a large format, 95-page collection of activist interviews, photos and art. The book introduces us to a cast of real life characters leading inspiring, fun and contrary lives. Most of the denizens of the political and cultural underground featured in *Not For Rent* are squatters of one sort or another. They run the gamut from trans-national punk musicians occupying the rat-infested remains of inner city housing, to eco-warriors building and defending tree houses in threatened forests. A living resistance unites the diverse figures in *Not For Rent*.

Though many political activists spend their lives agitating for all-encompassing social change while glumly slaving away for subsistence wages, the storytellers here aren't waiting for anything. They're living the way and doing the work they want to do now. They make scant distinction between the personal and political, opting instead to live the revolution.

There is a great piece on Cascadia Free State's spiritual ancestor, the Pollock Free State outside Glasgow, Scotland. The residents of Pollock fought car-happy bureaucrats bent on punching a highway through ancient forest land. The enviro-squatters established a large encampment and autonomous zone in the path of the highway-to-be. "The Free State grew from a few basic shelters into a thriving community with tree houses, benders, kitchen, toilet, veggie plot, swings and see saws. People with objections to the road had been brushed aside and dismissed through bureaucratic channels. Creating the Free State put them in an unignorable position of empowerment," explains one Pollock squatter.

The "No M-11" anti-highway campaign is covered as well. The crusade united enviros opposing Carmageddon with homeowners pissed about the destruction of their East London neighborhood for the highway. By squatting whole city blocks of buildings in the path of the M-11, activists also drew attention to land ownership and housing issues. Besides amalgamating several struggles, the UK eco-warriors delayed completion of the road, drove up the project's costs and drew massive media attention.

In addition to the incredibly captivating interviews and tales, Stacy and Grrrt have beautifully illustrated *Not For Rent* with wonderful photos and art. Likewise, the graphic direction and design are superb. In the spirit of the self-reliant resistance *Not For Rent* brings to light, the tome is a thoroughly DIY micro-production. You can find the volume in cool bookstores or order it through Evil Twin Publications, 2225 1st Ave., Seattle, WA 98121.

George McKay's *Senseless Acts of Beauty* is a more scholarly, semi-academic work that weighs in at 200+ pages. He examines 90s British counterculturalists—"travelers, tribes, ravers or squatters, direct action protesters of every kind, DIYers"—and traces their roots to 60s counterculturalists. He moves from the 60s to the hippie free festivals of the 70s, to 80s punk polemicists such as CRASS, to the eco-wars of the 90s. He examines each and finds the common threads that unite England's diverse oppositional cultures. McKay's history, replete with first hand accounts, reads like a labor of love, since he's been a "punk, anarchist activist, squatter, painter, decorator and jazz musician" and has intimate knowledge of the terrain covered.

Earth warriors will be especially interested in a chapter focused on "eco-rads." McKay gives us a lively look at the combatants in the road battles, the live animal export controversy and anti-nuke "peace camps." His descriptions are vivid, quotes insightful, observations and criticisms invaluable. The movement, even in the face of failed campaigns, is amazingly successful; the struggle against the eventually-constructed M3 highway cost The Man \$5.6 million!

*Senseless Acts* is a "must read" for activists feeling their enthusiasm wane as we usher in another four years with Clearcut Clinton. Published by Verso, New York in 1996 and available in good bookstores.

# COUNTING REALITY

BY DAN SEIFERT

Education: to gain the understanding of the relationship between an XY coordinate system and the given xy system, we assume that the XY coordinate system is obtained by... While my brain focuses, my hands peel, getting soft, tender, atrophied. Calluses diminish daily as I find myself playing the university game again. The tiny scar on my right smallest finger has nearly vanished. Small red lines amidst brownish skin are all that remain of the scratches on my arms.

A few years ago, working for the US Forest Service, I hugged my first tree, looking up the bole to the sky, to the fluffy green needles respirating and photosynthesizing away in the July sun. Lonely *Larix lyallii*, Western larch, lizard skin bark, peeling scales as I pressed against it, my arms barely reaching halfway around the tree. Hugging, looking up, imagining, maybe even feeling the countless sunny afternoons that have

become part of the tree. Smiling, jotting notes on my form, I moved on with the



survey, observing, searching, figuring, quantifying, writing.

The survey portrays a skewed version of the forest's actuality; not trees but timber, not beauty but meaningless code, easily translatable to board feet.

How do you quantify feeling? Trudging upslope through brush-filled clearcuts, unshaded from the sun; alder, mountain ash, maple, menzesia—all grabbing, slapping and scratching. The brush field fades into a battlefield of uprooted trees and their broken pieces. Behind brush, stump and mass of blowdown looms an encasing wall of trees.

Sudden shade and cool lies within the wall. The forest air grows calm, clean, cool. All about is the endless buzz of flies, flitting and fucking, carrying on fast-paced lives, a brief and seemingly continuous flicker in comparison to the overbearing fixedness of the looming sentinels. Massive Western hemlock and white pine dominate the canopy. Cracked and weathered bark encases ring upon ring of age. Perhaps two, three, five hundred seasons, each cycle adding another ring. Bark cracks and stretches as the rings patiently multiply in size, each slightly larger than the previous. Roots spread beneath, questing for water, uppermost branches reach further toward the sun.

The white pines soak in precious sunlight, growing just over the shade-loving hemlock. The hemlock awaits the end of brother white pine, awaits space and the associated allotment of sunlight and rotted wood. A doormat of fungus lies beneath the duff layer of forest refuse, slowly digesting the root mass of the trees, welcoming the space, the transition from white pine to hemlock. Fire scars, pits and cracks in the base of the white pine display survivability.

Beneath, above, around this subtle struggle lies a smattering of life. Thick layerings of springy moss coat the ground, the twigs, the duff, even daring to grow up the trees Pacific yew twists along the ground, enjoying shade and the water-trapping volcanic loess entombed within the soil. Velvety mushrooms, purple, brown or orange poke from rotting logs. Tiny pink pairs of twinflower crawl along, spreading further with each season. Small hemlock sprouts randomly protrude from the ground, reaching and hoping for a chance at the unfiltered sunlight above. The flies view it all as a big mating ground. The survey sees only numbers. The surveyor feels it all, feels the collision of two worlds, feels the scratches on his arms, the sunlight on his skin, the calluses on his hands. It is only memory now, growing soft, like the calluses, as the brain is focused elsewhere... rotating the x and y axes through an angle about the origin (Figure 11.29). Then any point in the plane has coordinates (x,y) and (X,Y) in the two...

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS...

## Big Mountain Elders ask for Prayers and Solidarity

The traditional people of northeastern Arizona have resisted genocide and extermination for over 500 years. Big Mountain, Black Mesa, located in northeast Arizona, is one of the last strongholds of traditional Diné (Navajo) and Hopi culture. Since coal was discovered there, and Peabody Coal began mining, the traditional people have been increasingly threatened.

As resistance to Peabody's mining grew, so did the US government's pressure to force relocation. The Diné people endured deceit, outright lies, theft, coercion, infiltrators, surveillance, harassment and violence. However, there are still resisters on the land, many of them elders who want to continue the prayers, ceremonies, ways of life and religion of the Diné people. These people are warriors in defense of their way of life and religion, defenders of Diné sovereignty, The Resistance.

### Forced Evictions Imminent—Starting April 1, 1997

On April 1, 1997, forced evictions will begin of the Diné people (The Resistance). The Sovereign Diné Nation-Diné Alliance are asking for the creation of a buffer zone of protection that will insure their safety and well being.

### How You Can Help:

The Sovereign Diné Nation welcomes support from all those who reject the Accommodation Agreement and the desecration of all beings sacred. There is much you can do even if you can't come to Arizona. The Sovereign Diné Nation needs specific supplies and items, as well as skills. Among the supplies needed are money, food, warm clothing (especially thermal underwear), feed for livestock, video cameras (especially Hi-8) and tapes, still cameras and film, batteries, UHF or VHF two-way radios, scanners, CB radios and satellite or radio phones. Help is also needed with media and outreach. There is a need for sheep herders as soon as possible (experience preferred, but not required).

If you can come to Big Mountain to help defend this sacred land, please call first! Everyone who comes MUST be self-sufficient. That means having your own food and shelter.

Above all, the Diné ask for your prayers.

For more information contact the Sovereign Diné Nation-Diné Alliance, POB 2889, Window Rock, AZ 86515; phone/fax (505) 371-5551; e-mail: [dinéh@primenet.com](mailto:dinéh@primenet.com); <http://www.primenet.com/~dinéh/index.html>.

## Trees, Toilets and Transformation: Inspirations from El Salvador

Does the idea of watching another documentary about global problems make you want to rent a movie? Wait! This documentary is different! *Trees, Toilets and Transformation: Inspirations from El Salvador* is a half hour upbeat documentary that looks at solutions, not just problems. It is a hopeful program that will make you laugh, while still addressing one of the most serious environmental predicaments on the planet.

The program follows Lorenzo, a "regular guy," as he is thrown from the world of waste management in Canada into the world of appropriate technology in El Salvador. He visits the Salvadoran Centre for Appropriate Technology (CESTA), where they show him how they are changing things by promoting ideas, from composting toilets and solar ovens to reforestation and pedal power. *Trees, Toilets and Transformation* encourages us to view environmental problems in the South within the context of global social and economic issues. It

also reminds us that a global problem requires a global solution.

*Trees, Toilets and Transformation* is an excellent resource tool that can be used to encourage discussions about environmental solutions, sustainable development, global connections, communities, and appropriate technology. It is ideal for presentations in public forums, colleges and universities, as well as in school classrooms, grades 6-12.

*Trees, Toilets and Transformation* is available for \$47.80 (all inclusive) from The GAIA Project. Please send cheque or money order to The GAIA Project, 406 Vancouver Street, Victoria BC, Canada V8V 3T5; phone/fax: (604) 384-1534; e-mail: [vwave@islandnet.com](mailto:vwave@islandnet.com).

If you would like additional information about The GAIA Project and their other educational videos, just ask!

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This six-night tour will be presenting a very special evening of music in support of our fellow activist and musician Judi Bari. The show is a celebratory inspirational anarcoustic hootenanny where musicians will be jamming together in various combinations. We are putting out an urgent call asking everyone in progressive communities throughout the Northwest to come together in the spirit of unity, survival and mutual aid. Judi's struggles have crossed political divisions to include labor organizing, women's issues and radical environmentalism. We are working to foster as much support as possible for Judi's ongoing struggle through music. Please join us. Anyone seeking more information can contact the Old Roads Conspiracy at (360) 705-3271.

## JANUARY ROADSHOW DATES:

- 21 Bellingham, WA Allied Arts Center  
(with special guest Dana Lyons)
- 22 Seattle, WA University Baptist Church  
(with special guest Joanne Rand)
- 23 Olympia, WA Capitol Playhouse  
(with Joanne Rand)
- 24 Portland, OR Modish Building (4th floor)
- 25 Corvallis, OR Oddfellows Hall
- 26 Eugene, OR WOW Hall

## The Earth Day Every Day Radio Project

The Earth Day Every Day Radio Station Project, which will establish an environmentally focused radio station in a metropolitan area of the US is underway. The initial stage of the project will raise sufficient funds to make a sizable down payment on an existing radio station and to staff the station with qualified, enthusiastic, ecologically minded individuals. Financial contributions are 501(c)3 tax deductible. For more information contact Traci Hickson or Dennis Hendricks/Project Coordinators, Earth Day Every Day Radio Station Project, POB 130, Bar Harbor, ME 04609 (207) 288-5061.

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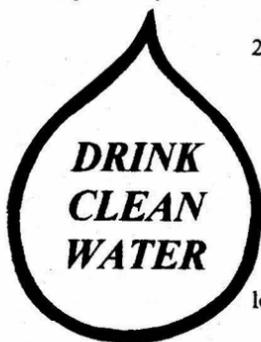
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For more information contact the National Endangered Species Network at 915 L St., C-#347, Sacramento, CA 95814; (909) 422-1637.

## Art Auction for the Lubicon Cree

Diashowa has launched a \$5 million lawsuit against Friends of the Lubicon (FoL), a small grassroots activist group fighting for the rights of the Lubicon Nation in northern Alberta.

To raise legal costs FoL will be conducting an Art Auction and they need your talent! The proceeds will be used to fight for justice for the Lubicon Cree against the greed of a multi-national corporation currently exploiting the natural resources of unceded Lubicon land.

The theme of the auction is "power" and can be interpreted in any way you choose. Power and the abuse of it have been an integral part of the history of the Lubicon as well as FoL. As with the lawsuit, corporations can use the power that money gives them to attempt to crush opposition, but we can also use our power, as FoL did when we mounted the successful boycott of Diashowa.

The auction is scheduled for the spring, but if you are interested, we'd like to hear from you as soon as possible. The art will be displayed for a month before the auction (location to be announced at a later time).

FoL will gratefully accept any work fully donated. However, they understand the financial situation of some artists, so they are willing to show art under an arrangement where an agreed upon percentage of the selling price of your work will be returned to you.

Please contact the Friends of the Lubicon today!  
Friends of the Lubicon, 485 Ridelle Ave., Toronto, Ontario M6B 1K6; (416) 763-7500.

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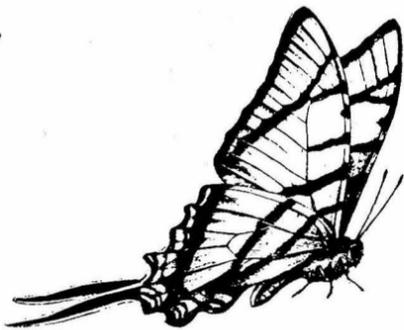
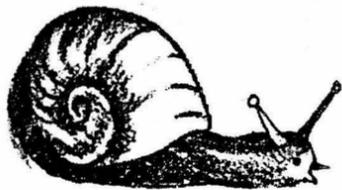
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***We, who can still hear the jaguar scream,  
We dream of a day when all things wild will again be free.  
We long for a time when every species will be loved  
and honored equally.***

***It is a dream we may never see fulfilled.  
But in answer to our own wild hearts,  
It is a dream we will fight for  
until the day we die.***

**-Anon.**

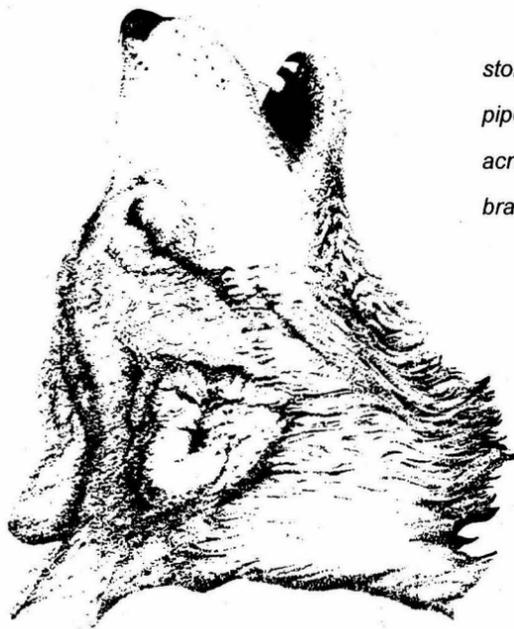


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*"Wet braid" is an indian term referring to after you've come from the sweat lodge. I can still remember my grandfather with wet braid, and the scents of the burning wood heating the stones that would turn water sprinkled from a buffalo tail and pieces of flat cedar into a hot mist... like the beginning of the world, when all was hot, wet, dark... and new.*



*My first night "up the hill", my first night of fast and vision quest before Sundance at Pineridge Rez SD it stormed. As I stood with my blanket of Comanche colors, red, blue, yellow, wrapped around me, I gripped the pipe inside near my chest tightly. The storm grew louder, grew stronger, lightning and thunder bounding across the hills. Standing in my sacred circle I only wished to be strong, to be brave... not to be safe, but brave.*

*My uncle's hand was steady as he handed me the warbonnet, but mine trembled upon receiving it... it seemed so heavy, heavy with coup, and desire, and tears of sweat, from prairie dust and summer suns and cries of challenge and reply. The eighty-four golden eagle feathers were old, yellowed, notched from many decades. The leather strips and thread holding the bonnet together were dark with sweat, but still held the strong magic of the bonnet holder's hands.*

*After standing all night, each night, I would face the east, watching for the first soft ribbon of sunrise, straining through the darkness to see the promise of warmth to come. My robe will dry in the sun, the feathers on my staff will once again sway in the sunny morning, as it replaces the cold and chill... and dream and vision of the night before.*

*Heavy mist rises from the cedar stand, where I know the small spring holds her treasure, that my brothers and sisters share... little brother coyote, big brother wolf. A very small, delicate spring. The day before I was praying and picking fresh sage, waiting for my rock medicine to come to me. My braids swung as I knelt down to cut each piece, selecting the tall, proud ones. My brown skin shone from sun's kiss. I walked over and filled my palm with the cool, shining water, brought it to my lips.*



*I never thought about loving mother earth, or trees or grass or vistas or wildness... anymore than I ever thought of loving my birth mother, my sisters and brothers, my eyes or my heart. When I paint my face, I paint the earth. When I braid my hair, I plait the prairie grasses, when I sing my songs, the hawk and eagle sing. She comforts me, warms me, caresses me, shields me, rejoices me. As I do her. She nurtures me, she smiles at my courage, consoles my tears. Some times she paints me in vibrant colors, some times white and cold, and some times black with grief or rage... but always she whispers in my heart, moves my hand, shines my hair that in one vision I see entwined with hers, never to part.*

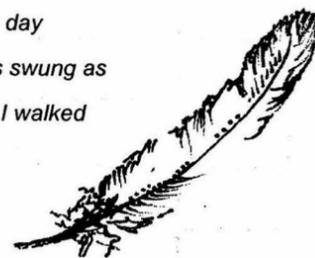
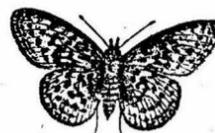
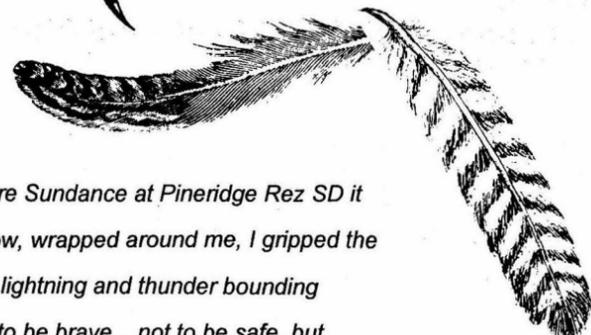
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***I cannot speak for the river  
But I am human, so I will try:  
Ghastly cold unforgiving churn  
and spit, spray, jump  
from rocks high, high  
above  
your stinking mines***

***I come thrashing down  
colliding many times  
with rocks***

***Secesh, Lick Creek, East Fork  
I come thrashing down  
I have flushed you out before  
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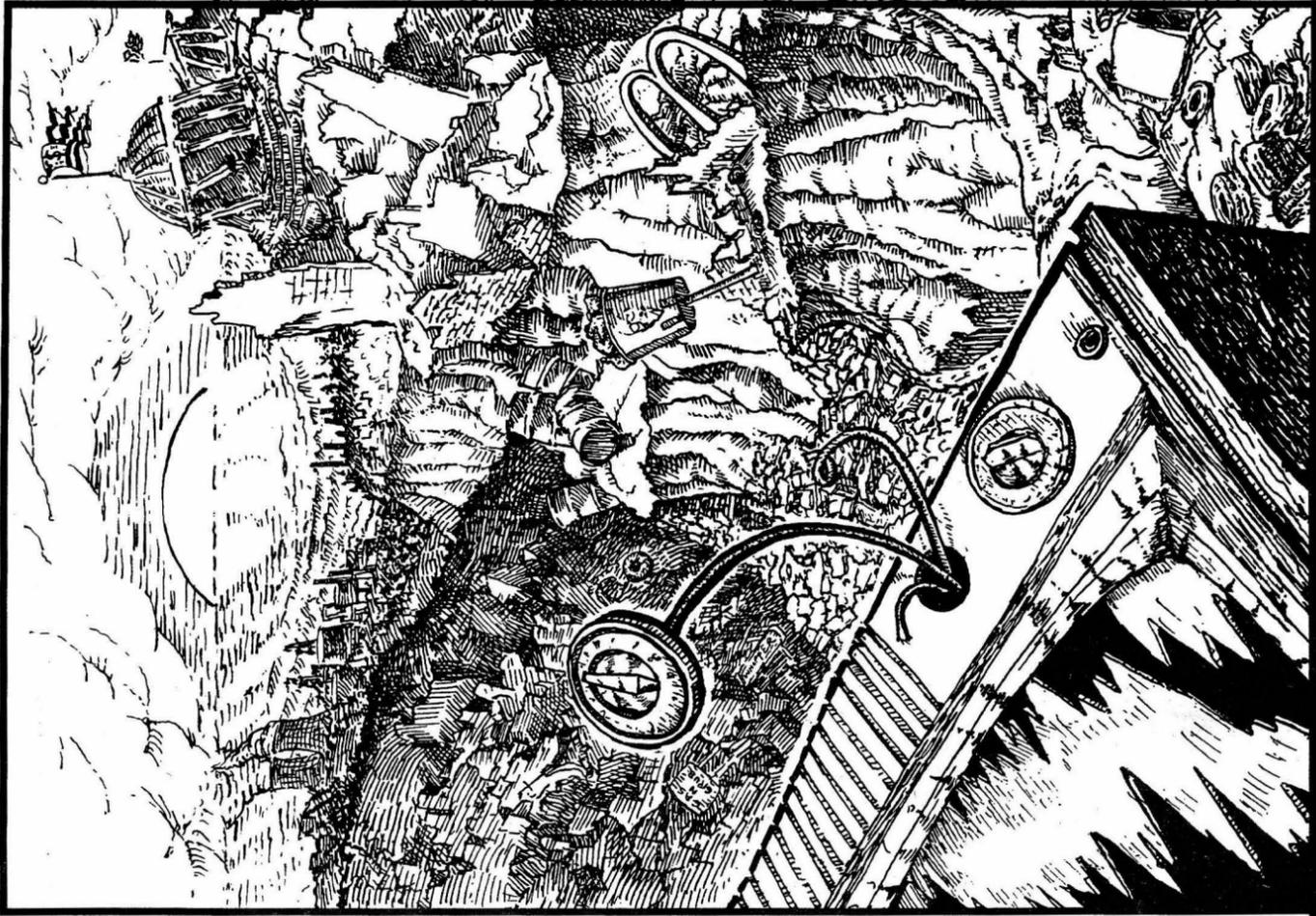
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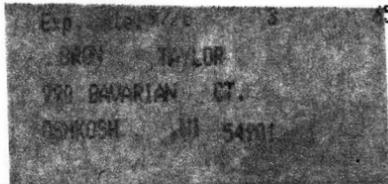


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