

HELLBENDER JOURNAL

The Activist Journal of the
Allegheny Defense Project



Cryptobranchus Alleganiensis, the Hellbender

Vol. 4, No. 2

Defending Allegheny Forests

Summer Issue 1998

ACTIVISTS OCCUPY FOREST SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE IN FIRST EVER ALLEGHENY CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

by Adam Weissman, NYC Earth First!



photo courtesy of NYC Earth First!

Warren PA- Radical environmentalists staged a dramatic direct action to tell John Palmer, Allegheny National Forest Supervisor for the US Forest Service, that the defenders of the green would not stand by silently as Western Pennsylvania's Allegheny National Forest is destroyed.

On Wednesday, May 20, members of NYC Earth First!/Federal Lands Action Group entered John Palmer's office in the Allegheny National Forest, disrupting a meeting therein (Palmer was not in attendance). The group announced their opposition to the East Side Project, the largest proposed timber sale east of the Mississippi. Three activists, with chains attached to carabiners (climbing hooks) around their wrists, and metal pipes (see sidebar on page 19) on their right arms, sat on the floor of the office. Each activist stuck his or her left arm inside the pipe on the right arm of the person to his or her left, forming a circle. Once their arms were inside the pipes, they clipped the carabiners onto a thin vertical rod inside each tube. A fourth person locked his neck to one of the other's arms with a Schwinn U-shaped bicycle lock and then crushed the key with pliers. This anchored the group, as any attempt to move them by police or forest service employees would have been likely to break the neck of the fourth activist.

Meanwhile, a second team attempted to scale the building from the outside to drop a banner that read, "Stop the East Side Project." Neither was able to reach the top of the building, so instead one chained

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DEFENDING THE ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST

The Allegheny National Forest is one of the great wilderness treasures of the Eastern US. It is home to numerous plant and animal species, including the threatened water shrew, 2 endangered species of mussels, bald eagles, and a giant, threatened salamander called the hellbender. There is also a strong chance that the highly endangered Indiana bat resides in the Allegheny. The proposed East Side Project is essentially a re-packaging and expansion of the Mortality II Timber Sale stopped by a lawsuit filed by the Allegheny Defense Project. If the East Side Project is not stopped it will be the largest cut in the Eastern US. The US Forest Service justifies the East Side Project by pointing out that the cutting will not be in one place but instead in scattered areas. They neglect to mention that in these "scattered areas" they will cut, in some cases, 200 of the 400 acres.

Soil erosion as a result of logging is notorious for its detrimental effect on watersheds. The East Side project would potentially damage 54 named watersheds and over 100 unnamed tributaries. The Allegheny is known for pristine watersheds, streams, and rivers, including the Crane Run, a designated Wilderness Trout Stream, the home of native breeding trout. The use of herbicides on over 3000 acres of the Allegheny, with herbicide use approved in some places as close as 10 feet from reservoirs, will further damage watersheds.

While the Forest Service has tried to pit environmentalists against locals by suggesting that stopping logging could result in job loss, the reality is that recreation provides far more jobs than the highly automated commercial logging industry does.

The struggle to defend the Allegheny is part of a broader national campaign demanding zero resource extraction on public lands. The first step to turning this dream into a reality is the passage of the National Forest Protection and Restoration Act (NFPRA), which will stop all timber sales on federal lands and redirect funds into ecological restoration, undoing the damage of centuries of logging while creating new jobs.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Write to your Senators and House Representatives and demand that they support the NFPRA (HR 2789).

(Your Senator)

US Senate

Washington, DC 20510

(Your Representative)

US House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

Write to Allegheny Forest Supervisor John Palmer and demand an end to the logging of the Allegheny!!!

John Palmer, Forest Supervisor

PO Box 847

Warren, PA 16365

(814) 723-5150

Become a local Allegheny Defense Project contact in your area!
For more information contact the Allegheny Defense Project.

RHETORIC FROM YOUR FRIENDLY EDITOR!

HEY HELLBENDERS,

SO HERE IT IS. IT'S JULY 1998 AND WE'RE COMING AT YOU WITH YET ANOTHER HELLBENDER JOURNAL. THIS ONE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE SHORTER THAN USUAL BUT I THINK THAT ONCE AGAIN AS EDITOR I HAVE FAILED IN BREVITY. THERE IS SIMPLY TOO MUCH GOOD (AND BAD) STUFF TO PRINT. I FELT THAT SAM HAYES ESSAY HAD TOO MANY VITAL POINTS TO MAKE. ALSO, WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO TAKE A MORE AGGRESSIVE STANCE ON THE HERBICIDE USAGE. THANKS TO TIM DOODY WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO DO JUST THAT. EDUCATION IS OUR BIGGEST STUMBLING BLOCK.

I THINK THAT THIS IS A GREAT TIME TO LOOK FORWARD. EVERYBODY MARK THE FALL GATHERING ON YOUR CALENDARS FOR SEPTEMBER 18-20. AND BE PREPARED FOR A POTENTIAL SPECIAL EVENT ON THE 21ST. PLEASE HELP US OUT IN THE FIELD. WE NEED ACTIVISTS TO GET OUT IN THE WOODS AND BEGIN DOCUMENTING THE DESTRUCTION. IF WE DO THIS RIGHT WE CAN BEGIN THE PROCESS OF RESTORING THE ALLEGHENY BEFORE THE INDUSTRY HAS THEIR WAY WITH OUR FOREST.

THERE WAS SO MUCH MORE INFORMATION THAT NEEDED TO BE PUBLISHED BUT WE SIMPLY LOST OUT ON SPACE AND TIME. DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT THE UPDATED WEB PAGE AND TO COME OUT AND DEFEND THE ALLEGHENY WHENEVER POSSIBLE. KEEP YOUR SPIRITS UP AND YOUR HEARTS STRONG, AND MINDS CLEAR OF COURSE!

FOR UNBROKEN WILDNESS, IN SPIRIT AND EARTH,
FOR SUN AND MOON, IN EMOTION AND SKY,

JAMES KLEISSLER, Editor

Deadline For Next Issue: September 14, 1998

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ADP WEB PAGE UPDATED!

Check Out the Spring Hellbender
Journal and Zero-Cut Primer with
color photos at:

<http://www.envirolink.org/orgs/adp/>

The Hellbender Journal

Vol. 4, No. 2

Summer Issue, 1998

*The Allegheny Defense Project
is a bio-regional organization
dedicated to finding community
based solutions for restoring
the ecological integrity and
building sustainable economies
benefiting the health of
all forest communities in the
Allegheny Forests.*

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The Hellbender Journal is a voice for citizens working towards the protection of Allegheny Forests. Our purpose is to keep folks informed with what's happening on the forest while helping to share information, strategies, and ideas that strengthen our resistance against oppressors of the forest.

Please send us your articles, drawings, photographs, poems, songs, ideas, info, and so on. We need help to keep the struggle going. Remember that you're all free to contact us with questions, ideas, comments, or even just to chat. And remember to spread the word about what you read here!

Send your submissions to:

The Allegheny Defense Project

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OUST 'EM OUT!

by Tim Doody

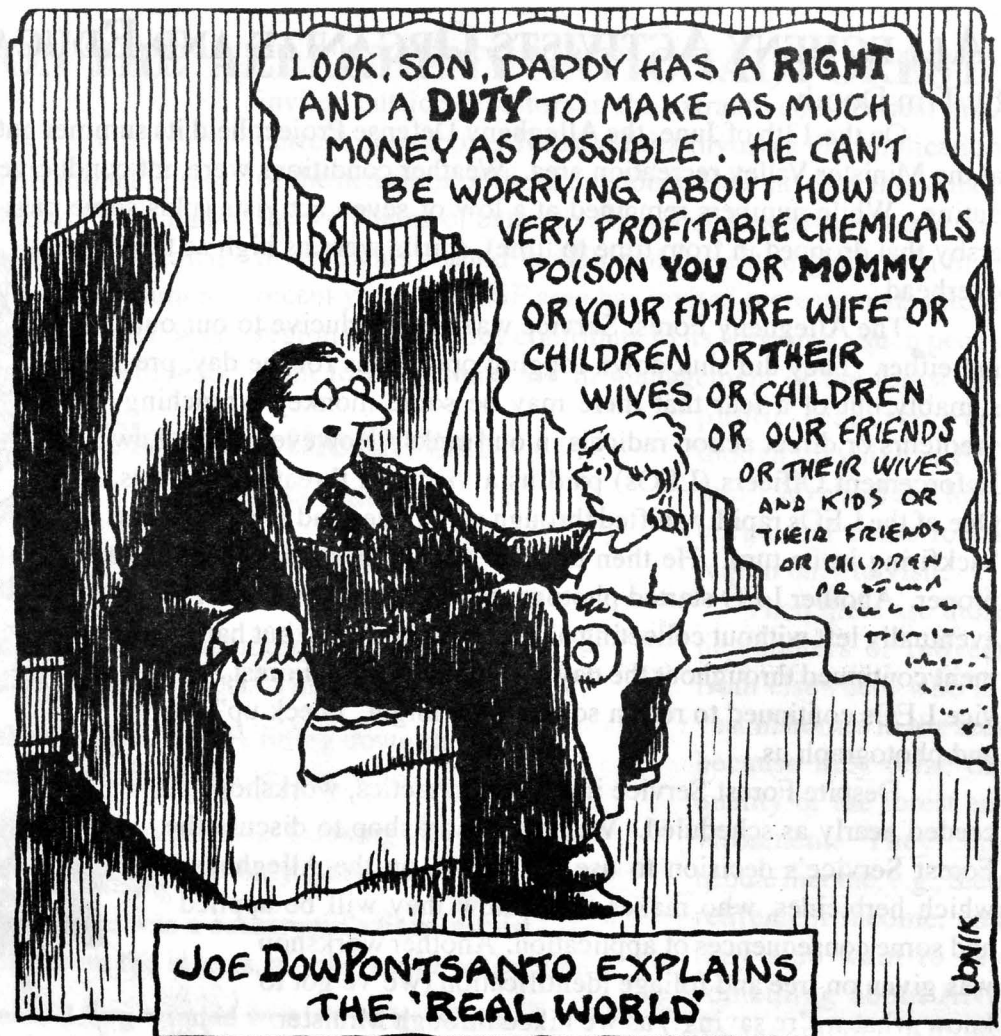
The East Side EIS Project includes the spraying of toxic herbicides on at least 3,000 acres of the Allegheny National Forest. If you aren't aware of the Forest Service's use of said herbicides, please don't be surprised. Their Press Release on the East Side Project makes no references to herbicides at all; instead, the toxins are inconspicuously placed in the category of "reforestation treatments." The Forest Service "Executive Summary" on the East Side Project makes only one reference of herbicide usage, preferring to prefix it as the "careful and minimal application of low-dosage EPA-approved herbicides..."

The Allegheny Forest Service uses two types of herbicides called Roundup and Oust, produced by multinational corporations Monsanto and Dupont respectively. These pesticides are often sprayed in combination: a usage that has never been measured for its toxic effects!

Before we go into further depth regarding the specific poisons to be released on the Allegheny, a general explanation of pesticides is in order. With this in mind, it's time for a blurb from Caroline Cox, that Diva of Deep Ecology, Guru of Groundwater, eminent researcher of herbicides:

Our national pesticide law is not a health- or safety-based law. Instead, it is based on risk-benefit analysis: if a pesticide offers enough economic benefits, it can be registered, no matter how threatening its hazards. It is nearly impossible to do a sound risk-benefit analysis. There is no satisfactory way, for example, to weigh the costs of two million dead birds, or 100 children born with birth defects, against the profit margins of chemical manufacturing companies.

Further, pesticides consist of two basic labels. These two labels are the "active ingredient/s" and the "inert ingredient/s" and are defined by the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) as follows: an active ingredient is one that will "prevent, destroy, repel or mitigate any pest;" an inert ingredient is one that "is not active." Corporations are required to reveal their active ingredients but do not have to reveal their inert ingredients to the pub-



lic. Corporations are left to decide whether their pesticide ingredients are active or inert. Different corporations will call the same ingredient different things i.e. you say to-ma-to, I say to-mah-to; you say active, I say inert. To make matters worse, the consumer market is flooded with products that still need to be tested. Just because a product is not tested does not mean that it can not be used. So, our tragedy-comedy of errors begin. OK, let's return our focus back to the pesticides being specifically used in the Allegheny: Roundup and Oust.

Glyphosate is the active ingredient in Roundup and is acutely toxic (will cause intense harm at the right dosage) to animals, including fish, birds, insects, earthworms and humans. Concentrations as low as 10 parts per million can kill fish and 1/20 of typical application rates caused delayed development in earthworms. Exposure from glyphosate-containing products such as Roundup damages and/or reduces the population of many animals. In California, it was reported that glyphosate was the third most commonly reported cause of pesticide related illness among agricultural workers. One of the few reviews of treatments for Roundup poisoning shows that, between 1980 and 1989, one hospital in China reported 7 deaths and 93 cases of illness from the

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ALLEGHENY ACTIVISTS ORGANIZE AND EDUCATE AT MINISTER CREEK

by Tim Doody

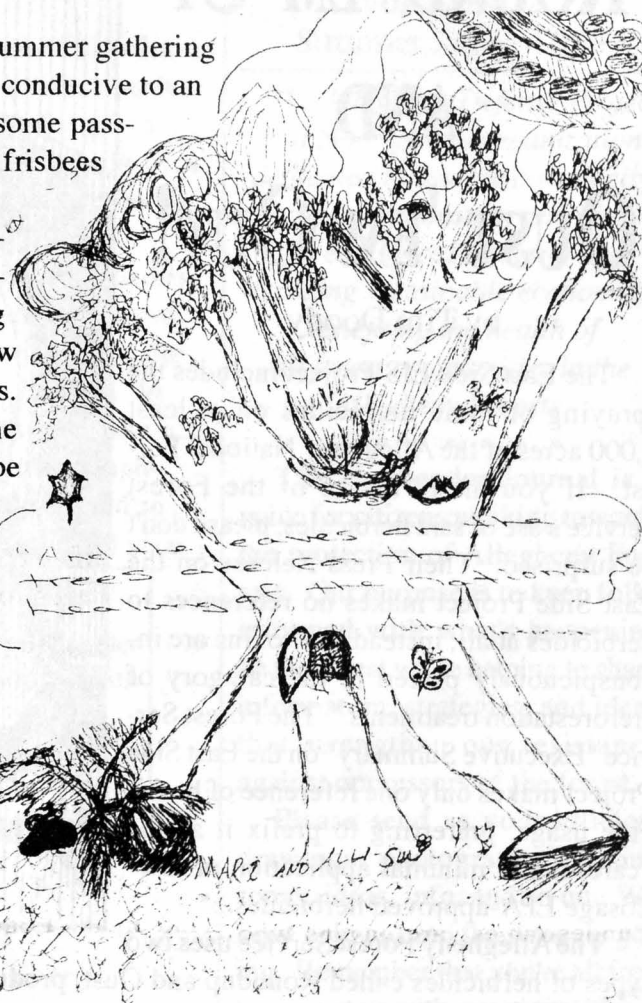
On the 13th of June, the Allegheny Defense Project held its summer gathering at the Minister Valley recreation area. Weather conditions were not conducive to an outing. While numbers remained at a low of seven activists (plus some passersby that dropped in from time to time), spirits were as high as the frisbees overhead.

The Allegheny Forest Service was not conducive to our outing either. They did shut down logging operations for the day, presumably out of a fear that there may be some monkey wrenching saboteurs or direct action radicals in our ranks. However, some Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs) paid us a visit and threatened arrests. One of the LEOs rapidly shifted through some rules and regs, each one backfiring in its turn. He then decided that perhaps fines would be proper. Another LEO started photographing the seven of us. They eventually left without collecting any fines or activists, but harassment continued throughout the day as a medley of the Forest Service LEOs continued to return so that they might "check up" on and photograph us.

Despite Forest Service intimidation tactics, workshops proceeded nearly as scheduled. We held a workshop to discuss the Forest Service's decision to use herbicides on the Allegheny: which herbicides, who makes them, how they will be applied and some consequences of application. Another workshop was given on tree and foliage identification (we've got to know what we're saving!) as we hiked through Minister.

As well, we scouted the areas of cutting at Minister

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HELLBENDERS AND

HELLRAISERS

☞ A Hellbender jumping into John Palmer's office and sucking off his face to the New York EF! bunch who did just about the same thing when they took over the Forest Supervisor's Office.

☞ A Hellbender basking in the sun's rays to Bill Belitskus as he runs on the Green Party ticket against indolent incumbent Rep. John Peterson.

☞ A Hellbender gnashing a small fish between her teeth for brunch to the 7 brave souls who dared the less than desirable elements to attend the ADP's summer outing.

☞ The same Hellbender licking her lips in anticipation of dinner to Allegheny lawyers Bill Luneburg and Jules Lobel for standing strong in the face of pressures brought on by powerful timber interest groups.

☞ A Hellbender in the throws of ecstasy during mating season to the Zero Cut Crew for the conference held @ Clarion Public Library—we enjoyed housing y'all.

☞ A Hellbender grooving in the cool evening winds to Brooke S., Susan (E-House), Mike G., E-House, Rosebud & everybody else involved for a fab benefit show that kept folks dancing til near midnight.

☞ A baby Hellbender nuzzling near her mother to the Earth First! Journal whose "Wolves & Poodles" section we are currently thieving.

☞ An ailing bird with blackened lungs from Mac Blo's formaldehyde-emitting smokestacks to MacMillan Bloedel for quickly polluting Clarion's air supply and for slowly killing the people on River Hill.

☞ A mutated three-eyed fish swimming in the Ohio near the Neville Island nuke plant to the US Forest Service for accepting the herbicides (Round Up & Oust) that are polluting the Allegheny.

☞ A roadkill carcass from an unidentifiable mammal to Willamette for chipping away the Allegheny with a skeleton crew of 6-8 workers.

☞ The levitated & vengeful ghost of said roadkill to Allegheny Alive (a "wise-use" group) for their statements of libel regarding the ADP.

☞ A deer caught in the Forest Service's "safe" fencing to the Zero Cut crew for leaving our bathroom in worse shape than the BP gas station facilities

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST

by Sam Hays

Last August the region of the Allegheny National Forest faced a major encounter with the larger world of forest management when federal Judge William Standish struck down the Mortality II forest management plan. The Environmental Impact Statement on which it was based, he ruled, was inadequate, and the ANF administration would have to redo it. On a number of eastern national forests legal action of this kind had been taking place for several years but the ANF had long been spared. Now that changed and the modern world of debate over forest policy had come to the ANF.

The initial reaction has been quite similar to previous reactions elsewhere: a community outcry against the role of "outsiders" who have no business meddling in "local" affairs; denunciation of those giving rise to the litigation as extremists; arguments that the "undesirables" are pagans who seek to destroy civilization and are part of an international conspiracy. All of this has provided opportunities for political leaders to rise to the defense of the community by focusing hostility, bitterness and tension against the "messengers" from afar who seem to foster change.

If one can take a look behind all the sound and fury, however, there are substantive issues here. This is not just a matter of Mortality II but a case of some rather extensive changes impinging on national forest communities throughout the country as well as in the ANF area. And these call for some sober observations and constructive attempts to cope with the changing circumstances of national forest management.

First of all the ANF area is not an isolated area that can or even should want to separate itself from the larger world. On the contrary, it is embedded in a variety of external circumstances with which it must cope in ways other than simply claiming the right to manage the national forest by and for itself.

These "outsiders" have long been influential in the ANF area and will continue to do so. For many years the area has

invited outside investors in the extractive industries; much current debate over forest affairs involves the implications of the activities of these outsiders. How do they think about the well being of extractive communities as they move their investments around the US and the entire globe? In more recent years the ANF area has invited recreationists into its region because they contribute to its economy. Such people want to have some say in management of the forest as a

public resource even though they live in Buffalo, Cleveland and Pittsburgh and come to the region only to visit.

Then there are those newcomers or retirees from elsewhere who invest in homes in the area because they prize the quality of the forest environment. They contribute income, e.g., their retirement income, and they also want to say something about ANF management. Among the most important current "outsiders" are the scientists from around the nation and also from the rest of the world. Especially important are the forest ecologists who are making a host of new discoveries about the make-up of forests and how they work. These

discoveries are brought to bear on forest affairs not only by the scientists themselves but also by the general public who follow their discoveries. And finally there is the fundamental fact that the ANF is owned by the nation at large and is managed by national rather than local governments in the form of the U.S. Forest Service.

Let's have a bit closer look at five of these connections with the larger world to get a better picture of what the region is facing.

1. The Law. The most immediate world which the Mortality II case brought home to the ANF region was the law that the court applied. There are several laws under which actions of the U.S. Forest Service are now being challenged

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Clearing the throat

by Theresa Darling

Excuse me. Time there was a place called PA
Under these signs, water-towers, seed trees

A home life on track, fox tracks, deer
Big antlers on forest tracts. Time with a trail

Now called babble, my PA riding down the bent arc
Of a mean summer dream, so hot, who can say

Where the birds have flown. Looking up is like
Staring sun in the eye. It only takes once

They say. There was a countrygirl's time in trust
Tales told about the insects, air, the world we breathe

And break. Long-winded words told by wisemen
Dark about the deep edges before they fall

Hard, without a sound. You've heard the one
About whether a tree really makes a noise

When no man is there to hear it? There's a divided sense,
Blood-red double-talk dazzling. Tray of tools like surgeon

Stubbled beard of a land. Never mind, now. Pay attention.
Look in the mirror, PA, lathered and ready for the blade,

Chin up and humming
These hills were made for shaving.

Round 'em Up and Oust 'em Out Continued...

pesticide.

Roundup promises to do much more than its prescribed tasks. The glyphosate inside it can drift as far as 400 to 800 meters from its site of application, an off-target range far worse than what any drunken male with a full bladder has done to the bathroom (the Forest Service with a bladder full of toxins!?). Residues from Roundup can remain in the soil for over a year. An example of glyphosatic staying power can be found in a site where the lettuce, carrots and barley planted a year after application still contained herbicidal residues at harvest. We might almost consider ourselves fortunate if Roundup would only stay in the ground, but, alas, it can readily be released from soil particles and leach into watersheds. Some plants have also begun to show genetic resistance to the use of Roundup, ensuring that application levels must increase to still be effective. Incidentally, there are at least two cases of fraud in relation to Monsanto's testing of Roundup.

Oust, the other half of the Forest Service's "solution," is a potent inhibitor of plant root and shoot growth: the toxin acts on a molecular level as it stops a plant's cells from successfully dividing in a process akin to cancer. As a matter of fact, Oust, otherwise known as sulfometuron methyl, has caused cancer on animals tested in laboratory

research. Studies show that there is a dramatic reduction of diversity among plant species in an area of application. In the case of the Allegheny, this could hypothetically mean cherry trees and bare ground, a condition lousy for the ecological integrity of a forest but invaluable to the production of a tree farm.

Our "messy bladder syndrome" continues: like its partner in crime, Roundup, Oust drifts. For example, in Franklin County, Washington, Oust was applied to 700 miles of roadsides where it drifted on sandy soil, killing and mutating food crops in surrounding agricultural lands. At ground zero of an application, researchers have concluded that Oust "would have effects on the...ecological balance of the soil." Tests of the herbicide found that 75-87% of the applied amount leached from the soil and into the water supply, a scenario that could prove hazardous to water sheds in the Allegheny. The inert chemicals (those chemicals which Dupont does not consider active) have not been revealed to the public even though the EPA considers "the potential that the inerts [phrase deleted by the EPA] or the combination of inerts and active ingredients...when applied directly to water, might be considerably more toxic than the active ingredient alone."

Dupont implements some questionable free market practices. Dupont is aware that weeds develop a resistance to

Oust and will do nothing to resolve that plight except to sell greater quantities of the herbicide to perform the same task. Also, in order to increase uses, and thus sales, of sulfonylurea herbicides (such as Oust), Dupont has bred a "sulfonylurea-resistant" soybean. "Genetically engineered sulfonylurea-resistant" cotton, tomatoes, corn and tobacco are being tested, and the multinational corporation hopes these products will be coming to a farm near you along with Oust. Dupont is trying to create an herbicidal Monopoly in which they would own Boardwalk, Park Place and the seedling cycle formerly run by Gaia.

In sum, Roundup and Oust are the herbicides that the Allegheny Forest Service is using to kill or, as they might say, "thin out," vegetation in an area before they start cutting. There will be other

consequences.

ZERO-CUT UPDATE AND UPCOMING EVENTS

by Rachel Martin

Things have been going great in the Zero Cut movement. ADP hosted the last meeting in Clarion, which was well-attended and consisted of great discussion and great people. Shortly after the meeting was the Western Ancient Forest Campaign Lobby Week in Washington D.C. Activists from around the country headed out to D.C. to meet with Congressmen and staff to discuss the McKinney/Leach Bill (aka "The Zero Cut Bill"), among other issues. A lot of work was done, and the activists met with the offices of over a hundred members of Congress to get the word out.

The Southwest Center for Biodiversity in Arizona and Heartwood in Indiana are filing major lawsuits on the basis that the Forest Service is required by the Resources Planning Act to maximize the net benefits of Forest Service lands for the public. Forest Guardians, based in Arizona, is appealing all timber sales nationwide. Best of luck to these groups!

The next meeting of the Zero Cut Coordinating Committee will be September 9-10, in Vermont. If you are interested in attending, give ADP a call.

September 11-13 is the Forest Reform Rally in New Hampshire. The Rally will include numerous workshops on Zero Cut, organizing, and current forest issues, speakers, good food, entertainment, and a chance to meet activists from all around the country.

The Ruckus Society will be holding a Zero Cut Ruckus Camp at the end of September or beginning of October in Southern Minnesota. The camp is a week long and will include training on nonviolence, working with media, organizing, and technical skills like tree climbing and tripod-building. This promises to be an excellent opportunity to learn more about nonviolent resistance.



232 Letters

0 Letters

US CITIZENS SAY: "STOP THE EAST SIDE TIMBER SALE!"

by Compost Heap

Like a slippery band of vagabond junk bond salesmen, John Palmer and his troupe of silviculturists has found and used every and any means possible to cut down the Allegheny National Forest. Despite outright public opposition Palmer's legal team tried to convince a federal judge that if they didn't cut Mortality II last summer the trees would

die and economic values would be lost. But when the East Side Project was introduced in April of 1998 only 1 of over 200 cuts put up for sale last summer had been dropped. To date, of course, all 200+ cuts have been stopped!

When the East Side Timber Sale was announced citizens responded to the call for action with a swarm of letters demanding that the Project be stopped. We are asking for a total of 8,206 letters to stop the East Side Project (or 1 letter

for each acre the Forest Service plans to cut). We hope to generate these letters by the time a Decision is issued next year. Since April, 232 letters have been sent in protest of this outrageous timber sale. Check out the John Palmer meter to the left to see how far we have yet to go (there have actually been many more letters since some were sent before April that have not been tallied). Four folks from New York went so far as to bring their comments directly into Palmer's office in the form of a two hour sit-in (see cover story).

There is still time to generate huge quantities of letters to Allegheny National Forest Supervisor John Palmer, or more famously known as the Walking Talking Bulldozer. And this is your chance to help fill up the John Palmer meter until we blank out his face with black ink. You can be the one that helped to save the Allegheny from Palmer's wrath.

So get out there on those streets. Contact the ADP and get action alerts (or download it off of our web page). Get your neighbors, friends, local authorities, environmental and social justice organizations, FBI infiltrator (they gotta do something), and families all to write letters. Then get a bunch of postcards or blank pieces of paper and table at some event where even more letters can be generated. Then we will stop East Side. I know it. I feel it. Great work Hellbenders!

June 13 Outing at Minister Continued...

which was particularly emotional for those who were at the ADP's fall gathering as the designated site was among the 308 acres now levelled. The silent machinery lay nearby, a testament to the cutting that our mere presence had stopped for 24 hours. However, on that 25th hour, the chainsaws and skidders were fired up, and the Forest service continued its plans to chop and send off cherry from another 246 acres of Minister. We were witness to the compaction and erosion of soil, of the discarded tree tops, of the open sky where once there was protective overstory. Eventually, like so many other areas of the Allegheny, ferns will rise and conceal rocks and fallen tree tops, making the land unusable to deer and other mammals. We were watching the process by which a forest is destroyed and a tree farm is born.

Some activists really lent their talents to the gathering. Much props to Rachel Martin's all vegan grub which included chile,

hummus and baba ghanoush. She made us as happy as hoboes about to light out of town. Also, a wink and a drink to Scott Burns for entertaining us with banjo and with guitar.



US Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) Steve Burd and his partner Joe Langianese (not shown) harass Allegheny activists at June 13 Outing at the Minister Creek Recreation Area.

Photo by Kelly Compeau

ALLEGHENY ACTIVISTS RALLY IN PHILADELPHIA

by Jim Kleissler

It was July 6, and tourists from all over were gathered around the Liberty Bell. They looked on, slightly dazzled, as a group of forest defenders gathered, hung some banners, carried signs, and gathered petition signatures. Activists from the Allegheny Defense Project, American Lands Alliance (formerly Western Ancient Forest Campaign), Pennsylvania Republicans for the Environment, the Lenape Indians and Student Environmental Coalition had gathered to spread the word about Zero-Cut, the Furse Amendment, and the horrific East Side Timber Sale on the Allegheny National Forest.

In all the day went well. Activists performed a skit where they auctioned off our national forests, their beautiful watersheds, their wondrous habitats, and all of their inhabitants for \$1 each to the timber industry. People carried signs such as "End Subsidized Road Building" and "Native Americans for Zero-Cut." Two television stations braved the absolutely fine weather, the public was educated, and activists took advantage of another opportunity to spread the word that our forests must be protected.

Thanks to Allison Lovejoy, one of our West Chester Coordinators, for organizing the event, Dave Wise for helping out, and John Keslick for propagating the Zero-Cut word like a pack hound.

CROSS COUNTRY

by Liz Hughes

My friend waits, leaning against the tree
her legs in Irish wool, curls in a grey beret.
She disappears down trail where I find her,
spread eagle, skis to the sky, resting.
Like ice dancers we crack our poles
against the iced branches. Our sweet silence
menaced by the snowmover's drone,
speeding through the trees like phantoms.
We step aside for the masked riders
who salute us as they pass.



Drawing by Mary Angeline

STATE FORESTS MANAGEMENT PLAN REVISION CONTINUES

by Arthur Clark

The state Bureau of Forestry (BOF) is currently in the process of preparing a new 15 year management plan for the 2.1 million acre state forest system. By the time you read this, the first written comment period and round of public meetings will be over. The state Bureau of Forestry has held 27 public meetings across Pennsylvania to solicit input for its preparation of the new management plan for 2001-2015. The Pittsburgh and Philadelphia meetings were both big successes for us. Many thanks to the ADP & Sierra Club folks who helped turn out people for these great events.

At many of the other meetings, a surprising number of non-activist citizens turned up to say that the BOF needs to change its ways. Activists of many different organizations attended these smaller meetings as well. A special mention of thanks is in order to Bill Belitskus of Kane. Bill drove all over western and central Pennsylvania to attend 7 of these public meetings!

Now that the meetings and comment period are over, it's time to start preparing to do it all over again. The BOF will release its draft management plan in December 1998

or January 1999. Soon thereafter, they will repeat the series of 27 meetings held earlier this year and will again accept written comments. Get ready folks! This will be the most important phase of the plan revision for us. We will finally get to see what the BOF has in mind for its new plan AND still have many opportunities to seek changes to it. The second round of public meetings is anticipated for February and March of 1999.

There is plenty to do between now and the next phase of the process. Please help us recruit interested folks to get involved now. Have them contact the Allegheny Defense Project and we'll plug them into the action. We also need submissions of photos of our state forests. We want pictures that show the natural beauty and the sad logging destruction. Mail in your photos or e-mail good scans of them. Be as exact as possible in describing where they were taken. Send your photos, questions, comments, and ideas to Sierra Club PA Forest Protection Campaign, c/o Sierra Club Pennsylvania Chapter, P.O. Box 606, Harrisburg, PA 17108-0606. You may contact the campaign coordinator Arthur Clark directly at aclark@envirolink.org

HELLBENDER ACTION ALERT!

POWERFUL TIMBER INTERESTS TRY TO INTIMIDATE FOREST LAWYERS



Early this year PA State Senator Bill Slocum (R - Warren) attacked efforts to protect Pennsylvania's only national forest, the Allegheny, by holding up State funding for the University of Pittsburgh. He did this in order to thwart the work of two University of Pittsburgh Law Professors, Bill Luneburg and Jules Lobel, who have been providing free legal representation to the Allegheny Defense Project, a Clarion based grassroots forest protection group.

After facing pressure from Slocum, whose biggest financial contributors includes big timber, the University of Pittsburgh and Chancellor Mark Nordenberg cowered to Slocum's demands by revising new "Guidelines" by which the Law Professors might work. These new "Guidelines" were intentionally designed to make it more difficult for Law School professors to do pro-bono (free) work for tax paying Pennsylvania Citizens.

Slocum's described his idea of how these new guidelines should be enforced, "Each new case, or each new appeal, is a new activity; and in each activity they should seek a new written permission and should outline which university equipment and facilities will be used and how." In other words, Slocum hopes to use these new "Guidelines" to keep law professors from providing their services to public interest groups by tying them up in bureaucracy and red tape. Apparently he is not opposed to big government.

The goal? "My hope is that within the administration oversight there ought to be given a lot of thought to the controversy of the case and does the university really want to lend its name to these kinds of proceedings by approving it," Slocum stated after a meeting with the University of Pittsburgh Chancellor. "Some of these kinds of things [forest protection lawsuits] will be sawed off at the beginning and some of these groups will have to pay their own bills instead of using state-funded attorneys."

Despite the fact that a lot of the lawyer's work on the lawsuit that stopped the Mortality II Timber Sale was conducted on their own time under the new "Guidelines" the University of Pittsburgh, not the lawyers, is going to collect the \$31,000 in attorney's fees that the lawyers were awarded by the Courts for their time and services. In this case the lawsuits are funding the state and not vice versa.

Attempts to quiet forest protection attorney's in the name of timber industry special interests is a threat to our forests and to the academic freedom of our state educational institutions. Make no mistake about it, the new "Guidelines" devised by the University of Pittsburgh to oversee the work of it's Law School Professors is meant as a means of preventing public interest work in the future. You will never see the authorities at the University of Pittsburgh prevent a Law School Professor from representing some big business even if it is to get them out of cleaning up some toxic mess that they have created.

So please take the time to support Professors Luneburg and Lobel! Most educational institutions require that Professors do public service. Why is the University of Pittsburgh interfering with this service? That is a good question for Chancellor Nordenberg.

How You Can Help!

1. Write the University of Pittsburgh and ask that they support Bill Luneburg and Jules Lobel in their efforts to protect the Allegheny:

Mark Nordenberg, Chancellor
University of Pittsburgh
Cathedral of Learning
4200 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
(412) 624-4200

2. Write the ethic's committee in Pennsylvania State Senate and ask that they investigate Senator Bill Slocum's interference with the work of the Allegheny lawyers:

Senator David J. Brightbill
Chairman, Senate Ethics Committee
Rm. 337, Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3048

3. Help contribute to the Allegheny Defense Project Litigation fund. With your help we can continue to enforce environmental laws on our national forest and work towards zero-cut in the courtroom. Send your contributions to the Allegheny Defense Project care of the ADP Litigation Fund.

4. Organize for the Allegheny by becoming an active organizer for the Allegheny Defense Project. Simply drop us a note, come to our Fall Gathering (September 18-20), or get started now by copying this action alert and passing it on!

Allegheny Defense Project
P.O. Box 245
Clarion, PA 16214
(814) 226-4918
adp@envirolink.org
www.envirolink.org/orgs/adp/

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE ALLEGHENY CONTINUED...

throughout the country: the National Environmental Policy Act which governs the use of the Environmental Impact Statement, the National Forest Management Act of 1976 and the Endangered Species Act, especially that of 1973. The first pertains primarily to procedure, and the second and third to substantive standards in forest management. The courts have found that the U.S. Forest Service is deficient in applying these laws. Those who do not like the way the courts rule on cases might make some sense of what is coming down the pike by looking at what these laws require, find out what federal courts elsewhere are deciding about them, and then get after the management of the ANF to make sure that it shapes up and avoids similar shortcomings in the future.

2. Forest Science. In years past most forest science was developed by the U.S.

Forest Service through its experiment stations and most of that research emphasized improvements in wood production. Beginning in the 1960's, however, research about forests was carried out increasingly by scientists from a broader range of disciplines in more diverse fields such as biology, ecology, hydrology and landscape ecology. They came from a variety of institutions, biology departments in colleges and universities, natural history museums, zoos and aviaries, botanical and zoological gardens and specialized ecological institutes. They developed an infrastructure of scientific organizations, academic departments, sources of funds, field stations and scientific journals. All this has had a major effect on older style silvicultural research. Some forest professionals argue that these new ecological sciences have no legitimate role in managing forests. But they are being called in increasingly for their advice and citizen groups are bringing their knowledge to bear on reviews of forest management. By keeping up with it through various publications, anyone can understand where it is all going and how it will impinge on the ANF region.

3. Public Values. Debates over management objectives in the ANF, as well as all the national forests in the East are proceeding amid changing public attitudes about just what is important about forests. Over the course of the past half-century the importance of wood production to the general public has diminished and the importance of other objectives has risen. At first the new ideas came largely from

recreation users but in the early 1970's ecological values became more important and these led to an emphasis on clean water, clean air and wild resources habitat. The attitudes of Pennsylvanians on this score have changed at about the same pace as attitudes of Americans generally. Attitude surveys in Pennsylvania have found that when asked about the benefits they see in the state forests, people rank clean

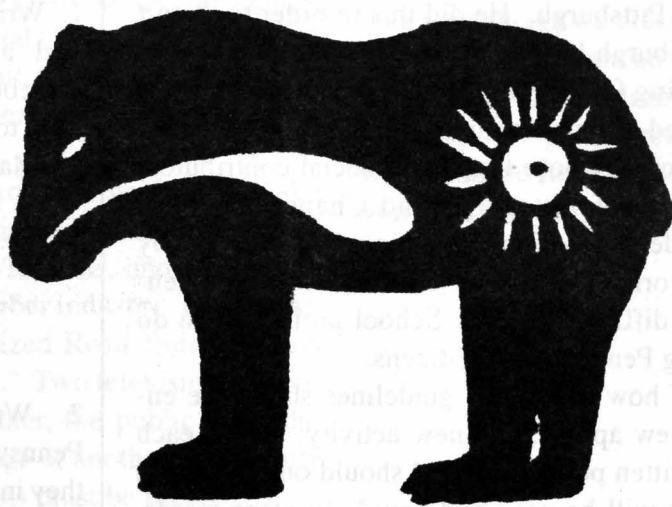
air, clean water, soil protection and wildlife habitat at the top and wood production at the bottom.

These new public attitudes indicate that the meaning of multiple-use has changed considerably since the Multiple-Use Act of 1960 and that now a mix of uses involves a wide range of ecological circumstances involving migratory birds, old growth, wildflowers, lichens, amphibians and a host of wild resources. This is why in much of popular thought

today timber harvest and road building are associated with the term "single-use" and "multiple-use" refers to the newer range of ecological and environmental uses other than wood production. These new public attitudes toward forests underwrite in a fundamental way new objectives in forest management. They are here to stay and it would be sensible to work within them so as to avoid the inevitable frustration and tention that comes from continually challenging them.

4. The Economics of National Forests. The internal economics of the U.S. Forest Service has now become a major setting for working out national forest policy, including the administration of individual national forests like the ANF. Both revenues to the Forest Service and expenditures by it are subject to greater scrutiny. Much of the current rationale for Forest Service planning is now associated with the steady decline in income from wood production and rise in income from recreation. These figures now are basic in Forest Service thinking about its future and a community such as that in and around the ANF needs to use them to shape thinking about the future. Some national forests have higher returns from wood production than others; the same holds for recreation. But no matter what these variations, data about the trend is convincing and that trend will continue.

5. The Economics of Forest Communities. Extractive economies and especially wood production economies do not provide significant economic futures in the midst of economic trends toward service and information activities. The



Drawing by Mary Angeline

CONSERVATION GROUPS RESIGN FROM TIMBER CERTIFICATION EFFORT IN APPALACHIA

from the Appalachian Restoration Campaign (ARC)

old types of production hang on, but even in the extractive economies there are steady trends toward mechanization and reduced employment. It is often difficult to see what lies ahead. One of the more prominent economists in the West who tries to help communities to think through these problems speaks of the tendency to drive down the road looking ahead through the rear view mirror. The challenge is whether or not one can begin the transition before it is forced upon them. Some communities have made successful transitions. That usually happens when a small group of regional leaders can make the break from old ways of thinking to point out the wisdom of a new perspective.

Each of these five circumstances represent ways in which the wider world affects the ANF region. It is tempting to think that the region is simply beleaguered by what is happening "out there." But if one can shift how one thinks, changes that appear to be unwanted and unfair intrusions can also be thought of as opportunities. By stepping back, avoiding the simple protests and visions of external conspiracies, and taking up constructive inquiries as to these opportunities, one can develop a frame of mind that can bring about a new and better, even though different, future.

This article originated as Environmental Forest Brief #23, part of a series of e-mail essays written by Sam Hays, Public Lands Chair for the Sierra Club. Sam's essays are both informative and interesting. To receive Sam's e-mail briefs in the future you can e-mail him at sph1+@pitt.edu.

Hellbender Journal

Athens OH- After a year of involvement with the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) effort to promote sustainable forestry in Appalachia, two conservation organizations resigned today from the FSC's Central Appalachian Working Group. In a letter to the FSC US Initiative Board of Directors, representatives from Heartwood and the Chattooga River Watershed Coalition cited

lack of regional decision-making power, a disregard for public lands, and a lack of basic assurances for forest protection in their decision to resign from the Working Group.

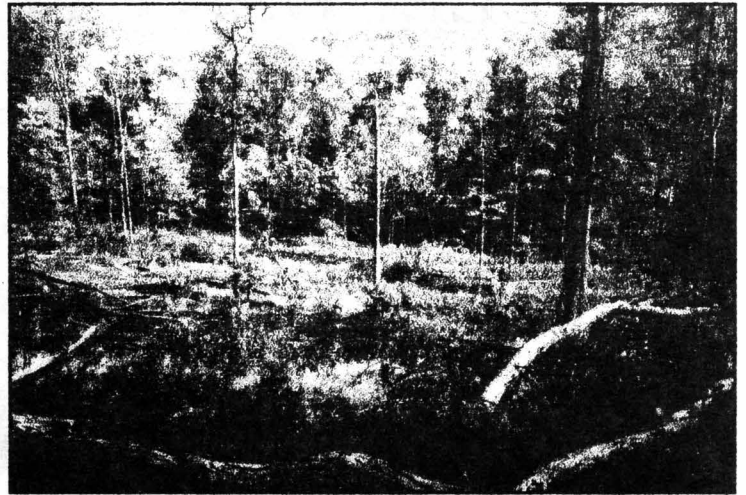
The Working Group is part of a national effort led by the FSC to develop guidelines for sustainable forestry. The Central Appalachian Working Group was created in 1997 to refine and customize these guidelines, making them more suitable for forests in the Appalachian region. These regional standards will be used to evaluate forestry practices in this region and award „sustainable% operations with an FSC label. In theory, this label will allow consumers to benefit sustainable forestry practices with their purchases.

"The FSC standards simply did not live up to Heartwood's standards for sustainable forestry," said Than Hitt, representative of Heartwood in the FSC Working Group. "Without basic assurances for forest protection and enforcement in the regional standards, we could neither endorse this effort nor continue working with this process in good faith."

Since the inception of the regional Working Group, the conservation groups had stressed several issues about sustainable forestry in Appalachia. The groups insisted that the first rule of sustainable forestry is to mimic natural processes where possible, favoring small openings in the canopy over large, unnatural clearcuts. Additionally, groups felt that public lands should not be subjected to industrial forestry or certification. Moreover, the groups felt that the regional standards were tailored more towards large, corporate timber operations at the expense of small, non-industrial private landowners. These concerns were not sufficiently addressed by the regional Working Group.

"I'm thinking about the consumer," said Buzz Williams, Director of the Chattooga River Watershed Coalition. "Although the FSC Principals of sustainable forestry are good concepts, without equally good enforcement on the regional level, the FSC cannot guarantee a quality product for consumers."

Heartwood is a forest protection network in eastern North America working to protect and restore the heartland, s hardwood forests. The Chattooga River Watershed Coalition works for protection of the Chattooga River basin in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. Both groups work for the protection of public lands and to enable private land stewardship.



This clearcut on Collins-Pine owned forest land in Pennsylvania is a practice that has been certified based on existing FSC standards in our region.

5th Annual ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST DEFENDERS GATHERING!



Background: The Allegheny National Forest is Pennsylvania's only national forest and covers 513,000 acres of beautiful woods in northwestern PA. This is your public land.

The Event: The Defender's Gathering is an opportunity for activists who work on all scales of the spectrum to gather together, dialogue, learn useful skills, and put them to work.

The Workshops: History of the Allegheny, herbicide use on the Allegheny, logging on the Allegheny, chip mills and glue plants, the economics of logging, zero-cut, non-violence, lobbying, climbing, plant/animal identification hikes, observation hikes (old growth and clearcut areas), strategy sessions and more.

*September
18-20*

Right now, the US Forest Service hopes to finalize plans to cut more than 15,000 acres (or 23.5 square miles) of the Allegheny National Forest. These plans call for clearcuts on 6,000 acres, pre-clearcut treatment cuts on 8,250 acres, spraying of toxic herbicides on 5,600 acres, construction on 182.1 miles of logging roads (including 36 miles of brand new roads), and the creation of 20 new stone pits for road construction.

ANF DEFENDERS GATHERING REGISTRATION!

name _____

address _____

phone _____

e-mail _____

other info _____

Please identify special needs or offerings (such as gear, rides, diet, handicaps, housing, etc...) below:

Registration is \$10 and includes food.

Please mail to: Allegheny Defense Project, PO Box 245,
Clarion PA 16214. (814) 226-4918. adp@envirolink.org.

HONEY LOCUST POD

By Margaret Young

The snake stitched of raisin flavored leather, you can't flatten it or name that curve, warped C, unfinished S, alert and rocking, wrinkled like a soaked book, old woman's wrists. Pulse your fingers on the seed-bumps, play ribbony recorder, pop out sugar-brown beans the size of nostrils, packed in yellow paper tissue. They rattle nestled separate, bead-strung, waiting potent for blossoming tall and sweet to fill again with more white pea-flowers, dark twist-fruits.

BELITSKUS TO RUN FOR U.S. CONGRESS IN 1998

by Jim Kleissler

On July 27, 1998, Bill Belitskus handed in 3,700 signatures to the election board of Pennsylvania to be listed on the November ballot as the Green Party Candidate for U.S. Congress in the 5th District which includes the Allegheny National Forest. Bill will be the first Congressional candidate to run on the Green Party ticket in Pennsylvania and he will be challenging the infamous timber industry hack John Peterson.

Belitskus hopes to challenge the current U.S Representative Peterson on his failure to represent his District, protect citizen's rights in his District, and protect the environment. Bill, his wife Mary, and their neighbors got thrust into the forest debate when Willamette Industries, a large timber company based in Oregon, built a high capacity chip mill in their community. The chip mill turns whole trees into piles of wood chips in a matter of seconds. Meanwhile it's roar can be heard in the living rooms of all nearby residents. The Willamette chip mill is also responsible for the degradation of Lanigan Brook, a wild trout stream.

The Belitskus' and their neighbors have been struggling with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to get Willamette to follow environmental laws. They filed an appeal of Willamette's National Pollution, Discharge, and Elimination Systems Control permit and they requested that the State Attorney General revoke Willamette's Corporate Charter for failing to comply with the law.

Peterson, who is currently in his first term in the U.S. House of Representative, is already one of the top ten receivers of contributions from the timber industry in Congress. Over 90% of his contributions come from big business and 25% of his contributions for the 1998 election come from big business contributors in Saipan, a United States protectorate (ie. colony) in southeast Asia. Peterson is famous for his poor environmental record (6% voting record according the League of Conservation Voters), his fast tracked anti-environmental rhetoric, his involvement on the "Western Caucus", and his alleged sexual advancements on women who worked for him when he was a State Representative in Pennsylvania.

Hellbender Journal

DOESN'T TRUST PETERSON ON FOREST ISSUES

by Bill Belitskus

Recently, Congressman John Peterson wrote a letter to the editor to local newspapers in which he desperately wants us to believe that the best use of our national forests is for logging. He wants us to ignore the fact that over 80 percent of the public wishes to see forests managed for recreation and tourism - two uses that produce billions of dollars in income to small community businesses. Mr. Peterson desperately wants us to believe that the national forests were originally intended for logging. He wants us to ignore the fact that logging was originally prohibited on public lands, and that only the money of big timber interests forced Congress to open these lands to the large corporations.

Now Congressman Peterson wants to scare is into believing that if we don't log the Allegheny National Forest it will burn down like the forests out west. However, on Oct. 20, 1994, Dale Dunshie of the U.S. Forest Service stated in the Kane Republican that the "fires in the west...are much different and potentially more damaging than local forest fires. The western fires were able to stay ignited and cause so much destruction because of different conditions in the west that do not exist in eastern forests."

In a final flight of fancy, Mr. Peterson wants us to believe that the timber corporations haven't been stealing us blind over the years. He wants us to ignore the budget numbers sent by the forest service itself that show that in 1996, the timber program lost around \$10 million, and that in 1997, the program cost around \$88 million. A detailed assessment reviewed by the U.S. Congressional Accounting Office estimated that the actual total loss for 1996 was \$791 million. That's our tax monies, all going towards a subsidy, not for local businesses supporting recreation and tourism, but for wealthy timber interests.

What do we do with a congressman who seems more interested in serving on the "Western Caucus" of legislators, than discussing issues important to his own district? Most importantly, when the congressman speaks, how do we know what to believe?

ALLEGHENY UPCOMING EVENTS!!!

August 14-16: ADP Field Monitoring Trip. Help us to restore the forest surrounding the Tionesta Scenic Area.

August 22: ADP Strategy Meeting. A reminder for you stalwart organizers out there. No industry hacks allowed. Period.

September 11-13: 12th Annual National Forest Reform Rally in New Hampshire. Call 978-287-0320 for info.

September 18-20: The Allegheny National Forest Defenders Gathering. This is the essential Allegheny outing of the year. Please, please get your butts out here and help us to organize for a living planet.

Late September/Early October: Zero-Cut Ruckus Society Training Camp on Direct Action! Keep your eyes peeled.



photo by Reginald Darling

FOREST?

Forest [Dis]Service

by Tim Doody

They're mindless with blindness as profit margins grow, more and more content with the less that you know.

They say we reach for what is sustainable but clear cut our options to unattainable grounds, and yes, when a tree falls and we are not there, it makes no small noise but resounds in a seismic wave of ecological implications that compounds what is and what will be.

With extinction on the horizon and exploitation in our midst, tell them only this:

Somewhere beyond the last town, the sun sets down behind rolling mountains and a pack restlessly gathers, prowling barren patches —
bared teeth,
hungry snarls,
furiously pumping legs.

A piercing howl soars on winds high above hemlock and cherry.

A hunt begins.

From the darkest spaces, traces of scowling eyes capture shine from sister moon in an eternally vigilant gaze that displays the final warning as Predator becomes Prey.

BENEFIT FOR THE ALLEGHENY A HUGE SUCCESS

by Tim Doody

June 2 was the night of rhythm-magik at Pittsburgh's at Rosebud. Susan xxx of E House and Brooke Smokelin organized a benefit show for the Allegheny in conjunction with the Sierra Club and Zero Cut campaigners.

The show opened with the bacchanalian sounds and gyrations of the Middle Eastern Dance Troupe. Brooke performed next with some help on the drums by her son Tree.

The ADP had arrived and were searching every nook and cranny for a slide projector. The Rosebud staff were scrambling and looking right beside us (thanks folks). John Johnson saved the day by loaning us the slide projector he had in his trunk (remember to always invite an EF! activist traveling the Eastern U.S. to educate citizens on the dangers of Willamette's chip mill empire as he or she is likely to save the day). Jim Kleissler gave a thorough slide presentation of Forest Service destruction in the Allegheny. Allison Cochran spoke on Zero Cut. The audience became the performers as approximately 300 of them wrote letters to their Congressmen asking to end logging on our national forests.

Mike Glabicky closed out the night with a rousing performance featuring an ever-shifting ensemble of mandolin, guitar, bass, tuba and hand drums and an ever-shifting line up of musicians, including some of his fellow Rusted Root bandmates.

TIMBER CUTTING ON THE ALLEGHENY 101

FIGURE 4-3
Intermediate Thinning Cut*

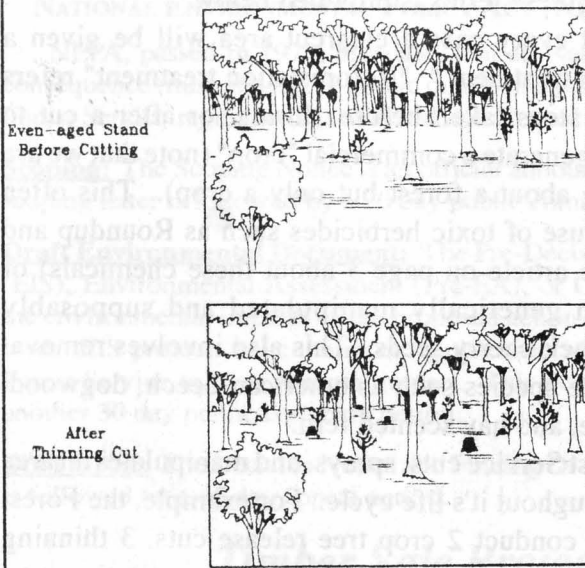


FIGURE 4-2
Shelterwood Cutting Method*

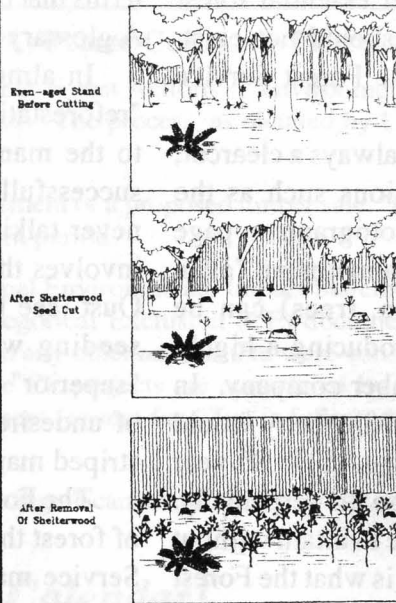
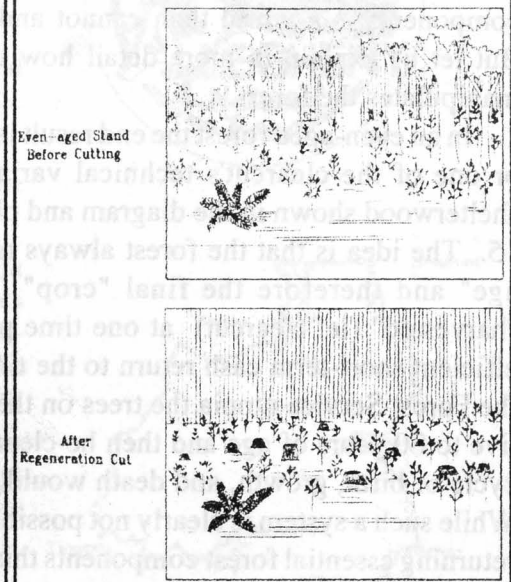


FIGURE 4-1
Clearcut Regeneration Harvest*



These sketches of the different preferred cutting methods on the Allegheny were taken from the Environmental Impact Statement for the Allegheny National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. Often times, the US Forest Service argues that they do not clearcut but instead they use the shelterwood cut. Take a close look and decide for yourself what the difference is. The ADP often refers to shelterwood cuts as two-stage clearcuts. Drawings courtesy of the US Forest Service (although not with any permission necessarily). The following note is attached to each of these sketches in the EIS: "Logging Debris has been omitted for clarity."

Have you ever written a letter to the Forest Service asking them to stop clearcutting and have in turn gotten the response, "We don't clearcut" or the infamous "There are only 11 acres of clearcut planned for the East Side Project." You probably wrote back and said, "I've seen your clearcuts and I know you do it." Well have no fear for herein is the goods you need to counteract Forest Service PR word spinning and manipulation.

Over 80% of the Allegheny National Forest is managed under a system called "even-aged management." Under this system of "forest management," an area of forest is manipulated with the purpose of providing wood products to society at large. Unfortunately, the Forest Service wants to provide us with wood products even if we don't want them or aren't using them.

The constant manipulation of an area of forest to produce a crop is termed "silviculture",
Hellbender Journal

or tree farming. The predominant people making the decisions on whether or not to log our forest are in fact "silviculturists", or those trained in farming trees. In other words, the people deciding whether or not to cut are trained in cutting trees, not preserving them as habitat, nor are they scientists.

On the Allegheny, the Forest Service intensively manipulates an area of forest throughout it's life. The basic idea is to constantly manipulate the composition of trees to favor the commercially valuable trees. The Forest Service

believes in a timber industry utopia where trees can and will be constantly removed, soils eroded and compacted, trees scarred and topped, and toxic herbicides sprayed with little to no negative impact while an ideal composition of large marketable trees can be produced. In sum, the ideal world that the Forest Service

Continued
on page 16...
Page 15



The ecological impacts of this "shelterwood removal" at Salmon Creek are little if any different from what the Forest Service terms a "clearcut."

Timber Cutting on the Allegheny 101 Continued...

hopes to create where they can remove bio-mass, elements, water resources, canopy, and life away while adding toxic herbicides and never returning the former essential forest components is a world that cannot and should not exist. But let us explain in more detail how the Forest Service manipulates the forest.

In an even-aged forest the end result is always a clearcut, or one of the clearcut's technical variations such as the shelterwood shown in the diagram and photograph on page 15. The idea is that the forest always maintains an "even age" and therefore the final "crop" (ie. trees) can be "harvested" (ie. clearcut) at one time producing a highly efficient short-term cash return to the timber company. In the Forest Service utopia the trees on the Allegheny would live to 80 years of age and then be clearcut. This 80 year cycle of birth, growth, and death would go on perpetually. While such a system is clearly not possible to attain without returning essential forest components this is what the Forest Service hopes to achieve.

There is one primary method by which the Forest Service "harvests" the final crop on the Allegheny. This method is called the "shelterwood" cut. A shelterwood is essentially a variation on the clearcut where instead of removing all of the trees at one time an area of forest is cleared in two stages with an application of toxic herbicides to boot. The purpose of the two stages is to manipulate environmental conditions

and promote commercially valuable trees, especially the black cherry tree. There are, however, a number of other terms that the Forest Service uses to disguise these clearcuts. A glossary of these terms is provided below.

In almost every case a clearcut area will be given a "reforestation treatment." "Reforestation treatment" refers to the many steps taken before, during, or after a cut to successfully generate a commercial "crop" (note that we are never talking about a forest but only a crop). This often involves the use of toxic herbicides such as Roundup and Oust (see the article on page 3 about these chemicals) or seeding with genetically manipulated and supposedly "superior" black cherry seeds. This also involves removal of undesirable species such as american beech, dogwood, striped maple, and hay scented fern.

The Forest Service cuts, sprays, and manipulates an area of forest throughout its life cycle. For example, the Forest Service may conduct 2 crop tree release cuts, 3 thinning cuts (Check out drawing on page 15), 3 site preparation cuts, 3 sprayings for "forest pests", 2 applications of Roundup and Oust, and a 3 stage shelterwood cut in the 80 year cycle of one forest stand. While this exact combination may not be likely, it is very possible, and in some cases it might be worse. In the next issue of the Hellbender Journal we'll run "Timber Cutting on the Allegheny 102" which will cover the utopian life cycle of an even-aged managed forest.

GLOSSARY OF TIMBER CUTTING TERMINOLOGY

- **"Clearcut"** - This is where 95 to 100% of the trees are removed at one time.
- **"Shelterwood Seed/Removal"** - A Shelterwood is a two-stage clearcut. In the first cut, or seed cut, ~60% of the trees are removed. Herbicide is then applied and 3 to 5 years later the Shelterwood Removal cut is done. This is where the trees are almost entirely removed from an area. Generally speaking, the Forest Service never removes every tree from an area. This is because some trees ain't worth a dime and environmental laws require them to retain some on certain circumstance. In most cases 95% of the trees are taken/cut.
- **"Three Stage Shelterwood"** - This is similar to the Shelterwood Seed/Removal but there are three stages of cuts involved.
- **"Overstory Removal"** - This is where the Forest Service plans to remove the forest overstory. Basically all of the trees except young saplings and seedlings are cut. Many of the seedlings and saplings are destroyed by machinery, falling trees, or herbicide application.
- **"Low Shade Removal"** - A similar cut to those above except that a higher percentage of tree are taken leaving less shade, hence the name.
- **"Removal"** - This is where nearly all of the trees are cut and removed from an area of forest.
- **"Regeneration Harvest"** - A general categorical term used that includes all of the different variations on the clearcut whether it be shelterwood, overstory removal, or regeneration cut.
- **"Adaptive Management"** - Call this one ecosystem vivisection. Currently, the Forest Service is required to successfully "regenerate" an area of forest within 5 years of clearcutting by the National Forest Management Act (NFMA). To the Forest Service this means successfully "stocking" an area of forest with commercially viable tree seedlings. Adaptive management came about because the Forest Service couldn't do this for those less valuable forest types such as northern hardwoods. Adaptive management is the process by which the Forest Service clearcuts various areas of forest to test different methods of clearcutting. This can involve leaving more or less trees on site, changing the timing of herbicide applications, or using shelterwood systems where there are 3 stages of cuts. One infamous example of adaptive management which has resulted in clearcuts as large as 372 acres is the one where the Forest Service aspires to create clearcut areas so massive that they can successfully overwhelm the deer with tree seedlings to munch on. This allows the seedlings to grow past browse height without being browsed, in theory anyways.
- **"Aspen Regeneration"** - This is a particular kind of clearcut where the purpose is to maintain aspen instead of commercial trees. The intent here is that aspen provide habitat for already very common game species. The same problems associated with constantly removing resources without returning them applies to aspen regeneration cut.
- **"Wildlife Opening"** - This generally refers to the Forest Service clearcutting and then using a dozer to remove the stumps. The idea is to create a meadow of some sort.
- **"Clearcutting Unit"** - The term used for all of the above cuts on all of the timber bids and contracts that the general public doesn't usually see.
- **"Two-Age Harvest"** - This is a cut where an area of forest remains on an 80 year cycle but is maintained at two ages instead of one. Every 40 years 50% of the trees in the area will be cut and removed.

EYES ON THE FOREST SERVICE

The ADP guide to Timber Sales on the Allegheny National Forest!



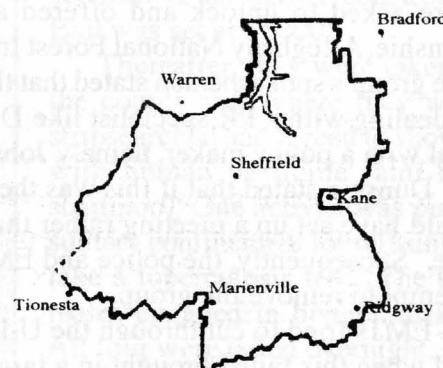
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) PUBLIC COMMENTS PROCESS

NEPA, passed in 1972, mandates that all National Forest Actions of environmental consequence must undergo a public comments process. The process, as dictated by U.S. Forest Service regulations is outlined as followed.

Scoping: The Scoping Notice is an official announcement of a proposed timber sale. The scoping letter is followed by a 30 day public comment period.

Draft Environmental Document: The Pre-Decisional Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Environmental Assessment (Pre-EA), or Categorical Exclusion (CE) documents the environmental impacts of the proposed action and any other actions that were considered. EIS projects have the most significance while CE projects are considered by the Forest Service to have minimal impact. This document (except for CEs) is followed by another 30 day public comment period.

DN/FONSI: The Decision Notice and Finding Of No Significant Impact. The DN/FONSI is followed by a 45 day appeal period.



Timber Sale Project Calendar!

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Status to Date</u>	<u>What's Next?</u>
Forest Wide Projects		
FOREST PLAN REVISION	The Forest Service held public hearings in 10/97.	Forest Service will still take comments on Need For Change.
EAST SIDE EIS PROJECT (MORTALITY II)	Scoping period closed in 5/98.	Draft-EIS due out in October.
Bradford Ranger District		
BULLY HOLLOW	Scoping period closed in 8/97.	Draft-EA anticipated in 6/98.
COUNTY LINE/FOUR MILE WATERSHEDS PROJECT	Forest Service is gathering data.	Scoping due in 5/98.
FARNSWORTH PROJECT	Scoping period closed in 5/97.	Draft-EA was due in 7/98.
FR 466 SALVAGE	Joined into East Side EIS.	N/A (see East Side Project)
GRUNDER RUN	Draft-EA being revised!.	New Draft-EA due out in 5/98.
MINISTER VALLEY	Part of Lawsuit dismissed. Appealed. Being cut.	Waiting for rulings on various aspects of lawsuit.
NORTH FORK CHAPPEL	Draft-EA comment period closed in 5/98.	Waiting for Decision.
S. BRANCH WILLOW CREEK	Part of Lawsuit dismissed. Appealed. Being cut.	Waiting for rulings on various aspects of lawsuit.
Marienville Ranger District		
BIG RUN	Proposed Cut Being developed.	Scoping notice due out soon.
BROOKSTON	Draft-EA comment period closed in 6/98.	Waiting for Decision.
BRUSH CREEK	Scoping period closed in 5/98.	Analysis ongoing.
COAL MINE	Joined into East Side EIS..	N/A (see East Side Project)
CROP TREE RELEASE	Decision Memo Issued in 4/98.	Litigation or Appeal
GOOSE POND	Scoping period closed in 5/98.	Analysis ongoing.
ROCKET JOHN	Joined into East Side EIS.	N/A (see East Side Project)
THOMAS ROCK	Joined into East Side EIS.	N/A (see East Side Project).

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information on ongoing Projects contact:

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Robert T. Jacobs, Regional Forester**
Region 9, US Forest Service
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**Ridgway and Marienville Ranger Districts have merged into the Marienville Office.*

***Appeals go to the Regional Office.*

EARTH FIRST! CONTINUED....

himself to a tree and the group hung the banner between two trees in front of the building.

The two direct action teams were supported by a street demonstration that held placards, distributed flyers, and explained the civil disobedience actions to media and passersby.

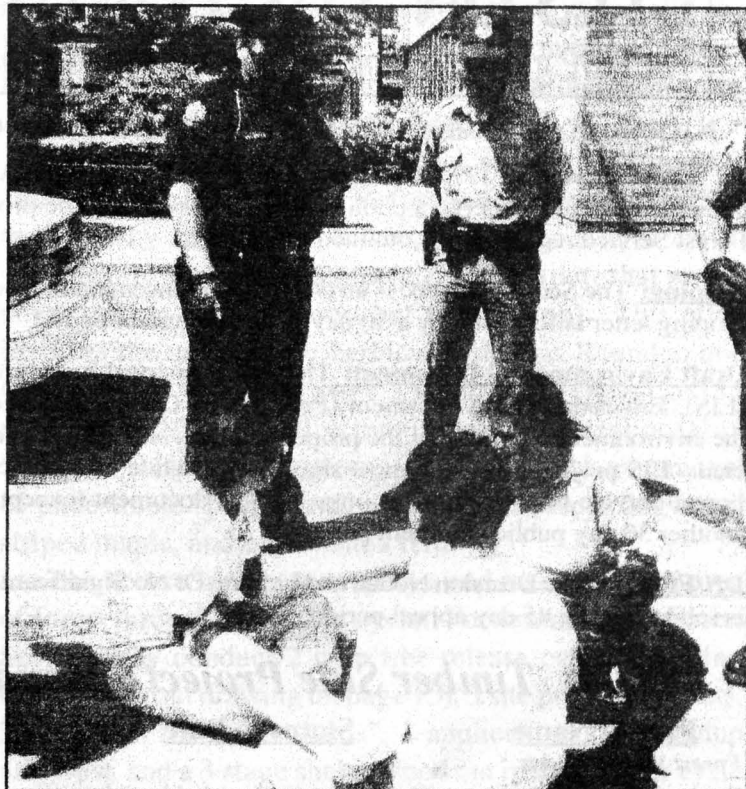
Within minutes police and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) arrived, entered the building and attempted to separate the four who were locked together. Initially they were asked to unlock and offered a meeting with Dale Dunshie, Allegheny National Forest Information Specialist. The group's spokesperson stated that they were uninterested in dealing with a PR specialist like Dunshie and wished to deal with a policy maker, namely John Palmer.

Dunshie stated that if this was the activists' intent they could have set up a meeting rather than taking over the office. Subsequently, the police and EMT proceeded in their attempt to remove the group.

EMTs tried to cut through the U-lock with bolt cutters, and when this failed brought in a larger pair, also to no effect. Scrambling for solutions, the police officers called Schwinn to inquire about a master key, to no avail. Finally, an officer somehow uncrushed the key, and opened the lock. As the very surprised Earth First!er was removed, the police officer quipped, "Betcha didn't know I was a burglar before I was a cop."

Having removed the anchor, the cops and EMTs moved onto the three activists locked together. They originally thought the all-white pipes were plaster of Paris, but after cutting away the foam and tape on one of the pipes realized that the activists had no intention of making efforts to separate them that easy.

While this was all taking place the Earth First!ers were far from silent, explaining their objection to the East Side Project, expressing their commitment to civil disobedience in the tradition of Gandhi and King, singing songs like, "We Shall Overcome," "This Land Is Your Land," and Darryl Cherney's "No Compromise," and chanting slogans including, "We Want What? Zero Cut!" and "Earth First! Profits Last! Stop the East Side Project!"



Sarah Blum, Adam Weissman, and Tara Doran remain locked together in the parking lot behind Allegheny National Forest Headquarters in Warren, PA, after being removed from John Palmer's office by Police. Photo by Eric Paddock at the Warren Times Observer.

Many police officers and Emergency Medical Technicians expressed solidarity with the fight for the Allegheny, even if their jobs pitted them in opposition to its defenders. This may have been a contributing element to the extremely

positive tone of interactions between activists and the authorities throughout every stage of the action.

The EMTs and cops took some time to understand the mechanism by which arms were linked together. Along the way they cut the foam and tape off one of the pipes, cut off the shirtsleeve of one activist and lubricated his arm with soap in a vain attempt to pull it out.

They repeatedly insisted that for the EF!ers to be chained together, there must be a "loose end" somewhere. After



An Earth First! Activist chained to a tree in front of Allegheny National Forest Service Headquarters in Warren, Pennsylvania. Photo courtesy of NYC Earth First!

ample explanation, they began to understand how exactly the activists were connected, and realized that any attempt to get the pipes off of them would be futile. At that point they lifted the three remaining people, lockboxes and all, and carried them to the stairs. The three went limp and cooperated at various times over the next few minutes, depending on how much pain they were experiencing at a given time. Police found carrying three limp, connected people down a narrow flight of stairs to be no easy feat.

As they were taken out of the building's back entrance, the three linked people and the person who had worn the U-lock chanted as loudly as possible to call the attention of media, who were in front of the building. Cameras and reporters arrived seconds later and a second sit-in commenced in the parking lot of the Forest Service Building, providing a dynamite photo op that made the cover of the Warren Times-Observer and other newspapers. Immediately thereafter the activists were loaded into a police van and taken to the fire station across the street. To prove that their opposition was to forest service policy and not the police or local community, they voluntarily unlocked themselves and were handcuffed and taken to the police station.

After being told that all conversations in the holding cells were recorded, to pass the time, activists discussed vital facts about the Allegheny, perhaps providing an educational experience for whoever listens to the tapes.

What is A Lockbox?

Lockboxes are metal tubes of roughly arm length and slightly wider than arm width with a single beam of rebar running through the center. They are designed to make civil disobedience actions last longer by increasing the difficulty of removing activists. Activists wear chains around both of their wrists, held together by u-bolts or combination locks, leaving about 3 slack chain links after the bolt or lock. A carabiner (climbing hook) is inserted into the last chain link. The activists wrists are padded heavily and taped over with duct tape. Activists stick their arms into lockboxes on either of their sides and connect the carabiner to the rebar, ultimately forming a human circle. The padding on their wrists prevents police from slipping their arms in the tubs and unclipping them, as well as protecting them from injury. Police generally have to lift the entire circle into a police van or cut the activists apart with buzzsaws to remove them.

Lockboxes are perpetually evolving, as each action where they are used points out a weakness in their design with is then overcome by further innovation.

Some "Extras":

- coating outside of lockboxes in tar (gums up buzzsaws), and covering them completely in white duct tape (keeps the tar from getting messy and provides a place to write slogans). For indoor actions, tar should be allowed to dry before use to avoid serious property damage charges for splattering tar.

- In addition to padding their wrists, activists may also create a foam lip around the end of the tube, both inside and outside. This increases the difficulty for police in slipping their arms into the boxes, but since they can cut away the foam, it only buys a few minutes extra time.

Within a few hours, the activists were arraigned in a rather bizarre setting: a private office occupied by the local magistrate, one police officer, the person being arraigned, and a representative of the outside demonstration. They never set foot in an actual courtroom. Bail was set at \$5000!

Thereafter, they were taken to the county jail, where they were stripsearched and forced to shower with human pesticide (anti-lice shampoo). One activist was put in solitary confinement for refusing to take a tuberculosis test. The two males engaged in hunger strikes. All four were jailed overnight, until their bail was reduced at a hearing the next day from \$5000 to \$500, thanks to stalwart activist lawyer Paul Boas.

At their preliminary hearing on June 3rd, a magistrate found the evidence against the activists sufficient to proceed with the case. The activists intend to use their trial as a means to bring attention to this critical environmental issue.

YOU CAN HELP THE ALLEGHENY...

If you would like to contribute to the work of the Allegheny Defense Project there are lots of ways that you can help. Currently we are organizing to stop the East Side mega-timber sale formerly known as "Mortality II." For this we need citizens to write letters of protest. We are also working hard to pass the National Forest Protection and Restoration Act which would stop the logging program on our National Forests while increasing employment opportunities in national forest regions. We are also trying to stop the toxic spraying of herbicides Roundup and Oust on the forest. Finally, we are working in the courts to protect the beautiful woods at Minister and Willow Creeks.

The best way for you to help is to either become directly involved as an ADP organizer, field worker, or volunteer or to help keep us alive by subscribing to the Hellbender Journal, providing a donation to our litigation fund, or fundraising to help maintain our current and future campaigns.

SUPPORT HER DEFENSE!!

Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____
email: _____

Please make a contribution of at least \$20 or 3 hours of volunteer work for the Allegheny. Thank you.

\$ _____ is enclosed.

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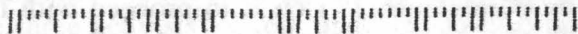
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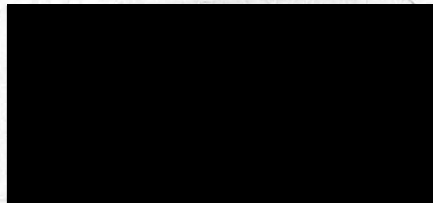
PITTSBURGH AREA

Mike Kaizar/Eloise Glenn
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Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Get involved with the Allegheny Defense Project by contacting an ADP coordinator in your area. Don't forget that our Fall Allegheny National Forest Defenders Gathering is set for September 18-20. It is going to be our best gathering yet and it is likely to be the best attended gathering to date. Please also spread the word about East Side/Mortality II and help us to bring Zero-Cut to the Allegheny!



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