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Hellbender Journal 4, no. 2


HELLBENDER JOURNAL
The Activist Journal of the Allegheny Defense Project
Vol. 4, No. 2 — Defending Allegheny Forests — Summer Issue 1998
ACTIVISTS OCCUPY FOREST SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE IN FIRST EVER ALLEGHENY CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE
by Adam Weissman, NYC Earth First!
Warren PA: Radical environmentalists staged a dramatic direct action to tell John Palmer, Allegheny National Forest Supervisor, that the Forest Service, that the defenders of the green world just stand by silently as Western Pennsylvania's Allegheny National Forest is destroyed.
On Wednesday, May 20, members of NYC Earth First!/Federal Lands Action Group entered John Palmer's office in the Allegheny National Forest, disrupting a meeting. Herein Palmer was not in attendance. The meeting was to discuss the Heart's Content Timber Project, the largest proposed timber sale east of the Mississippi. These activists, with chains attached to carbiners (climbing hooks) around their wrists, and metal pipes (see sidebar on page 19) on their right arms, sat on the floor of the office. Each activist stuck his or her left arm inside the pipe on the right arm of the person to his or her left, forming a circle. Once their arms were inside the pipes, they clipped the carbiners to the pipes, locking themselves together. Each activist was locked his neck to rest of the other's arms with a Schwinn 11-shaped bicycle lock and then crushed the key with pliers. This anchored the group, so any attempt to move them by police or forest service employees would have been likely to break the neck of the fourth activist.
Meanwhile, a second team attempted to scale the building from the outside to drop a banner that read, "Stop the Heart Sole Project." Their was able to reach the top of the building, but not [illegible]
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WARNING: THE ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST
Write to Allegheny Forest Supervisor John Palmer and demand an end to the Heart's Content Timber Sale in Allegheny!!

Hellbender Journal 4, no. 2, front page

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Hellbender Journal is a voice for forest activists working towards the protection of the Allegheny Forests in Pennsylvania. In this issue, Sam Hays explains the many external forces and circumstances affecting the Allegheny National Forest, encouraging readers to regard them constructively and with an eye for opportunities.

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On Wednesday, May 20, members of NYC Earth First!/Federal Lands Action Group entered John Palmer's office in the Allegheny National Forest, disrupting a meeting therein (Palmer was not in attendance). The group announced their opposition to the East Side Project, the largest proposed timber sale east of the Mississippi.

—Adam Weissman, NYC Earth First!

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- Taylor, Bron. "Radical Environmentalism's Print History: From Earth First! to Wild Earth." http://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/5647

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- http://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/index.html

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