

HELLBENDER JOURNAL



The Activist Journal of the Allegheny Defense Project

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Defending Allegheny Forests

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GETTING THE CUT OUT ON THE ALLEGHENY!

A SAD TALE OF FOREST SERVICE DECEIT AND MISINFORMATION

By Jim Kleissler and Rachel Martin

This summer, for the first time in decades, the Allegheny National Forest was at peace. At least when it comes to commercial logging anyways. The clearcut logging that has plagued these hills was brought to an abrupt halt on April 1, 1999. Unfortunately, these words Jim wrote in the last issue of this Journal rang truer than we might have hoped:

The U.S. Forest Service is doing, and has done, everything in its power to get the cut out on the Allegheny National Forest.

In fact, this summer, the Forest Service went through great lengths to make sure that the moratorium against logging did not continue. They did everything from intentionally delaying information requests filed by the ADP to using an illegal process to complete the required environmental analyses on the ongoing logging projects.

The moratorium had been put in place in order to protect Proposed, Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive (PETS) species on the Allegheny National Forest while the Forest Service completed consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The consultation was completed in June 1999, and the Fish and Wildlife Service issued a "Biological Opinion" (BO.) The BO spelled out how the Forest Service is to manage the forest to ensure that Threatened and Endangered (T&E) species are protected.

When the BO was completed, it was clear that the Forest Service was not doing enough to protect these species and that the changes were significant enough to require new environmental analyses prior to the resumption of logging.

But this wasn't entirely new news to the Forest Service. Knowing that the existing management plan for the Allegheny National Forest was inadequate they had introduced a proposed amendment to the "Forest Plan" in February. With the new information included in the BO, however, they found that those changes were clearly going to be more significant than they had previously claimed.

What this should have meant was that the Forest Service would put all of their energy into completing forest-wide studies on these



ADP activists reflect on the illegal cutting at Shingle Mill. Photo by Rachel Martin

endangered species, implementing protection measures, and completing the forest wide Environmental Impact Study (EIS) that was demanded as part of amending the Forest Plan (the plan, required by law, that details the way in which the national forest will be managed for the next ten years.)

The Forest Service, however, had a different strategy. The Forest Service's position was that they could begin implementing timber sales **prior** to determining the protections necessary to ensure full compliance with the BO and therefore protection for the threatened and endangered species on the Allegheny. The ADP pointed out that it was impossible to make site specific logging projects consistent with the Forest Plan, as required by law, when that Forest Plan as it exists is insufficient under the Endangered Species Act and otherwise in the process of being changed.

Before the April 1 moratorium, there were 45 logging projects that were either already sold or waiting to be sold to timber companies to be logged. In July the Forest Service started to do new "Supplemental" Environmental Assessments (EAs) on the 45 timber sales. The only problem is that it is illegal to do supplements on EAs. The only time it is ok to "supplement" an environmental analysis instead of fully revising it is when the analysis done was the more in depth and extensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). So, the Forest Service, in attempting to make their plans

(Continued on Page 22)

RHETORIC FROM YOUR FRIENDLY EDITOR!

Dear Friends of the Allegheny Forests,

Well, things change, and this Journal is not exempt. Jim Kleissler, who has edited the *Hellbender Journal* for the last four years, has turned it over to me. I must say, following in Jim's footsteps was honestly a bit intimidating. But, it's finally done...I hope you'll like the result. Many, many thanks to Jim for the countless hours he has spent on this Journal and for doing such an incredible job over the years!

After a sweet summer in these woods, free from the chainsaws, in September, once again, the Forest Service sought to work around the laws, and opened the Allegheny National Forest to clearcutting. Folks in Lynch, PA experienced one assault on their drinking water and health after another from rampant oil drilling near their homes, the Grine family in Tionesta experienced more intimidation and harassment, and the folks fighting Willamette's chip and paper mills unfortunately have seen no respite from the noise and pollution.

Despite these struggles, my hope for a wild and free Allegheny has been consistently restored. The Sixth Annual Fall Gathering was perhaps the best ever, with an incredible group of committed and energetic activists participating. The Traveling Workshop has so far made nine stops and reached over 150 people...the folks we met along the way have shown great interest and enthusiasm. The PA Lobby Day gave us hope that we will continue to gain support for zero cut legislation. People throughout the region are raising their voices and continuing to fight for our forests. I'm assured we'll see a wild Allegheny yet!

For a Wild Allegheny,
Rachel Martin, Editor

Deadline For Next Issue: February 20, 2000

Inside this issue...

Getting the Cut out on the Allegheny!	Cover
Where Have All the Loggers Gone?	p. 3
Dear Snappy the Hellbender	p. 4
Oil Drilling Contaminates Water in Lynch	p. 5
Toxic Waste in Tionesta	p. 6
Willamette Industries: Pennsylvania and around the Nation	p. 8
Public Comment Needed Now for Threatened and Endangered Species	p. 9
EPA Proposes to Get Tough Against Logging-Caused H ₂ O Pollution	p. 9
Endangered Species Spotlight: The Butternut Tree, Freshwater Mussels	p. 10
The North Country National Scenic Trail	p. 11
Ski Resort Logs Blue Knob State Park	p. 12
Scene as a Task of Thought by Theresa Darling	p. 14
Roadless Area Protection Needed in the Allegheny	p. 15
Jim Lynch Gets an Earful at "Public" Meeting	p. 16
Keep Those Letters Coming! Stop the East Side Disaster!	p. 17
ADP Activists Lobby PA Delegation	p. 18
State Forests Management Plan Delayed...Again	p. 19
Sixth Annual Forest Defenders' Fall Gathering	p. 20
ADP Family Weekend	p. 20
The ADP Traveling Workshop	p. 21
Philly Group off to a Great Start!	p. 21
US Forest Service Drafts New Planning Regulations	p. 23
Clearcutting for Kids: Your Tax Dollars at Work Waste	p. 25
Eyes on the Forest Service: ADP Guide to Timber Sales	p. 26

The Hellbender Journal

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*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 those that would harm 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!

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Where Have All the Loggers Gone?

Gone to Mechanization Every One...



Industrial forestry, which involves the use of machinery like the hydro feller-buncher and the bulldozer shown above, damages the soil and standing trees, and greatly reduces the number of workers needed to clearcut a forest, thus eliminating jobs. Photo by Jim Kleissler.

By Gina Giazioni, State College Coordinator

"Loggers: the next endangered species." This is an example of a prominently displayed sign in the Allegheny region. What is the Allegheny Defense Project currently doing to prevent the disappearance of all communities — including loggers — throughout the Allegheny Forests? Our mission is to find "community based solutions for building sustainable economies benefiting all forest communities in the Allegheny forests."

Clearcutting in the Allegheny National Forest destroys many of the forest's non-human communities. For example, when the native birch and beech tree communities are cut they are replaced with black cherry trees. Similarly, nearly 90% of the Indiana bats in Pennsylvania have disappeared.

In many cases, the Forest Service, Willamette Industries, and some local politicians have failed to demonstrate accountability to the non-human forest communities. The ADP's solution to this is "zero-cut" in the Allegheny National Forest — which will effectively stop the destruction that results from clearcutting.

The timber industry would like folks to believe that without clearcutting our National Forests, humans can't survive. It is interesting to note that since the logging has stopped in the Allegheny National Forest, there have been no complaints of job shortages or industry supply shortages. It begs the question of whether the majority of the wood actually comes from the Allegheny National Forest. Is the industry actually concerned about folks losing their jobs or are they more concerned with getting cheap wood off our public lands?

The ADP argues that the unsustainable forestry practices on the Allegheny National Forest threaten the already diminishing human populations of the Allegheny region. The technology that the timber industry uses to clearcut our forests also allows the timber industry to hire fewer workers to cut more trees. From 1980 to 1990 the number of people employed in the manufacturing industry in the Allegheny region decreased by about 25%. The threat of loggers and other blue collar workers losing their jobs can be attributed in part to the increased mechanization of industrial jobs. It seems that if

(Continued on page 24)

Houston Principles of the Alliance for Sustainable Jobs and the Environment

Preamble

On May 19, 1999, environmental and labor leaders confronted CEO Charles Hurwitz in Houston to demand that his Maxxam Corporation, which owns Kaiser Aluminum and Pacific Lumber Company, be held accountable for its impact on working people, communities and the environment.

By clear-cutting ancient redwoods in Northern California, and by locking-out striking steelworkers in five cities, the Maxxam corporation has become an icon of corporate irresponsibility.

Recognizing that we have a common interest in making corporations more accountable for their behavior world-wide, environmental and labor leaders have formed the Alliance for Sustainable Jobs and the Environment and circulated the following statement, dubbed the Houston Principles.

Whereas:

The spectacular accumulation of wealth by corporations and America's most affluent during the past two decades has come with a huge price tag.

Corporations have become more powerful than the government entities designed to regulate them.

The goal of a giant, global corporation is to maximize wealth and to wield political power on its own behalf. Too often, corporate leaders regard working people, communities, and the natural world as resources to be used and thrown away.

Recognizing the tremendous stakes, labor unions and environmental advocates are beginning to recognize our common ground. Together we can challenge illegitimate corporate authority over our country's and communities governing decisions.

While we may not agree on everything, we are determined to accelerate our efforts to make alliances as often as possible.

(Continued on page 24)

DEAR SNAPPY THE HELLBENDER,

[The letter below was addressed to the Bradford Ranger District and copied to us.]

Dear Sir;

I am a retiree with a cabin near the 300-acre tract of land at Irvine which the Forest Service acquired in 1991.

This parcel of land is on my local "outings itinerary" since it is flat (thus the walking is easy on my aging knees) and is bordered on the west by an old railroad right of way which offers a pleasant stroll if one makes a complete circuit of the area.

But I am concerned about what is happening to this land and the apparent attitude by some toward people like myself who avail themselves of it.

I will enumerate my complaints:

1. Why was the field which comprises a large portion of this land recently cut with a big mowing machine? The day this was done, I noticed a good number of wild animals in the nearby woods (deer, turkeys with young chicks) that were apparently frightened from this field by the mowing. At the southern end of the field a significant number of milkweed plants were cut down. These plants are the food source for Monarch butterflies.

2. Why was so much of this same field plowed? This again is disturbing to the local ecology. Of course Mercyhurst College in Erie is conducting a dig on this land again this year, but how much land do they need for this? The fact that Mercyhurst and other institutions have been hauling off so many artifacts from this land is apparently not too popular with some local people. "they just put them away in a drawer someplace," a Wilder Museum guide remarked to me.

3. I do not appreciate the semi-hostility with which I have been greeted as a hiker by some people involved with the dig. This is public land where the signs read (in large letters) "Foot Travel Welcome." I am not out to swipe their arrowheads or whatever, and I don't think other hikers would be either.

4. Why is so much of this land being allowed to grow up into honey locust trees? Once when I was walking on the Irvine land a Forest Service employee who I met told me that this growth was to be curtailed. But I see little evidence that this is being done.

In conclusion, may I say that this Irvine land is a unique and attractive piece of property which is certainly a welcome addition to the Allegheny National Forest. It has a remarkable historical legacy through the Irvine family and has even been written about by Nicholas Wainwright in "The Irvine Story." But I'm afraid I am in doubt as to whether the Forest Service is serving as a proper steward for this land.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Stanger

cc: Rep. Jim Lynch; Allegheny Defense Project; Mercyhurst College; Warren Times Observer



**'I'M SNAPPY. I BITE. I'M
THREATENED. AND A BIT
PARANOID ABOUT IT!'**

Dear Snappy,

As a Western Skink turned timber harvest professional, I feel it is my duty to clear up some misconceptions promulgated by you and your ilk. Forests need MANagement, by men. Why else would MANagement have the word MAN in it? Without it, forests will burn up, die, get wasted by insects, become decadent and unsanitary, lose biodiversity, and even ROT.

When trees grow overmature w/o being harvested, they become decadent: they begin to drink cheap whiskey, eat Fritos and jelly donuts, and watch daytime television.

As the FS says, we must sanitize the forests thru logging: this protects them from dangerous rottage, wastage, and growth of undesirable species such as mold, bacteria, and environmentalists.

In the meantime, I encourage all forest "visitors" to carry, for their safety, a fellerbuncher and plenty of antibacterial soap. You must understand me: WE CAN'T SIMPLY LET NATURE RUN WILD.

Sani-forests forever,

Eumeces skiltonianus

Dixie, ID

[Snappy would like to note that he is not even remotely related to *Eumeces skiltonianus*, which is a reptile, while he, Snappy, is an amphibian, and that he most certainly does not share the opinions of this non-relative.]

Dear Snappy,

i sit atop the reaches of Minister Valley looking out upon these woods that we call the Alleghenies. these woods are as they have never been before. the bees occupy a tree nearby from which a hummingbird feeds. the turkey vultures fly above while the songbirds show off. a beautiful, beautiful woodpecker flies in where the hummingbird was. a tree creaks, another echoes. the stone is warm beneath my bare feet. and there is one thing i know is different in this peace. there is no chainsaw roar that bounces off the plateau tops. there is no corporate disease. for this i thank our animal brothers and sisters who have labored, wept, sweated, toiled, gone hungry, lost sleep, faced danger, and otherwise fought for this peace which now the woodpecker and hummingbird share together.

Thankyou,

compost heap

OIL DRILLING CONTAMINATES WATER IN LYNCH

By Jim Kleissler

Nestled amidst the Allegheny hills along Tionesta Creek lies a small community called Lynch. Lynch is truly in the heart of the Allegheny National Forest, in one of the most remote townships in the entire Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Lynch is geographically narrow, not exactly dominating a half-mile stretch along the Tionesta Creek. The ridge-tops above Lynch are dominated by the forests of the Allegheny. At one end of Lynch lies the Howe Township Building, a simple structure by any standards. On the far side lies a tract of private land scarred by the marks of its owners--multinational timber giant Georgia-Pacific.

In 1999, a new corporate scar found its way into the community of Lynch – leaving its marks most distinctly in the now-contaminated water supplies of the local residents. AZCO, an Arizona-based oil company, applied for the rights to drill oil on nearby Allegheny National Forest lands in August of 1998. With no notice to the citizens of Lynch, PA, AZCO drilled 10 oil wells in early 1999. The result was the immediate contamination of two resident's springs with benzene, a third neighbor's spring was contaminated with other pollutants, and Bush Creek is also polluted by the discharge of pollutants from one of the wells.

Now, like small communities before them, the residents of Lynch, PA, struggle with the U.S. Forest Service and the state Department of Environmental Protection (D.E.P.) to hold AZCO fully accountable.

On October 25, 1999, I joined Dick Martin, a Lynch, PA, camp-owner trying to bring justice to his community, for a file review at the D.E.P. office in Meadville. We reviewed the D.E.P.'s files covering AZCO's operations and found that AZCO had caused extensive damage to the forest and watersheds. We also found records of the repeated harassment of local citizens – which have included harassment activities by AZCO's employees.

The next day we met at Dick's Lynch, PA, camp with officials from the U.S. Forest Service. The idea was to get the Allegheny National Forest Service to take responsibility for our public lands (on which AZCO was drilling) to help prevent the company from causing more harm to our communities, forests, and creeks. In predictable fashion, Dale Dunshie, the responsible Forest Service official on hand, refused to take any action to



Residents of Westline, PA are concerned about new oil pipelines being laid near their community. Photo by Joe Martin

assist the citizens of Lynch in stopping pollution of National Forest communities. Mr. Dunshie refused to even take any stance on the polluted national forest lands and watershed.

Under pressure from the D.E.P. AZCO has put in place a new water well to replace the residents' contaminated water supplies. Unfortunately it seems, at least at this stage, that neither the Forest Service nor D.E.P. intends to take action to stop further pollution of the ground water and creeks in the area. Tests have now shown that the water well created as a replacement for the contaminated springs is now also contaminated. The Forest Service is now creating barriers to information for local residents attempting to use the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to obtain more knowledge on AZCO's operations on the forest. To date little, if anything, has been done to stop the pollution from flowing from the wells.

Oil and gas pressures on the Allegheny National Forest are increasing and we should expect more problems like this in the future. Citizens in Westline, PA, a small community on the east side of the forest, have likewise experienced major oil drilling problems. If we are to defend our forests and the communities that rely upon them we need to take action to protect our public lands from oil and gas extraction.



Photo by Joe Martin

TOXIC WASTE IN TIONESTA

By Rachel Martin

You start at the old wooden dam where Tionesta Creek meets the Allegheny River, in the Borough of Tionesta, on the western edge of the Allegheny National Forest. Following Tionesta Creek upstream you'll come to a giant Army Corps of Engineers dam project. A hill rises next to you, and Peters Run, a crystal-clear stream, runs down the hill, emptying into Tionesta Creek just down from the dam outflow—a popular swimming spot for local youth. Following Peters Run up the south-facing hill, a small, unnamed creek branches off through the woods leading you to a little spring, and to the edge of Bob and Joan Grine's yard. Climbing uphill along the intermittent spring from the Grines' house, you come to a decrepit camp, littered with barrels, old refrigerators, and all manner of junk. The remnants of a "Tax Sale" sign stapled to a tree flutters in the breeze drifting from the adjacent field. The cabin is newly posted: "No Trespassing."

The Grines' house, surrounded by woods and a field, with a garden, neatly-stacked woodpile, and a large golden retriever running about the yard looks like a little piece of heaven. That's what Bob and Joan Grine felt when they came to set up their permanent residence at the house in 1985. Eight years later, however, that little piece of heaven became a living hell.

Mysterious Yellow Barrels

In 1993, a pickup laden with big 90-some gallon yellow plastic barrels began pulling into the drive of the camp next door. The man who owned the camp, William Coombs, worked in construction, and Bob Grine was used to seeing construction debris, cans of who-knows-what, and other junk come into that drive—but never before had he seen the strange yellow barrels.

Concerned, Bob went over to look at the barrels. The stainless steel bands sealing the barrel lids had been cut on many of them, and the 55-gallon steel drums that the plastic had encased were removed. The labels of the plastic yellow overpacks and most of the drums had been removed, but he found a couple of the lids, which read "Essex Environmental DOT-E 9775." He found that these DOT-E numbers on the lids referred to permits for transporting highly toxic waste, and that the yellow overpacks were to be used solely for that purpose, and he became very uneasy.

On August 13, 1994, a heavy rain fell. A wet-weather spring that runs through the Grines' backyard opened up, as it was wont to do during rainfalls like this. This time, however, a strange foam, standing almost two and a half feet high, was laying along the ground. A terrible stench of human waste, kerosene, diesel, and solvents filled the Grines' house and yard. Six hours later, the foam dissipated, and in its wake lay dead field mice, robins, groundhogs, squirrels.

Bob called the state police, but the police refused to come. He also called the Tionesta Safety Department, County Commissioners, but all to no avail.

In October, another rain fell, and the spring opened up again.

This time, Bob collected his own soil samples and brought them to a private lab in Strattanville, and also sent them to a lab at Penn State. A chemist from the Strattanville lab called back and told Bob that what she found were highly toxic chemicals—plus some 36 that are considered "restricted" by the government that she couldn't identify. Her advice to him was to get his family out of the house immediately.

Lies, Lies, Lies

Bob contacted the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Fish and Boat Commission, and the Game Commission. Finally the DEP came out, along with the Fish and Boat Commission. When asked about the overpacks, Gary Wozniak from the DEP told Bob that the barrels can be purchased at a number of places, and cost about \$20—"anyone could get them." However, when Bob tested this assertion, calling around to see if he could purchase a 96-gallon yellow plastic overpack drum with DOT-E 9755 stamped on it, he was told that yes he could—once he provided documents proving that he was a federally licensed transporter or hazardous waste site operator. So much for Wozniak's story.

The DEP eventually inspected the property—but their "inspection" was limited to the Grine property, and Bob was told that if they found any chemicals on his property, he was going to jail. Sure enough, they did find chemicals and started a grand jury investigation—of the Grines.

Eventually, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency came on the scene. They too took samples, but it became apparent that their staff needs remedial training in determining which way water flows—their "center line" for the flow had the spring running uphill. The DEP seems to share this problem with determining whether water flows up or down hill. In a later affidavit, Wozniak stated that the Grine property is uphill from the Coombs'. Or maybe they just have this problem in court—on a videotape the DEP took later, one can hear Wozniak saying, "and now we're walking *upgradient* to the Coombs property."

And the lies just continued. The agencies took samples of the soil around the Grines' well. They told them that they didn't find anything—the water was fine. So they continued drinking it until six months later when finally, after much effort, they got the tests, showing that the well was highly contaminated.

Eventually, the Grines managed to obtain the EPA's list of over 1500 chemicals that were found in the soil tests on their property. The list is simply appalling and full of known carcinogens—1,1,1-trichloroethane ("TCE"—of *A Civil Action* fame), Agent Orange, mercury, lead, cyanide, benzene, DDT, military chemicals... "It's a real shame when your own government tries to do you in," stated Bob, gazing toward the Coombs property.

A Family Tragedy

Ever since the plastic barrels began rolling into the Coombs' camp, illness and death have shaken the Grines.



The Coombs camp, where the yellow barrels of toxic waste were taken and dumped, just uphill from the Grines. Photo by Rachel Martin

T.C.--The last of the line of the first golden retriever to be brought to the U.S., Torch's Choice, or "T.C." for short, was the pride of Bob and Joan Grines, and the first member of the family to experience unusual disorders, apparently as a result of the chemical seep. The Grines knew this puppy was special from the first time they saw him. Bob and Joan formed a strong bond with T.C. immediately. As could be expected, he loved to play around the spring in the backyard, and was extremely curious. His curiosity eventually led him to the mess at the Coombs', and one kind of cancer after another followed. "We fought to save him, but eventually we had to put the guy down," Bob recalled through tears.

Margaret Grine--Bob's mother was seventy-five when she went into convulsions and died on the way to the hospital. It was a pleasant day a year ago when she was outside, doing some chores around the house. She was feeling pretty good that day, and decided she may even go to church. She went into the bathroom to tidy up—but never made it out. The convulsions were frighteningly similar to those that T.C., and later Bob, experienced.

Bob Grine--"The doctors were amazed I survived. They had never seen someone who had bled in the part of the brain I bled in walk out of the hospital," said Bob about the brain hemorrhage that has permanently disabled him. "When I asked them what to expect after the hemorrhage, they said, 'you tell us'." One night when Bob went outside during a heavy ground fog, he noticed that the smell of chemicals was very strong, and his mouth started burning. He quickly went inside, and fell unconscious. After over three hours on oxygen, he awoke. His blood oxygen levels had been so low that the doctors didn't think he would wake up. A week later, his teeth and hair began to fall out. Numerous central nervous system problems have continued.

The Lawsuit

Realizing that they wouldn't get anything but lies from state or federal agencies, in 1995 The Grines filed a federal lawsuit, naming the DEP, EPA, Gary Wozniak, Dale Holler, and the Borough of Tionesta. Unfortunately, the agency charades have continued in court, backed by the Erie judge assigned the case. The agency staff have lied repeatedly, stating that there were no drums, despite DEP videotape and photographs showing the drums, that water doesn't flow from the Coombs' to the Grines' (essentially

stating that water doesn't flow downhill), that the concentrations of chemicals are not high enough to warrant action, and on and on. And Judge McLaughlin has played his part as well—not allowing videotape and staff notes as evidence, among others.

Meanwhile, in a classic maneuver, the DEP, EPA, Game Commission, and State Police have done everything they could to discredit Bob Grine. DEP and EPA staff have been seen hanging out in town bars and restaurants, talking loudly about "that lunatic Bob up on the hill." A deliberate misinformation campaign.

When asked what they hoped for in the lawsuit, Joan replied, "I guess I don't know. Nothing can bring T.C. back. Nothing can bring Mum back, or give her her last few years of peace."

Harassment and Intimidation

Toward the end of November of this year, two men tacked a piece of cardboard on a tree, about fifty feet into the woods next to the Grine house, took out shotguns, and started firing—toward the house. Bob was working on the roof of a shed with a high school student. Bob yelled to the men that shooting so close was unsafe and asked them to stop. To which the riflemen shouted, "F—k you! You can go to hell!" and kept firing—one of the bullets flying past Bob's head and ruffling a bush next to him. Bob then called the State Police. Officer Krebs, a young guy, came to the house, and stepped out of the car, but soon got a call on his radio—Dale Holler, the Game Commissioner was on his way and wanted directions. The cop then pulled out. Bob climbed back on the roof, and could see Krebs talking with the two men who just moments before had been shooting at him.

Holler by now had joined them. "They seemed to be having a great old time," Bob recalled. Holler then left (without ever speaking with Bob.) But Krebs came over, one hand resting conspicuously on the butt of his gun, and told Bob that there were no laws stating that people can't fire toward a residence! He went on to say that it was questionable whether Bob owned the property that his house is on, and therefore he didn't have any right to complain. Bob, however, who worked as a professional surveyor in Tionesta County for years, knew that he was hearing more lies.

The intimidation and harassment culminated a week later when, at 1:06 am, Bob awoke to the sound of a truck engine gunning in the drive in front of his house. Thinking that it may be the police, Bob went downstairs and switched on the porch light. Three shots, which sounded like they were from a handgun replied. He hit the floor, and the truck sped off. The earlier, ominous words of the Franklin Game Commissioner raced through his mind, "You never know what might happen to you if you continue on with this."

Eventually the State Police came, asked only for his name, address, and social security number, and turned to leave. Bob was able to get them to make a cursory examination of the area, but they soon left. Later Bob was told by the State Police in Harrisburg that it was poachers who had shot at him. "Poachers? During deer season? And besides, no one in their right mind would be out poaching deer with a handgun. Handguns are designed for one purpose—to kill *people* at a fairly close range. That's it," Bob said.

"It's hard," said Bob, looking up at the house that he had

(Continued on pg. 22)

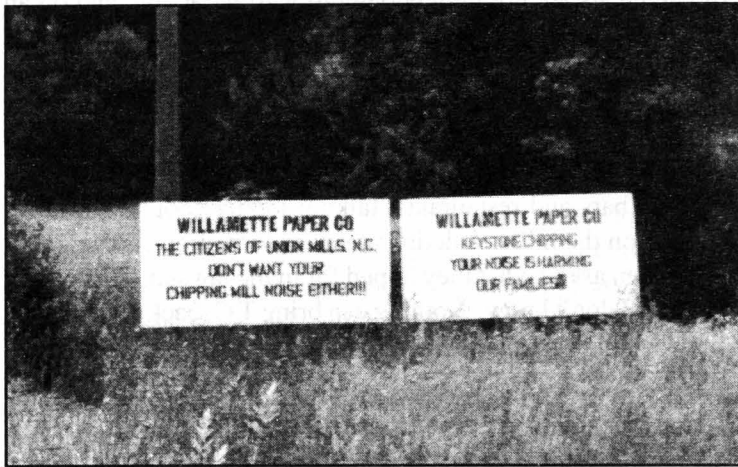
Willamette Industries: Pennsylvania and Around the Nation

By Bill Belitskus, PROACT

At Lantz Corners, where Willamette's Keystone high capacity, satellite chip mill was constructed adjacent to our homes and the Allegheny National Forest, and in Johnsonburg, where its expanded paper plant has tripled production and increased pollution, Willamette has publicly ridiculed and attacked citizens who have stood up against its air and water pollution endangering our health, devaluing our property, and degrading our quality of life. Citizens have twice petitioned the State Attorney General to revoke Willamette's corporate charter to operate in Pennsylvania due to numerous violations of state pollution control laws and the federal Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act.

On April 16, 1999, the Environmental Protection Agency issued a Notice of Violation against Willamette's Johnsonburg facility for violations of the Clean Air Act. According to the EPA, the violations have been ongoing since the early 1990s and Willamette filed false and misleading information with the agency. A fine is currently pending.

The following two articles demonstrate the impact that Willamette is having not only in Pennsylvania, but throughout the country—and particularly in the Southeast.



Folks around the country have been banding together to fight Willamette's pollution and greed.

In Missouri...

Logging Accountability in Willamette's Chip Mill Permit

By Cielo Sand

In what is shaping up as a skirmish over a chip mill stormwater permit, Willamette Industries appealed the state permit for the Mill Springs chip mill in Missouri in June before the Clean Water Commission...and then escalated the issue by suing the State. The stormwater permit that has Willamette Industries bristling includes two modest conditions that bring us closer to the mark of industry accountability in the woods where indiscriminate logging can harm streams and wildlife. Some of us see these modest conditions as groundbreaking because they take the first step in linking the chip mill and the clearcutting in a state permit.

In July, that judge declared the state's permit conditions as null and void, unconstitutional, and barred implementation of the permit. The State appealed, and on September 3, 1999, Willamette Industries lost in the appeal court. According to the Attorney General's Environmental Protection Division, "Willamette short-circuited the process by going to court to obtain relief. Associate circuit judge dismissed Willamette's lawsuit and directed the case back to the Clean Water Commission, where this case belongs, administratively."

The permit's condition 16 requires logger education classes for Willamette's employees that have jobs directly related to logging, and all logging contractors hired by Willamette. Condition 17 requires that the company provide MDNR (the Missouri Department of Natural Resources) with locations of logging sites for the mill consumption so the State's resource managers may offer assistance to landowners and loggers in developing sustainable forestry plans and Best Management Practices to protect water quality. These conditions seem reasonable—ones that should be embraced by a company that touts membership in the American Forest and Paper Association Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI.) The case will be heard later this year.

In South Carolina...

Willamette Strikes Again: Particle Board Plant Proposed

By Valerie True, Dogwood Alliance

Willamette Industries issued a press release announcing plans for a new particle board plant in Bennettsville, SC. This is the second new chipping facility announced in South Carolina over the past year. Already Willamette operates an oriented strand board mill and pulp mill in Bennettsville.

As with all high production chipping facilities, this particle board mill will promote large amounts of clearcutting and pine conversion. There is also anecdotal evidence that the capacity of some distant chip mills will be increased to feed this facility, thereby increasing the area affected by its construction.

Particle board facilities are also known to release large amounts of toxins into the air. Willamette was brought up on charges of violating the Clean Air Act from 1991 to 1994 for emissions from their existing facilities in Bennettsville. Together, the pulp mill and oriented strand board mill in Bennettsville still emit 499,323 pounds of TRI (Toxic Release Inventory) chemicals per year. According to the Environmental Defense Fund, this puts them in the top ten percent of dirty facilities in the United States. Now they want to add another high-production facility to the same site, releasing even more toxins. For more information about Willamette's poor record in Bennettsville, check out www.scorecard.org area code 29512. To get involved in the effort to stop the construction of this facility, contact Valerie True, Dogwood Alliance regional organizer.

ACTION ALERT

Public Comment Needed Now for Threatened and Endangered Species

By Jim Kleissler

Since February of 1999 the Forest Service has been developing a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that will detail how they plan for the protection and recovery of threatened and endangered species on the Allegheny National Forest. By the time you read this notice that draft EIS is expected to be open for public comment.

The EIS will be documenting an amendment to the existing Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) for the Allegheny. The EIS will be based in large part on a Biological Opinion issued by the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

When the U.S. Congress passed the Endangered Species Act they entitled Threatened and Endangered species the highest priority in decision making. The Forest Service, however, has continually made these species a low priority. We anticipate this draft EIS, like other Forest Service plans, to once again prioritize timber interests over the interests of American citizens.

We need your comments soon! Contact the Forest Service at (814) 723-5150 and request at copy of the Draft EIS when it's released. Visit our web page at www.enviroweb.org/adp for regular updates and great resources including an electronic version of the EIS. Contact our office at (814) 223-4996 or e-mail us at adp@envirolink.org and join our Forest Watch Team which will be organizing public comment on the Forest Service's proposal.

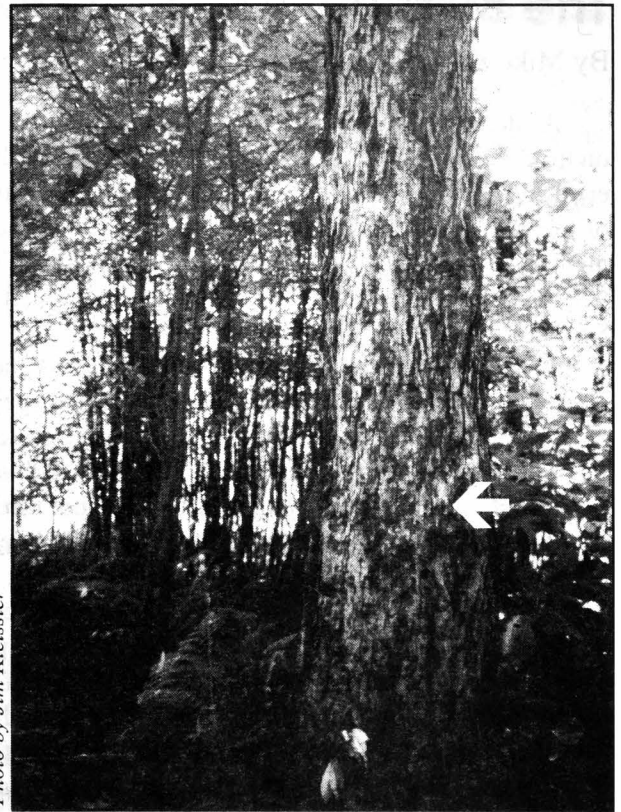


Photo by Jim Kleissler

Under the Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinion, the Forest Service is supposed to protect large, loose-barked trees, as they are good habitat for Indiana bats. The arrow above points to the marking designating this tree to be cut in the Shingle Mill timber sale.

EPA Proposes to Get Tough Against Logging-Caused H₂O Pollution

Comments needed by January 20

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing tough new rules to limit water pollution caused by logging operations. The EPA is accepting comments on a rule change that would treat logging activities as point-sources of pollution under the Clean Water Act instead of as non-point sources. The EPA could then require logging companies to obtain permits under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).

The timber industry is very worried about this proposal because of its potential to limit logging activities, particularly in heavily degraded watersheds. Pro-timber Members of Congress raised objections to the proposal at a Senate hearing and were able to get the comment deadline extended until Jan. 20 with a rider attached to the EPA Appropriations bill.

EPA deserves credit and support for their efforts to halt the millions of tons of sediment polluting rivers and streams from clearcuts and logging roads each year. Please send in your comments supporting EPA's proposal by Jan. 20.

Urge the EPA to ensure that silviculture activities are considered point-sources of water pollution in the final rule. Please include in your comments any specific information you have regarding water pollution or landslides caused by logging or the construction of logging roads.

Hellbender Journal

One issue not addressed in the proposed regulations is what kind of interim protection will be provided for polluted streams until the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) standards are developed. These standards will regulate the amount of pollution allowed in a stream, but may not be finished for another ten to fifteen years.

There are requirements that if a water body is impaired by a point-source (such as a timber sale under the proposed regulations), no additional permits may be issued that increase that pollutant in the stream until the TMDL is developed. However, there is not such requirement for nonpoint sources such as sediment coming from unmaintained logging roads. Until the TMDL is developed, there should not be allowed any increase of nonpoint pollution.

Written comments on the proposed regulatory revisions to the NPDES and water quality standards programs should be sent to: Comment Clerk for the TMDL Rule, Water Docket (W-99-04), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460, or <mailto:ow-docket@epa.gov>

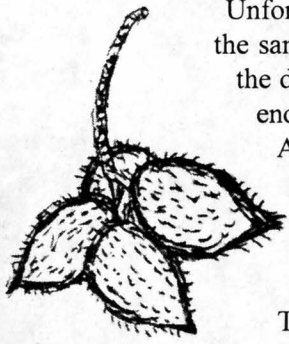
You can go to <http://www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/proprule.html> for a copy of the proposed rule. For more information contact American Wildlands, 406/586-8175

Endangered Species Spotlight

The Butternut Tree

By Mike Kaizar, Pittsburgh Coordinator

As demonstrated by the recent discovery of the Indiana bat on the Allegheny, the Forest Service refuses to search for threatened and endangered species in the Forest. For years, members of the Allegheny Defense Project questioned the lack of documentation to adequately back up the Forest Service's statement that the bat was not on the Forest. It was only when non-Forest Service researchers located the bat in multiple locations throughout the Forest did the Forest Service begin to take the necessary steps towards preserving this endangered species.



Unfortunately, the Forest Service is taking the same "don't ask, don't tell" approach to the documentation of other threatened and endangered species on the Allegheny. The Allegheny Defense Project is committed to forcing the Forest Service to follow the Endangered Species Act through a combination of public participation, litigation, and education.

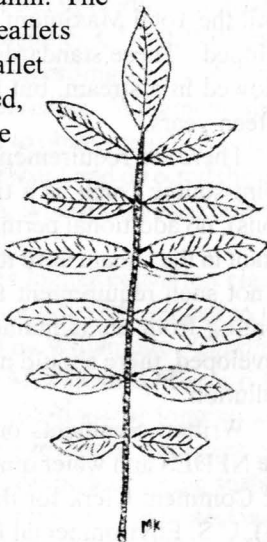
The goal of this column is to provide the general public with the skills and tools to identify endangered species within the forest. This fall issue is dedicated to the Butternut Tree.

The butternut is a native of eastern North America and prefers rich woods and the moist soil of valleys and slopes. The butternut produces nuts encased in long, pointed green husks that grow in clusters of up to five. The tree is named after the sweet, oily nuts within the husks. The nuts are edible and can be used as a dye source. The wood is soft and weak and generally not sought after for timber.

The butternut is one of the last trees to unfurl its leaves in the spring and the first to shed them in autumn. The leaves are compound-alternate. The leaflets are parallel along the petiole. Each leaflet grows 3-5 inches long, is small-toothed, and is colored dark yellow-green on the top and somewhat paler below.

When young, the bark is light gray and smooth. As the tree ages, the bark becomes darker, deeply-furrowed with wide, smooth, flat-topped ridges.

Once common, the butternut tree has declined by up to 80% due to a fungal disease. The disease was introduced in the 1950s with the Asian walnut tree and has decimated the butternut population since. The hope is that naturally-resistant trees will eventually overcome the fungus.



Freshwater Mussels

By Kirk Johnson

Threatened and endangered species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) occurring in or near the Allegheny National Forest today include: the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), the clubshell mussel (*Pleurobema clava*) and the northern riffleshell mussel (*Epioblasma torulosa rangiana*), which are listed as endangered, and the small whorled pogonia (*Isotria medeoloides*) and the bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) which are listed as threatened.

Mussels are a sub-class of bivalves that also include scallops and oysters. Fossil records indicate that they first appeared in the Ordovician Period, during the Paleozoic Era some 505 to 438 million years ago. They are generally thin-shelled and stationary animals which attach themselves to rocks or other hard objects using strong thread-like tissue. Mussels feed by filtering organic particles and minute plants and animals from the surrounding water. During feeding and respiration, females also take in the sperm that has been released into the water by males, and are thus fertilized.

The northern riffleshell mussel grows up to 7.5 centimeters long and was listed as endangered in 1993. Its outer shell is brownish to yellowish-green with fine green rays. The inside of the shell is usually white, but occasionally has a pinkish hue. Currently, the northern riffleshell only survives in the Green River in Kentucky, the Detroit River in Michigan, Big Darby Creek in Ohio, and French Creek, LeBoeuf Creek and the Allegheny River in Pennsylvania. The populations in the Allegheny River and French Creek are the only two locations in the world where the species still reproduces! Favorable riffleshell habitat includes small and large streams, preferring those with bottoms composed of firmly packed sand and fine to coarse gravel.

The decline of the riffleshell's range has been caused by dam construction, channelization, loss of riparian habitat, and the impacts of silt from poor land uses such as clearcut logging. Sewage releases from populated areas, chemical discharges, and coal mines have also had negative impacts.

The clubshell mussel was also listed as endangered in 1993. Like the northern riffleshell, it is a small to medium sized mussel reaching lengths of approximately 7.5 centimeters. The shell exterior is yellow to brown with bright green blotchy rays. The shell interior is white. The clubshell inhabits clean, packed or loose, coarse sand and gravel in runs, often just downstream of a riffle (shallow zone in the pool-and-riffle alternation found in both straight and meandering streams), and in medium to small rivers and streams. It cannot tolerate mud or still water conditions. Typically, it burrows two to four inches into the stream bed, relying on water and the nutrients it carries to pass through surrounding sediment particles.

Because mussels attach or bury themselves in the stream bed, they cannot readily move out of the way when degradation of

(Continued on page 14)

THE NORTH COUNTRY NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

Roads, other developments threaten world-class hiking opportunity

By Kirk Johnson

Threading its way across our landscape, the North Country National Scenic Trail links outstanding scenic, natural, recreational, historic, and cultural areas in seven of our northern States...North Country Trail users are discovering places where they can look out over forested hills and valleys, places where the beautiful work of nature's hand appears undiminished...Large areas of publicly owned lands, such as national forests, major state parks and forests...offer wilderness and near-wilderness experiences. These remote sections of the trail will be especially enjoyable to those who value the solitude of such areas. — National Park Service

The North Country National Scenic Trail, when completed, will extend for over 4,000 miles across seven northern tier states starting in North Dakota and ending in New York's Adirondack mountains. Presently, less than half of the proposed trail route has been certified as complete by the North Country Trail administrator - the National Park Service. The contiguous segment of the trail that runs through Cook Forest State Park, Allegheny National Forest, and Allegany State Park has been certified, however, and is over 100 miles in length.

In mid-November of this year, I completed approximately 30 miles of the North Country Trail starting southwest of Marienville near the Allegheny National Forest boundary and heading north, stopping at FS road 116 near Heart's Content. During the three day hike, I saw many encouraging sights, but also witnessed things I considered discouraging, even disturbing.

While within the boundaries of the Allegheny National Forest, I walked past beaver ponds, meadows, and many areas that are clearly reverting to a largely natural condition. I saw numerous impressively large white pines between Kelletville and FS road 449, but I also passed through part of a timber sale here known as "Hammer", a perfectly healthy section of forest that is making its way back from the heavy logging of a century ago. Paint slashes mark the healthy trees within the stand destined to be cut throughout the Trail corridor - there will be no buffer. It struck me at this location how the Allegheny is still too often being used simply as a warehouse of standing timber, and here was the evidence. I was also disappointed to see the ruts where folks had driven their ATV's back and forth across the sensitive riparian zone of Fork Run - an area where use of these types of vehicles is supposedly illegal.

The most egregious violation of the spirit of the North Country Trail for me came shortly after I passed Little Salmon Creek prior to crossing Guiton Run. I came across a large portion of the trail which had been obliterated by a new oil access road. One well had apparently been completed, and a second well was in the process of being drilled where probably 100 yards or so of the

North Country Trail had been. As I walked by, I was "treated" to the display of dirty briny water spewing high into the air from the new drilling operation.

In recent years I have spent a fair amount of time hiking in Washington's Olympic National Park. In general, the further you hike into Olympic National Park, the further away from roads and civilization you get. So it was a somewhat strange experience

to walk for several hours along the North Country Trail through these eastern hardwood forests, only to periodically cross Forest Service roads, and occasionally see cars whiz by. Granted, the Allegheny is a national forest and Olympic is a national park with much greater protection. However, the Allegheny has one of the highest ratio of roads per square mile of any national forest in the country.

If the North Country Trail is to be completed successfully

along its entire proposed length, we

need federal, state, and local agencies, as well as private individuals to cooperate and be enthusiastic about working towards the vision of a trail that is undeveloped and wild in its nature wherever feasible. Old-growth forest conditions where they were historically present are important not only for wildlife and a healthy ecosystem in general; they will be an important aspect to the ultimate goal of a completed North Country Trail.

I embrace a vision of a Cook Forest State Park, Allegheny National Forest, and Allegheny State Park (and eventually the entire proposed length) North Country Trail corridor that is largely free of roads and extractive activities. This will provide vital wildlife habitat and give future generations of recreationists a feel for what the vast, contiguous, Eastern ancient forests were like before European settlement. It became clear to me during my hike that such a vision has not been made a high enough priority by Allegheny National Forest administrators. I hope to help make that vision a reality through my work with ADP.

Further information on the North Country National Scenic Trail can be obtained by contacting the North Country Trail Association at: 49 Monroe Center NW, Suite 200B, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 (616) 454-5506

National Scenic Trails



Taken from National Park Service brochure

SKI RESORT LOGS BLUE KNOB STATE PARK



Blue Knob State Park land. This land was donated to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by the National Park Service, and, in 1998, was clearcut by BK Recreation, supposedly for a ski slope expansion. *Photo by Wendell Allen*

By Wendell V. Allen, Jr.

Blue Knob (BK) Recreation, Inc. (the owner of a ski area in Blue Knob State Park), and Blue Knob State Park are involved in what I believe to be the most egregious abuse of the environment ever by a U.S. ski area. Specifically, most of the north side of the mountain has been destroyed, with much of the destruction taking place on State Park land. The damage is so severe that it could produce flooding during a time of high rainfall and threaten homes within a settlement downstream from the ski area.

But before I get into the details of this tragedy, let me provide a little background. At 3,146 feet, Blue Knob is the highest stand-alone peak in Pennsylvania and the second highest point in the state (Mt. Davis, a ridge-top near the Maryland border, is only 67 feet higher). Blue Knob is an ancient quartzite peak that sits on a spur to the east of the main Allegheny chain. Despite its modest height, Blue Knob often has some of the coldest and windiest weather in the Eastern US.

The summit of the mountain was a US Air Force radar station until around 1960 when the Air Force left and turned over the area to the US National Park Service. A few years later the Federal Government deeded the property to Blue Knob State Park for the purpose of conservation. The Ski Area lodge, parking lots, condominium road, Tubing Park and part of the ski slopes are located on this land.

By Pennsylvania standards Blue Knob had (until recently) some of the most beautiful semi-old growth hardwoods, and altitude stunted hardwoods and hemlocks. The timber on Blue Knob was particularly healthy, as there had been little, if any, permanent damage by gypsy moths. In an area that has traditionally been abused and over-logged, Blue Knob was indeed an oasis.

During the summer of 1998 BK Recreation, Inc. embarked on what was to become a massive and highly destructive for-profit logging operation. The resort owners used the excuse that they were creating new "gladed" slopes (where a person is to supposedly ski through the trees) and a "ski bowl" which required clear-cutting a steep ridge and ravine.

I did some research on this topic and found that removing very small trees and underbrush and removing all large rocks creates gladed slopes, which results in a safe ski zone with minimal environmental impact. In a commercial logging operation (as was done at Blue Knob), just the opposite is done; large trees are removed leaving stumps, logging waste, skid trails and brush that will begin to grow at an accelerated rate due to removal of the upper canopy.

The so-called "gladed slopes" at Blue Knob are littered with stumps and logging waste. No erosion control measures were implemented on steep clear-cut areas or on skid trails other than a little straw that was thrown down on a few of the gladed ski slopes. Also, the gladed ski runs (logged areas) do not have snow making, which seems unrealistic, as Blue Knob receives approximately 100 inches of snow a year. It should be noted that Snowshoe Ski Area, West Virginia had in its original layout a properly ski-able gladed slope, which was eventually abandoned by the ski resort and removed from the trail maps. Yet, Snowshoe receives 180 inches of snow a year, almost 65% more than Blue Knob.

More recently, during the summer of 1997, BK Recreation, Inc. was allowed to clear-cut and/or bulldoze State Park Land to ostensibly create a "tubing park" and an additional (third) snow making lake. The company logged a very large area (over 1,000 acres) within Bedford and Blair counties, which included several clear-cut areas. The existing ski slopes were also torn up (earth disturbance and the destruction of existing waterbars) as they were also used as skid trails. The total area of earth disturbance (skid trails, and bull dozed areas) far exceeds 25 acres yet, no erosion control measures (other than throwing down a little straw in a few areas that were to be gladed ski runs) were taken, in direct violation of Erosion Control Regulations. No waterbars can be found within this massive area.

The Blair County Conservation District was informed of the logging operation, which resulted in one inspection during the fall of 1997. BK Recreation was found to be in full compliance.

More unbelievable, I contacted the district approximately one year later to inform them that the highly destructive logging operation had continued unabated (due to the mild winter) for a full year; still, no action was taken.

The destruction of State Park Land actually began in the early 80s, shortly after BK Recreation, Inc. started leasing land from Blue Knob State Park. Despite the fact that BK Recreation has (and had) minimal snow making, BK Recreation was allowed to widen the beginner area, cut the "Condo Trail" (a wide, 3/4 mile long trail with no snow making) and build snow making pond #2 which leaks. A large number of hardwoods were removed—some of the trees being relatively old and altitude stunted. Old piles of logging waste can still be seen along the sides of these areas as remnants of this activity. Today, the wind blows harder than ever across this large open area making it very difficult to create much of a snow base. Also, the Condo Trail no longer exists as the chair lift was shortened to create a beginner slope and the lower area of the Condo Trail was transformed into the Tubing Park and parking lot.

The destruction of public land continued when (during the summer of 98) BK Recreation was allowed to destroy most of the remaining State Park land on the north side of the mountain. Specifically, a large area was clear-cut and bulldozed to make yet a third snowmaking reservoir and the Lower Condo trail was bulldozed to create the Tubing Park and parking lot. Both of these areas are a complete mess as no ground stabilization or erosion control measures were taken. Also, there is not (and will never be) enough water for the aforementioned mountaintop reservoir.

It should be noted that most ski areas do not have snow making reservoirs on top of the mountain simply because most jurisdictions will not issue a permit for environmental reasons. This is most always the case where the summit of a ski area is on Public Land. Instead, water (to make snow) is pumped from a reservoir at the bottom of the mountain directly to the snow making machines, which requires a more powerful pumping system. This design and method minimizes environmental damage unlike Blue Knob which has one reservoir at the bottom, two reservoirs near the summit and a bulldozed area (also near the summit) that is to become a third reservoir. Three reservoirs on top of the highest (stand-alone) peak in the state, and all on public land, represents a reckless disregard for the environment by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Because the land was deeded from the US Park Service to Pennsylvania for the purpose of conservation (not destruction), the Commonwealth is allowing this high level of destruction, betraying every taxpayer in the country. Worse yet, the proceeds (app. \$35,000) from the most recent logging on public land were given to BK Recreation. Specifically, this amount was applied toward the cost of an unsightly steel building that was erected on top of the mountain and on State Park land by BK Recreation.

The Commonwealth approved construction on the third

snowmaking reservoir without any official permit process and did not conduct any study of the soil or availability of water. If a study had been done it would have shown that there would never be enough water in the area for such a large reservoir. Also, the porosity of the soil and the rate of evaporation (on top of a mountain) would make such a lake infeasible.

Much of the South Poplar Run watershed was destroyed as indiscriminate logging took place along the Southeast side of the stream on the steep slopes of Spruce Knob (a ridge that runs off the summit of Blue Knob.) Clearcut areas can be found close to the stream without a reasonable filter or buffer area. Skid trails

often run nearly vertical long distances up Spruce Knob with no erosion control measures such as waterbars; significant erosion now appears.

The recent damage to the South Poplar Run watershed will continue to result in less water for snow making with an increase in the danger of flooding downstream (where people live) during times of unusually high rainfall and/or snowmelt. The watershed area

has been littered with discarded barrels, skidder and truck tires, old restaurant equipment and scrapped steel pipe. The top of the mountain (in places) is also littered with refuse such as discarded restaurant equipment and snow grooming equipment.

One of the most beautiful waterfalls in the Commonwealth, the Bulls Creek waterfall, has been largely destroyed. The waterfall is, at the very least, an unofficial landmark. Sadly, the loading area for the logs was formed by a clear-cut just above the falls such that the trucks had to ford the stream. Most of the old-growth hemlocks around the waterfall and upstream were cut, which is particularly destructive since hemlock wood has little value.

In addition, it is my understanding that, sometime during the 97-98 ski season, the cable derailed from one of the tower pulleys on one of the chair lifts. This occurred in one of the wind exposed areas of the lift line. I have to wonder if the logging made such an occurrence more likely as a significant number of trees were cut down along many of the lift lines. I have skied Blue Knob for over 30 years (prior to the logging) and cannot remember such an occurrence during that time.

I believe that BK Recreation is responsible for the logging of many privately owned, undeveloped lots without permission of the owners. This is in direct violation of a covenant applicable to these lots, and, in my book, could be referred to as stealing and also vandalism, due to the destruction created by the skidders. It should be noted that most of these lot owners live out of state and therefore were vulnerable to such activities.

Many Pennsylvanians, when told of the environmental tragedy at Blue Knob, have responded in the following way, "So what! Pennsylvania is a resource extraction state, not an environmental state!" However, things are no longer quite that simple. First of all, Blue Knob falls within the Chesapeake Bay watershed and Pennsylvania, along with other states that fall within the Bay watershed, agreed to take a variety of steps to help save the Bay, a

(Continued on page 17)

Scene as a task of thought

By Theresa Darling

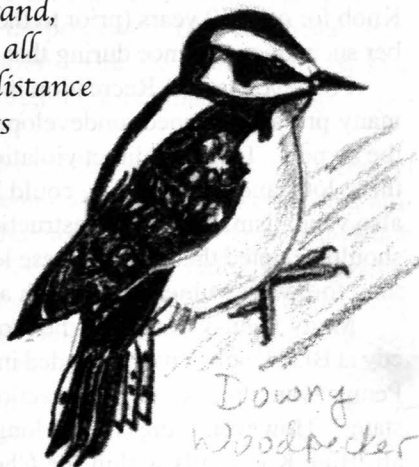
All the laughter that lives
lies far ahead. Once people,
places, things... now,
grey against red. Suddenly
I am old.

Mallards feeding in creek dance on their heads... butts in
air, orange paddles grazing water's surface. Fall foliage,
breath-taking and I, taking breath. Tired, attempting at
once self and escape from self. This strange balance of
approach/avoidance endures despite its threatening
contradiction.

I am simply tired.
Butternuts all around.
Maples weeping like willows
into the creek. Ripples,
ripples, moving shadows
just-so with a song
only I can hear.

Is it I, or is the whole earth tired? Wind pushing, boughs
bending nearly beyond stout capacity for resistance...
soon the crack will awaken me. Waves folding in upon
themselves, like knees, a casual collapse of metaphoric
proportions. . . my every conviction, a related condition.
Today, the peak of my soul resides in the quiet of my
imagination.

Leaves browning, blown
about the muddy path melding
land, sky... stone as breath
dust into death. Here I stand,
a singular vanity amidst all
human striving. At this distance
the bare sycamore appears
comfortingly soft.
Vines in the foreground
weighted with grapes
momentarily obscure
my wintry imagination.



Drawing by Rachel Martin

Mussels (cont. from page10)

their environment occurs. Neither the clubshell mussel nor the northern riffleshell mussel were listed as endangered in 1986 when the Allegheny Forest Plan was released. As a result, there are no standards and guidelines designed specifically to protect, maintain, or enhance mussel habitat. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) stated in their June 1, 1999 Biological Opinion that impacts on the mussels can be minimized through further restrictions and guidelines on logging and roadbuilding. The teeming zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*), a native of Europe accidentally introduced to North America in the mid-1980s, also poses a severe threat to the clubshell and northern riffleshell through competition for space, food, and survival of young.

According to the USFWS, to save the northern riffleshell all existing State and Federal legislation and regulations must be enforced. Restoration of some of the species' habitat through repair of riparian habitat and control of nonpoint source pollution should be begun. Strong steps should be taken to prevent the spread of the zebra mussel. They also recommend acquisition of mineral, oil and gas rights underlying the Allegheny National Forest. Also according to the USFWS, through execution of the Forest Plan the Allegheny National Forest's activities regarding the construction, maintenance, and operation of roads may cause adverse effects to the clubshell and northern riffleshell mussels through the introduction of fine sediment to tributaries of the Allegheny River. Negative effects to the clubshell and northern riffleshell occur from logging near tributaries to the Allegheny River, also from the introduction of fine sediment from the soil disturbance that always occurs with this activity.

The U.S. Forest Service has not done enough to protect the northern riffleshell mussel or the clubshell mussel. The Forest Service needs to more carefully consider the impacts of a multitude of timber sales pending throughout the Forest on these endangered mussels. For example, the Revised Biological Evaluation for the Shingle Mill Timber Sale completely ignores potential impacts to the clubshell and northern riffleshell mussels. Despite the fact that these are now critically imperiled species on the federal endangered species list and inhabit waters downstream of the Shingle Mill Project Area, absolutely no analysis and no effects determination has been made! The Forest Service's failure to analyze the impacts of the Shingle Mill and other logging projects on the clubshell mussel constitutes a violation of the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Forest Management Act, and the ESA.

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Roadless Area Protection Needed in the Allegheny

Areas 1,000 acres and less should be protected under Clinton's Roadless Area Initiative

By Kirk Johnson

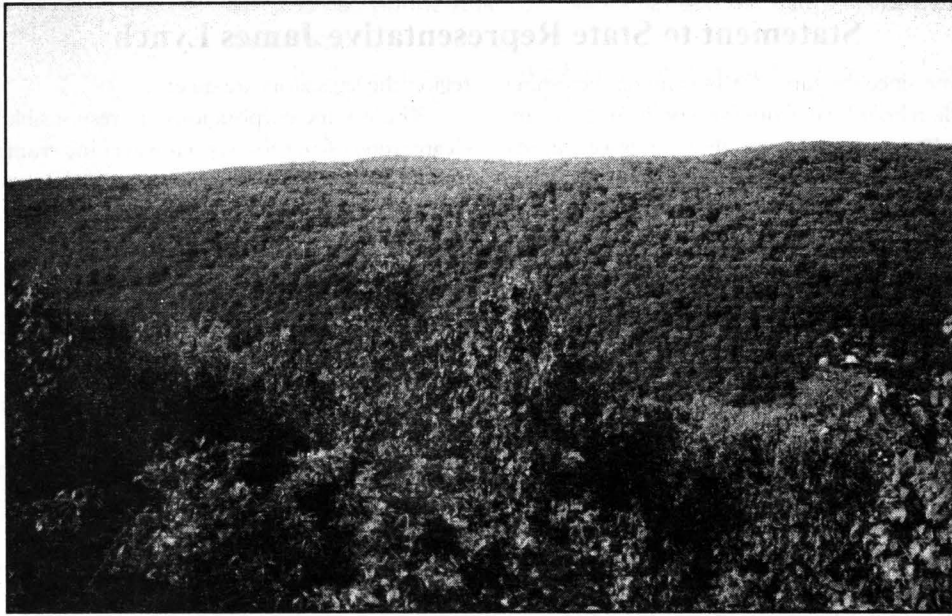
On October 13, 1999, President Clinton visited the Little River roadless area in Virginia's George Washington National Forest to announce a new Roadless Area Initiative. It was not so long ago that the U.S. House of Representatives came within one vote of eliminating \$42 million from the U.S. Forest Service's logging roads budget. Considering this, as well as the backlog of over \$8 billion in FS road repair on the 380,000 miles of FS roads in our national forests, it's clear that it's time for significant action on the issue of roads in our National Forest System. There is strong public sentiment for protecting roadless areas and the clean water, biodiversity, wildlife habitat, forest health, dispersed recreational opportunities and other benefits they provide.

Following the President's lead, the Forest Service has initiated a public rulemaking process to propose the protection of remaining roadless areas within the National Forest System. On October 19, 1999, they published in the Federal Register a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the protection of roadless areas. National Forest System lands comprise 192 million acres across the country. Just over 50 million of those acres are inventoried as roadless areas. Of that, about two-fifths currently have protections that prohibit roading. Prior to the current Roadless Area initiative, an interim moratorium on road building in roadless areas greater than 5,000 acres in size was set in place.

The October 19 NOI marked the beginning of the 60 day public comment period that ends on December 20, 1999. After reviewing these comments, the draft EIS will be released for public review next spring. At that time, there will be another opportunity for public review and comment, which will then be analyzed and used to help make a final decision about how best to handle the roadless area issue.

The Allegheny Defense Project believes that any non-inventoried roadless areas including those 1,000 acres and less that will not be permanently protected until inventories and analyses

are completed, should receive interim protection from logging, road building, mining, and other harmful activity. Also, areas not surveyed during the RARE II inventories of the late 1970s must be surveyed for roadless designation within the Allegheny.



While most of the inventoried roadless areas in the Allegheny are permanently protected from roadbuilding, several areas, like this part of Minister Valley, are protected only by the Allegheny National Forest Plan, which is not permanent. Photo by Jim Kleissler

We believe the draft EIS should utilize existing information about the broad array of social, economic, and ecological values and benefits that roadless areas provide. Roadless areas are important public assets that produce immense economic value by satisfying a wide variety of human needs. Roadless area benefits include watershed protection for downstream users and scenic, recreational, and other quality of life values that attract new residents and businesses to nearby communities. In addition, many Ameri-

cans consider roadless areas important national treasures, the loss of which would diminish our well being.

A problem somewhat unique to the Allegheny National Forest under this initiative, however, is that private oil and gas roads would still be allowed, as well as private oil and gas development. We feel the Allegheny Forest Service should work towards purchasing all mineral rights to these roadless areas. Allegheny National Forest roadless areas are very much threatened and open to oil and gas extraction as 94% of mineral rights in the Allegheny are privately owned.

On the evening of December 7, Allegheny Defense Project members and other concerned citizens attended the Roadless Area Initiative meeting held at the Warren Public Library. The meeting was designed as a presentation only and not particularly specific to the Allegheny, being based on a PowerPoint presentation that was shown at all National Forests, and a question & answer session. Although it was the clear intention of U.S. Forest Service Chief Michael Dombeck that public comments would be recorded at these meetings for consideration in the draft EIS, Allegheny National Forest personnel inexplicably deemed this an unnecessary step to take. No comments were recorded.

In a further baffling maneuver, Allegheny National Forest personnel took a vote by show of hands to determine, essentially,

(Continued on page 18)

Jim Lynch Gets an Earful at "Public" Meeting

On June 22, pro-timber State Representative James Lynch held a canned "Public" Hearing. The meeting was intended to provide the State House with a perspective from the Allegheny National Forest "public". Instead the meeting was made up of a small panel of Republican Representatives (and their staff) who heard pre-picked pro-logging testimony. Not so surprisingly, the voices of those who want the forest protected were left out.

ADP organizers came to ensure that our voices would be heard. At the end of the testimony Jim Kleissler stood up and asked, "I respectfully request the opportunity to provide testimony." Mr. Lynch responded with a quick, "Respectfully, no!" Kleissler went about distributing written testimony to the panel, all the while explaining what he was doing and why he was doing it. Lynch insisted repeatedly that Jim Kleissler did not have "the floor" to speak. Below is Jim Kleissler's testimony to Representative Lynch.

Statement to State Representative James Lynch

In 1988, for the first time since the turn of this century, the timber industry cut more than 1 billion board feet from the woods of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Before the late 1800s these lands were dominated by old growth stands of Eastern Hemlock, American Beech, White Pine, and American Chestnut. These dark, moist woods were home to fisher, cougar, wolf, bear, and bat. As of 1920 many of these species had disappeared or had begun to disappear. By the 1960s Pennsylvania forests, such as what is now the Allegheny National Forest, had **begun** to recover. However, today, these woods remain on the perilous edge impacted by acid rain and ozone, fragmentation by roads, development, oil and gas drilling, and large scale clearcutting.

As our trees reach the average age of 100 years timber companies (some of which cleared this region in the first place) have begun to migrate from Oregon, Holland, British Columbia, Texas, and other far off places to clear our woods. These companies send the profits from their enterprise out of the region in two manners, they send them back to their corporate headquarters elsewhere and the resources they are selling are often exported. Thus the rate of logging in Pennsylvania's forests increases at an unquestionably unsustainable pace.

These outside corporations have joined with the local wealthy to export our economy and our jobs. They replace loggers' jobs with feller buncher machines (designed to cut multiple acres of forest each day with 1 worker as opposed to many), chip mills replace truckers' jobs (located precisely to reduce trucking costs of hauling logs to the paper mill), exports of raw logs replace carpentry jobs (we lose value-added jobs every day), and the implementation of chip-and-glue technologies such as particle board and fiber board destroy value-added job opportunities daily.

Simultaneously, these new "technologies" harm local residents. Residents on the RiverHill in Clarion, PA, now suffer chronic asthma and are afraid to leave their homes some days because of the operations of a fiberboard plant operated by Temple-Inland (previously operated by MacMillan Bloedel) that has NEVER complied with the clean air act. Citizens at Lantz Corners suffer from the noise pollution impacts of a chip mill that was installed without a permit in a wetlands area in the headwaters of the Clarion River. The people who live at Mayburg, PA, are now being evicted from their camps and homes by Oregon based Collins-Pine, a.k.a. Kane Hardwood. The residents of Johnsonburg, PA, have been suffering from severe pollution in their homes and community for years only to receive little support from their legislators on the issue. This same paper mill is polluting the Clarion River, the same waters in which I (and thousands of others) swim and canoe every spring, summer, and fall. However, our Governor Tom Ridge has chosen to award the environmentally criminal Willamette Industries for their pollution problems instead. Meanwhile, the Environmental Protection Agency has found that Willamette Industries has been flagrantly violating the Clean Air Act. Where EPA stands up for the citizens of our

region the legislators are quiet.

These same corporations are responsible for the rapidly increasing clearcutting of our forests. However the criminal actions of these corporations are pinned on the citizens who care about the forests and people who live in our communities, blaming us for the atrocities of corporate giants.

Recently, the timber industry in our region has been indiscriminately deceiving local landowners out of their timber. Their unethical behavior is likely to be blamed on citizens like me who care about our Allegheny National Forest. We are the scapegoats for the crimes of the industry. After all why should we expect that these companies act in a responsible and ethical manner?

Mr. Lynch, while you stand to promote the timber industry you remain quiet when citizens that you allegedly represent suffer from the harmful effects of their practices. You should be taking action to educate citizens about the unique value of places like the Allegheny National Forest as sustainable economic resources for our leading industries, recreation and tourism. You should be helping to educate private landowners to protect them from the insidious practices of these corporate timber tycoons. You should be protecting jobs for loggers, carpenters, and truck drivers by combating job-replacing technologies. You should be strengthening laws on forestry by putting in place **mandatory** Best Management Practices and discouraging even-aged clearcut management. Yet, you do none of these things. Every day citizens are forced to pay large expenses filing court cases to protect forests, water, and air while they risk life and limb to speak out.

American citizens across the Commonwealth and the Nation have made it clear that we want to see our forest lands protected and in particular our public forest lands. Each year the logging of our national forests costs U.S. Taxpayers nearly \$1 billion. The result is large scale ecological destruction of publicly owned forests. These forests are vital as standing forests for the survival of wildlife and non-timber based economies like tourism and recreation. They should not be exported for private corporate profits. They should be protected for the public good.

In fact, citizens of all walks of life and all ages are making great sacrifices on a daily basis to protect and preserve the environment. The young especially are speaking out for the environment despite the risks involved, they are becoming vegetarians and vegan-vegetarians, they are re-using and recycling paper products, and even on occasion engaging in acts of civil disobedience putting their freedom itself on the line for what they believe. It is time for you, Mr. Lynch, and other legislators to speak on behalf of American citizens and stop defending the questionable practices of corporate executives. Follow the lead of those people who are committed to the future of our economy and our environment. Support an end to commercial logging on our public lands and tough protections for wild forests, clean water, and clean air.

Keep Those Letters Coming!

Stop the East Side Disaster...It's Mortality II, Too!

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Goal 6,920 Letters

369 Letters

0 Letters

Last year, as a result of Judge Standish's ruling that the Forest Service had acted illegally in approving the Mortality II Timber Sale--a massive sale that would have resulted in the cutting of over 5,000 acres of the Allegheny National Forest--the Forest Service announced its plans to develop an Environmental Impact Statement on the timber sale (like they should have done in the first place!) The catch? The Forest Service increased the sale to almost 7,000 acres and, realizing that a clearcutting planned called "Mortality II" was bad public relations, they changed the name to the more seemingly benign "East Side Project."

Our latest review of the East Side Project file showed that you all have done a great job of sending in letters in opposition to the sale. The last count of letters against the East Side [Clearcutting] Project is 369! (and a whopping 28 letters for the sale...guess who from?)

But we need to keep up the pressure to keep the chainsaws at bay. The sale has been delayed due to the Endangered Species lawsuit, but the EIS could come out at any time. So **KEEP THOSE LETTERS COMING** and help us reach our goal of 6,920 letters (a letter for each acre planned to be cut)! Thanks to all of you who've sent in letters of protest against this clearcutting plan!

The East Side Project Will Result in:

- The logging of 6,920 acres of PA's only national forest
- 3,156 acres of clearcutting
- 90.5 miles of logging road construction at tax payer expense
- 17.2 miles of new logging roads at taxpayer expense
- 3,082 acres sprayed with toxic herbicides

Send letters to:

John Palmer, Forest Supervisor
Allegheny National Forest
PO Box 847
Warren, PA 16365
(814) 723-5150

"Stop the East Side Project" postcards also available...great for tabling, parties, handing out to co-workers...
To order, call or e-mail the ADP office!

Blue Knob State Park (Cont. from page 13)

national treasure. The destruction at Blue Knob is in direct violation of this agreement. Second, the destruction has increased the danger of flooding below the Bulls Creek Waterfall where many homes are only a few vertical feet above the streambed. Third, I don't believe that the gladed slopes (logged areas) offer a safe skiing environment to the general public. Fourth, the public land on top of Blue Knob should have been preserved in order to educate and inspire future generations.

The State Park knew about the logging of private land on Blue Knob by BK Recreation, and then rewarded this behavior by allowing more logging on *state park land* to form a reservoir (that will never be completed), and gave the timber proceeds to BK Recreation!

If the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has even the slightest concern for the environment, the following steps should be taken:

- Require BK Recreation to implement erosion control measures and ground stabilization within the entire area that has been logged and/or bulldozed
- Demand that BK Recreation clean up the debris and litter

along the South Poplar Run watershed and on top of the mountain.

- Return the top area of the mountain back to the US National Park Service as the Commonwealth has shown beyond any shadow of a doubt that it is incapable of conservation or stewardship.
- The Commonwealth should study flooding potential along South Poplar Run below the logged areas to ensure the safety of residents in those areas.
- And finally, the Commonwealth should look into whether or not BK Recreation was responsible for the logging of a large number of privately-owned lots without permission of the owners. If such an occurrence took place, would the Commonwealth want to continue leasing the top of the highest peak in the State to such an outfit as BK Recreation?

Finally, I have to wonder how we are to stop poor, third world countries from destroying the rainforests when highly-destructive, unsustainable logging is business-as-usual in Pennsylvania as well as several other states.

ADP ACTIVISTS LOBBY PA DELEGATION

By Alexander Denmark, Pittsburgh Coordinator

Monday the 25th of October Washington D.C. Cannon Office Bldg. Long and confident strides propelled the victorious activists toward the finish line of an arduous day on the Hill. Tom Watkiss and I hastened to accompany Rachel Martin, Cynthia Cooperman and Susan Curry into the Office of our Heroine Cynthia McKinney. The magnitude of what we had accomplished in Washington elicited hope for the possibility that we could make a difference in the movement to protect Our Public Lands.

The rather ambitious Allegheny Defense Project day of lobbying was arranged and orchestrated by Susan Curry of the National Forest Protection Alliance. Susan's perseverance rewarded us with scheduled meetings with the staff of every member of the PA delegation except two. A brief but informative training session attended by Jon Fremont, the environmental assistant to Cynthia McKinney and Rene Voss from the John Muir Project readied us for the task ahead. Armed with Zero Cut brochures and handouts comparing the Deal/Boyd (bad) and Defazio (good) bills and a plethora of flyers and fact sheets we raced about the capital lawns the entire day rushing from one appointment to the next.

We were quite pleased when we arrived for our first appointment, even though we were a bit late, as we were just in time to open the door for Senator Arlen Specter to enter with us. Susan Curry hurriedly thanked him for his recent pro environment voting record and informed him that we were visiting to talk about National Forest issues. He admired us as "young people" for being involved. Perhaps this was just the encouragement we needed because it was with great alacrity that we endeavored to extract the same response and welcome from our next 21 hosts. Ugh.

Many of the responses to our presence were predictably party line. Others offered hope of engaged dialogue and concern, while several elicited surprising results. Despite our efforts to convince PA representatives to support the Defazio Bill, the Deal/Boyd amendment passed thus continuing the dubious practice of linking the federal subsidy of forest communities to timber harvesting. However, several votes within the PA Delegation, we feel, were a direct result of our presence on the Hill.

Only about five or six representatives definitely would not support the National Forest Protection and Restoration Act, a bill which would end commercial logging on all federal public lands—but several seemed like they would be likely candidates for co-sponsorship, and for many, this was the first time they had really heard about the bill. This proves the need to continue to organize to educate about and show support for this important piece of legislation.

Most importantly, we had the opportunity to experience the amazing system of citizen participation in the process of governing that, were it not tainted with the color of money and special favors for special interests, makes it possible for each of us to make a difference.

Roadless Areas (Continued from pg. 15)

whether or not to uphold the U.S. Constitution (thankfully, a super-majority voted to allow folks to audio and videotape the proceedings). Although it was pointed out by Jim Kleissler that such recording of public meetings is protected under the Constitution, Forest Service spokesperson Kathe Frank maintained that while that may be true, "there's nothing in the regs" to force them to allow citizens to record.

The Allegheny Defense Project feels this initiative is a step in the right direction but does not go far enough — the only way to protect our wild areas is by an end to all commercial logging in our national forests. It is clear from the Roadless Initiative that the public holds a negative attitude toward unnecessary roadbuilding in our national forests. The Allegheny has an average of 1.4 miles of Forest Service roads for every square mile of area (the National Forest System average is approximately 1.26 mi/sq.mi.). Including all roadways, overall density within the Allegheny is approximately 3.26 mi/sq.mi. This figure is extremely high, and detrimental to suitable wildlife habitat for many species. Considering the cumulative effects of oil and gas, as well as state and township roads, this points to the necessity of halting road construction in the Allegheny. This is an issue not strictly relevant to the Roadless initiative, but will also be addressed in

the upcoming Forest Service transportation policy debates, and it is important that we make these views heard.

It also follows that all opportunities to remove existing roads should be explored. Allegheny National Forest administrators should make every effort to expeditiously obliterate roads in areas that would then create new roadless areas to be protected under the current Roadless Area initiative. An example would include the removal of sections of Forest Service Roads 148, 149, 162, 443, and 446 to create a large (>5,000 acres) Tionesta roadless area.

The current comment period ends December 20, but you should feel free to send comments in anyway, requesting that they be considered even though the deadline has passed. Tell them that the deadline needs to be extended to include your comments, but do send them soon as you can, as we need to protect all roadless areas, even those less than 1,000 acres in size, in the Allegheny National Forest! Comments should be sent to: CAET United States Forest Service, c/o Roadless, P.O. Box 221090, Salt Lake City, UT 84116. They can also be e-mailed to : roadless/wo_caet-slc@fs.fed.us, or faxed to (801) 517-1021.

State Forests Management Plan Revision Delayed ...Again

By Arthur Clark, Sierra Club Campaign Coordinator

The Pennsylvania 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 now, the BOF should have released its draft management plan and held a second round of public input meetings. However, the process has been delayed again. Having already delayed three times, the BOF now says that the second round of public input meetings will not happen until Spring of 2000. More disturbing is the talk from BOF employees suggesting the Bureau will drastically scale back the next round of meetings, perhaps having as few as 12. That is hardly adequate in this vast state.

In another disturbing development, it has been stated that the Bureau's draft plan will not be available prior to the meetings scheduled for next Spring. According to a recent presentation by senior BOF manager Dan Devlin, only the goals and objectives of the plan will be released for review and comment. It will be impossible for the public to provide insightful and specific comments if we are provided only vague, non-specific information. Ultimately, it matters most what the details of the new BOF management plan mean for the future on-the-ground activities in our state forests. With these details unavailable to the public, the next round of public input could turn into little more than a feel good exercise on the part of the BOF.

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 Sierra Club Pennsylvania Forest Protection Campaign and we'll plug them into the network. We also need submissions of photos of our state forests. We want pictures that show the natural beauty and the 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:

Pennsylvania Forest Protection Campaign

c/o Sierra Club Pennsylvania Chapter

P.O. Box 606

Harrisburg, PA 17108

Arthur Clark,
Campaign Coordinator
(717) 432-3595
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Sam Hays,
Public Lands Committee Chair
(412) 421-6560
sph1+@pitt.edu

Background

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has 20 state forests. These lands are owned by the people of Pennsylvania. They are managed by the state's Bureau of Forestry (BOF), a division of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). These lands total approximately 2.1 million acres, or 3,280 square miles. This is a vast land area, approximately the size of the state of Delaware.

The BOF manages the state forests primarily for timber production. Timber sales represent a significant source of funding for the BOF. Of the 2.1 million acres of state forests, 70%, or 1.45 million acres, are considered commercial forest land. Only 358,00 acres, or 19%, lie within designated no harvest zones. Of the land designated as no harvest, 80% is land that cannot be logged due to steep slopes, rocky terrain, or wetland conditions. Thus, a mere 4% of the total acreage of state forest lands, 70,000 acres, has been taken out of the commercial timber base due to environmental considerations. This acreage is comprised of 60 small Natural Areas.

Clearcutting and related methods, collectively called "even-aged management," are frequently used on state forest lands. For the period 1985 to 1997, the BOF contracted for logging operations on approximately 193,000 acres of state forest lands, an average of approximately 15,000 acres per year. Of that, only 15,125 acres were slated for single tree selection cutting, a mere 7.8%. Total contracted volume for this period was 560 million board feet (MMBF), an annual average of 43 MMBF. Based on volume of timber removed, single tree selection cuts accounted for only 4.5% of total contracted volume for the period.

In 1998, the state Bureau of Forestry 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 and 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.

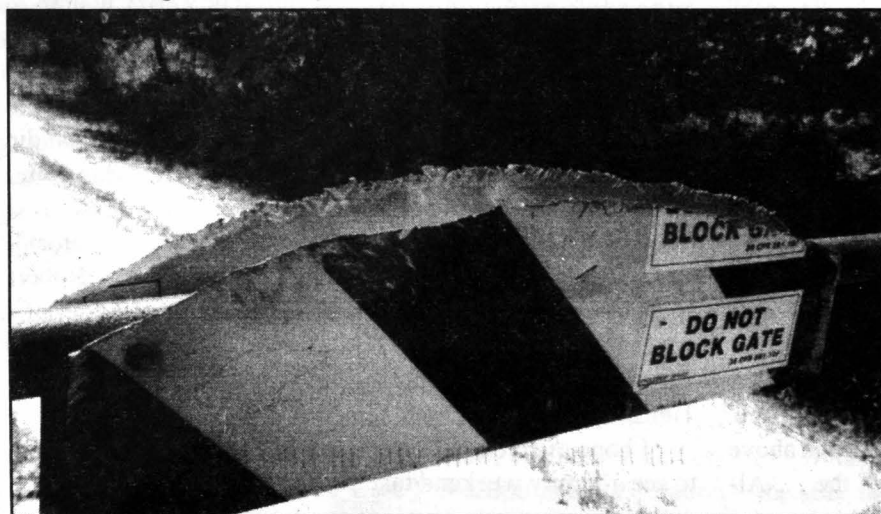


photo by Reg Darling

A porcupine protest--these critters just LOVE Forest Service signs!

Sixth Annual Forest Defenders' Fall Gathering

by Sarah Green, Oberlin Coordinator

We made our way slowly down the dirt road; it was Friday night, September 24, and we knew the Fall Gathering was somewhere in the dark woods around us.

Finally we came across Jim and Tim and their impromptu greeting tent--and the party began.

All night, people took turns as security, huddled on a tarp, shivering, and playing with walkie-talkies; meanwhile, other groups arrived and set up their tents. Rachel Martin's exceptional chili warmed everyone up.

The next morning we were awakened by clanging pots. Lured by the thought of coffee, the crowd--anarchist punks, hippies, high school students, and seasoned activists--got up and stumbled to the campfire. Introductions were prolonged and sleepy. Eventually we broke into groups for workshops.

The sun was streaming through the trees and energy was high--the forest was humming. Enthusiastic roleplays went on in the Jobs and the Environment workshop, where people gained some new perspectives. After lunch, there were more sessions; some people chose to take part in a Ruckus Society-style climbing workshop where everyone got a chance to go up in a tree, learn knots, safety, etc. Then most of the Gather-ers went off on a hike. When it grew dark a group which had stayed behind to make dinner was surprised by a bunch of loggers who stopped by to chat--we offered them spaghetti but it was refused.

Once the hikers arrived, conversations grew tense but both sides listened to each other. Eventually a few loggers who had been joking around by the campfire decided we were harmless and went home. Unfortunately, one gentleman who had been belligerent from the start finally lost it and threatened one of us. However, the situation was dealt with and the loggers didn't come back; apparently the police intercepted a car full of them as it was driving away. After we discussed our reactions, there was some fine music by folksinger Matt Peters while folks sat around relaxing at the end of a tiring but exciting day.

Next morning--wolf howls got us out of bed. Then breakfast, one more workshop and some planning for the demo at Shingle Mill. Not everyone stayed for the banner drop and Zero Circle, but overall the weekend was a success.

An amazing community was built in a very short time. People came away with some new skills, some inspiration, and above all a love for and for many a commitment to defending the Allegheny Forests.



Photo by Chris Strohm

At the end of the Fall Gathering, Meghan Fay (left) and Tim Doody (right) hung a banner, and folks celebrated the beauty of the Shingle Mill timber sale site.

ADP FAMILY WEEKEND

By Tommy Watkiss

A weekend of environmental fun took place in the Alleghenies July 30th to August 1st. The festival took place on the peaceful Loleta campsite outside of Marienville. Workshops included Forest Watch by Jim Kleissler, Zero Cut by Susan Curry, and Forest Mapping by Mark Goldberg. All workshops were informative and fun. The Zero Cut and Forest Watch workshops included action packets for individuals to become more active and more aware of eco-struggles.

Although the attendance was not high, the folks that did show up had a great time learning about different things in the workshops, eating delicious vegan/vegetarian food (cooked by Alexander Denmark, Pittsburgh Coordinator), and a special guest performance by the one and only Robert Hoyt. Robert topped off the rainy night with a great set of songs including Why Should I Care?, Bottom Line, Hemlock Grove, and my personal favorite, Quittin Time, along with many others.

I hope everyone had as good a time as I did, and I hope to see a family weekend take place next year!

The ADP Traveling Workshop

By Meghan Fay, Buffalo Coordinator

Well, considering it was the second week of school and the Tuesday after Labor Day, I guess I shouldn't have expected too many people to show. However, there were about twenty people gathered in a room at the University at Buffalo who attended the traveling ADP workshop given by Jim Kleissler and Tim Doody. Those who attended, both the informed as well as newcomers to these topics, were given information on the issues surrounding the Allegheny National Forest. Everything from the history of the Allegheny Defense Project to current struggles that are continuing to plague our national forests was covered in just under three hours at this intensive workshop. And of course there was time set aside for eating the wonderful vegetarian meals that some folks had prepared.

Jim began with an overview of forest management techniques and showed how our national forests, once recognized as sacred places are now being defined by dollar signs and clearcuts. Not a happy story, but one necessary to tell in order to understand how our government has let this destruction occur. There were some looks of astonishment and groans of disbelief as Jim told the stories of the once-protected lands to what now seems to be either areas that have been clearcut or will be. The various aspects of Forest Watch were discussed as Jim described his walks through demolished areas, the unending battles with the Forest Service, the work to save the Indiana bat, and the feeling of loss that is inevitable as the cutting continues. I think if there's one thing that people learned from Jim's talk, it was that there is so much work to be done to save the Allegheny from further devastation, but that it is a realistic, conceivable goal.

After a short intermission with lots of tasty food Tim began speaking about the Zero-Cut campaign and how the ADP is one

of many organizations from all over the country whose mission is to end commercial logging within our national forests. The understanding that ADP is part of a nation wide movement to end logging on our public lands is quite encouraging and was helpful to the folks who may have been overwhelmed by this wealth of knowledge of the ecological devastation which has been occurring for too long. In addition, folks were truly inspired by their increased awareness of the mobilization of a national movement to save our wild lands. By educating people on these issues we can hope to bring the realization of the forest 'disservice' to the attention of the communities and to our representatives.

In regards to involving folks in the political realm of the fight for our forests, Tim also discussed the National Forest Protection and Restoration Act (NFPRA) that will protect and preserve our forest heritage. Since its reintroduction to Congress just this past spring by Representative Cynthia McKinney and Representative Jim Leach, many have been trying to do outreach to various populations on the benefits that this bill would provide for our communities and nation as a whole. The attendees were given the information and the tools to contact each of their own representatives to encourage them to pass this bill which will, among other things, protect our national forests, save taxpayer dollars, and encourage the use of more sustainable, non-wood materials. Involving the students and community members in writing letters and making phone calls is essential in letting our voices be heard and committing ourselves to protecting our endangered national forests. Those who attended the traveling workshop were given a great opportunity to become involved in an increasing mass movement towards a more sustainable future by starting with the issues that are occurring right in our backyard.

Philly Group off to a Great Start!

By Cynthia Cooperman

The Fall Gathering of the Allegheny Defense Project drew a significant contingent from Philadelphia. It turns out that there are quite a few of us urban dwellers who are also interested in preserving our forests. Some of us had already met, but for a lot of people it was a chance to link up and get in touch with local contacts to create a common ground with people in the neighborhood. As we realized at the gathering a clear and unified mind of many can be a powerful influence in which we become more than the sum of our parts. Camping in the Tionesta wilderness, hiking through the old growth and participating in the many constructive workshops that the Allegheny Defense project organized gave us inspiration and fresh energy that we brought back with us to Philadelphia.

We immediately began to have weekly group meetings to strengthen and unify our efforts in the city. Our main focus has been to gain the local support of individuals, businesses, and organizations for the National Forest Protection and Restoration Act. Through this we were able to bring several endorsements to

Washington D.C. on our lobbying trip October 25th. We have also been actively trying to bring forest issues to the attention of the media through letters to the editors of local newspapers as well as freelance articles about the Fall Gathering. We were also blessed with the guest attendance of Gina Giazsoni who is now working on linking environmentalist and labor issues in an upcoming communication project. We helped to brainstorm and raise energy for this event.

Philadelphia is also on the verge of creating its very own Earth First! chapter. The group intends to focus a lot of attention on forest issues among its various environmental actions.

Our goals for the future are to create a local environmental caucus among the various groups in Philadelphia so we can unify our efforts and create a more powerful political voice in protecting our National forest and its delicate ecological balance.

Many thanks to the ADP in all of their efforts and in planting the seed for a local chapter here in the City of Brotherly Love.

Getting the Cut Out (Cont. from cover)

appear legal, began by mis-quoting the Federal Regulations under the National Environmental Policy Act, cleverly displacing the term EA where the law says EIS. Strangely, the Forest Service stated that because there were no regulations governing Supplemental Environmental Assessments, that they could simply make up their own! Flawed logic? We think so.

The Forest Service's deceit went deeper than that. In order to ensure that we were not left in the dark regarding what was going into their new "supplemental" EAs we filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request at the end of July. While the Forest Service dragged out their response to our request two timber industry groups filed FOIA requests of their own. It took the Forest Service less than 1 week to comply in full with the requests from the timber industry. So, even though the timber industry filed their FOIA requests over a week after the ADP, the timber groups would get their responses first. And when we finally got our response, the Forest Service simply pretended the records we were requesting didn't exist.

By mid-August the Forest Service had released 14 new "supplemental" EAs for public comment. The plan was to ram 45 timber sales down the public's throats by the end of the year. The first public comment period (for the Shingle Mill Timber Sale) closed on September 15 along with 4 others. The Forest Service received our mailed in comments on Friday, September 17, 1999.

On Monday, September 20, 1999, the Forest Service approved the Shingle Mill Timber Sale, somehow claiming that they had reviewed the entire 500 page+ Project File, reviewed 261 comment letters consisting of more than 500 pages of public comment, seriously and scrupulously addressed those comments raised by the public, and responded to those comments in a reasonable fashion all in less than 72 hours. The claim, of course, was that the public raised **no** issues that suggested that they needed to change the timber sale.

In their response to public comments on the sales, the Forest Service failed to meaningfully address the comments received and concerns raised (no surprise there.) Concerns outlined in public comment (such as the concerns with the failure of the Forest Service to complete the amendment to the Forest Plan before issuing Supplemental Environmental Assessments) were met with curt responses such as, "We are within the parameters of the directions the Forest Service needs to comply with NEPA standards." (Interestingly, the concern to which this reply was given had to do with the National Forest Management Act, not the National Environmental Policy Act.)

Appalled at the Forest Service's actions, on Monday, September 27, the Allegheny Defense Project notified them of our intent to sue on that Wednesday. Within 48 hours the Forest Service would approve the other 13 timber sales in the very same fashion as Shingle Mill. In fact, each and every decision was the same word for word.

On September 29, 1999, the Allegheny Defense Project, Mike Kaizar, Elly Kaizar, Jim Kleissler, and Heartwood, Inc. filed suit in Federal court to continue the moratorium on clearcutting the Allegheny National Forest, thereby protecting Threatened and Endangered species. The case is being heard in the District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, in Pittsburgh, by Judge Donetta Ambrose, the same judge who heard a case filed by the ADP in January of this year.

ADP had asked for a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) and preliminary injunction which would halt any logging while the judge could fully consider the case. Judge Ambrose, in September, ruled that she would not grant the TRO at that time, in order to allow the Defendants (the Forest Service and Northeast Hardwoods, a subsidiary of National Fuel which holds the contract on the Shingle Mill timber sale) the time to respond to our brief. The Forest Service and Northeast Hardwoods was given until October 22 to file a response, and the ADP was given until October 27 to file a reply.

Attorney Bill Luneberg is representing the plaintiffs, *pro bono*. Bill has also represented the ADP in several other cases, including the successful Mortality II case and the January endangered species lawsuit. Bill has done incredible work for the ADP and for the Allegheny. Many, many thanks to him and to co-counsel Tom Linzey for all the work they've done to protect the Allegheny. Jim Bensman of Heartwood has also been a tremendous help in this lawsuit. Our sincerest thanks to him and to Heartwood as well!

We are now awaiting the judge's decision. Clearly the Forest Service has once again failed to follow laws designed to protect our national forests and acted arbitrarily and capriciously...we hope the Court will agree.

As for the other 31 timber sales, the Forest Service has remained silent ever since we filed the lawsuit. They have been silent despite the fact that they had planned to release 28 of those timber sales by the end of November. Forest defenders must beware! These 31 timber sales could go up for public comment any day now! To get on the mailing lists for these timber sales write John Palmer, Allegheny National Forest Supervisor at PO Box 847, Warren, PA 16365. You can also e-mail Palmer at John.Palmer/r9_allegheny@fs.fed.us or call him at (814) 723-5150.

Toxic Waste (Cont. from page 7)

designed and had built with his father over twenty-five years ago. "This is what I've worked my whole adult life for. I can't sell this house and this land...I couldn't do that to someone. And this isn't just a house. I can look at this wall and remember the jokes Dad told when were trying to raise it. And the trouble we had putting the second floor on. It's full of memories."

Pennsylvania has long been considered a dumping ground for the by-products of American industry. Northwest PA provides a prime location for toxic dumping—legal and illegal. A rural area, economically depressed, with relatively low education levels, Northwest PA is just the kind of area that corporate CEOs salivate over. The Grines have shown incredible courage, working to show that these companies and government agencies cannot get away with murder.

The Grines today are in need of legal and financial support. Checks can be made out to Robert Grine and sent to him at PO Box 511, Tionesta, PA 16353. For more information, or to offer legal support you can contact the Grines' attorney, Jan Haggetson, at (724) 336-5962.

ACTION ALERT

U.S. Forest Service Drafts New Planning Regulations

Public Comments Due on February 3, 2000

By Jim Kleissler

The National Forest Management Act (NFMA) requires that the Forest Service develop a Forest Plan for each of our 155 National Forests. The Forest Plans set out the goals for the amount of trees to be logged as well as what kinds of protections threatened and endangered species are provided. To ensure that the Forest Plans are consistent with the NFMA, the Forest Service had developed a set of regulations that guide what must be included in each Forest Plan. Now, the Forest Service has rewritten those regulations and released a draft version for public comment.

The Forest Plan for each national forest guides all of the activities to be implemented on that forest. The Allegheny National Forest's Forest Plan, for example, sets high goals for timber production. At the same time protections for Threatened and Endangered species and recreation opportunities are given low priority in the existing Plan. These are the goals that have lead to disastrous projects such as Mortality II, the Minister Valley Timber Sale, and the East Side Project. Fortunately, we have an opportunity to change this as the Forest Service undergoes an amendment to the Forest Plan specifically for threatened and endangered species.

But the Forest Service is attempting to fix the Allegheny's fate at a higher level. While the existing federal regulations that guide what must be included in the Allegheny Forest Plan are generally not very strong, the Forest Service is re-writing them to make them weaker. The result looks to be that important requirements such as the maintenance of bio-diversity are now to be left up to the discretion of Forest Service officials like John Palmer. It is hard to believe, but the Forest Service actually hopes to implement regulations that will rely on the discretion of the same officials who are now trying to get the cut out at the expense of all other uses and values of the Forest.

Where the existing NFMA Planning regulations require that the Forest Service maintain inventories of plant and wildlife populations to ensure that viable populations of those species are maintained, the new regulations are weaker, stating that those inventories will only be required in certain unique circumstances. Given the fact that the Forest Service has failed to implement these inventories (and have recently lost cases in Georgia, Texas, and the Pacific Northwest on this very issue) the new regulations appear to be an attempt to do an end run around this requirement.

The tricky thing is that the Forest Service hopes to weaken environmental protections, but are doing this in part by using key phrases that appear to emphasize environmental protections. One problem is that the im-

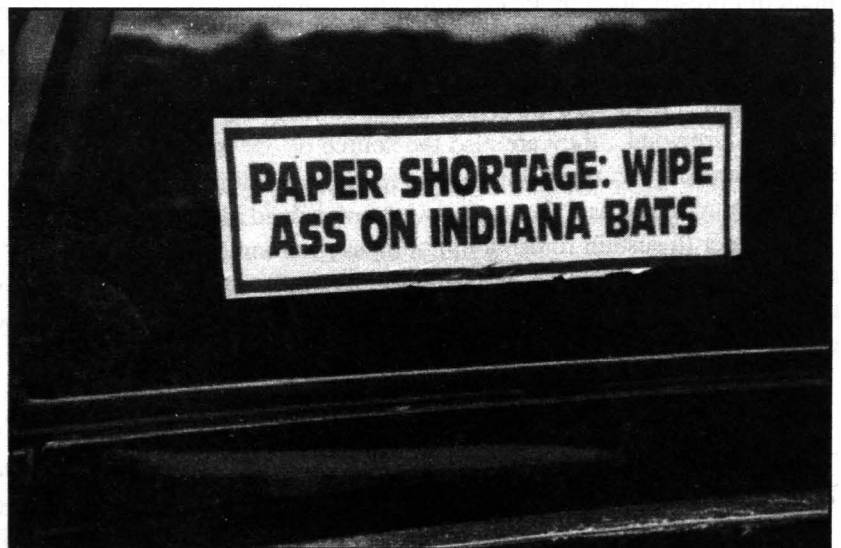
portant protections become caged in vague, unenforceable concepts like sustainability while logging objectives are set out in concrete numbers and priorities.

Most troublesome is the fact that the proposed regulations do a poor job of actually following the guidelines of the law they are based on the National Forest Management Act. The NFMA set out in some detail the requirements that these regulations are supposed to follow (see 16 U.S.C. 1604(g).) Where the NFMA clearly states that the Planning regulations must be consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which requires substantial public involvement in major environmental decisions, the new planning regulations actually seek to remove a large part of the planning process from NEPA guidance, virtually guaranteeing that the drafting, revising, and amending of Forest Plans will proceed with decreased public influence.

As you can see, the consequences of these new draft planning regulations are tremendous. If they proceed as the Forest Service plans they could result in weaker protections for biodiversity and recreation interests with heightened timber outputs. To make sure this isn't the case **we need you to get involved.** Copies of the Draft regulations can be obtained from the Forest Service at (406) 329-3388. Copies of the Allegheny National Forest's existing Forest Plan are available at (814) 723-5150. For more information about the proposal contact our office at (814) 223-4996 or visit our web page at www.enviroweb.org/adp.

Q: What's Wrong with this Picture??

See answers below...



A: 1) There are no toilet paper products in the region. 2) Less than 4% of the wood products used in the U.S. come from our national forests. 3) The Allegheny is logged for expensive veneer, not tp. 4) Making paper products from trees is wasteful.

Loggers (Continued from page 3)

the timber industry were truly concerned with job loss they would focus on reversing the trend in decreasing blue collar work.

Who is responsible for the decrease in manufacturing jobs? The local newspapers and politicians might blame "preservationists," "environmentalists," or maybe even "radical crazies." (a term some of us find to be endearing.) Of course, the loss of these jobs came well before the ADP began its zero-cut campaign. It seems that the ADP has become one of the scape-goats for a systematic problem that has led to a shrinking blue collar job base.

The timber industry's solution to this crisis, expressed by the Allegheny Forest Alliance, an industry-supported local wise-use group, is "to try to stabilize the timber program on the Allegheny National Forest." How will the continuation of logging strengthen communities enough to reverse the trends leading to a disappearance of manufacturing jobs in this region? Quite simply, it won't.

In addition to manufacturing jobs decreasing, people are moving out of the Allegheny region. All four counties (McKean Elk, Forest, and Warren) in the Allegheny Forest region showed a decrease in population from 1980 to 1990. The fastest-shrinking sector was the 18-24 year olds which decreased by about 25%.

Statistically speaking, more young people are getting a college education in these counties. From 1980 to 1990, Warren County saw the number of people enrolled in college more than double, McKean and Elk County's college enrollment increased by 50%, while Forest County's enrollment increased by 10%. It's unlikely that increased logging will bring college graduates back to the region.

An approach that recognizes these trends in human and non-human population shifts is necessary to build economically and environmentally viable communities. The ADP recognizes that the Allegheny region can no longer afford to sacrifice important communities for the benefit of the timber industry. In order to find community-based solutions to bring strong and healthy communities back to the Allegheny region, the ADP has begun listening projects with folks across the region.

The ADP also recently signed on to the Houston Principles (see side bar) which acknowledge that the battle for jobs and the battle for a clean environment both need to target unaccountable corporations. The principles have been signed by over 150 labor and environmental groups including the United Steelworkers of America.

The Steelworkers recently brought a lawsuit against the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. They contend that California's forestry plan authorizes unsustainably high harvests of old growth timber and fails to consider the long-range economic impacts. Don Kegley, a petitioner and steelworker in the lawsuit said "Forests are the source of our building materials, our paper, our furniture, our firewood...they are also the source of our water, our fish, our climatic stability and our clean air. Without the forest, our culture will crumble, and worse, our planet will die. And there are no jobs on a dead planet."

In order to sustain forest communities, environmentalists, workers and community members need to come together. We need to seek non-destructive solutions that build and sustain the disappearing communities in the Allegheny region which thrive in a healthy forest.

The Allegheny Defense Project has developed a Jobs and the Environment Working Group to delve more deeply into this issue. If you're interested, contact the ADP at (814) 223-4996 or adp@envirolink.org!

Houston Principles (cont. from pg. 3)

We believe that:

A healthy future for the economy and the environment requires a dynamic alliance between labor, management, and environmental advocates.

The same forces that threaten economic and biological sustainability undermine the democratic process.

The drive for short-term profits without regard for long-term sustainability hurts working people, communities, and the earth.

Labor, environmental and community groups need to take action to organize as a counter-balance to abusive corporate power.

The environmental and labor advocates who have signed these principles resolve to work together to:

Remind the public that the original purpose behind the creation of corporations was to serve the public interest - namely working people, communities, and the earth.

Seek stricter enforcement of labor laws and advocate for new laws to guarantee working people their right to form unions and their right to bargain collectively.

Make workplaces, communities and the planet safer by reducing waste and greenhouse gas emissions.

Demand that global trade agreements include enforceable labor and environmental standards.

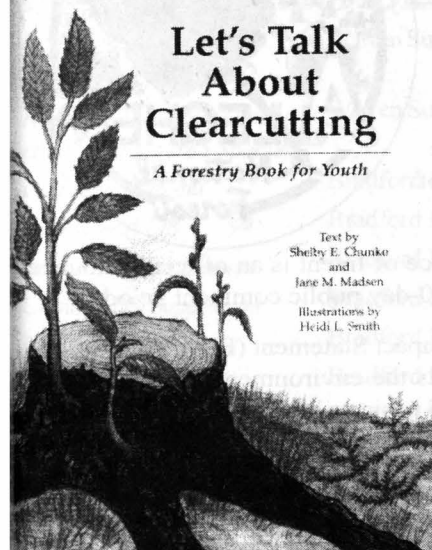
Promote forward-thinking business models that allow for sustainability over the long term while protecting working people, communities, and the environment.

This ground-breaking alliance of labor and environmentalists invites all people to join with us in a spirit of creative cooperation. Together, we can forge a partnership that protects people and the planet.

Book Review

Clearcutting for Kids – Your Tax Dollars at ~~Work~~ Waste...

By Arthur Clark, Harrisburg Coordinator



The Pennsylvania Forestry Association, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR) Bureau of Forestry, has produced and distributed a new timber industry propaganda book. This would be of little note if it were not for the fact that taxpayer money was spent to aid in the publication of this book. Furthermore, this book is aimed squarely at children. Chil-

children who will not recognize it for what it is: timber industry propaganda.

Entitled *Let's Talk About Clearcutting: A Forestry Book for Youth*, this book is notably thin on informational content. Rather than its pages are spent deceiving children into believing that when it is done properly there are no negative consequences to clearcutting. Not one of the many well-documented negative impacts of clearcutting are adequately discussed in the book. The book further deceives children by showing them pretty sketches of the forest, and sanitized sketches of logged areas, rather than photos showing the devastation caused by clearcutting.

The targets of the book do not end with children. The book's preface, signed by DCNR State Forester Jim Grace, states clearly that he hopes children will share the message of beneficial clearcutting with their parents. One must wonder how many parents have the knowledge and the time to give their children the other side of the story about clearcutting.

Ultimately, the book does the most to misinform children by perpetuating two myths which form the bases for traditional forestry and the practice of clearcutting. The first is the unspoken assumption that forests need to be logged for their own good. This is an article of faith among foresters and many others in the forest products industry. It is taken for granted, despite the fact that it has no basis in scientific research. Indeed, it has been shown that certain kinds of logging practices can increase the short term productivity and quality of commercial timber grown in a particular site. The huge logical leap from there to the commonplace general statements by foresters about how for-

ests benefit tremendously from being logged is without any basis in ecological science. This book perpetuates and reinforces this myth by equating the re-growth of desirable trees with an improvement in the health of the forest.

The second myth reinforced by this book is that there is something inherently deficient in natural tree regeneration in forests that are not logged. The book talks in heavy tones about poor, pathetic black cherry seedlings having to wait and wait for adjacent trees to be blown down before they can get the bright direct sunlight that they need to grow quickly. It sounds awful, these poor little seedlings being oppressed by the shade of the big mean trees around them. In reality, of course, it is perfectly natural for shade intolerant seedlings to grow poorly in the shade of other trees. Given the tiny percentage of the forest that is naturally made up of black cherry trees, there is nothing ecologically wrong with having very few of them. It is the high monetary value of black cherry trees for timber that gives rise to the great concern of foresters for growing as many of them as possible. As one might have imagined, that fact is not mentioned in the book.

It remains to be seen how much the environmental education of Pennsylvania's youth will be polluted by the misinformation of *Let's Talk About Clearcutting*. The book has been in print and in distribution for some time. Efforts are ongoing to determine how widely it has been distributed. Let us know if you see it in your local schools or libraries.

To voice your concern about this propaganda, contact James Grace, Director of the Bureau of Forestry, P.O. Box 8552, Harrisburg, PA, 17105-8552, or (717) 787-2703.

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Help Protect the Allegheny National Forest. Put your energy into the grassroots movement by supporting the Allegheny Defense Project (ADP)!

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Supporters receive a full year's subscription to our newsletter, the *Hellbender Journal*, Environmental Action Alerts, and Special Event Invitations and discounts.

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Volunteers who contribute 5 hours or more of service to the ADP are awarded full supporter status as part of the ADP Activist Corps.

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☐ e-mail ☐ fax ☐ mail

☐ I would prefer to read the *Hellbender Journal* on the internet rather than receive it by mail.

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Your donation directly supports grassroots organizing, ongoing appeals and litigation, and education and outreach projects.

Allegheny Defense Project

PO Box 245

Clarion, PA 16214

(814) 223-4996

adp@envirolink.org

www.enviroweb.org/adp

TOTAL DONATIONS - \$ _____

*Make checks out to the Allegheny Defense Project.

EYES ON THE FOREST SERVICE

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



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814/723-5150

John Schultz, District Ranger
Bradford Ranger District
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Bradford, PA 16701
814/362-4613

Leon Blashok, District Ranger
Marienville Ranger District
Star Route #2, Box 130
Marienville, PA 16239
814/927-6628

For more info contact:

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THE ADP QUICK GUIDE TO PUBLIC COMMENTING!

The National Environmental Policy Act, passed in 1969, mandates that all National Forest Actions of environmental consequence must undergo a public comments process. The public comments process is your opportunity to speak up in defense of our public forests. Here is how the process works:

Scoping/Notice of Intent (NOI): The Scoping Notice or Notice of Intent is an official announcement of a proposed timber sale and is typically followed by a 30-day public comment period.

Draft Environmental Document: The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Environmental Assessment (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 (excluding CEs) is followed by another public comment period. The EA and EIS are required to consider alternative methods of "managing" our forests.

DN/FONSI: The Decision Notice and Finding Of No Significant Impact. The DN/FONSI follows EAs where the Forest Service concludes there is no need for an EIS because the sale will not have "significant" environmental impacts. The DN/FONSI is followed by a 45 day appeal period.

Record of Decision: When an EIS is done the Forest Service issues a Record of Decision which documents their decision on whether or not to go ahead with the Project. The Record of Decision is also appealable.

TIMBER SALE PROJECT CALENDAR!

It is every US Citizen's "property right" to comment on how our government intends to use our public lands. The vast woodlands that we call our national forests have been treated as publicly subsidized tree farms for big industry for too long. Only you can stop the U.S. Forest Service from clearcutting our public lands by providing public comments on the timber sales listed below.

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Office/District</u>	<u>Status to Date</u>	<u>What's Next?</u>
APPROVED PROJECTS...			
<i>Dalmation Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Supplemental EA Approved on 09/28/99	Approved for cutting on 09/28/99
<i>Donatello Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Supplemental EA Approved on 09/28/99	Approved for cutting on 09/28/99
<i>Hague Well Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Supplemental EA Approved on 09/28/99	Approved for cutting on 09/28/99
<i>Leprechaun Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Supplemental EA Approved on 09/28/99	Bids for this sale opened on 11/3/99
<i>Minister Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Supplemental EA Approved on 09/28/99	Actively being cut/ Bids opened on 11/16
<i>Shingle Mill Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Supplemental EA Approved on 09/20/99 ADP/Heartwood Filed Suit on 09/29/99	Actively being cut/ Waiting on Judge's ruling on motion to stop cutting
<i>Swede Hill Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Supplemental EA Approved on 09/28/99	Approved for cutting on 09/28/99
<i>Beaver Dam Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Supplemental EA Approved on 09/27/99	Bids for this sale opened on 11/24/99
<i>Deer Fence Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Supplemental EA Approved on 09/27/99	Bids for this sale opened on 11/18/99
<i>Gladwater Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Supplemental EA Approved on 09/27/99	Approved for cutting on 09/27/99
<i>Hastings Run Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Supplemental EA Approved on 09/27/99	Bids for this sale opened on 11/18/99
<i>Mother nature Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Supplemental EA Approved on 09/27/99	Bids for this sale opened on 11/24/99
<i>Porter's Prize Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Supplemental EA Approved on 09/27/99	Actively being cut
<i>Song Bird Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Supplemental EA Approved on 09/27/99	Bids for this sale opened on 11/4/99

PROJECTS PENDING FINAL DECISIONS...

<i>North Fork Chappel</i>	Bradford District	EA Comment Period Closed in 5/98	Decision after Final EIS for T&E Amendment
<i>Brookston</i>	Marienville District	EA Comment Period Closed in 6/98	Decision after Final EIS for T&E Amendment
<i>Crop Tree Release II</i>	Marienville District	Scoping Comments on CE Close in 4/98	Decision after Final EIS for T&E Amendment

TIMBER SALE PROJECT CALENDAR! (CONTINUED...)

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Office/District</u>	<u>Status to Date</u>	<u>What's Next?</u>
PROJECTS PENDING DRAFT EAS OR EISS...			
<i>East Side EIS (a.k.a. Mortality II)</i>	Warren Supervisor's Office	NOI comment period closed in 4/98	Draft EIS planned for after Draft EIS for the Forest Plan T&E Amendment
<i>Plan Amendment-Threatened/ Endangered Species Coho Supplement</i>	Warren Supervisor's Office	NOI comment period closed in 3/99	Draft EIS expected in January of 2000
<i>Duck Sheriff EIS</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 4/23/94	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000 same as for East Side EIS
<i>Dunkle Trail Supplement</i>	Bradford District	NOI Comment Period closed in 3/99	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Grand Valley Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 10/30/91	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Hammer Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 4/3/97	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Major Dad Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 6/15/95	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Pierson Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 3/28/94	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Pigeon Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 3/11/94	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Railroad Grade Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Previously approved	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Riverview Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 8/13/92	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Robbie Run Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 3/11/94	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Six Pipes Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 11/18/94	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>S. Br. Willow Creek Supp.</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 1/18/96	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Texas Tea Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 4/27/97	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Thirty Something Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 2/24/94	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Turnup Run Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 8/6/93	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Whispering Pines Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 4/2/96	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Wintergreen Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 9/24/92	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Wolf Pigeon Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 12/14/95	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Bald Hill Supplement</i>	Bradford District	Originally approved on 2/27/97	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Big Run EIS</i>	Marienville District	Originally approved on 9/16/93	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000 same as for East Side EIS
<i>Brush Creek EIS</i>	Marienville District	NOI Comment period closed in 3/99	same as for East Side EIS
<i>Carlo Supplement</i>	Marienville District	NOI Comment period closed in 3/99	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Derringer Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Previously approved	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Eagle Mills Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Originally approved on 9/30/91	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Goose Pond EIS</i>	Marienville District	Originally approved on 5/22/96	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Greeley Farm Supplement</i>	Marienville District	NOI Comment period closed in 3/99	same as for East Side EIS
<i>Grouse Garden Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Originally approved on 8/19/94	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Hoffman Farm Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Originally approved on 7/8/93	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Lame Skunk Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Originally approved on 1/30/95	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Reservoir Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Originally approved on 6/21/91	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Three Mile Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Originally approved on 3/11/96	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Tree Mortality Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Previously approved	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Watson town Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Originally approved on 6/29/95	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
<i>Wolf Run Supplement</i>	Marienville District	Previously approved	Supplemental EA expected in early 2000
PROJECTS PENDING SCOPING/NOTICE OF INTENTS...			
<i>Forest Plan Revision</i>	Warren Supervisor's Office	Originally approved on 5/9/95	Expected to proceed in 2000
<i>Couny Line/Four Mile Watershed EIS</i>	Bradford District	Held up by Congress for Plan Regulations	Notice of intent delayed but expected in 2000
		Notice of Intent was planned for 11/99	

Visit our Web page at www.enviroweb.org/adp for more information on how to stop timber sales on our Allegheny National Forest!

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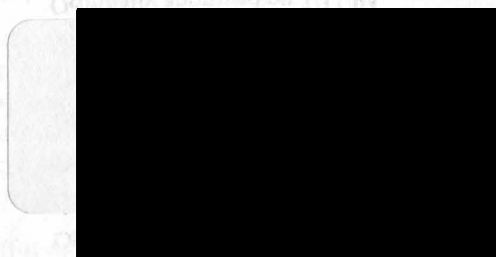
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