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Earth First!

EOSTAR 1992

THE RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL

MARCH 21

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THREE DOLLARS

Earth First!ers In Eight Cities Protest Sea Turtle Killings

BY CANDACE/OCEANS TASK FORCE

The week of January 20 to 24, 1992 was one Japanese diplomats will not soon forget. Sea turtle defenders of all stripes turned out en masse at eight of the Japanese consulates in North America to protest Japan's continued support for the slaughter of the hawksbill sea turtle, an internationally listed endangered species. So, what did we accomplish? Well, soon after the action week Japan announced it had dropped its reservation (basically a loophole clause) on the importation of the skin of olive ridley turtles under the

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species. Next goal; get them to drop the reservation on hawksbills.

The campaign was spearheaded by the Earth First! Oceans Task Force, working with financial help from the Earth First! Foundation and the Direct Action Fund, and material and research support from Earth Island Institute's Sea Turtle Restoration Project. Earth First!ers and animal activists got in the faces of the bloodstained in lots of creative ways.

In San Francisco and Los Angeles, the "Trojan Turtle" made its theatrical debut to admiring crowds. This 12-foot wood-and-foam-rubber masterpiece was constructed by Bay Area EF! and features a neck which all-too-easily gets separated from its body (just like the real thing!) and spews blood all over the damn place. Very graphic and photogenic. Veteran activists in that festering megalopolis were astounded when no fewer than five TV stations turned out, as well as the LA Times, a Japanese-language TV station and a Japanese wire service. Two banners got hung, and local activists later met with the consul to discuss the issue.

In San Francisco the turtle was gleefully murdered by two 12-foot-tall business suits who underscored the motives behind their filthy deed by throwing masses of money on and around the unfortunate corpse. Watch out, Japan! The Trojan Turtle walks (swims?), bent on avenging decades of decimation.

Press was also good in Seattle (Associated Press, National Public Radio, CNN, lots of local TV) and Chicago, where both local papers carried the story. In Chicago folks from the consulate came downstairs where a street theater skit



Photo by Sara Meghrouni

National Day of Outrage Against the Forest Service April 22

BY DANIEL BARRON

This year on John Muir's birthday, April 21, EF!ers across the country will converge on the US Forest Service to confront, expose, ridicule, laugh, sing, and shout the Freddie out of their death-camp offices. Some will demonstrate peaceably in front of our local National Forest Headquarters. Others may be confrontational: taking over offices, chaining ourselves to Freddie furniture, delivering sawdust, cow pies, stumps and other souvenirs of National Forest mismanagement. Some participants may act less publicly, within the National Forests. Regardless of how actions take shape, the ole EF! creativity will undoubtedly shine through. You decide what is appropriate or needed in your area.

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starring a giant turtle, a seven-foot grim reaper and a Japanese businessman was performed for their benefit. Atlanta, Washington DC, Kansas City and Vancouver BC also had good actions, with activists turning out in nifty turtle costumes with lots of savvy visual aids. Nationally, CNN covered the issue on their "Network Earth" program. Translated press releases were sent out by activists in Mexico, Thailand and Japan. GOOD JOB EVERYONE! The Oceans Task Force thanks you and loves you forever.

Followers of this issue may remember
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Buffalo Bill Meets Earth First!

BY ANDY COLLINS

Whoever said Buffalo Bill was long dead was naively wrong. We met him a few days ago in West Yellowstone. In fact, we met several bloodsucking Bills reincarnated as veterinary scientists and gun-toting helicopter cowboys. Today's Bill doesn't kill for skins, meat, or as a means of starving out the Plains Indians. He kills in the name of the livestock industry with the claim of protecting those genetic mutant land slugs from "dangerous" brucellosis-infected bison.

It is Dr. Buffalo Bill Davis' biased studies "proving" brucellosis transmission between bison and cattle which have been behind most of the bison slaughters to date. Davis works for the Texas Agriculture and Mining University. Already this winter 240+ bison have been killed

When our feet left the ground, everyone let go of the helicopter. Except Billbob. He held on.

just for crossing park boundaries into Montana—these carcasses were not appropriate for Davis's research?

Don Ferlicka, the Montana State Veterinarian explains perfectly the state's progressive approach to bison management. "Our position is that the bison don't belong in this state of Montana. Either the bison have to leave... or they have to be destroyed." A variety of tactics to persuade Ferlicka to change his mind had been tried. A meeting in which EF!ers challenged his assertions about brucellosis had no effect. Hurl-

ing recently-killed bison guts upon the general store of the Church Of The Universal and Triumphant (the fanatics responsible for 240+ bison deaths this winter) had no effect. Some midnight maintenance work on a park service vehicle had no effect. A hunt sab was definitely in order.

D.J. Shubert of the Fund For Animals and four of us Wild Rockies EF! types made an impromptu trip to West Yellowstone to stop Davis and cronies from killing the bison he'd been given a license to "harvest." We awoke in West Yellowstone to the pre-dawn buzzing of a plague of snowmobiles, suppressed the desire to injure the metallic vermin, jumped into our truck, and headed out to find the slaughter site. Just north of town we ditched the truck and donned x-country skis. We knew where the general area was, but not the specific site. After skiing for a half hour we heard several rounds of shots and knew the bison were dead. Defeated, we returned to the truck and headed out to the highway where we saw a helicopter cresting the tree-tops. Dangling beneath it was the carcass of a slaughtered bison. We sped down the highway and followed the petroleum-powered vulture.

At the landing site the carcasses were already
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Honduran Gov't Dumps Stone

The Honduran government rejected a proposed 40-year agreement with the Stone Container Corporation to exploit the pine forests of Honduras. The announcement of the government's decision came February 27 to a crowd of 3000 people gathered in the capital city of Tegucigalpa to protest this highly controversial proposal.

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EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

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Rebels in Utopia

BY ALEX WILLIAMS

In the last issue of *Wild Earth* is an essay by Roderick Nash outlining a vision for our 'finite spaceship' planet earth in the year 2992. Without a long-term vision of "what we want civilization to be like in a thousand years" he writes, we are like a "myopic skier" schussing unaware of cliffs ahead.

Nash has four objectives for his future, which I will severely abbreviate. One, that the human presence may be sustained, with numbers reduced to one-fourth the present population. Two, equal rights for all species. Three, a meaningful amount of wilderness remaining. And finally four, full development of the human intellectual and technological potential: "What's wrong with symphonies, universities and modern medical technology? Computers, television, and nuclear power are marvelous tools - if we only knew how to use them responsibly. And in a thousand years what wonders might exist? Technology, you see [don't you] is not the basic problem. Machines only express human values..."



My Editorial

Peggy Sue McRae

The eagles that fly still above this earth mean more to me than opinions. These salmon who every year return to lie in deep pools and splash along shoals i value more than eloquent concepts. —ALEX

Perhaps we should begin by wondering what values the creation of machines expresses—the centralized bureaucracies preparing and plotting manifest destinies, the drudging labor of mining raw 'resources' and assembling in factories and adjusting dials so a few 'intellectuals' and 'visionaries' can create their fantasies—Yuck! Ptooeey! How many of our fellow species must be displaced for our expressions of human values?

Or perhaps we could begin with Nash's underlying notion, that we need a vision. Tribals of this continent were known to look ahead seven generations when deciding actions of the present, ensuring to their future a continuity of diversity and beauty; enjoying today so that tomorrow is not disturbed. The theoretical abstract of a techno-utopia is, will always be, about tomorrow determining sacrifices of today. Nash's (& IBM's & Weyerhaeuser's & DuPont's & etc. ad nauseating) belief in "unlimited technological potentials" makes all the problems of the present irrelevant. Like christian heaven, the promise of technological perfection dangles before our eyes: Hypnotized we ignore the church's usurpation of our power, the destruction of our sacred groves and rituals; knocked senseless by neon lights and amplified noises we lose our soul. Fawning at the possibilities we ignore the crux of how we are able to live.

I don't want, don't believe in visions of separation. Nash's "intensely urban culture" would have all humans living in 500 "concentrated habitats" (little boxes on the hillside, little boxes all the same) venturing into the surrounding wilds for vision quests, adventure and spiritual enlightenment. Nash says he is opposed to the misanthropic notion humans should commit mass-suicide. But i see more similarities than differences in spaceship-utopias and human die-off. Both courses would keep us apart. If i were in his world of 2992 i would be a rebel of the 'wilds'; my love would compel me to call for my brothers and sisters stuck in urban technocracy to get into the flush of this pulsing earth's reality. Tear down the walls.

Our options are not either/or. Moving away from industrial technology does not necessarily mean a return to the stone-age, as Nash and many others

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BILL TURK 1953 -1992

BY ROGER CANDEE

I had tried to call Bill Turk several times over the past few months before his death. I could never catch him at home. When I received the word from friends of the avalanche that took Bill's life and several others in Utah, I was deeply saddened and wished I had tried more often to reach him.

On the other hand, as many of us who knew Bill must feel, I know he died doing something he loved and also doing something for others. If your number is up, what better way could it be called?

Bill's acid-tipped pen and misanthropic attitude hid a very sensitive and caring person. He was forever attacking the Earth-rapers with his art and his activism, and at the same time would give you the shirt off his back. When I think of Bill Turk, I recall a full moonlit night on the north rim of the Grand Canyon. An Earth First! rendezvous was going strong with campfires and controversy everywhere. Business as usual. Bill had this old bullwhip that he liked to crack on occasion, and this was one of them. So, Bill, myself, Lone Wolf, Chris Manes and Ron Huber got down to some very serious drinking and hell-raising. I guess we pissed off some folks, but they got over it.

So I'll wear Bill's "Defend Wilderness" t-shirt with a lot more pride now. He was a good friend, a fine artist, and I'll miss him.



EARTH FIRST!

Eostar

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Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or carefully printed and sent with an SASE if return is requested. Electronic submissions are even better, either on Macintosh disks or via Econet (send to "earthfirst") or fax it to 406-728-8160 on high (fine) resolution. Art or photographs (negatives are best, prints are good, and slides are so-so) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested. Please include explicit permission to reprint slides.

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EOSTAR: Spring Equinox March 20-23



P.S.M.

Eostar is the Saxon goddess of death and rebirth, a Teutonic variation of the Babylonian goddess Ishtar and the Canaanite goddess Astarte. She brings about regeneration and the first signs of spring. Eggs and rabbits, both time honored symbols of fertility, are the symbols of her feast. The hiding and hunting of brightly painted eggs is a fertility ritual in her honor.

The Christian celebration of Easter has taken its name from Eostar since the Middle Ages and is always on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox. The resur-

rection of Christ in the Christian ritual is cloaked in symbolism of earlier nature religions. The sacrificed god, like the sacrificed grain of the previous harvest, is taken into the earth only to emerge once more alive. Pre-lenten spring carnivals also have roots in this festival. Free licence was given for wanton sexual behavior. Originally this lasciviousness was intended to entice the gods to bestow their fertility on the tribe and tribal herds and fields. Eostar is from the same root word as the word estrus, the period of heat or rut in which females are in a maximum state of sexual receptivity. Rituals performed at this season blessed seeds and the fertility of the land.

Shit fer Brains



Everybody,
I don't care
who started it, I
want it stopped.
—MOM

All letters will be printed, unless they are a travesty. We will print a representative sample of letters expressing the same views. Contact us if you feel your opinion was not expressed. Please keep letters brief. Send letters to POB 5176, Missoula MT 59806. The opinions expressed here represent only their authors, and are not official positions of the Earth First! journal staff or movement.

journal because my puppy, Brautigan, is being housetrained and especially likes to take his thrice daily dump on the editorial section. I, Buck Young, further wish you check out people who are going around using my name, Buck Young.

—BUCK YOUNG

Dear SFB,

Well, someone out there is sure having fun. First a challenge by "Chim Blea" and then a reply by "Buck Young". The question is, did the person who wrote the Chim Blea letter write the Buck Young response, 'cuz I sure didn't.

—BUCK YOUNG

P.S. My compliments on some quality style-imitation. Much of the text of the letter was outtakes from my speeches and past writing. Gave the incriminating statements a real nice ring.

Dear Shit fer Branze,

I am writing to let you know that you are being duped and double duped and duped again. Buck Young IS Nancy Morton.

—SAL HALWASSER

Dear Poop-heads,

In this era of unparalleled environmental destruction, we need more defenders of wilderness. Every Earth Firster must be a point of light to prevent a dark environmental future.

I want you all to know that I truly appreciate all of your efforts, whether they be tree sits, roads blockades, monkeywrenching, and all of those other great things that you do! However, I can't go on national TV and say I support you. I hope you understand.

I must also continue to propose those stupid, environmentally destructive policies. How else do you expect me to radicalize our great nation? Do you really think I like Manny Lujan and Bill Rielly? Of course not! I am just trying to compel the American people to take environmental action.

Finally, I hear that there is going to be a big action at DuPont in Wilmington, Delaware on April 13th. I think that there is an article in the excellent publication somewhere mentioning it. It would make Barbara and I proud if you attended and screamed obscenities at that horrendous company.

Good luck!

—GEORGE BUSH THE "ENVIRONMENTAL" PRESIDENT

Together Again

The Fund for Wild Nature, formerly the Earth First! Foundation, has rescinded its earlier decision to exclude the Earth First! journal from funding. The journal is once again eligible to apply for funding.

The Fund for Wild Nature will be listed under EFL Projects in the Directory of each journal issue.

Needless to say, we are pleased at the Fund for Wild Nature's decision.

Please see page 18 for an article by and about the FWN.

Dear Readers,

We regret the appearance of the Trees are for Hanging graphic in the Brigid '92 journal. We are sorry that it offended some readers, but not surprised.

—BRIGID '92 COLLECTIVE (EXCEPT FLYNN)

Dear Editorial Shits-Fer-Brains,

I came on board your mailing list about a year ago, just as things were getting complicated in the Earth First! movement. I've been trying to keep up, but I'm afraid I'm a bit lost as to the origins of this fracture in the movement. Foreman explained his own defection in his recent book. But the withdrawal of Bill Devall and Ecotopia announced in the Yule issue has thoroughly confused me. Are there, now, two movements? Why? And what's the difference? And for those who've withdrawn from Earth First!—in what alternative forum do they now propose to publish?

Lost in New York,

—KEVIN BACHER

Editors' note: Ecotopia and Bill Devall did not withdraw from the movement, only from supporting the Journal. A subscription to the Journal is not equivalent to being an EFLer. It is not yet certain whether there will be another publication put out by those who are unhappy with the Missoula-based journal. There are numerous publications put out by "Earth Firsters" (Live Wild or Die, EFL Womyn's Forum, local newsletters), each slightly different. These represent different aspects of the movement, not necessarily different movements. My advice: continue with your activism and don't waste energy trying to keep up with the bickering.—A.S.

Howdy, Fellow EFLers:

I have a few brief comments regarding the EFL Journal that you might find worthy. My longer comments might be generally worthy, too, but brevity is a blessing.

1) I'm satisfied with the EFLJ overall, though I was rather satisfied with the Tucson Junta also. The last issue was exceptional. Nancy Morton's still around!

2) I'd like to see more philosophical/deep ecology articles. I'm glad that there are fewer conservation biology "z-makers."

3) I've heard few criticisms of the EFLJ from folks in Colorado, though there's bound to be some.

4) The EFLJ may need to look at ways to reach a bigger circulation base, though I'm just guessing.

5) If anything, I feel as though the part of the conference that focuses on the EFLJ would be most constructive by ending with a general agreement on what environmentally-oriented discussion should not be in the EFLJ. I can think of very few things that fit this category.

In summary: Don't take yourselves too seriously! Fuck you, Orin!! See ya' in Colorado!

—MIKE STABLER

Dear Refuse Cerebral Collectors:

A letter addressed to "Dear Coprocephalic" in the Brigid 1992 issue of the Earth First! journal incorrectly used my name, Buck Young, as the perpetrator of that penmanship. I wish Mike Stabler, Dave Foreman or Mike Roselle would cease signing my name, Buck Young, when they in fact are the undercover culprits intent at making me, Buck Young, look totally foolish. I, Buck Young, give full support to the

Dear Schlitz for Beer:

I'm a writer in DC. While researching a story for *Environmental Action* magazine on underground weapons testing in Nevada, I found that the federal nuclear weapons complex is as pro-critter and anti-human as EFL! Consider these three true facts.

1) In the forties, DOD (*Department of Defense*) exposed hundreds of thousands of American humans east of New Mexico to radioactive fallout in the forties to save a bunch of plankton off the coast of North Carolina.

2) The DOE (*Department of Energy*), in conjunction with their bomb plants, is the biggest funder of ecology labs in the nation. For years it has made sure that critters around nuclear bomb factories are not only healthy, but happy.

3) At the Nevada test site, studies of the migration of nuclear goo from underground nuke testing are being postponed, the DOE said last year, partly to help an endangered tortoise species which lives nearby.

Like EFL, the pro-nukin' DOE/DOD weapons confederation is an obvious misanthrope. Yet it is also a deep ecologist at heart, as I can document with detailed and legitimate evidence.

It's about time to announce that DOE/DOD wants to do with nuke weapons what you all want to do with monkey wrenches—wipe out civilization to make room for trees and critters. And the Mirth First! Journal seems to be the best place to say it.

Good luck with the ongoing evolution of EFL and the Journal. Please give me a call or drop a line.

Yours truly,

—RICHARD "SPOTS WOOD" STENGER

Dear Ka-Ka Noggin:

Bill Turk went down as he lived, carried away by mountains, bless him.

But his spirit still lives on, whether in the anonymous Roundup-on-the-golf course graffiti action in the plush Telluride mountain Pillage (where Stallone just bought a pack of lots on Rambo Road and snubbed the lift operators) or in the San Juans' recent Sandbench mass arrests or in the on-going sticking-one's-neck-in-front-of-bulldozers anywhere on public land that's just basic earth manners living on the Colorado Plateau.

Nobody wrote much about the Telluride action, though Lone Wolf Circles followed it up with an eco-defence appearance encouraging all the warrior to stand tall. Actually, the perpetrator laid particularly low, and in spite of \$25,000+ reward advertised locally was never found. The graffiti, which by careful application of this growth over-stimulator turned brown slowly over several days, said things like "Earth First!" and "Abbey Lives" and "Allred is a Pig" (Ron Allred and Neal Blue being the largest developers in the polarized ex-mining camp gone Aspenesque). It forced last summer's premature closure of the golf course, which together with a new \$30 million Doral Hotel are the twin showcases of a new satellite ski megatown in the San Juans, and the action drew opprobrium from the local chainpaper in a "vandals not environmentalists" editorial.

But a brave local doc wrote in and pointed out the following week the obscenity of "a game called golf which requires large tracts of land (where all but a couple of species are exterminated) and which consumes 10 percent of the 'wealthy nation's' fertilizer and vast quantities of the bioregion's water to serve primarily a few outsiders. Some person looks at all of this and thinks, 'This is madness.' He or she makes a symbolic, if futile, act which immediately labels him or her as a pariah in the eyes of the institutions, but in the 'eyes' of the biosphere this human deviant is a hero."

Nancy Morton was of course right about Chim Blea, as most of us knew when the column first appeared, but a non de plume has a life of its own, and why not? As Basho once wrote, "Year by year, the monkey's mask reveals the monkey." Still, whatever (or whoever) is Earth First! changes. And it was always meant to. That's the beauty of a movement opposed to an organization. As Heraclitus knew, "Everything flows."

So don't count me in or count me out. I'll keep count of what counts, and that's mostly earth ethics, as I understand 'em, regardless of whatever reality the culture at large lives in. In that vein, G.T. had a good rap in Brigid '92 I thought. Me I keep reading the Journal in its 4th or 5th incarnation (I mean Dustrud & I were buddies, way back when) because I want to keep up on the battle over listing the Mexican Spotted Owl, Marisa de los Santos & Charlie Mehrhoff's poetry, the denouement of the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel saga, what they doing to holy Mount San Bruno. Mitch Friedman, Stone

Container's antics, ADC in Utah, Rod Coronado, etc.

I did not enjoy Marten's not-so-funny spoof, since I live in an area where hunting is meat & potatoes for a small community's fall trade. And even hinting about shooting back can spark a more than nasty backlash. Someone's llama just got shot because locals didn't like a new landowner's style (at least it wasn't his wife). And anyway I'm not big on spoofs personally. But I think the collective should publish whatever they do and viva la free press—be it ever so unwise or impolitic. Vistara's right, people been quitting this non-membership scene since it started. Me I just keep stoking this ole bonecage with fresh merde on each a' da' pagan holidays. Keep it coming.

—IN LAK'ESH, COLORADO PLATEAU

Dear Editor

I am responding to an article written by Mr. Greg Gordon, "Huanorani Fight Oil Companies" November 1st 1991. There are some comments that I would like to make but first it must be mentioned that you have spelt HUAORANI incorrectly repeatedly. Please Please...

There is a tendency amongst environmentalists to view issues in terms of black and white and while that may be the case in the safety and orderliness of the USA, Australia and Europe, it certainly is not in the tropical rainforest countries. Terribly sorry but Third world reality does not fit neatly into boxes for the convenience of a Western perspective.

You have stated in your first paragraph that the Huanorani are fighting for their existence against the Ecuadorian Government. Nothing could be further from the truth. Nationwide, there has been a 50% loss of rainforest in the last 30 years and in Western Ecuador it has been 92%. This is the reality that this government inherited. Nonetheless, it has, during its brief tenure, given legal land title to territory belonging to the Indigenous communities of Huaorani, Quichua, Shuar, Siona-Secoya and Cofani and other groups.

The president, Dr. Rodrigo Borja, in 1989 gave title to over one and a half million acres to the Huaorani, the largest land area granted to any indigenous group in this country. The government agency IERAC, responsible for these affairs, is a signatory to a pact between the Huaorani, Rainforest Information Centre and IERAC to physically demarcate Huaorani territory. This is an ongoing project established in order to protect the Huaorani people and their forest.

True this land grant does not include mineral rights. The reality once again is that oil represents some 60% of the national economy and there is a US equipped military to ensure that nothing changes that. As a counterpoint to this reality is the hypocrisy of a continuing insatiability of North American oil consumption. The 20 million vehicle population of Los Angeles alone is sucking the guts out of Ecuador!!

The Rainforest Information Centre has altogether seven projects in this country which range from demarcation and protection of indigenous territory, sustainable timber management, permaculture, and the establishment of biological reserves. In order for these to be possible, and extraordinary refined level of communication has to be initiated and maintained between many sectors of Ecuadorian society. This communication starts from the ground up and goes from the indigenous and campesinos who live on the land through the middle level bureaucracy to ministerial level that gives permission.

Seven projects is a testament to the good will of this government. Searching, forever searching for common ground and tenaciously applying practical alternatives to the destruction of tropical rainforest is the only way to preserve it. Biology itself suggests there are more productive methods than a removed yet adamant opposition. The arrest of four RIC personnel was a complicated affair and was in many respects a reaction to the arrogant and meddlesome interference of Cultural Survival and NRDC. Since then we all have our visas and are busy working.

Meanwhile we encourage you to demand that US companies adhere to the law and live up to their rhetoric. Thank you.

Sincerely,

—ALI SHARIF, RAINFOREST INFORMATION CENTER, QUITO, ECUADOR

Dear Shit for Brains,

I feel compelled to write to you disclaiming responsibility for the blatant inaccuracy of the mutilated version of my article on San Bruno Mountain which appeared in the last EFL Journal ("Developers Attack San Bruno Mtn." Feb. 2, 1992).

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Activist Conference

Planning for an activist conference began in the fall, after the rash of written resignations in the Samhain Earth First! Journal, and discussions of perceived problems revolving around the Journal. Vermont's Biodiversity Liberation Front sent out a flyer, and joined with Ecotopia and the Earth First! Direct Action Fund to secure funding. Stumptown EFi was volunteered to organize and host the thing. Although at one time the Fund for Wild Nature had promised funding, their board was split in both votes they had on whether to support the conference and only \$1000 in earmarked funds was released. The rest was loaned from DAF. The importance of wide bioregional representation was an organizational emphasis.

The conference officially began on Friday night, March 6, with people arriving at the Onahlee Campfire Boys and Girls Camp south of Portland. At least 100 folks showed up from North Carolina, Vermont, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Utah, New Mexico, California, Washington, Florida, Oregon, British Columbia, Montana, and the San Francisco Bay Area. Saturday after breakfast we started inside the main mess hall with introductions, a call for volunteers to work in the kitchen, and agenda-setting for the weekend. Agenda items identified were regional roundup, harassment and disruption survey, Journal and directory, movement direction, principles of unity, and media blackout. Also included were: the (ex)-Earth First! Foundation, roadshow/speakers bureau, Day of Outrage, summer campaigns, Round River Rendezvous, and EFi alliance with indigenous peoples.

The regional roundup was lengthy but enlightening. All bioregions were represented, although with predictably more folks from the west coast. The roundup was heartening—it's great to hear that so many groups are being so active and making headway in their bioregions. At the end of it we decided to break and resume outdoors. The Journal asked for someone to write a report on the conference and eight people volunteered.

After a sticky lunch of peanut butter and honey sandwiches we went out to an open meadow and shared stories about harassment, infiltration and agent provocateurs. We are definitely under fire from government agencies, corporations and right-wing private interest groups, and the importance of this should not be underestimated. A lot of good and scary information came out of this and clear patterns emerged. People everywhere have been experiencing infiltration, phone-tapping, disruptive and divisive tactics (advocation of violence being common), disinformation (false press releases, posters and letters), death threats (phone and posted), visits from police, home break-ins, bomb threats, physical surveillance, alleged sabotage being blamed on EFi, and a disturbing number of arsons of activists' homes. Important information from the Oakland car bombing and the Arizona 5 case was given. Ways were identified to deal with this stuff, such as read *War at Home!* Read *War at Home!* Read *War at Home!* (and *Agents of Repression* for more historical detail). Other concrete suggestions were:

- *Be careful pointing fingers at infiltrators. There is nothing to be gained and you may label a person wrongly. Point a finger at their actions.

- *Support our people in jail.
- *Check out what people really said or did, don't work on hear say or accept disturbing things at face value.

- *The elder activists should be passing along knowledge and wisdom to the younger generations, including doing security training.

- *Share jobs such as finances and administration, don't let one person do everything. Also be careful of couples taking total control of a responsibility.

- *Computers are vulnerable, even discarded information can be easily retrieved. Don't keep files you don't need, and use appropriate security measures on what you do have.

- *Similarly, all information transmitted by fax is as vulnerable as a phone is to tapping, i.e. that article you're faxing to the Journal may also be printing out somewhere else!

- *Don't let security become so overwhelming that we don't take action.

Ecotopia expressed their feeling that the rest of the movement is not paying enough attention to infiltration and disruption, and is not supporting the lawsuit Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney have filed against the FBI re: the Oakland/Redwood Summer car bombing. Movement-wide support was then expressed for the lawsuit and consensed on. The discussion became very intense and emotional. As one activist said, we started with a vision of wilderness. Now our vision has become a bit cloudy. We have double vision. Since the bomb went off it's like our heads have been hit. We need to clear our vision. Let's stop our direct reaction and go back to direct action. A break was called and the mood was considerably uplifted by the appearance of the John Denver Reunification Army and their smiley-face orange agitator stickers. (In a survey that went out in January from BLF to all listed contacts over half of the 35 activists who responded said they felt they had experienced Cointelpro tactics being used against them. In this same survey the Journal received an overall rating of 3.8 out of 5 (C+).)

Next up was discussion of the Journal. We first attempted to break the discussion down into three sections: critique, strategy and structure. We began with the introduction of all current and past Journal staff in attendance (there were 14) and the delineation of the extent of their responsibilities. The critique session began with identifying issues, including: pros and cons of the current structure, the roots of communication problems, editorial content, Shit for Brains, trust issues, continuity and technical problems. There was much discussion of the Journal's role as an outreach tool vs. a movement communication mechanism. This evolved

into specific problems people have been experiencing with the current Journal. As darkness fell and burnout became apparent we broke for dinner and the ensuing wild rumpus! Dinner was hot and very welcome, as were the kegs of local micro-brewed beer (donated by Full Sail, Portland Brewing, Deschutes, but not by McMenamins). We had music. We had poetry. We had drama. We had slam dancing. We had FUN. Tensions were released and good vibes prevailed. Stagger stagger thump thump thump.

Sunday we started off innocuously enough with announcements and housekeeping stuff—pleas for cash and admonishments to the lazy. Then we dove into a continuation of the suspended Journal discussion. A long-time activist gave a brief history of the Journal, emphasizing that controversy has been inherent since day one. People felt overwhelmingly that there should be no more personal attacks printed in the Journal. From here specific proposals for improving the Journal were brainstormed for several hours, and finally articulated. After a late afternoon lunch break the shit really hit the fan. Discussion of the proposals disintegrated, process disintegrated, two Ecotopian activists walked out, and the group fell apart into small, stalled, confused clusters. From this rose a larger cluster, with people talking face to face about their differences and doing some real communicating.

From this a proposal emerged. It was proposed and consensed that: Mike Roselle will move immediately to Missoula, will join the Journal staff for the next two issues, and will be available to become a semi-permanent Journal editor for eight issues, subject to his appointment being reviewed and affirmed at the Round River Rendezvous in June.

We also talked about having two editors and having a gender balance. The relief at reaching a decision and/or action was palpable.

We went on to talk about the structure of the Journal workshop which will take place at the RRR, on the Friday. We decided on a fishbowl process structure. (A fishbowl is a consensus circle that takes place in the middle of a larger circle. Each person in the central circle is vouched for. They speak for their affinity group. The people in the outer circle can communicate with their central spokesperson through whispering or passing notes during the workshop.) The fishbowl process will hopefully streamline things and increase security. THEREFORE! Folks should work up concrete proposals for changes to the Journal, and submit these proposals to the Journal so they get published prior to the RRR.

Monday the mood was much more upbeat and relaxed, and a number of decisions were made.

It was decided that the contact list/directory will be updated. Postcards will go out asking people if they exist. Trusted folks in each region will make contact with new contact people. Darryl Cherney will coordinate and send follow-up letters to non-respondents.

The Fund for Wild Nature (formerly the Earth First! Foundation) is a separate entity funding primarily educational events. It has funded some Earth First! movement organizational events and resisted funding others. Therefore it was consensed that: A working group will develop a proposal for a new foundation and will present this at the RRR. Contact for this working group is Mike Roselle.

Support was voiced for ongoing roadshows. They are effective and fun.

The Missoula staff was asked to report what feedback they were taking back from this meeting. Tim Bechtold read a list of points they had identified and other people helped him complete it. It seems important to list those points of understanding here.

- *No personal bashing in SFB.
- *Expand on definition of "travesty."
- *Send personal messages to author first for response.
- *Print bios for editors and announce the staff for the next issue in each issue.

- *Small bio clips for authors at end of article.
- *Assign roving reporters to cover important issues.
- *Placement of controversies in a "point-counterpoint" format.

- *A "For New Readers" section on page 2.
- *"Armed With Vision" (poetry page) restored.
- *Postcard feedback to submissions.
- *Increase communication with writers; seek new writers, artists and photographers; vigorously nurture writers.
- *Embrace the movement.
- *Editorials that address issues.

- *Create position(s) of circulation and/or outreach editor(s).

- *Print excerpts from *Ecodefense*.
- *Use regional editors who have guaranteed space.
- *Save/designate space for late-breaking stuff.
- *Don't ignore population issues.
- *Support lawsuit against the FBI.
- *Complete and publish updated "What is Earth First?" primer.

Structure:

- *Increase continuity; look to the long term.
- *Staggered, overlap; (?)
- *Definite term end for editors.
- *Use computers less.
- *Editors reauthorized/chosen at RRR or Activists' Conference.

- *Concentrate on biocentrism/biodiversity/direct action.
- *Less violence, fewer violence against humans articles, weed out provocative articles.

- *Outreach vs. gossip and news.
- *Guarantee personal safety of activists in articles.
- *Submissions should include note with article saying what parts are important and can't be cut.

- *Print list of rejected articles and their authors and make

abstracts available on request.

The brainstorm session on the April 21 Day of Outrage confirmed the focus on the Forest Service and other public lands (mis)management agencies and the Endangered Species Act. A tabloid is being written on all regional issues regarding the Forest Service. It was agreed to link public lands issues with private lands issues, and possible action scenarios were brainstormed.

Upcoming summer campaigns identified in a go-round include:

Regional:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| * S.P.A.W.N. | * James Bay |
| * B.C. Ancient Forests | * Ecotopia Hell III |
| * Flambeaux | * Sand Bench Summer |
| * San Juans (Colorado) | * Mexican Spotted Owl |
| * Mt. Graham | * Siskiyou Summer |
| * Montana/Idaho RARE | |

National and International:

- * Hundredth Monkey Stop the Test Site Action April 10-19 (Nevada)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| * Biocides | * Toxics |
| * The new Endangered Species Act | |
| * August 3 Rainforest Actions | |
| * Ozone Layer | * Overpopulation |
| * Native Forests Network | * Detroit Summer |
| * Carmageddon | * Bari-Cherney FBI Lawsuit |
| * Wise Use Movement | * Earth Summit (Rio) |
| * Stone Container | |

There was a short discussion of media blackouts against EarthFirst! groups. After hearing from people about their experiences strategies were shared:

- *black them out in return (leave 'em hungry);
- *change our tactics and strategies to make things more interesting;
- *be your own media (including sending videos to TV stations);
- *do actions directed at the media that are blacking you out;
- *get the media out on the front lines;
- *do real actions, not media actions (shut 'em down!);
- *A new book, *Media and the Environment* was mentioned as suggested reading.

We wrapped up Monday afternoon by consensing that these conferences will happen annually. A meeting to plan the next one will happen at the RRR, and everyone at the activists', or organizers', conference will be vouched for. An announcement outlining the vouching system, topics, and requesting limiting of numbers will be placed in the Journal ahead of time.

We went around one last time and briefly stated how we felt about the weekend. Many people felt that although good networking always gets done outside meetings, that the meetings themselves were tortuous and the process was terrible. We were reminded that consensus only works if everybody is working towards it. But we still love each other and put the Earth First! Then we had a big group hug and spiral squeeze together and giggle and hug some more and left feeling totally spent but still committed.

PS: While we met hundreds of species went extinct.

Written by committee: Dennis Fritzing, Candace Batycki, Anne Petermann, with input from Tim Ingalsbee, Hal Rowe, Kathey Sutter, Emma Jones, Gin Phlegm, Dave Parks, David Barbarash, and Scott Greacen.



Stone Axed

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The original accord, signed in September 1991, and subject to ratification by the Honduran Congress was so overwhelmingly opposed by all sectors of Honduran society that the government withdrew the proposal before Congress had a chance to vote on it. The head of the Honduran Department of Forestry, in announcing the decision, gave no details but to say that, "Due to public and technical interest it was impossible to reach a satisfactory agreement with the Stone Container Corporation."

Although Stone's proposal to the Honduran government was shrouded in secrecy, a leaked copy revealed that more than 80% of Honduras could have been subject to Stone's quest for pine trees. Environmentalists argued that Stone, suffering severe financial problems with an overall debt of more than \$4 billion, was making a desperate attempt to entice a few powerful Hondurans into selling off one of the country's most precious resources, the forests of La Mosquitia. These forests continue into Nicaragua, making it the largest remaining forest in Central America and are home to many indigenous people, mainly the Miskito Indians.

The government's decision to reject Stone's proposal has been heralded as a victory for both democracy and the environment. The Honduran people are taking bold steps by not allowing the government to destroy their natural heritage through the development of ecologically unsound projects.

According to Jose Herrero, one of Honduras' most notable environmentalists, "This has been an incredible event in which all sectors of the Honduran people united against a government plan that was seriously flawed, justifying their position to the point where the government accepted the voice of the people. This has been a great example of democracy working in our country."

Honduran environmentalists and indigenous peoples' organizations have been working on development alternatives for forest areas which include protection for the environment and land rights for indigenous people. If Stone had obtained control over the forest, these alternatives would have been seriously hindered.

—SOURCE: RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK

Hawksbills as Hairbrushes

Here's the basics. Sea turtles are an endangered species, protected under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES), which prohibits endangered plants and critters, alive or dead, from being used as commodities. Japan is the world's largest consumer of sea turtle products. Although Japan is a CITES signatory, it maintains reservations (loopholes) on the hawksbill and, until very recently, the olive ridley species of sea turtle. The hawksbill is slaughtered for its beautiful shell, which is carved into expensive trinkets (cigarette lighters, shoehorns) for the luxury market in Japan. The olive ridley was exploited for its leather, which was (and probably still is, to a much lesser extent) used for briefcases, belts, shoes, etc.) See previous articles in the Lughnasad 1991 and Yule 1991 journals.

The Earth First! Oceans Task Force got vocal on the sea turtle issue back in February 1990, when we staged an action at the Mexican consulate in San Francisco. This action drew attention to Mexico's involvement as the main supplier of olive ridley leather to Japan. We demanded Mexico join CITES and close down the slaughterhouse in San Augustinillo, in the state of Oaxaca, which was killing 75,000 olive ridleys every year. To our surprise and delight, they came downstairs into the street and said "okay." The slaughterhouse was closed down soon thereafter, and may someday be a sea turtle museum. We'll let you know. Mexico signed CITES on September 30, 1991.

With the supply turned off focus shifted to Japan as the importers and consumers of the sea turtle products, and therefore the financiers of the slaughter. Particularly disgusting is the importation from the Caribbean (mostly Cuba) of the shell of the beautiful hawksbill sea turtle, a species on the brink of extinction. In May 1991, under the threat of trade sanctions from the Bush administration, Japan announced they would "phase out" their importation of hawksbill shell. The offer was that they would continue to import another 7.5 metric tons (about 7,000 turtles) of shell until ceasing in January 1993. The Bush administration said fine, the big environmental groups said wonderful, and we saw red.

—SOURCE: OCEANS TASK FORCE

Turtles at the Consulate, cont...

continued from page 1

EF!OTF actions around the olive ridley issue, which saw Mexico in the spring of 1990 announce it would sign the CITES convention and close down its slaughterhouse in San Augustinillo. The slaughterhouse was indeed closed, and remains closed, effectively cutting off Japan's supply. But Japan kept the door open to future trade in the olive ridley by maintaining the loophole on importation. The dropping of this reservation was a key demand of the action week, and an important victory in the battle to protect sea turtle populations forever. We also got the sea turtle message out to millions of people via the media, and increased our experience, outreach, affinity-building and networking within the movement.

The hawksbill's future is, unfortunately, still uncertain. As yet Japan has made no move to stop their trade in, or drop their reservation on, this species. We are watching to see what will happen at the CITES annual meeting, being held in March in Kyoto, Japan. The sea turtle issue is only one on a long agenda which includes trade in elephant ivory, bear parts, rhino horns and exotic pet birds, so we're optimistic but not too hopeful. Clearly, we need to keep the pressure on or Japan is just going to keep slaughtering sea turtles until next January. Even then, their maintenance of a reservation on the hawksbill will keep the door open for future trade in this species, and stockpiling is a likelihood.

Activists in consulate cities are keeping the pressure on through gathering petition signatures (Kansas City in particular) and phone campaigns (Chicago is raging on this one but the tactic should be widely practiced). Speak up for the planet and her critters! Call your local Japanese consulate and sound off! Do it. Really. It helps.

Contact the EF! Oceans Task Force: POB 77551, San Francisco, CA 94107 to get petitions and to obtain day-glo green stickers with which to educate, agitate and just generally keep the heat on. Keep in touch with us. Send us money. PS special thanks to the folks from SEAC who organized a great action in Atlanta and Chicago.

Dissection Intervention, cont...

continued from page 1

on the ground with one filetted down the middle and splayed open, steaming death into the cool air. Dr. Davis and vermin hovered over the still pulsing flesh as Dr. L.G. Adams, also from Texas A&M continued to cut. In a second we had surrounded the steaming bison and the Davis clan had retreated to their 4x4 armada. We would not let the butchers approach; these animals would be claimed by the earth, not science. But they were not so easily defeated, for Dr. Adams, knives in both blood-soaked gloves, approached our line and attempted to shove through. Allison and D.J. wrestled with Dr. Adams until he finally gave up. Standoff. The helicopter returned then with the third carcass. One of the Davis group came over to direct the landing as D.J. and BillBob stood beneath the hovering animal. Without delay the huge animal struck the ground and the lander began to untie the rope. BillBob and Dave grabbed the whipping tentacle while D.J. and

Allison grabbed their legs as the helicopter began to rise. For a second all four were off the ground, skipping across the parking lot, then D.J. and Allison fell off. Dave crashed into the embankment and fell into thigh deep snow on the other side as BillBob sailed skyward holding on tenaciously. The helicopter gave one strong jolt and Bill at last plunged into the snow below.

The helicopter pilot was more careful landing the next three carcasses and we didn't get

"It is our policy that the bison do not belong in the State of Montana."

—MT State Veterinarian

another chance to grab the rope. Bill was terribly disappointed. Allison wrote "KILLERS" in bison blood across Davis's 4x4. The cops began to show up; and they kept on showing up for half and hour. For another half hour they tried to figure out what to charge us with while the rookies took family photos of Allison flipping them off in front of the mangled bison carcass. "Smile for the camera, honey."

Finally the Bozeman DA came up with the creative idea of charging us with possession of a game animal (which, by the way, bison are not). When the cops approached all but Dave sat

down, bonded arms, and resisted arrest. Eventually they cuffed us and dragged us away, by pairs, into separate cars. Crunched into the backseat I heard Davis remark "OK, now. Let's get some blood boys." I nearly puked.

Five hours and one hundred questions later we were released from the Gallatin County Jail on \$915 bail each.

The killing season this year is almost over, as summer range opens up and the bison which haven't been killed have little reason to wander out of the park. But next winter there are sure to be more bison killed. Davis' study will justify the brucellosis excuse. But everyone knows it has little to do with brucellosis. It is an issue of private property and the cattle industry; of whether Yellowstone is an ecosystem or a zoo. Despite all the killings, the bison herd in Yellowstone is growing, and they will continue to move out of the park. Ranchers will continue to complain, bison will continue to get shot, and those who love the bison will continue to get arrested to trying to protect them. Tune in next year...

Vaccination

Shots! for Brucellosis! greet the bison
Who cross the line between life and license
The law provides for a state of nature
When beasts range free in the legislature

—ROSS BEST



Bison just outside of Yellowstone National Park. They were shot shortly after this photo was taken.

Canebrake EF! Tours Sea World

BY MAD HATTER

Saturday morning January 18, 1992, Florida's Canebrake EF! lead 55 anti-captivity activists in simultaneous demonstrations at Sea World/Orlando and Busch Gardens/Tampa. This was the first ever demonstration against Busch Gardens. High time, we thought.

On August 7, 1991, the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society called for an all-out boycott against the Anheuser Busch Corporation, Busch Entertainment Corporation, and all Anheuser Busch-sponsored theme parks until they return all sea mammals in their captivity to the wild. Sea World has a dismal track record in keeping sea mammals, especially orcas, alive in captivity. Of the 26 captured/imported orcas Sea World has "owned," 19 have died since 1965. Another Sea World orca, Kenau, died in Orlando on August 6, 1991.

On August 8, 1991, Canebrake Earth First!

became the first "Eco-group" in West Central Florida to come out in full support of the Anheuser Busch Boycott. As most of us in the Canebrake tribe are great admirers of Captain Paul Watson's work, a decision to support was unanimous.

We were primed for our first action. We figured what better way to "lose our virginity" than to put together dual demonstrations against two of the major Anheuser Busch tourist traps in our area, at the height of the tourist season.

We thought, "What would really piss Sea World off?" Simply get someone here who has continually been a thorn in the side of the captive industry. We made one phone call to probably the leading authority in the training of sea mammals in the US, Ric O'Barry, President of the Dolphin Project, the person who captured and trained the "Flippers" for the 60's TV show and

the first person to ever train an orca.

When we told him our plans, he definitely wanted in. Ric has a 24 foot bus, the Dolphin Project's Anti-Captivity bus, in which he travels the country preaching the phrase that "Three things kill sea mammals: Nets, Pollution and Captivity."

We were set. We later found out that inviting Ric O'Barry was probably the best idea that this new group ever had. When Sea World heard he was coming along to link up with a group of EFers they really got shook. So shook, in fact, that from the info we got from a law enforcement official, Sea World was afraid that we were coming to—now get this—*kidnap a whale!* That's right, a group with just enough cash scraped together to barely get by would pull off this daring rescue of an orca, put it, we suspect, in this old bus, drive it to the Gulf of Mexico or the

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Asleep in Heavenly Peace

Dreaming waking wondering what
shall i do
with this day
come now and never
again;

I wander bout love
so soft so strong
asleep beside me
as rain shakes and pops
and dim winter light
casts shadows
within,
I wonder 'bout coffee
and work,
I wonder 'bout the noise
outside
backhoes and yarders beeping
chainsaws screeching, trees scream and
BOOM!

I am angry
I am crying
wishing for strength
to create new worlds
in harmony
unbroken;
yet again i wake
with more scars and barren rivers
and this force tearing at my soul
wondering what
shall i do,

another day carrying pain
seeking relief in love and routine
amid screams of slaughter, sobs of extinction,
overpowering machines
darkening enclosing;
visions spinning whirling
gaining speed
night returns i am awake
defending my family
the river running thru me
the forest pulsing in me,
I pray for protection
and ignite the catalyst
releasing the beast,
setting free gods in boxes;
running panting i
return to dreams.

—ALEX WILLIAMS

Letter From a Friend in Maine

Hello:

Over the years I've managed to combine writing, talking and action in reliable quantities. Since someone set my house on fire with me asleep inside (attempted homicide) three weeks ago (Jan 23) a lot has changed. Jumping through the flames I barely escaped, and my home is now a pile of ash and debris. Writing this down for the first time seems clumsy, almost not possible, but I'll try.

Maine, at least in the east, has a mystique of wildness and pristine isolation. It's a lie. Maine has been hacked away at for 350 years. It has been reduced to a pulp plantation crisscrossed by roads. There's still the possibility of getting lost up country but only if you go in circles. Sure, miles of clearcuts can be disorienting, but as a forestite once told me, "Look at the views they make."

Today Maine's geography, economics and politics are dominated by multinational slime who claim to own most of the land. At a million acres a whack, this bunch of parasites do seem to have things locked up. Earth First! types, hell even the moderately worked up, are widely scattered. Too much has been done indi-
Mother-defending a very
virtually no public lands in
must fight through the pri-
battle the eco-destruction
line.

*Maine has a mystique of
wildness and pristine
isolation. It's a lie*

My neck of the woods (formerly forest) is the dominion of one Scott Paper Corp. A truly representative breed of land rapers that has come to dominate most, but not all, of us naturally occurring critters around here. Although the other corporate scum mean border to border trouble, when I want a local battle, it's Scott that brings it. After all, any outfit from Philadelphia that rides high on its legendary ass wipe must be full of shit. Tear away the tissue and you expose the excrement. Now you might ask what's to expose when they commit clearcutting in the thousands of acres right here in front of god and everyone? But we all know the power of denial (and so do they) in patriarchland.

So after a number of small local victories concerning herbicide use and the threat of clearcutting prohibitions, the battle changed tunes a year and a half ago. That's when I got this great idea for an action that would stop the transporting of herbicides (Roundup) through the woods out my way. More specifically the bastards planned to drive across my property (property rights?) on the old country road carrying their death to the land beyond me.

With the help of a narrow road, my old rusty pickup and a beautiful autumn sunrise (a good day to thrive) I met the enemy and succeeded. Even Deputy Dipshit couldn't figure out how to get me out of the way. Talk about front page! Its times like these that the meek (locals) squeak out their true feelings. No one likes poison and no one likes Scott Paper.

Fueled on by this success, myself and others pushed hard through the winter on a clearcutting prohibition in town. Public participation. The Emperor seemed concerned (pissed) that someone had noticed that "intensive forest management" (his new clothes) lacked in substance.

The tone changed again last Spring when I was hit with a quasi SLAPP (Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation) suit. Using the herbicide action as a springboard Scott sued me in order to prevent any more insurrection down on the plantation. This was meant to eliminate municipal and/or direct action. Threats. Once again the papers were heard with a collective "Scott Sucks."

As you might expect, the battle against Scott continued from the coffee shop to town hall. We knew they were getting pissed but how much no one was sure. Layoffs at the local mills were announced at Christmas. Locals were reminded that when an employer becomes your former employer they should no longer be revered as benefactor. And as EF! was being spoken of more the tone changed again.

I went to bed at 10pm on January 23rd in my isolated home in the woods. It was warm and wet out. Rained all afternoon. Not much activity in the stove. At around 11pm I awoke to smoke and light (I had no electricity). When I got downstairs I realized that my instinctive move toward my fire extinguisher was meaningless. I headed to the door (past the stove) grabbed my coveralls and jumped into my boots. When I opened the door flames were already at the steps. Through the flames and off the porch into the snow. The entire underside of the house (it was built on concrete posts) was in flames. I can't begin to tell how I felt when I saw my home and knew it was gone. Fifteen minutes later the fire was to the roof, me in the snow and rain and wind.

With the fire marshal confirming the unthinkable, it has still not completely hit me that someone tried to kill me. Most importantly I'm alive. And I know I must think and we all must think the unthinkable. Death is all around us, at our doorstep.

The postscript is more than the struggle to save what's left. I also am having to push the official investigation myself. Seems that this problem I have isn't significant enough for prompt attention. Sounds too woefully familiar.

—ANON

Auburn Dam Goes to Washington

BY DANNY SIMONS

The agency once described by Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas as "public enemy number one"—the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—has released their long awaited study for "flood control improvements" to the the American River Watershed above Sacramento, California. The most disturbing of these so-called "improvements" is a 425-foot high dam on the North Fork near Auburn, with a capacity of 545,000 acre feet. That 545,000 acre feet translates into approximately 48 miles of river canyons along the Middle and North forks which are home to osprey, river otters, mountain lions, bears, bald eagles and countless other critters. If the Corps gets its way the canyons could be reduced to mosquito, gnat and suckerfish habitat. Speaking of suckers, the financial cost of this project, nearly one billion dollars, would fall upon American taxpayers.

The Bureau of Wrecklamation has been trying to build a multi-purpose Auburn Dam for decades. A multi-purpose dam, in addition to destroying one of the last free flowing stretches of

river in California, would allow the Bureau of Wrecklamation to provide big agri-business more cheap subsidized water to grow the same crops in the California desert that the Dept. of Agriculture pays farmers *not* to grow in more suitable climates elsewhere.

Congressman Vic Fazio (D-West Sacramento) is introducing legislation to the House of Representatives which would fund the project. As of this writing, the bill does not have a number, but it will shortly. The bill proposes a "flood control dam" that would not hold water except during large storms, and would not form a permanent reservoir. The Corps, however, wants to install gates in the structure, which could be closed at any time to form a reservoir. Meanwhile, the Bureau of Wrecklamation is conducting a \$4.7 million study on the expandibility of Fazio's proposed flood control dam. The appropriation of the study was arranged by Fazio himself.

I could go on and on about this but its a pretty simple issue for most folks that don't own construction firms or desert farms and cattle ranches. RIVER GOOD..... DAM BAD.

Some of you may be saying, "Well gee, I don't

live in California, what can I do?" The loss of a river is a national issue, and this river needs your help now more than ever. Write to your Congressthing and warn her/him that Rep. Fazio's bill is bad pork barrel, log-rolling legislation, the dam is unnecessary, and the expense shouldn't be borne by the taxpayers, especially for such a useless, harmful project. Urge your representative to oppose any "flood control legislation" that would damage the river ecosystems of the American River. Congressmembers across the country need to be informed of this flood-control scam so they realize what they are voting on. A follow-up letter or phone call to your Rep. is necessary as soon as we have a bill number because many Reps. won't do squat without a bill number.

For more info on how you can help with this and other river battles call or write: **Friends of the River**, 909 12th Street, Suite 207, Sacramento, CA 95814 telephone: (916) 442-3155.

Reforming the Fur Industry, ALF-Style

BY THE ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT

The entire fur and trapping industry can be eliminated within three years. Two years ago we stated that it could be done in five, and so far it is going according to schedule.

Although there seems to be renewed interest in trapping and fur farming, 40% of all fur farms have gone out of business and trapping license sales have fallen as much as 75% in some states. Fur stores are closing left and right and it seems that most department stores are dropping fur-related items. They are on the run, but they're preparing for a last-gasp comeback and the pressure must be increased.

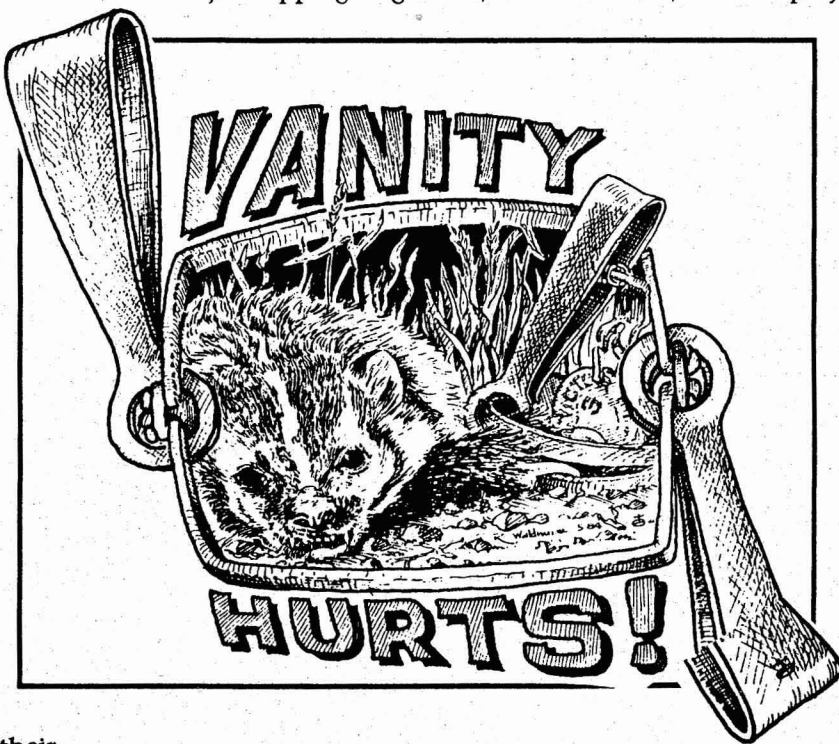
Of course, education tactics are *very* important, but the Animal Liberation Front focuses on direct action. First, let's address the trapping issue. Get a copy of a magazine called *The Trapper and Predator Caller*. If you can't find a copy, call them at 1-800-258-0929 and ask them who sells their publication in your town. (Note: Do *not* ask them to send you a copy. If you do, they'll have your name and address. *Never* use a private phone when you use an 800 number. The caller's number may automatically be recorded by the company being called. If your state permits the phone company to sell caller-identification services, make all local telephone calls from a pay phone. And make *all* toll calls from a pay phone to avoid their being listed on your phone bill.) The magazine lists trapping supply companies, and the state trapper associations along with the officer's names and addresses. Call these people and act interested in trapping. If possible, find out where they are setting their traps. Consider the possibility of having a quiet little party in the trapper's fur shed where they keep their traps, pelts, and assorted equipment. Trapping is a business and if you destroy their means for doing business, they just may go out of their murderous business, if not their moronic minds.

Now for some heavier anti-trapping fun! There are four big trap manufacturers left in North America for steel jaw legholds, soft catch legholds, and body grip traps. They are Woodstream (the biggest which makes Victors and Conibears) in Lititz, PA; BMI in Willoughby Hills, OH; Duke Traps in West Point, MS; and Bridger in Ogden, UT. Just for the record, a turd named Harry Winter in Willits, CA is manufacturing a trap called the Dog Proof Coon Trap.

Shut these places down and we would cripple the wild fur industry severely. Remember they doubtless have security guards. Every hit makes them tighten security so be cautious and make it count! Group security is *absolutely essential* so don't tell *anyone*.

Be warned that trappers and fur farmers are likely to be strong and armed and woods wise. Their livelihood (deadlihood) involves intimacy with blood, guts, and murder. They are not likely to be finicky when dealing with anybody they believe is mucking about with their income.

Other important targets are the publications of the fur trade. The National Trappers Association (major anti-animal rights group and publisher of *American Trapper Magazine*) has offices in Bloomington, IL. *Fur-Fish-Game*, the other of the three major trapping magazines, is in Columbus, OH.



The Trapper and Predator Caller is published by Krause Publication, Iola, WI. There are two trade journals catering to the retail fur industry: *Fur Age Weekly* in Glenwood Landing, NY, and *Fur World* in New York City. Destroy these means of communication within the industry *and* their traps, and the whole industry will be hurting.

In 1990 there were 660 fur farms left. Chances are there is one within a two to three hour drive of where you live. Contact the murderers listed in the back of *The Trapper and Predator Caller* and tell them you'd like to visit a fur farm because you may want to start your own. They might tell you where one is located. Unless the farmer lives right there, this

should be an easy hit. If you visit them during the day, consider what to do about your appearance, vehicle, and license plate.

On mink farms, there are usually a number of mink 3-4 years old used as breeding stock. The rest are less than a year old. Releasing the breeding stock and other adult-sized mink into the compound not only disrupts the whole process, but severely handicaps the farmer in differentiating breeding stock from the sale animals. Such mischief can ruin the next year's breeding plans. When this happened to one mink farm two years in a row, it shut down.

Spraying the animals with non-toxic dye, the way Greenpeace and Sea Shepherd spray seal pups, ruins the commercial value of the pelts. There are various colors of sheep dye that are non-toxic. Be careful not to spray the animals' eyes and ears.

Other sites that need a heavy dose of justice are distribution centers of the processed furs: Seattle Fur Exchange, Seattle, WA; D. Cohn Fur Processors, Greenville, SC; National Superior Fur Dressing, Chicago, IL; Russ Carmen Lures, New Milford, PA; Hudson Bay Co. Fur Sales, Corstadt, NJ; Crown of MN Inc, Minneapolis, MN; Klubertanz Equipment Co., Ederton, WI. To locate them, let your fingers do the walking. Your local phone directories are good for something besides creating profits for clearcutters.

Retail fur stores, listed under "fur" in your yellow pages, are the easiest hits. Glue the locks, spray paint the merchandise, etch the windows. Be creative and go for maximum impact.

This guide is a waste if action is not taken. This is war in defense of the innocent. The risk we take is nothing compared to the suffering caused by the fur industry. Put these words into action. There's no time to waste. Good luck and total secrecy.

Note: If companies conduct business through a post office box, the Post Office will readily provide the street address of the company.

Saving the Wild Side of BC

BY ROCK OF THE RAINFOREST

Road blockading returned to Clayoquot Sound last September when 35 people stood on the only logging access road leading to the Bulson River watershed, 10 miles northeast of Tofino. One of the blockaders later told the judge at her trial, "I am not in contempt of court, I'm in contempt of forestry policy."

Clayoquot Sound is the largest remaining intact wilderness area on Vancouver Island. It is one of only a few remaining intact large tracts of temperate rainforest on the west coast of North America. Indeed it is one of the largest remaining in the world. With accelerating liquidation of our forests, it has become an island of green in a sea of clearcuts. Located on the west-side (some say "Wild-side") of Vancouver Island, it's a place of intense beauty and power, of delicate balance and harmony teeming with life in a myriad of forms. The old growth Western red cedar, Western hemlock and Sitka spruce forests of Clayoquot Sound benefit from year-round mild temperatures and abundant rainfall. These trees often reach heights of 200-300 feet and ages ranging from 800-2000 years. Diameters over 10 and 15 feet are not uncommon. Throughout their lives and even in death, these great trees cradle a remarkable abundance of life.

Virtually all of Clayoquot Sound (209,289 ha; 523,223 acres) is slated to be clearcut by the multinational corporations who hold provincial tree farm licences in the area. Only land within Pacific Rim National Park (7,646 ha; 19,115 acres) is fully protected. The rest of this paradise of climax temperate rainforest, ocean fiords, mud flats, oyster beds, habitat for eagle, murrelet, cougar, bear and wolf, is increasingly threatened by the insatiable appetite of the logging industry. MacMillan Bloedel (MacBlo) and International Forest Products (Interfor) are the companies currently vying for timber of the region. Fletcher Challenge recently sold its rights to Interfor.

Clayoquot Sound is also home to the Tla-o-qui-aht and Ahousaht, two of the fourteen tribes of the Nuu-Chah-Nulth-Nation. They are cur-

rently engaged in a BC Supreme Court land claim to Meares Island or Wah nah jus/Hilth hoois. Their two-hundred year struggle with the colonial powers of Spain, Britain and now Canada has not closed their minds to cooperating and building a sustainable future with non-native supporters. Alliances are forming between workers, native peoples and environmentalists, premised on the need to develop environmentally and economically sustainable relationships to the forests.

Meares is home to Canada's largest Western red cedar, the famous Hanging Garden Tree, so called for the proliferation of plants, animals and other life forms that cover its massive girth. Meares has been a mecca for shellfish gathering, duck hunting, vision quests, collection of herbs and traditional medicine since time immemorial. It is the source of the village of Tofino's water supply and provides a lush viewscape unavoidable no matter where you are in the community. Tofino, at the end of the Trans-Canada highway, is internationally famous as a destination for wilderness kayaking, whale watching, beach camping, salmon fishing and other recreational pursuits.

The struggle to protect all of this continues. Direct action has already played a key role in delaying the destruction of this place. The trees of Meares Island are said to be thoroughly spiked. The Society to Protect Intact Kinetic Ecosystems (SPIKE), a local presence in the area, recently donated a copy of *Ecodefense*, a hammer and 10 spikes to a fund-raising auction. The items drew two consecutive bids totalling \$850.00.

Blockading has also been used successfully to delay the logging companies. The Friends of Clayoquot Sound began as a local group of residents who were appalled at the methods and rate of logging of the old growth wilderness. Since its inception in 1978, the Friends have made every possible effort to have the protection of wilderness and wildlife values included in the development plans for the region. They have initiated

and paid for inventory research of values other than timber, they have initiated and participated in committees, made presentations and organized conferences. They have researched, lobbied and rallied, produced books, posters and t-shirts. And they have blockaded peacefully, suffering arrest, imprisonment and the loss of their means of livelihood in attempting to have their concerns addressed.

The latest of round stake-holder discussions, under the name of the Clayoquot Sound Sustainable Development Strategy Steering Committee, saw its environmental and native representatives leave the process last year when no agreement could be reached to defer logging in contested areas while the Committee pursued its work. The first draft of the Committee's Strategy Document, minus input from these sectors, leaves no doubt of the bias of the process in favour of the timber interests.

A January 1992 statement by FOCS spells out their continued disaffection for these various "talk and log" initiatives:

"There is something sadly wrong in our system for public input into forestry policy when after thirteen years of public outcry, 42 citizens are arrested in Clayoquot Sound (the last six only a few months ago) and not one tree has been protected for values other than wood fiber, let alone protecting Clayoquot Sound as the world class wilderness heritage site it deserves..."

Peaceful but direct blockading of logging operations is the only public input process that has actually had any impact on forestry practices and brought the attention of other wilderness values to the forefront."

By directly blockading MacBlo fallers at C'is-a-qis on Meares Island in November 1984, the Nuu-Chah-Nulth and FOCS forced the issue of Meares Island into the courts. Thirty-five people went to jail for blockading the road building at Sulphur Pass in 1988, forest protectors attracted international attention and that of then-premier

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Clearcuts, Vancouver Island

Photo courtesy Evergreen State College

Walking for the Forests

BY FREEBIRD

The 200 km Walk for the Rainforests from the Walbran Valley to the legislature in Victoria, B.C., was a 15-day exercise in patience and tolerance. In those 15 days we reached a better understanding of the loggers and mill workers whose lives are directly affected by the corruption of multinational timber interests and found a deeper understanding of ourselves.

About 30 of us did the entire walk, with 50 or so others who joined us during the two weeks. We pitched tents in the rain, slept in trailers and trucks, and occasionally were invited to sleep indoors. Grumpy Ann's Rainforest Lunch Wagon and crew fed us the entire way (delicious!).

The walk began in the pristine wilderness of the Walbran valley. The first four days brought us through clearcuts. Walking together added to the affinity and strength of our group.

Our first meeting was with the Ditidaht Band, First Nations (Native) people of the area. We expressed our support for a prompt and just settlement of land claim issues, and our desire to explore common interests. All were hopeful that future meetings will take place.

Our first "official" encounter with forestry workers (we met many along the road) was at the Fletcher Challenge mill in Youbou. We planned the Walk to reach the mill as the shift changed so that we talk to the workers. We arrived running because we were late, carrying signs and banners. We must have looked confrontational from the workers' perspective. The encounter began with violence as one angry worker started throwing punches. Our show of support for sustainable forest practices, for value-added work, and our contempt of the multinationals, eventually drew real dialogue.

We listened to workers who were getting laid off the next week, who were concerned for their families' futures and distrusted their employers (even more than they distrusted us). Their fear of getting canned prevented them from speaking out which helped them justify their anger towards environmentalists. We were there to forge alliances; in the end, names and phone numbers were exchanged and hands shaken. One previously hostile mill worker even offered us his home to stay at!

Our elation from this historic meeting was shattered that evening by a rock thrown through the window of the house where we were staying. Our security watch started that night. Now we may be dealing with a drunk, misinformed, and scared worker. Tomorrow it may be armed agents of the corporate elite. Thirteen of B.C.'s corporate forest rapers have hired the PR firm Burson-Marsteller, the same firm used by the former military junta in Argentina during the mass "disappearings" of its citizens.

The next evening we held a town hall meeting in Lake Cowichan. About equal numbers of walkers to townsfolk, (workers, wives, youth, a senior Mountie officer and the mayor) attended. The meeting took a dismal turn as a continuous procession of workers walked out every time they were asked if they had anything to say. The success of the meeting was in the fact that it took place at all. In this respect it was groundbreaking.

Did the workers' apparent non-involvement in our meeting have anything to do with the meeting that Fletcher Challenge held only

hours earlier? Was it significant that the uninvited mayor showed up to spew his political bullshit? What about the industry funded "Share our Forests" (gag) citizen groups perceiving the Walk as competition to the upcoming government forestry commission? What about the PR firm with the shady history of involvement with military death squads and their production of slick TV "news" shows and other bullshit propaganda? Are we a threat? Are these indications that we are making gains in this struggle?

Media coverage was generally favorable. An hour long phone-in show in Duncan had three of us in the spotlight. One caller admitted to something we've always suspected: he said that whenever "Earth First!" is spraypainted on their equip-

After this demo we headed to Saltspring Island for a benefit dance party with the groovin' band NGOMA. We barely broke even, but what a party! We headed down the Saanich Peninsula, visiting high schools and showing a video on the Walbran blockades "The Road Stops Here" and Dan Lewis's slideshow of his circumnavigation of Vancouver Island by kayak that he will be touring with as part of the Rainforest Summer '92 Roadshow.

February 20, we held a video night, where we were camped at an herb farm. In the barn amongst the chickens and sheep, we watched hours of home movies of the blockades. February 21 we held a drumming party at Goldstream Provincial Park under tarps collecting the pouring rain. People arrived by the dozens and partied until the early hours. And then...Saturday Feb 22nd the last day of the walk! As we gathered at the pre-arranged spot, we realized that we were growing in large numbers. Approximately 300 people marched through the streets of Victoria and on to the BC legislature lawns to rally against corporate control of our forests and government corruption. Earth First! London held a simultaneous demonstration. Two of our English comrades hung a banner and were arrested while a "talking tree" informed the London citizenry of BC forestry practices. In England and other parts of Europe environmental groups are campaigning to bring attention to BC forests including a boycott of BC paper and wood products. The Victoria daily paper had full color photos on the front page of both the UK action and our rally with a story headlined "Rainforest journey hailed as communications triumph."

The end of the Walk brings us to the beginning of Rainforest Summer '92. In March we will have weekend workshops for non-violence workshop leaders as well as tree-sit trainings for trainers. A roadshow is under way. Grumpy Ann's Lunch Wagon is gearing up to help feed activists this summer. A second South Vancouver Island Forestry Accord is being talked about. Boardwalks are being built in the Walbran. And... blockade action sites are being planned as you read this, both in the forests and in the corporate domain!

One thing that we realized is that we are all individuals, all with our own peculiarities, all different, but all coming together for similar reasons. We need to understand that we need each other to fight the corporate beast. We need all the strange activists with the funky noserings; we need all the straight-looking types with the university degrees; we need the native peoples who know more about this land than any white person; we need those angry workers who know who's really screwing them around; we need everyone possible who has any idea about what's going on in this world. We need all of us and more to do battle with the multinationals and the government. We are all on the front lines in the battle to save our planet.



Walkers at the Youbou Mill

Photo by Freebird

ment, the insurance company (if they find out, all you shutterbugs!) will either up their premiums or drop the company altogether! Copies of this hour-long show are available on video for \$15 from Terra Prima! Victoria, POBox 6491, Depot 1, Victoria, BC V8P 5M4, Canada. (Send blank money orders as we have no bank account yet.)

Mid-point on the Walk found us at the Fletcher Challenge pulp mill in Crofton where we demonstrated against the discharging of highly toxic effluent. 150 of us marched to the front



Rally at the Legislature

Photo by Freebird

doors. The mill spews out poison 24 hours a day, seven days a week, killing the waters and poisoning the air. An excellent tabloid on organochlorine toxic waste and related issues has been produced by *The New Catalyst*, POBox 189, Gabriola Island, BC V0R 1X0 Canada.

National Day of Outrage, April 22

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The first Day of Outrage in 1988 seems like only yesterday. Since then, a lot has happened. Old growth, clearcut, and spotted owl are now household words. Audubon, and even the Sierra Club, are finally lobbying for many of the things we were then demanding. Mainstream media like the *Atlantic Monthly* began calling for an end to all logging in the National Forests and the spotted owl has been on just about every front page including the cover of *Newsweek*.

And yet, the cutting continues, and the old growth is still disappearing, and the Endangered Species Act is in serious jeopardy. Many people still don't know that the owl is only one of many species dependant on old growth, and that there are hundreds of species dependent on National Forest habitat that are endangered. It's up to us to send that message. The spotted owl is being portrayed as the ONE species that could put hundreds of thousands out of work. And with Bush's God Squad and timber industry PR and lobbyists hard at work, the Endangered Species Act is in danger. It's time for Earth First! to up the ante.

It's time to send a message that simple restoration, "selective" cutting, and economically viable logging are NOT ENOUGH. Let's take a look at what our role might be, and how EF! can raise the stakes.

The Day of Outrage can play an important role by educating the media and public about the significance of National Forest habitat to many life forms. We can highlight key areas and species that are threatened. In the Southern Appalachians, the most biologically diverse forest in the

US, only a small portion is protected in Smoky Mountains National Park. Several National Forests nearby house critical habitat for species that live only in the Park. The Siskiyou in Oregon and California are the most diverse coniferous forest on the planet. The road there that block-aders stopped back in '83 has since been partially completed. Major destruction has occurred in the North Kalmiopsis, largest of the Siskiyou's roadless areas, from fire salvage logging in 1988 and '89. Every major roadless area in the Siskiyou is slated for destruction during the next 2-3 years. Another key area is the Shawnee in southern Illinois, which in the summer of 1990 was the site of the longest road blockade in EF! history: 80 days. Another critical area is the Wild Rockies in western Montana, NW Wyoming, N Idaho, and parts of E Oregon and E Washington. This region includes the last intact ecosystems in the contiguous US.

Wild Rockies roadless areas are being torn apart by bulldozers and chainsaws. The last refuge in the lower 48 for grizzly, wolf, wolverine, bison and mountain caribou are under immediate threat.

One of the strongest demands we can make on Muir Day is for re-introduction of extirpated species. DEMAND RE-INTRODUCTION, NOT JUST RESTORATION! Bring back the grizzly to the San Juans of Colorado, the North Cascades of Washington, and the Marble Mountains of California. Reintroduce the wolf to the Gila in New Mexico, the White Mountains of New Hampshire, the Gros Ventre in Wyoming. Find out which species are missing from your area and

DEMAND they be re-introduced.

Raise the stakes by exposing the Freddies as criminals. These guys are not just doing a bad job, they're lying, cheating, and stealing from the public and the public lands. All of Bush's and Reagan's heads of the Forest Service and Dept. of Agriculture, i.e., F. Dale Robertson, John Crowell, George Dunlop, Clayton Yuetter, and Ed Madigan, are criminals and should be thrown in jail. THE FOREST SERVICE IS AN OUTLAW AGENCY OPERATING OUT OF CONTROL. Let's get public servants who care about forest ecosystems and wildlife NOT timber profits. Let's free Smokey from his captors! Explode the myth of Smokey and the Freddies as stewards of the forest. Finally, it's not enough to oppose mining, grazing and commercial development on National Forest land. DEMAND fat budgets for acquiring and protecting critical areas outside the NF boundaries. Close sensitive locales to human entry. Connect habitat islands and keep machines and Freddie helicopters out.

Plan an action in your area NOW. Get in touch if you want to hook up with others in your region. For an action packet with fact sheets, poster, Killing Roads tabloid, mask- and prop-making ideas, sample press releases, graphics, suggestions for planning a demo and how to do media work, and oodles of background info, write or

call: EF! DAY OF OUTRAGE, PO Box 411233, San Francisco, CA 94141-1233, (415) 921-3578.

GET OFF YOUR BUTTS, AND MAKE THIS MUIR DAY A KICK-ASS, FREDDIE-BUSTING, DAY OF ACTIONS!

Turning it Up! In the San Juans

BY ABERT THE SQUIRREL

"Earth First!...Profit Last!," we chanted as we took over Main Street, Durango. It was time to shock the residents of southwestern Colorado out of their comatose state and perhaps spark some Earth consciousness.

WAKE UP!

Coloradans have long looked the other way while the Forest Service and the timber industry have roaded, logged, and fragmented the wildest area in Colorado, the San Juans. Even worse, Region 2 Forester Gary Cargill has stated that Colorado's forests can make up for the reduction in timber cutting in the Northwest.

Great! So, they've clearcut the ancient forests of the East, stumbled over the Rockies leaving plenty of stumps, trashed California, Oregon, and Washington, and now they're coming back to finish their work.

No way!

The newly-formed San Juan EF! is building upon and working with the No Compromise Direct Action Campaign of Ancient Forest Rescue to save the ancient forest of Sandbench, not to mention all the ancient forests of Colorado. Organized after a spiritual evening of Lone Wolf Circle's Deep Ecology Magic, San Juan EF! decided to skip the planning for the first meeting and just go out and do an Action.

We focused our action upon the proposed Grasshopper Timber Sale, slated to be sold in 1994. This sale is located atop Missionary Ridge some sixteen miles as the crow flies from Durango along the southwestern border of the Weminuche Wilderness. Unfortunately, much of Missionary Ridge was devastated by logging during the 1960's and 70's. Because Engelmann spruce and subalpine fir do not regenerate well in clearcuts, many of these areas remain barren. Forest Service plans call for the construction of 5 miles of roads into the East Animas Roadless Area (as identified during RARE II) and 1.5 miles of road reconstruction to access this sale.

The Forest Service's own scoping document

states that Grasshopper is the "last block" of virgin old growth forest on Missionary Ridge. Old-growth-dependent species such as the boreal and saw-whet owls, northern three-toed woodpecker, pygmy nuthatch, western boreal toad, pine marten, and other ancient forest loving critters call this place home. The goshawk and the state-endangered lynx may also live in the proposed sale area.

Carrying banners and signs, and a cross-



Lone Wolf Circles and the newly formed San Juan EF! group march down Main Street, Durango, Colorado.

section of a 300+ year old grandmother tree that was cut at Sandbench, we marched from a local park to the Animas Ranger District Office where the Grasshopper Sale is being administered. We demanded to speak to the District Ranger as we dropped the stump on the front desk.

"He's out to lunch," said his secretary.

"We'll wait," we responded.

"OK, I'll see if I can find him," whimpered his secretary.

Soon District Ranger LaMay appeared. Our demands were simple. "Stop all analysis of Missionary Ridge for a timber sale. If the area is sold, or for that matter if any ancient forest or roadless area is sold in your district, we will be there to

stop the saws. We want no more of these," we said, pointing to the stump.

After our visit with the District Ranger, we took to Main Street, Durango stopping traffic in the southbound lane as pedestrians looked on, dumbfounded. A few people on the sidewalk caught on real quick and joined in the march.

Our next stop was the San Juan National Forest Supervisor's office where we were given the same line, "He's out to lunch." However, he appeared once he heard we were not leaving. Our demands were the same, "Not One More Tree," and we left after an impassioned question and answer session.

Leaving the building, we were greeted by a banner which stated, "Stop the Rape of Missionary Ridge." Then it was back down Main Street to the park.

San Juan EF! is alive and wild! That's because we have something worth fighting for—the wild San Juans. This is one of the last remaining wild areas of considerable size in the Southwest that is suitable habitat for the reintroduction of the grizzly and wolf. The last known grizzly was believed killed in the South San Juan Wilderness at the headwaters of the Navajo River in

1979. That's only thirteen years ago! Wow! Griz in the San Juans!

San Juan EF!, along with Ancient Forest Rescue, invites all dedicated activists to come to the wild San Juans during the summer and fall of '92 to shut down the timber program in the Greater San Juan Ecosystem. Come for the '92 RRR and then stay a few weeks.

We cannot afford to lose anymore roadless areas and ancient forests if we expect the grizz, wolf, wolverine, and lynx to re-inhabit the San Juans. No holds barred! EF!

To comment on the proposed Grasshopper Timber Sale, please write: Theodore W. La May, Animas Ranger District, 701 Camino del Rio, Durango, CO 81302. To contact San Juan EF! write: POB 3204, Durango, CO 81302.

FS Exploits Insect "Infestation" in Blue Mts

BY PINE MARTEN AND WOLVERINE

The Blue Mountains of Eastern Washington and Oregon have been hit with insect infestation over the past several years. Many of the trees, primarily fir species, are dead or dying. Consequently the USFS, public officials, and industry spokespeople are offering salvage logging operations and bacterial pesticide use as "cures" to save the fragile health of these besieged forest ecosystems. Much public attention has been focused by the media on the unhealthy plight of these forests and the "need" for more intensive management to rectify their critical health problems.

However, field evaluations of these affected areas fail to validate further intensive management as a viable solution. These surveys did not find a dying forest on its way out due to natural "disaster" of insects and drought. They found a severely injured ecosystem due to mismanagement: logging and skid yarding policies which encouraged fir regeneration of formerly pine dominant forest, road building, fire suppression and cattle grazing. Soils of these areas are depleted, vegetation is sparse, no new healthy young seedlings other than juniper are evident in many areas. "Salvage" in the few remaining thickly forested areas which border these plantations would create a virtual monoculture of ponderosa pine and cattle grazing areas, heading towards eventual juniper and grassland takeover in some places. The skid yarding leaves compacted soils and churns rocks up to the surface leaving deep furrowed ruts seemingly everywhere.

Despite Forest Service hype about the epidemic level of this infestation and the need to take drastic measures, their own scientists report that these naturally occurring insects have a whole host of natural predators and are subject to natural conditions that often prevent a local infestation from becoming widespread. USFS studies have found that some even badly defoliated trees (up to 90% defoliated) have survived, becoming more resistant to future infestations, and that natural regeneration in an uncontrolled infested wilderness area was as much as 60%.

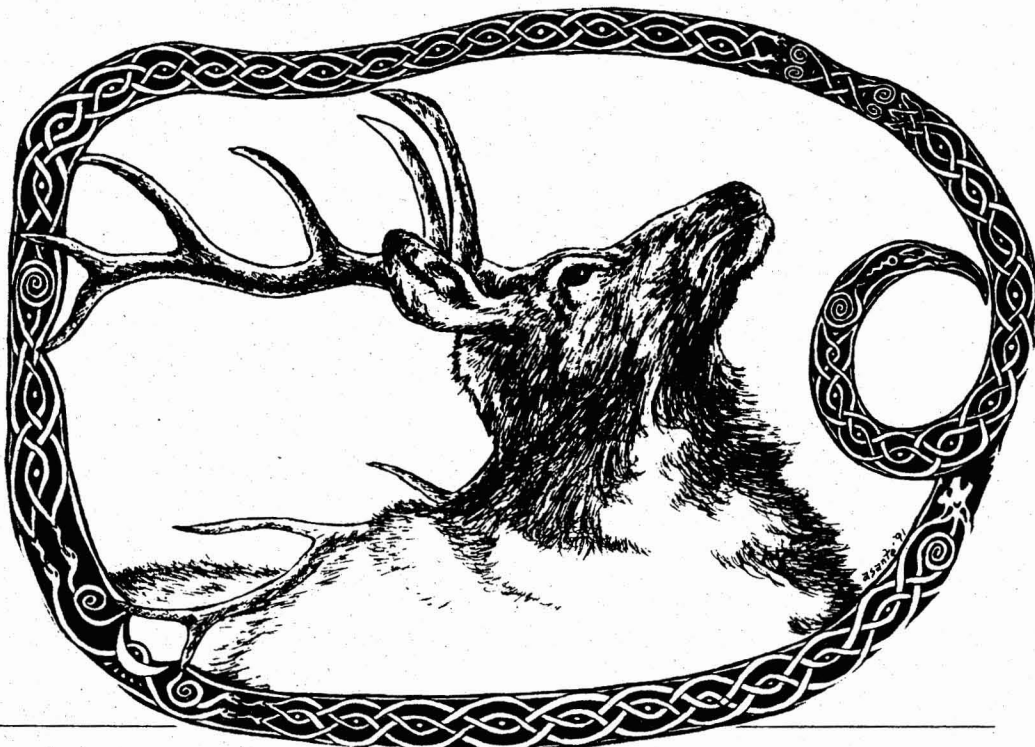
In most of the salvage sale areas the bug infestations appear to have done their worst; thinning out the too crowded thickets, leaving healthy multiple-aged pine and some old growth firs (to reseed?). As the dead firs fall and decompose they will add much-needed nutrients to the forest floor and allow room for new seedlings to replace them, continuing the slow natural process of forest recovery. In the interim, these dead trees provide much needed cover/habitat for wildlife, as well as prevent erosion, prevent sun depletion of shade dependent forest-soil micro organisms, and due to their dense nature are a deterrent to the destructive grazing of cows. By offering habitat and sustenance to woodpeckers and other predators of infesting insects, they help keep viable one of the few natural solutions to the current infestations; helping predator populations remain healthy and growing. Other natural solutions are climatic fluctuations (such as a late or unexpected freeze), wasps and other insect predators, depletion of food supply, and natural fires.

Having been soundly defeated by strong rural opposition in past attempts to use toxic chemical pesticides in Oregon forests, the US Forest Service is now planning to reduce the damage caused by spruce budworm, Douglas fir tussock moth and other naturally occurring insects in Eastern Oregon and Washington forests by using the less widely known microbial insecticide known as "Bt" (*Bacillus thuringiensis*). Bt. is a bacteria that is claimed to affect only the larvae of lepidopterous insects—i.e., all moths and butterflies. Although Bt. is touted as "environmentally safe" to use in sensitive areas and as of "negligible" toxicity to fish, birds and mammals, the Forest Service itself admits that "concern for environmental safety continues to stimulate work on other biological agents." (p 31, sec 4.3.1, "Western Spruce Budworm and Forest Management Planning," USDA Forest Service Technical

Bulletin No. 1696).

Bt. kills all species of moths and butterflies; it is not known how to control it from spreading to other parts of the forest. Extinction of sub-species or regional or local populations of different species of moths and butterflies due to the use of Bt. is possible, also affecting their predators (such as the rare pileated woodpecker and threatened bats through deprivation of food sources) and the whole delicate balance of the ecological food chain.

As to the claim that these areas need to be thinned to prevent the occurrence of "catastrophic" fire, whether caused by lightning or humans: most of these forests are fragmented and not very large in acreage. Firebreaks of currently used FS roads and abandoned logging roads abound, as well as large pine



Canebrake EF!

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Atlantic Ocean and set it free. A wonderful concept but hey, Sea World, come on, get real!

The Busch Entertainment Corporation also sent their chief BSer to Busch Gardens to inform the media of all the knowledge Sea World has gained from keeping orcas captive. Right! They now know that whales' pregnancies are 17 months long, not 12. For this knowledge 19 orcas have died. We wonder if they could have learned this by watching wild orcas. But hey, what do we know. According to Mr. Frank Murru, chief of slick talk, "those" people are just "naive and uninformed." Jacques Cousteau is opposed to keeping any sea mammals in captivity for any reason. He must be uninformed! Dr. Paul Spong, scientist and orca expert, has stated that displaying these animals in small tanks and having them perform circus tricks is wrong. I guess he must be uninformed. Ric O'Barry, recipient of UN Environmental awards and former marine mammal trainer, is totally opposed to marine mammal captivity. The list goes on. Mr. Murru must have borrowed a set of blinders from the Budweiser Clydesdales.

Sea World did everything it could to scare us off. They spent thousands of dollars in extra armed security, off-duty Florida Highway Patrol, Orange County Sheriff's Deputies, and retired law enforcement officers in unmarked, leased vehicles. If you would have seen them following us you would have thought you were in a bad spy flick. Very amusing. They videotaped us all day and must have taken hundreds of stills with their telephoto lenses. So James Bondish.

They threatened us with arrest for trespassing on what we were convinced was public right-of-way. (We will be sure next time.) Actually, the threat of arrest made us move to what turned out to be a better location where we were able to distribute our literature to all those unsuspecting tourists as they headed for a day at "the marine abuse park." Ah! The old twist of fate.

For a first action, from a little known group, this was a big success. The only arrest was a traffic citation for Ric O'Barry for a broken turn signal light. Hell, they followed him around all day. It was only after three hours they came up with that observation.

A current controversy concerning Sea World is their custody of the orca, Tillicum, who killed

plantations without much ground cover to serve as fuel for further spreading the fire. Fluctuating wind currents, the natural geographic barriers of the land; creeks, bogs, marshes, rock outcrops, steep slopes, and cliffs preclude most potential for a truly catastrophic fire. And if the FS were genuinely interested in preventing such an occurrence, perhaps they could begin with the cleanup and removal of the many gathered piles

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his trainer when the trainer fell into the orca's pool last year at Canada's Sealand. Tillicum was sent to Sea World/Orlando for emergency treatment of injuries he later sustained when he smashed himself against the sides of a holding tank only two feet longer than his body—injuries that should have been avoided altogether and likely could have been treated in Canada. Sea World was getting enough bad publicity from Tillicum's recent arrival at their facility. The last thing they wanted to see was a group of demonstrators at their front gates.

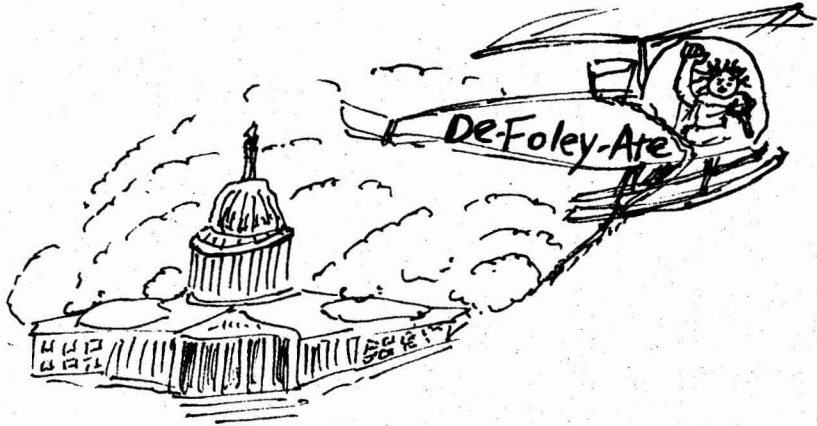
No matter what Frank Murru and all these other "mouthpieces" say, the imprisonment of these fantastic animals is wrong. To take creatures who can swim up to 100 miles a day in the wild and place them in tanks half the size of a football field is immoral. To force them to do demeaning tricks for human amusement does nothing to teach humans about these animals' complex environment. It does not teach people to fight for wilderness habitat. It only says that it is ok to cage wild animals. Exploitation for corporate gain, pure and simple.

When Sea World obtained Tillicum, the national Marine Fisheries Service placed special conditions on the temporary import and indicated that releasing the animal is an option if the public permit to display is denied. The Service has granted 99.4% of all public display/scientific research permits for cetaceans since 1972. Hmm! Do you think they lean one way? A sad commentary, indeed.

We now need to mount a campaign to make the first release of a captive orca under these Marine Fisheries Service provisions become reality. Tillicum has suffered enough. Sea World has a poor track record for keeping orcas alive. Tillicum should be returned to his rightful home, the open seas.

We need letters, and lots of them, sent to: John Twiss, Executive Director, Marine Mammal Commission, 1825 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 512, Washington, DC 20009. Ask that their office not grant Sea World a permit to place Tillicum on public display. He needs to return home. This can be a first step towards the release of all captive sea mammals.

And think about how these animals suffer the next time you're thinking about popping open a cold Bud. Reach for another brand of brew.



Forests in eastern Washington and Oregon are being butchered faster than ever—unique stands of ancient ponderosa pine now exist in tiny pockets, where once they were the dominant tree species. This year, a chance to protect the remaining wild stands with legislation (Ancient Forest Protection Act H.R. 842) is before Congress, but a huge problem exists. Timber slave Tom Foley, the wishy washy, ineffective Speaker of the House, has enough clout to protect the special interests of the eastern Washington tree killing industry. He has vowed not to support any protection for these dying forests. Since Plum Creek and Boise Cascade have cut over their stolen timber lands, they want to finish off the job by roading and clearcutting the rest of the National Forests; and Foley is happy to appease them. Mismanagement of the Colville, Wallowa-Whitman, Umatilla, Malheur, and eastern Okanogan National Forests have left them reeling with insect and noxious weed invasions, destroyed watersheds, overgrazed meadows-turned-cow pastures, eroded streambanks, and extreme fuel buildup from fire suppression.

The obvious solution is to keep out of the remaining intact forest and put the timber industry/forest service to work restoring the mess they have created. But Foley must owe too many favors to industry to use common sense—he supports business as usual. Activists in eastern Washington and Oregon are looking for ideas to change his mind; one idea was to start a campaign to 'De-Foley-ate Congress, Not our Forests', a slogan that would look good on billboards in Tom's home town of Spokane. Of course everyone should write the Speaker asking him to change his mind, but even the mainstream enviro groups believe that we need to be hard-hitting and create lots of noise about Foley's sellout to the special timber interests. Send your good ideas, or put them into action yourself. The next two months will determine whether the 'eastside' forests will gain protection—or whether the avarice of the 73 timber sales planned for the Colville National Forest in 1992 will cut the final swath through the heart of an ancient ecosystem.

SOURCE—DE-FOLEY-ATE-CONGRESS, BOX 223, REPUBLIC, WA 99166



Blue Mts, cont...

continued from page 11

of dead trees from thinning operations, which abound throughout its "man-aged" tree farms.

The Blue Mountains derive their name from the pall of smoke which frequently hung over these mountains from the many naturally occurring fires which swept through its forests. As an ecosystem, it evolved with fire as a necessary and active part of its natural processes; thinning crowded areas, removing weaker trees, keeping fir populations down, leaving more fire and disease resistant pines, as well as keeping the lower ground vegetation and needle duff layer thinned and healthy. As such, if one or a few of these dense dying thickets were to catch fire and "crown out" the forest would find natural ways to regenerate. Even within the densest of these areas, there are small openings and large fire-resistant old growth pines which have survived centuries of occasional fires and may do so yet again.

Given the past record of mismanagement by the USFS, and the

current precarious state of forest health, the entire sham of saving the forest through salvage logging and insecticide use needs to be exposed, opposed and stopped as the USFS/industry/government hoax it is, lest we lose another ecosystem to the insatiable greed for profits. An appeal of Bt. spraying in Oregon's Umatilla Forest by the Oregon Natural Resource Council is now pending. Please write opposing its use to John Buttrille, Regional forester, Pacific NW Region, USDA Forest Service, 319 SW Pine, POBox 3623, Portland, Oregon 97208 and Lyle Jensen, James Lawrence, USFS-Umatilla NF, 2517 SW Hailey Ave, Pendleton, Oregon 97801.

Please help by spreading the word, writing letters to your congressional representatives, the USFS and your local papers. Also, contact the Blue Mountain Biodiversity Project HCR-82, Fossil, OR 97830 or forest groups in your local area to offer further help. Thank you, for the Earth.

Court Showdown

Stripmining in the forests of eastern Oregon and Washington continues unchecked. The disappearance of most remaining eastern ancient forests is inevitable if current cutting rates continue. In Oregon's Winema National Forest (near Klamath Falls) a showdown looms which could turn the tide for the embattled east side. Last November, Pacific Northwest Regional Forester Richard Ferraro upheld an appeal filed by the Eugene-based Forest Conservation Council challenging a Forest Service plan to preserve 24,452 acres of ancient forest and open more than 100,000 acres of old growth for liquidation.

Ferraro ruled that the FS did not adequately consider the proposed amendment's environmental consequences, and directed the Winema supervisor to conduct "additional analysis" before a new decision be issued.

Conservationists hailed the ruling, claiming it validated concerns raised in their appeal. They interpreted the ruling to mean that the Winema must now prepare a new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) before any old-growth logging, to determine how much should be set aside and where to locate reserves. Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) senior attorney David Edelson argued an EIS was legally required for at least three reasons: The EIS accompanying the original Winema Forest Plan failed to take a "hard look" at impacts of logging on old-growth-associated species; a recently completed old growth inventory demonstrated the existence of far less old growth on the Winema than was assumed in the forest plan; and because determining where old growth reserves are located will have significant environmental impacts that must also be addressed.

Unfortunately, the current FS Winema old growth reserves resemble a popularity contest more than clear thinking, demonstrating a "museum mentality" rather than a commitment to protect a dynamic living ecosystem. The FS, for example, has ignored Crater Lake National Park Superintendent Robert E. Benton's recommendation to preserve old growth linkages and corridors along the boundary between the Winema NF and the park to support the park's ecosystem. Also ignored was a US Fish and Wildlife Service recommendation to protect important perching, nesting and roosting habitat for the bald eagle, an endangered species.

Conservationists have proposed an ecologically sound alternative plan for a Winema ancient forest reserve system, based in part on the FS's own data. The FS has expressed no interest in the plan, however, and a showdown in court appears inevitable. Indications are that the Winema supervisor plans a "quick fix" to keep the big trees falling. If this happens, NRDC plans litigation to protect old growth values as required by law. The Winema old growth plan was based on the same model used on other eastside forests, making this showdown important across the region.

The case has also raised a bigger question, one that clearly goes beyond jobs and board feet: whether or not a technologically advanced society can, in the face of intense short-term economic pressures, exercise the simple restraint needed to safeguard a national heritage. The epic struggle currently underway for these last great stands could be our last chance to ensure a legacy worthy of the hopes and dreams of forests and humans to come.

Break the Mirror

*In the morning
After taking cold shower
—What a mistake—
I look at the mirror.*

*There, a funny guy,
Grey hair, white beard, wrinkled skin
—What a pity—
Poor, dirty, old man!
He is not me, absolutely not.*

*Land and life
Fishing in the ocean
Sleeping in the desert with stars
Building a shelter in mountains
Farming the ancient way
Singing with coyotes
Singing against nuclear war—
I'll never be tired of life.
Now I'm seventeen years old,
Very charming young man.*

*I sit down quietly in lotus position,
Meditating, meditating for nothing.
Suddenly a voice comes to me:
"To stay young,
To save the world,
Break the mirror."*

—BY NANA O SAKAKI

Excerpted from: Break the Mirror, (c) 1987 Reprinted by permission of North Point Press



Protection for Oregon's High Desert

By RABINOWITZ

In the Oregon high desert roam pronghorn antelope, mule deer, bighorn sheep, bald eagles, hawks, peregrine falcons, waterfowl and some species of fish so rare they are found only in one particular place. So do cows and cars, logging and mining outfits and obnoxious politicians. To control the damage of these latter residents, a proposal called the Oregon High Desert Protection Act has been introduced into Congress. It would accomplish the following:

—Remove livestock from all public lands designated as National Park, National Preserve, National Monument, Wilderness Area, Wildlife Refuge and Wild and Scenic River

Scenic Rivers system.

—Establish a 57,500 acre Lake Albert Wildlife Refuge to protect critical habitat for over 500,000 shorebirds.

—Transfer 97,686 acres of the critical Warner Lakes wetlands to the Fish and Wildlife Service to be managed as part of the Hart Mt. National Wildlife Refuge.

—Direct the US Fish and Wildlife Service, BLM, Forest Service and National Park Service to establish additional National Recreation Trails.

For all its scope, planning and good intentions, this Act would still allow existing, unlimited access to over 19 million acres of Oregon "rangeland" for the din, stench and plops of continued livestock grazing, mining, geothermal and oil and gas development, off-road vehicle and other motorized "recreation" and developmental land uses. Despite the fact that the area proposed for protection is less than half that left for despoiling (not

to mention all the land taken up by towns, cities, farming, National Forest abuse, etc.), opposition has already started among the political/economic powers and pawns these destructive interests encompass. Alternative bills and propaganda are being waged over the fate of the Steens Mountain area, the centerpiece of the Oregon High Desert Protection Act.

Notorious Oregon Representative Bob Smith has teamed up with equally notorious Oregon Senators Mark Hatfield and Bob Packwood to introduce bills in Congress to create a Steens Mountain National Conservation Area. Significantly, the

Hatfield-Packwood Conservation Area proposal leaves out the Alvord Desert altogether. Together the Steens and Alvord comprise the integrated basin and range ecosystem. Saving one without the other is like saving your fingers without your hand.

The designation may look good on paper, but it is virtually meaningless for the protection of the land since Congress never gave BLM any direction on how to manage Conservation Areas. The status quo for the benefit of livestock grazing, mining, geothermal and other extractive industries would be maintained.

Although livestock grazing has been banned in some token sensitive areas, the legacy of deterioration continues in the Steens, with a few tenacious ranching operations, corporations and "the fancy rich looking for a good tax write-off." And as you all probably know, we support this destruction with our taxes. The government takes in only 30 cents from ranchers for every dollar they spend administering the grazing on public lands.

In 1971 BLM designated the Steens Mountain Recreation Lands, supposedly to protect it. Now, twenty years later, the land is in as bad or worse shape. Cattle grazing, though the most pervasive, is only one of the ecological atrocities BLM allows in the area.

More than 65,000 mining claims have been filed in recent years in southeastern Oregon, with several on the Steens. Most of the claims are by out-of-state gold companies operating cyanide heap leach mining.

Last year, BLM tried to open the High Steens to snowmobiles despite their own regulations closing the area due to its sensitive nature. Conservationists succeeded in keeping the area closed temporarily.

BLM plans to allow energy de-

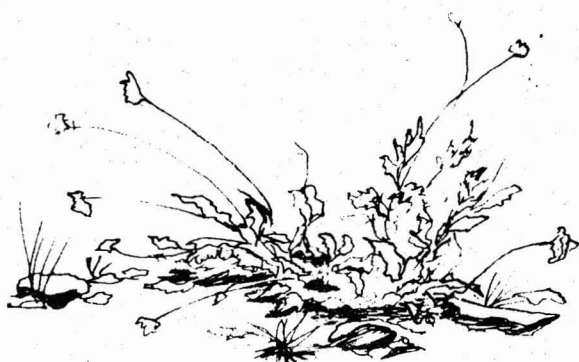
velopers to tap the geothermal reserves below the Alvord desert—probably the reason the desert was left out of the Conservation Area proposal. There has already been test drilling at the south end of Borax Lake, home of the endangered Borax Lake chub. Geothermal development means the hazards of deadly gas ventings and water table contaminations with a long list of poisons brought unnaturally to higher levels. We might as well kiss the endangered fish, other aquatic life and nearby vegetation goodbye if we let the drilling start.

But the point is, we're not going to let all this happen! We need your help now to protect Oregon's high desert ecosystems. The first steps are easy, and even fun, as outlined below. If they just prime you for more, then get on the Oregon Natural Desert Association's mailing list and ask for further notice of actions needing to be taken. And/or take some creative, well thought out action yourself. Demonstrate against BLM. Combine a visit to the area with some public education. The Oregon Natural Desert Association has some brochures that could help. They could also use money and volunteers.

At least do the following.

- 1) Visit the Oregon High Desert. Take some friends. Take pictures. Write about what you have seen. Tell others about it.
- 2) Write a letter to your local newspaper.
- 3) Write a letter to your representatives in Congress in support of the Oregon High Desert Protection Act. Be sure to mention any areas that you have visited.

For more information write to the **Oregon Natural Desert Association**, 1005 NW Newport, Bend, OR, 97701 or call (503) 385-6908.



Hayden's Cymopterus

by this legislation.

—Establish a 500,000 acre Steens Mountain National Park and an adjoining 523,000 acre National Preserve to be managed exactly like a National Park except that hunting would be allowed.

—Establish the Jordan Craters, the Fort Rock Lava Beds and the Lost Forest National Monuments, transferring 195,330 acres from the Bureau of Land Management to the National Park Service.

—Preserve 5,064,086 acres of BLM lands in 47 protected wilderness areas.

—Add 835 miles of rivers and streams to the National Wild and

Eco-Mumblings by Abe

By ABE RINGEL

Environmental Awareness.

At a ceremony in the Great Dismal Swamp in Virginia, Vice President, J. Danforth Quayle launched the flagship program of the Agency for American Environmental Awareness and Economic Progress.

The Vice President said, "We need to get more citizens off their couches and out into Nature. To that end, I am naming the program 'Dry the Wetlands.'"

I and my lovely partner, Mrs. J. Danforth Quayle, adore the outdoors. Mrs. Quayle enjoys picnicking on the White House lawn while I enjoy playing tennis and pitching horseshoes. But I see no reason for decent Americans to be attacked by hordes of mosquitoes, probably imported from foreign countries. If we can convince people that America's outdoors can be comfortable and fun, our environmental problems would quickly

vanish."

The ceremony concluded with the Vice President's symbolically laying down a square yard of astroturf as the beginning of a project to pave over the Great Dismal Swamp, what the Vice President termed "a miasmic effluvium of mud, disease, pestilence, and mosquitoes that serves naught but to discourage Americans and yen-laden tourists from becoming happy campers."

The Virginia Lawn Contractors Association spokesperson later announced that they had been awarded a contract by the Bureau of Land Management to cover the entire "Great Dismal" with nature-inspired hues of astroturf. She emphasized that the job would be completed by "late spring, just in time to get ridda alla them pesky bitin' bugs, and get the local economy

back on its feet. Them tourists gotta bring lotsa golf clubs 'n go-carts 'n jes start puttin' away. Hoooy damn!"

Enviromento—Public Health.

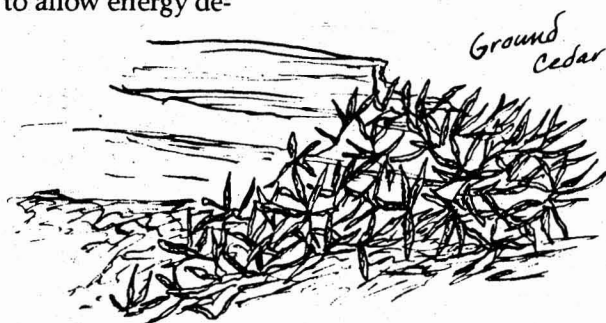
In a long-awaited move, the White House announced the appointment of General Norman "Stormin' Norman" Schwarzkopf as America's next Surgeon General.

White House Press Secretary Marlon Fitzwater read the following statement to the assembled White House Press Corps:

"General Schwarzkopf has had an impressive career in medicine, surgery, environmental health, and labor relations. The General pioneered the use and perfection of the airborne surgical strike, successfully saving the lives of dozens of brave American

servicemen and servicemen. The General has been in the forefront of a multinational effort to save the vast rainforests of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, which comprise the last remaining habitat of the Kuwaiti and Saudi families' stables of racing camels. The internationally-lauded peace mission known as Desert Storm led Kuwaiti citizens and noncitizens of all races and sexes to switch to open oilwell fires for cooking. Previously they had relied for fuel almost exclusively on ancient rainforest trees.

Thus, President Bush and his partner, Barbara, take great pride in announcing the appointment of General Schwarzkopf to head the US Public Health Service as the Surgeon General of the United States of America."



Ground Cedar

Our Pals in Prison

BY KAREN PICKETT

Peg Millet, of the Arizona 5, began serving her three year sentence on October 3, 1991. After 3 weeks in the extremely overcrowded county jail, essentially a holding facility, she was transferred to a federal prison just north of Phoenix, where she remains. Reprinted here is a letter Peg wrote to reply to those asking about her that she couldn't respond to personally. So I will leave it to her to tell you all how she's doing. It was written in January, but her situation remains much the same with a few exceptions which I will explain.

I hear from both Peg and Mark Davis on about a weekly basis. To say they have their ups and downs is an understatement (We are talking prison, after all...), but I think that both, in their own ways, have been coping fairly well both physically and psychically. Usually when they call they are in pretty good spirits and hungry for news of "what's happening out there." Here is the text of Peg's letter:

1-2-92 crescent moon waning

Greetings from Club Fed,

Happy New Year!

Your cards and letters are treasured. Mail call is a major blessing and reminder of all the support and love available to me. I am very grateful. I'm writing this to send to all of you who have written if I know you or not.... Thank You!! Your thoughts and prayers help sustain me here.

After being in the Maricopa County jail for three weeks, this place was a welcome change. When I was transferred here Ilse and I were reunited for a week before she left to go home and do 5 years probation. Part of her conditions are not to associate in any way with any of the rest of us: Marc, Mark, or myself. We had an intense communion and reaffirmed our commitments to our spiritual paths and our friendship. Then she left. My grief was intense with the realization I may be here for a long time. I'm still processing that grief. Confinement certainly doesn't suit me.

Thanksgiving and Christmas are behind me now and I'm eternally grateful for that. The Solstice was powerful for me. There were people up at Red Butte continuing the resistance and dancing for healing as we had for the past four years. I sang with them from here.

Meanwhile I'm settling into life in Prison, approaching it as a kind of monastic experience.

At first I was assigned to work outside where all us inmates go before being officially designated to a "job." My task was to rake dirt and rocks on the 10 acre compound. This suited my meditative sensibilities, out in the cool air of a Sonoran desert winter, the myriad birds chatting; flitting about. Thrashers, cactus wrens, doves, Gila woodpeckers, mockingbirds, sparrows and flycatchers, and a pair of redtail hawks. It was pleasant doing the Zen of Raking. We worked only a few hours a day, giving me time to read and write, and walk around the track and sun myself; visit with the diverse women who are my companions. Well, I was rudely awakened to find my "assignment" is in the kitchen. My "cop outs" (a cop out is a request form to staff members) went to a "Lands out" job so I could rake my way to enlightenment. Maybe my lesson is to learn to confront these authorities without fear and resentment. I'm not invisible anymore. We live in a fish bowl here. There is no privacy. I have to stay in the food service for three months and then, if I petition, they'll move me. They won't budge otherwise unless it's a political deal. This place is described in C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters* as hell; it fits perfectly. His book has helped me adjust to this place and put things in perspective. My days are filled and busy now with projects and work and school. I enrolled in a computer technology school that lasts 10 months and hope I'm not here to graduate. I will learn to type, become computer literate and use different programs such as: data base, spread sheets, word processors and graphics. It's a process I look forward to and a gift I wouldn't give myself if I were free to be my gypsy, songster self. So I'm at school 5 days a week from 8 am to 11 am and work 5 days a week, 3 days in the afternoon and 2 days in the morning—12-6 pm or 6-12 noon. The kitchen is the worst. I mop floors amid an incredibly dim enclosure under fluorescent

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Here is a letter from Marc Baker that was forwarded to us. It was written while he was serving his six month prison sentence. He is now serving five years probation.

Dear friends,

I read your last newsletter discovering, among other findings, my name mentioned along with those of other defendants in the AZ-5 trial. I feel as if you expressed some degree of compassion for all of us, so I decided to recompense your kindness by sharing a few of my thoughts and experiences. I might add as an introductory note that, until recently, I knew very little about EF!

During our sentencing, I was ordered by the judge to abstain from joining any groups that promote "monkeywrenching." Now I know from reading the newspapers and from listening to some of the malicious verbiage suggested by the federal attorneys that Earth First! was somehow implicated during our trial proceedings. (I could not help but notice the EF! logo on the newsletter you so thoughtfully sent to me as I was sitting in the Gila County jail craving reading material.) Because of the warning from the judge and from the disdainful manner the prosecution reproached your organization, I felt suspiciously that you were perhaps attempting to poison my seduceable mind with distorted rhetoric. Owing to my vague suspicion, I carefully scoured your newsletter for hidden lures and subversive undertows. After a thorough investigation (this word seemed appropriate), I was relieved to find not a whit of anti-American anarchist propaganda (nor were there any pro-monkey-wrenchisms). In contrast, what I did find was a sincere, rational expression of concern for our environment, valuable information, and helpful suggestions as to how we might ethically and legally attempt to ensure habitat conservation and/or restoration. In addition to reading your newsletter, I have, on occasion,

discussed environmental matters with a number of individuals who had some affiliation, one way or another, with EF! From these encounters, I have in memory only recollections of unselfish, intelligent conversation, except for an occasional element of tasteful humor. Initially, it was an enigma to me that the US government would harass a loose-knit group of non-violent, well-meaning citizens. After some thought I have come to realize that the government was using the "monkeywrenching" theme, along with our buffoonery, to attack EF! during the trial, the government waged an unprovoked, belligerent, at times psychotic, assault on EF!. If a repression of "monkeywrenching" was not their main objective, one might ask why did the US government fear a nonviolent organization such as EF!? Very simple—because EF! had been successful in many attempts to effect change. I am certainly not the first person to suggest this underlying fear of the US government. In fact, if I may risk a profound understatement, it is probably an inherent fear of most governments. To illustrate, take for example this passage written 300 years ago by Fernandez de Villalobos about the oppressive Spanish reign over much of our New World:

"The minister who does these things (numerous corrupt, oppressive activities), my lord, clearly will be guided not by reason but by his own convenience, and therefore he will surround himself with individuals who will advance his interests; and will encourage these men (his subordinates or assistants) to commit excesses, while he will always persecute and humiliate the just and virtuous, for these are the only ones he fears." translated by Benjamin Keen (ed) 1986 *Latin American Civilization*. Westview Press, Boulder, Co.

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Earth First! Angelic Choir Meets the God Squad in Portland

By TOFFER THE TAILED FROG

"Save the Forest Before We All Croak."

This was my message when, dressed as "Toffer the Tailed Frog" (an old-growth-Douglas-fir dependent species), I joined over a thousand other human and non-human protestors at a Rally for Endangered Ecosystems at Pioneer Courthouse Square in Portland, Oregon at the close of the God Squad hearings, Wednesday, January 29.

Our immediate concern was stopping the God Squad Fraud that threatens to permit harvest on 44 Bureau of Land Management timber sales which violate the Endangered Species Act. US Senate candidate Harry Lonsdale offered to lead a march to Coos Bay to protest the log exports that are one of the real causes of timber industry job losses, and Karen Wood promised that if legal avenues fail to protect critical reserves of biological diversity and "unlisted" spotted owl habitat such as the Canyon Roadless

Area in the Kalmiopsis (slated for cutting this year), Earth First!ers (not to mention tailed frogs) will put their bodies between the chainsaws and trees.

We marched from Pioneer Courthouse Square to another part of town to serenade the God Squad, who are rumored to be tone-deaf anyway, preferring the music of chainsaws to the music of trees, streams, owls and tailed frogs. Earth First! took up a collection to send the God Squad to Music School, with lessons by the Earth First! Angelic Choir from Hell.

Write letters urging the God Squad to harmonize with the Endangered Species Act and the rest of the planet: The God Squad, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240.

Contributions to the Angelic Choir from Hell can be sent to Earth First! Stumpfrogs POB 10384 Eugene, OR 97440 and Stumptown EF! POB 13765, Portland, OR 97213.



Photo by Junior Robertson

Humanism, Emotions & Environmental Activism

BY CHARLES SULLIVAN

In the lexicon of front line environmental activism, several themes and stereotypes recur. Foremost among them is the charge of emotionalism. In a male-dominated culture, such charges carry the inference of irrationality, fanaticism, of one's being uninformed. The dominant cultural paradigm fails to consider the value of emotions as necessary to maintain mental and spiritual health, as having long term survival value. We live in a society that has deliberately divorced itself from its feelings, a culture that has sanitized its inexhaustible capacity for destruction through the skillful manipulation of language. Modern western culture operates under the erroneous assumption that by altering language, we can also alter reality; however, in doing so, we only deny truth and mire ourselves in a labyrinth of self-deception, further exacerbating our separation from life's

*We live in a society that
has deliberately
divorced itself from its
feelings, a culture that has
sanitized its inexhaustible
desire for destruction
through the skillful
manipulation of language*

intricate web. Like an addict in the violent throes of self denial, we deepen the current ecological crisis.

One trenchant example of how sterile language desensitizes us is the collection of euphemisms used by foresters to describe clearcutting. Terms like "regeneration harvest" or "group selection" conceal the ugly truth behind the devastation, the violent contempt of the earth that is taking place on a global scale. By abusing language in a similar manner one might as easily refer to a rape victim as an "involuntary sperm recipient." The victim's view is likely to be very different. Let us not deceive ourselves into believing that hiding reality behind loaded language will protect us from the consequences of our own actions.

As humankind denies its emotional attachment to the land, we reject our ancestral biology. We recant our organic wholeness, our kinship with other life forms. We open ourselves to rationalizations that justify our plunder of the very planetary processes that have made life possible for us. We bitterly renounce our animal place in the intricate dance of evolution and arrogantly proclaim ourselves as the crown jewel of creation, what Thoreau correctly referred to as "man worship." And we do it at a terrific price.

In a poignant illustration of these allegations, I have been intimately involved in an emotionally charged, bitterly contested effort to save a 1,709 acre watershed in Hagerstown, Maryland, from being clearcut over a fifty year period. The current Forest Resource Management Plan (to use the Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources' bogus terminology) was drafted and approved by well-schooled foresters within the MDNR. Those of us who have doggedly opposed the plan have recently exhausted the legal process in defense of natural forests and native biodiversity, and now must move into the arena of civil disobedience. So be it.

Virtually the entire watershed is scheduled to be clearcut. The MDNR has not prepared an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), despite the fact that a Heritage biologist, Daniel Boone, has identified an endangered species of grass: black-fruited mountain rice in the first clearcut compartment.

A battery of private citizens armed with an

extensively documented array of scientific expertise testified against the proposed clearcut. Despite their impassioned, eloquent and well-informed testimony, we lost the decision by a 5-0 vote. Those who argued for forest preservation outnumbered those in favor of clearcutting (only state foresters and local politicians) by a ratio of twenty to one or more.

It is evident that momentous decisions affecting ecosystems are being made by ecological illiterates, by inane politicians who fail to comprehend even the most fundamental concepts of ecology. Preposterous blunders are being committed by educated people who fail to appreciate the difference between the disciplines of ecology and forestry.

One of the most powerful and effective weapons front-line activists have in their growing arsenal of life-preserving tools is the emergence of the science of Conservation Biology. However, even with an immense body of scientific evidence to support our arguments in favor of native biodiversity, the issue of being heard and taken seriously remains problematic. As Thoreau said: "It takes two to speak the truth: one to speak and one to hear."

In assessing the proposed clearcut, Hagerstown city officials exclusively sought the advice of professional foresters from within the MDNR and the Forest Service: both agencies are tree cutting experts—timber managers. The objective of industrial foresters is to maximize wood fiber production in the shortest possible rotations, turning natural forests into nothing more than fiber-producing factories in the process. The City Council made no effort to consult with ecologists or biologists, or any other disciplines in the field that could have supplied pertinent information. It is obvious these politicians give credence to professional foresters but not to conservation biologists and ecologists, despite their pertinent expertise and academic credentials.

At the hearing, Councilman John Schnebly publicly denounced the testimony of environmentalists as "emotional and uninformed," because it contradicted the assertions of "registered foresters" whom he previously described as "the experts, the keepers of the holy grail." One quickly learns in the arena of forest activism, however, that there are no experts. We know painfully little about the intricacies of forest ecology and how intact ecosystems function. The more we learn about undisturbed natural processes the more evident it becomes how little we do know. It is an act of supreme and unforgivable arrogance to think otherwise.

It is equally evident that people are losing faith in the existing political system on every level. I lost what little naivete I possessed in that vein long ago. Fundamental change, a major paradigm shift, must come from without rather than from within the existing political and societal infrastructure. That is not to say that we should not have factions working



like a colony of termites from within to hasten the decline of the current order. It is rotten to the core: the sooner it crumbles the better.

As for the charge of "emotionalism" leveled by John Schnebly and the MDNR, I heartily defend it. Modern western culture needs to become more emotional, not less. I deeply resent Schnebly's arrogant and asinine remarks. They sound hauntingly like those of a sexual or a racial bigot. Emotions are as important as intellectual abstractions, perhaps even more so. They have survival value. I have serious reservations about those men and women devoid of animal souls who are afraid to show their emotions.

The inference Schnebly made was that emotional people have less value, fewer rights than those who intellectualize exclusively. It implies that emotional people are not in full control of their faculties. It is a familiar allegation to old environmentalist warhorses like me. Nevertheless, I harbor deep resentment toward those who stupidly level charges. If you are so afraid of life that you cannot allow yourself to feel, then you are essentially dead.

What is life without its emotional and intellectual balance? If someone rapes your mother you become emotionally involved. You become outraged. Such emotions are a normal, healthy response to a deplorable act of violence.

Emotions are the umbilical that connects us to the web of life. Feelings affirm that we are indeed alive and willing participants in the planetary life-giving or life-taking process. The sooner we affirm that we cannot live without wilderness the better. To destroy wilderness is

*It is evident that
momentous decisions
affecting ecosystems are
being made by inane
politicians who fail to
comprehend even the most
fundamental concepts of
ecology.*

to destroy the wildness in ourselves, to replace the joy of experiencing the immense diversity of life with a conscious despair; a poverty of the soul, an unfathomable loneliness of the spirit. For those of us who are fully aware of our feelings, our emotions, the choice is obvious. Life! Native biodiversity! Wildness! We also know intuitively, perhaps, that direct personal involvement on behalf of Mother Earth is good for the soul.

Virtually all false perceptions about nature stem from the stigma of our diseased humanism. An outlook which denies intrinsic value and views the world merely as a sterile collection of "resources" is leading us down a path of accelerated exploitation and mass extinctions—a pathway from which, beyond an ill-defined point, there is no return. A world view in which the soil, the forest, and planet Earth's varied flora and fauna are acknowledged as living and endowed with souls, precludes excessive exploitation. It is unethical to murder other sentient beings; however, it is easy to exploit mere resources.

A land ethic, like that proposed by Aldo Leopold, requires humankind to be accountable to its own collective conscience, to bear responsibility, as it should, for its every act.

In ancient times, but recently in geologic history, the dominant world view was that of Ptolemy: the Earth as center of the universe. Through a revolution of learning, a change of values grudgingly took place—reality could only be ignored at great peril to our species. As a result, major shifts in perception occurred: paradigm shifts. Human history, still in a state of infancy, is replete with examples of major shifts in perception. Few humans cling to the belief that the Earth is the center of the universe today, with billions of galaxies revolving around Her: we know now that we are a small part of something unimaginably vast and complex.

Yet because of physical and spiritual separation from the living land fostered by an agrarian and technological lifestyle, and through continuing exponential population explosions, humankind somehow persists in perceiving itself as the center of creation, the apex of evolution. A major paradigm shift must occur if we are to survive as a species. Emotional and spiritual attachment to the entire biotic community is an integral part of that process. Such a shift of values will require reintegrating ourselves into the fabric of life, blended like a single thread of a particular color in a stupendous ornate tapestry woven of many threads. It will entail dissolving the human ego and replacing it with reverent humility for all life forms. As with the tapestry, life's web derives its strength and beauty from the interconnection of all threads.

Wild Rockies Roadless Area Rescue Expedition (RARE) to Target Idaho Timber Sales

BY LOST ELK

It's beginning to look like nothing will save the Mallard/Cove Creek areas in the Nez Perce National Forest in northern Idaho. The area the US Forest Service wants to cut is between two wilderness areas, the Selway-Bitterroot and the River-of-No-Return, the largest wilderness area in the lower 48 states. The Mallard/Cove Creek area is the biological corridor connecting these two wilderness areas. It is grey wolf recovery habitat and grizzly bear recovery habitat. If there are any wolverines or fishers left, they live here, along with mink and pine marten. Chinook salmon spawn in the creeks. Eagle, vultures and goshawks live here. There is no sense in making a list of all the animals. It's a wild critter paradise. Bighorns, elk, cougar, bear—you name an animal that lives in central Idaho and it's here.

It's big. It's about 40 miles long and 15 miles wide and there aren't any roads there—yet. It's a long way off the main road, probably a five hour drive from Lewiston, Idaho or Missoula, Montana.

I've flown over the area and walked through it many times. It is absolutely gorgeous. Down by the Salmon River are sagebrush, mountain mahogany, grasses and rock outcroppings. Literally straight up the canyon face (we call it "the Breaks") the vegetation gives way to ponderosa pine and grasslands with north-facing slopes of side canyons thick with Douglas fir and tamarack. Further up by the old Nez Perce trail, the vegetation is lodgepole and sub-alpine fir.

The Sierra Club traded the area off about 15 years ago. For awhile it appeared as if an Idaho sportsman's group would try to save it. They did file an appeal, but now they won't even respond to letters. Several other organizations seem interested, but Mallard Creek is a long way from everybody and we're all busy putting out "brush fires" near where we live.

As always, we are the last hope.

As I see it, we have two options: legal and non-legal. We might as well start with the legal (or quasi-legal). If it works, it's permanent; if it doesn't, we can retreat to the other option. If we are to win, we absolutely require popular support, the old lesson from Vietnam. More than half of this country's citizens consider themselves environmentalists. What we need is to bring the truth about the below-cost destruction that is happening, to bring it into their living rooms with the six-o'clock news every night for an entire year.

Then we will need to initiate an appeal through the court system. Even though I have little faith or experience in this theater of the absurd, we have virtually no other recourse. We desperately need somebody knowledgeable to take over this side of the project. Please contact me.

The other option is to go through all of our usual non-violent civil disobedience tricks. What I had in mind was tree sits, road blocks, legal demos, and most of all, a huge campout. It'll take the better part of the summer. Since most of our climbing gear was confiscated in Oregon, we'll need \$2000 to replace it, and as much climbing gear as people can lend us, bring along, or donate. We need public relations and media people, drivers, gofers, people with camcorders and taping equipment, and more. We'll need a camp kitchen and \$200-\$300 per week to feed everybody potatoes (after all, this is Idaho, the potato state, alias the wilderness state).

With everybody's support, we can do it.

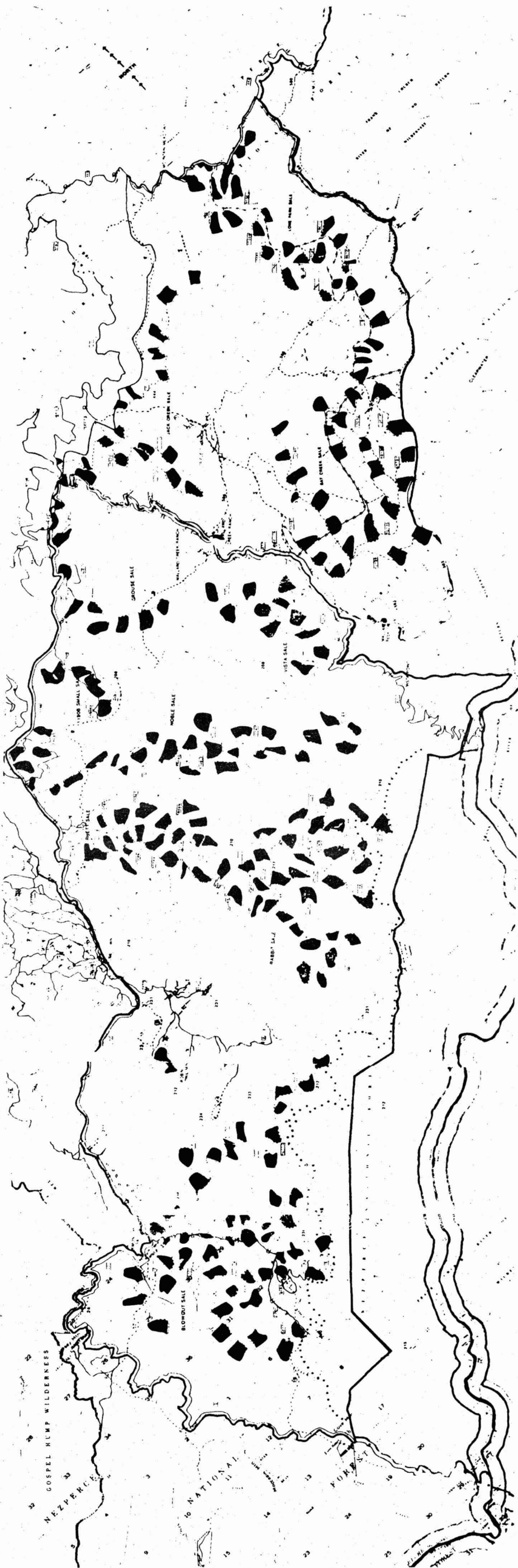
OK, now for the last part of the plan. We need 20,000 people to drive up that dirt road to Dixie, Idaho and have one great big, long, campout. We can throw the camp up in the road, park in the road and party on the road that is the access for destruction. We could have a "Name the Action" contest; the winner gets a free six-pack and the right to designate the first tree to climb.

My wish list, beyond 20,000 happy campers is simple; all musicians consider this your invitation, and if possible, someone get hold of a solar-powered amplification system. Oh, two other things we'll need: imagination and the grace of the Great Creator.

Last but not least, and this may even be the most important part, is our need for legal assistance and legal backup. Without this, all of our efforts may be for naught. Please respond, all of you lawyers.

Now you know about the sacredness of the place and what we need to do to save it. Please join us.

We plan to meet with the affinity group members who will organize this expedition in the last week of April. Planned is a campout meeting near Bozeman to discuss this venture. I'll announce firm dates at a later time, or contact us at: **Lost Elk/Mallard Cove, Roadless Area Rescue Expedition (RARE)**, POB 6151, Bozeman, MT 59715.



This is a map of the Mallard and Cove timber sales. The darkened portions are cutting units, most about 40 acres in size. The project area is roughly 25 miles long. The Freddie propose to cut over 80 million board feet and build over 140 miles of new roads. Better maps are available from the RARE should anyone desire them.

Forest Service Gives Mr. Rogers the Axe

BY T.T. FROG

It's hard for me to get excited any more about an "assault" upon one of our "sacred symbols." But the US Forest Service has finally pushed me over the edge.

One of my last, most cherished symbols of childhood innocence (pre-TV boycott days) has been arrogantly, violently sullied. The Mapleton Ranger District of Oregon's Siuslaw National Forest has named a planned 187-acre clearcut the "Mister Rogers Timber Sale."

I wrote Mister Rogers, once I learned of this, and gave him the details: a projected 10,375,000 board foot clearcut in known Spotted Owl habitat; average age of tree, 110 years; average diameter, 54"; 1.76 miles of new road construction planned. The sale was auctioned in September 1990 but awarding of the sale has been held up by a suit against Senate Bill 318, which had authorized it. I also provided an overview of forest issues and suggested that a public statement by Mister Rogers protesting the abuse of his name—and of forests, soils, workers, local and global ecosystems, etc.—might be in order.

The Vice President of Family Communications, Inc., which produces the "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," program responded on be-

half of Fred Rogers, asking for additional information, specifically in regard to the unauthorized use of Mister Rogers' name. He wanted to know which government agencies were responsible. I sent him a list of the hierarchy from Ranger District to White House. He also implied that, were Fred Rogers' schedule not so hectic, he might seriously consider a trip to Oregon to see the site of "his" sale. He made no promises about making a public statement, but the tone of the letter was appreciative and encouraging. I await a response to my second letter.

If you, too, think the Mister Rogers Timber Sale is a sale that should never happen, you may be able to help by letting Fred Rogers know that you, too have heard of it and that you hope he will do whatever he can to protest it—and to speak up and educate the public about what is happening to our forests. Despite frequent lampooning, Mister Rogers may be one of the few people that the majority of Americans still actually respect and trust. His influence could help make tomorrow "a beautiful day in the neighborhood" for many otherwise displaced or destroyed creatures. So please write:

Mr. Fred Rogers, 4802 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213.

Icarus on Stone Mountain

I may have been a wing zigzagging up thermals,
past birch igniting their green candles
and trout sketching their maps in gold tarns.

All I cared for was the rush of wind, high
amorphous clouds flapping sails over peaks,
long arcs of color hanging in the waterfall's mist.

I floated up, not knowing how to shift
in currents or hover in shadows chilled
by clouds or skid to a halt on summit's ice.

When wax dripped from my wing what could I do
but aim for the pond's lens among granite
the beaver hut white as a tomb of snow?

In the spillway's cans I found the trapped body
skinned from jaw to tail, its ribs shredding
flesh soft as bread into the brook's rapids.

Wobbly from flight I built a fire from gnawed sticks,
blew the skeleton into sparks until it rose
and hardened into constellations over the mountain.

Climbing down the trail animals had risen on,
I felt my bones in morning shudder into bones,
the clatter of boots was my first measure

the hush of distant waterfalls my only song.

—Jeremiah Genent

1992 Round River Rendezvous

First off, remember the dates: about June 27 through July 4. Second, thanks to all of you activists with advice regarding how to deal with the USFS and site selection. Currently, we're pursuing a permit, but we will stop the process if it no longer appears to be the path of least resistance. If the Freds are totally uncooperative, we may need to choose a number of RRR sites, issue maps, and simply leapfrog around any hassles that they give us. They're currently being "difficult," but what else is new? The First Amendment and Smokey have never been exactly on "speaking" terms.

The best location of the RRR is still being determined, but it's virtually for sure that it will be in the Pagosa Springs area of southwest Colorado. In case you haven't heard, the Rainbow Family (oh, how to describe these folks???) will probably be one mountain range over near Telluride. Never fear, it's at least a two hour drive by microbus between the two sites.

The money in the bank from previous RRRs seems like a lot, but prior committees have told us that the balance has never been so small. So, plan to shell out at least twenty bucks this year. Sending it in advance will really make us smile; checks made out to 1992 EF! RRR can be sent to POB 1166, Boulder, CO 80306-1166.

The committee hasn't been able to spend a lot of time on the "nice touches," so if you're available, volunteer! Stuff like ride coordination and solar-powered sound

systems just might not happen otherwise. Call Dan at (303) 385-4518 or MadDog at (303) 499-3761 to help out, or drop us a note at the above address. *Do not call with general questions. . . read the journal! Or drop us a line!! The final RRR map will be published as soon as we know the site!! MadDog and Dan hate to talk on the phone!!!*

The RRR committee is interested in reaching out to potential EF!ers; feel free to invite folks with EF! leanings, and/or contact alter-

Workshops this year will be based on the free market system of supply and demand. If you want to do a workshop, there will be a big board for schedules; all you have to do is fill in title, date, and time. If people want to attend, then the workshop will occur. The exception will be topics that folks find absolutely offensive (the offended folks will take responsibility for putting a stop to the workshop. A good example is a workshop that was going to be offered at the 1990 RRR

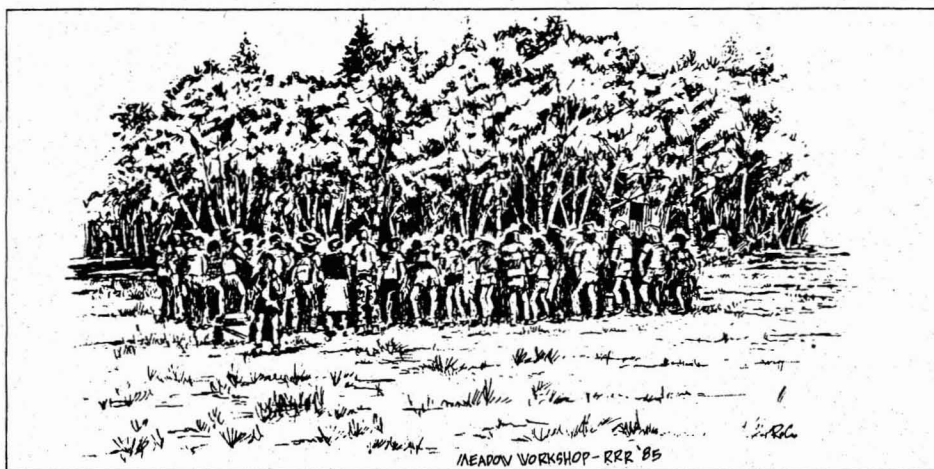
Animal tracking, tree climbing, hunt sabotaging, public grazing, etc. are all likely workshop topics. Offer a workshop of your own!

If you bring lots of American Express applications, there just may be a few rubber stamps for a massive "Stamp AMEX Out of East Fork!" event. If Tracy B. finds some lycra, she'll be leading a "Step Aerobics for the Earth" workout (just kidding). We also want to get some creative types together to come up with some "Neanderthal Olympics" events; use your imagination! Hopefully there will be interest in organizing the annual RRR Tribal Dance.

On a more serious note, one night there will be a memorial potluck to remember those Earth First!ers who recently have died.

Around the time of the RRR, individuals acting completely alone and without official committee permission might create an action in defense of biodiversity. As has always been the case, the committee does not officially condone such activity: EF!ers committing such actions are not part of the 1992 Round River Rendezvous Committee. Do actions on your own time (how's that, Dave???)

Who knows what will happen at the 1992 Round River Rendezvous? There will possibly be a little conflict, a little tension within the tribe. Most likely there will be hellacious partying, good workshops, and enjoyable exchanges of genetic material. SO BE THERE. Put June 27 through July 4 (or so) on your calendar. . . see ya in the San Juans!!



native publications with info regarding the RRR. Just do it!

We're also interested in folks wanting to control media intrusion. Our idea is a "Media Slut Corps"; its mission will be to seek out media, intercede, answer questions politely, steer the media to folks working on campaigns who want publicity, and to stop the media from wandering randomly. One EF!er has already promised to slime any unattended media! She's also promised to come up with a hand-out for media to read.

on "Political Assassination." The presenter was convinced to remove it from the schedule, but not before the media widely broadcast the topic.

Events that may occur this year include a workshop on doing talk radio using "Bullbaiting" techniques; learn to stand up to the toughest questions, the nastiest comments! There should be plenty of workshops on the San Juan bioregion, from griz reintroduction to the impact of old growth logging.

Warrior Poets' Society

BY DENNIS FRITZINGER

In her utopia "Woman on the Edge of Time," Marge Piercy posits small communities where, when decisions are made, there's a member who puts on a mask—Oak mask, Trout mask, Owl mask—and speaks for the speechless. Gary Snyder suggests that's what poets do, that's one of poetry's functions.

Poets, by being able to speak for nature, have a guiding mission within the Earth First! movement. It's no accident that the humanists have undercut the role of the poet—they realize the danger of having someone around to actually speak for the trees, since what they say might undercut their position.

Well, I say it's time for poets to stand up! and get organized—reclaim their rightful place in the EF! (or any other) community as bards, seers, and interpreters of the wild.

Poets have earned the right to be called activists. Moreover, poetry is a right brain activity that circumvents blockades put up by the left, "rational" brain, the household of what Bly calls "The Old Position."

If you want to gauge the importance of poets to the Earth First! movement, check out *Eco-Warriors*, *The Real Work*, *Simple in Means*, *Rich in Ends*. If you want to gauge the importance of



poets to the environmental movement as a whole, check out *Tongues In Trees* (Kim Taplin), *Imagining the Earth* (John Elder), *News Of the Universe* (Robert Bly), and the intro to *The Forgotten Language* (Christopher Merrill).

When the Collective took over the Journal, they disarmed the Armed With Visions page. The first 9 issues had, respectively, 7,5,4,5,2,4,1, and 7 poems—scattered throughout and hard to find. The current average is about 4 poems per 40 page issue.

Given the importance of poetry to deep ecology, and the many fine poets in EF! (one only has to examine the many Armed With Visions pages, but you can also refer to *Eco-Warriors* by Scarce), I expected (and continue to hope for) better treatment from the journal.

In a way, I suppose having a Warrior Poets' Society occurred to me as a way to counter those trends. There is strength in numbers, but only when others can see those numbers.

So, concerned that poetry might disappear from the Journal, and the Movement altogether, I decided to call together our first meeting at the RRR in Vermont. I was surprised and delighted when 20 poets and onlookers showed up. This vindicated my belief that poetry was still alive in the tribe.

By making Earth First! warrior poets more visible via a t-shirt and a Society, I hoped to get us talking, thinking, and writing. I also hope to get the Armed With Visions page re-armed, and generally improve the relation of poetry within the tribe!

I think poetry can make a contribution to the Earth First! "narrative"—perhaps an even bigger contribution than the poets themselves realize.

Warrior Poets' Society Bancroft and Telegraph, ASUC Box 361, Berkeley, CA 94720-1111.

Direct Action Fund Annual Report

INCOME: We raised about \$27,000 in 1991. This came from donations from special appeals and targeted mailings in the spring, a fund-raising letter to the EF! Journal list in June, a letter to the DAF donors and personal outreach appeals. Mike Roselle also handed over his speaking fees to DAF. Our donors continue to be the grassroots—people who write us great letters, ask questions and give moderate amounts of money—the average donation is \$25. Note: When comparing income and outflow, keep in mind that this is not a balance sheet. Donations coming in in November and December meant that coming into 1992 we have money in the bank to allocate funds before spring fundraising and to pay the expenses of the next round of fundraising. This is a big improvement over last year, I might add. Of the \$27,000 raised, about \$20,000 was spent in the calendar year.

Approximately \$11,000 went into funding of actions and campaigns. For this report, I grouped the actions and campaigns that DAF funded into three categories: over \$500, \$2-500, under \$200.

In the first category (over \$500):

- *the SOS Sarawak Action in Malaysia in July. DAF helped with travel expenses and bought film for the film crew.

- *the Soldier Key campaign in the Florida Everglades

- *Direct Action Tour and accompanying actions by Darryl Cherney, George Shook and Abe Ringel at over 20 Cal State campuses exposing Cal State Chancellor Barry Munitz's role in MAXXAM's liquidation of the old growth redwood forests.

- *Ecotopia Summer actions, including a week of actions in the old growth redwoods in July, a banner hanging in Sacramento and a road blockade utilizing a buried Pinto.

- *Arizona Conspiracy Trial support work: Although principle person doing media outreach/EF! spokesperson/movement information/support work (me) raised most of her \$ for this purpose separate from the Legal Defense Fund and the Direct Action Fund, some phone bills and other expenses were supported by DAF while I recovered from a car wreck that curtailed my fundraising activities.

- *Activist Support is in this category, being just that, and covers sporadic and out of the ordinary needs of activists in the field.

In the second category (\$200-\$500):

- *Animal Damage Control —All the Dead Critters—outreach mailing

- *Support for AmEx campaign

- *Tour of the Damned — Campaign Against James

Bay Hydro-Project by Northeast activists

- *Shawnee campaign in September

- *Mt Graham campaign

- *Dead Fish action in the Northeast opposing NY Dept. of Environmental Conservation pond wrecklamation

- *EF!/SouthPaw protest against I-26 highway expansion in east Tennessee threatening black bear and brook trout populations in Southern Appalachians

- *Old Growth slide show preparation

In the "They're Soooooo Thrifty—I Love 'em!" #3 category:

- *Campaign to petition for listing of the endangered cactus wren in San Diego area

- *Endangered Species Week

- *Headwaters campaign (Northern Calif.)

- *AZ 5 Support Rally at sentencing

Other expenses:

- *An additional \$1,000 of action money went for leftover 1990 campaign bills.

- *DAF aided (and abetted!) the Nov. 90 Boulder Activist Conference to the tune of \$300.

- *Outreach and education accounted for an additional \$1700. Some of this could be applied to various campaigns and actions. The DAF phone and PO box have also become a principal Earth First! info source for the general public, other organizations, media, the FBI, etc. and expenses are incurred there.

That's the funding story in the activist realm. What's left is the very boring but somehow omnipresent administrative costs: direct overhead for fund-raising. Total costs were about \$6500 which included office supplies (primarily paper and envelopes, printing, postage, phone, contract services, computer costs and repair, and bank fees.)

The principal contact and workdog of the Direct Action Fund is Karen Pickett. Others who advise and otherwise make DAF work are: Bob Stern, an advisor, who so far has kept the IRS out of our hair; Mike Roselle, founder of DAF, advisor and fundraiser; Steve Marsden and Jennifer Beigel, advisors from the northwest woods and communicators with the inquisitive who show up in our mailbox; Daniel Barron, advisor and supporter; and Artemesia, data entry and detail woman.

Direct Action Fund: POB 210 Canyon, CA94516
(510) 376-7329
Fax: 631-7958

EF! Foundation Alive and Well Under a New Name

BY DANIEL CONNER

During its October 1991 meeting, the Board of Directors of the Earth First! Foundation changed its name. We are now the Fund for Wild Nature. This reflects recent changes within the environmental movement, but not necessarily a change in our own philosophy and direction. We remain committed to activism in pursuit of big wilderness, biodiversity, and restoration of damaged ecosystems.

Granted, the new title lacks pizzazz. Most of us were reluctant to let go of a name that for ten years succinctly expressed our views and purpose, and which has also become widely known. But we agreed that "Earth First!" has become fighting words to many who might otherwise be receptive to the message of ecocentrism. The size of the job to be done is too great to waste time quibbling about slogans.

Projects we fund must be arguably educational in nature. As before, we welcome proposals from those who put the Earth first, who call themselves EF!ers, and for projects with EF! in their title. We will remain a funding alternative for grassroots activists unable or unwilling to get support from mainstream foundations or corporations.

We have the means, however, to fund only a fraction of worthy proposals we receive. This forces us to make hard choices, and to pass over many proposals of obvious merit. It inclines us to favor projects with innovative ways to educate those unfamiliar with the urgency of the threats to the health of the planet. As a result, we look for projects that are both activist and radical in the truest sense of the word—i.e., that go to the root of the problem.

To cite a few recent examples: at our January meeting we fully funded start-up costs for a rural activists' newsletter that will give voice to people left unemployed by corporate exploitation of

nature. We partially funded purchase of a boat to patrol Miami harbor with a display of provocative banners and flags to dramatize the threat of waterway destruction. And we recently funded an inventory of natural areas in Poland suitable for ecological reserve status. Depending on the state of our finances we still underwrite an occasional roadshow, but we suspect that the cutting edge of activism may now have moved elsewhere.

We're not big-time by any measure. Over the last three years we distributed more than \$188,000 to EF!ers and others to spread the message. We're lean and our overhead is modest; a higher percentage of our donations goes to projects than just about any other funding source you can name.

EF! Foundation was incorporated in 1982 under the laws of Utah, and shortly thereafter was awarded 501(c)(3) nonprofit status by the IRS. Contributions are fully tax-deductible, and we frequently grant fiscal sponsorship to individuals and organizations who need an umbrella to raise their own funds. The current Board of Directors is as follows:

Ed Grumbine, Santa Cruz, CA, President
Dave Parks, San Francisco, CA, Vice-President.

Bill Devall, Arcata, CA, Secretary
Linda Wells, Tucson, AZ, Treasurer
Daniel Conner, Missoula, MT, Legal Counsel

Trudy Frisk, Kamloops, B.C.
Richard Grossman, Provincetown, MA
Randy Hayes, San Francisco, CA
Myra Noss, Corvallis, OR, staff

We ask for the continued support of EF!ers. An SASE to us at POB 1683, Corvallis, OR 97339 will bring a copy of our submission guidelines or annual report.

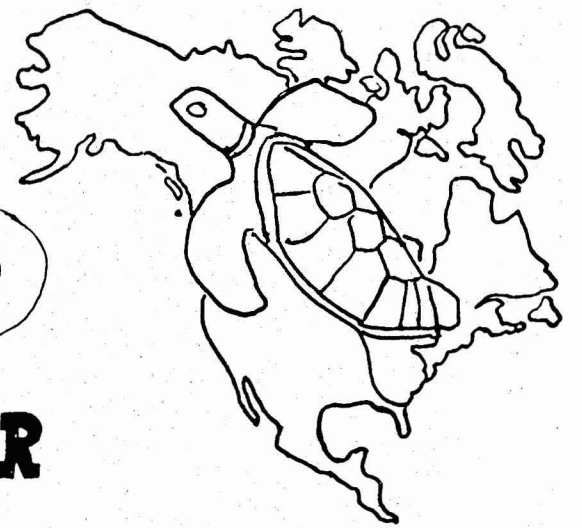
NORTH AMERICA

NEEDS

PREDATORS

FOR

INTACT ECOSYSTEMS



Predator Project

Humans seem bent on manipulating, controlling, and even extirpating all competing predatory species in a global war on the wild. The work of the Predator Project is motivated by worldwide threats to predators and wild ecosystems, by our belief that wild creatures have an inherent right to exist *for their own sake*, and by our conviction that predators are wildness incarnate and a rallying point for ecosystem preservation.

Many of you out there may be wondering what and who the Predator Project is. We hope that this Blank Wall will give you a sense of who we are and what we are up to. We, a small cadre of dedicated and experienced activists in the Wild Rockies, have formed the Predator Project to unite efforts on behalf of as many predator species as possible. So far, our efforts have focused on grizzly bears, wolves, black bears, black-footed ferrets, wolverines, and all those meat eaters affected by the Animal Damage Control program.

Admittedly, the vast variety of predatory species and the scope of problems facing them far outweigh our time and resources. So, like any activist group, we prioritize. Our most basic objectives are:

1) to continue and to expand our efforts towards insuring sufficient habitat and protection for predators across North America; 2) to educate the public about the natural role of predators and the need to insure sufficient protection of their natural habits and habitats; and 3) to encourage and empower individuals to take action on behalf of wild predators by presenting information in ways that allow people to address their predator-related concerns in a timely and effective manner.

We seek help in these and other campaigns, and are always interested in working with individuals willing to help in any way, including, but not limited to:

- Monitoring and challenging the actions of public land and wildlife management agencies.

- Informing us of issues or actions concerning the well-being of any wild predator so that we may act upon it in a timely manner.

- Working with us on local and regional wildlife issues which you are familiar with and/or interested in.

- Educating via public meetings and events, letters-to-the-editor, fund-raisers, etc.

- Raising funds to help keep us going in our many efforts. Donated money will go mainly to phone, postage, printing and petrol.

THE VISION

Our vision is the restoration of all native predators to their respective habitats and ecological roles. This vision would entail a return to something approaching pre-European condition. But the fact of the matter is that human manipulation continues to suppress the wild meat eaters. Suppression and extirpation are fostered by federal and state legislation and directives, laws and policies which allow for hunting, trapping, and control of predators, as well as loss of essential habitat. It will likely be some time before the collective "we" recognizes that humans can and should co-exist with our fellow predators. In the meantime, much of the Predator Project's work will be focused on minimizing the damage caused by these laws and policies, while challenging and changing the status quo.

HOW TO REACH US:

Tom Skeele (Wolf, ADC, Wolverine) POB 6733, Bozeman, MT 59771 (406) 587-3389
Phil Knight (Grizzly and Black Bear) POB 6151, Bozeman, MT 59715 (406) 585-9211



Predator Project Challenges Bear Baiting on National Forests

The Forest Service has a contradictory position in regard to hunting black bears with bait. Both the Northern and Intermountain regions of the Forest Service have clearly stated their opposition to black bear baiting as a hunting technique. Yet the Forest Service continues to allow bear baiting on national forest lands in these regions, excluding Montana, where baiting has been outlawed.

Detecting a flaw in this lack of coordinated policy, we wrote to every national forest in the Northern and Intermountain regions, as well as the Rocky Mountain region forests. We challenged them to state their policy on bear baiting, to justify allowing it in light of clear opposition from the regional offices, and to state how many bears are taken annually by this method and in what seasons. Replies have started to come in. Predictably, the Forest Service shucks the responsibility off onto the states. For instance: "In the state of Colorado, the Division of Wildlife has recognized baiting as a legitimate method of harvesting black bears. Consequently, the regulation of baiting is under their authority." Thusly do they dodge the issue and their role in it. Basically the majority of Forest Supervisors deny that there are any problems with bear baiting, and refuse to deal with it until there are.

So far, only one forest (the Rio Grande) even had records of how many bears were killed on the forest and when. "The Forest does not have, nor maintain, such records" states the Supervisor of the Medicine Bow N.F. Yet the Forest Service issues the permits for baiting! Idaho, as we have reported in the past, does not even have a permit system, allowing baiting to go on without any F.S. control. This may soon change though. The Forest Service in Idaho is considering a permit system.

Information just received from the Boise N.F. in response to our letter reveals the disparate positions of different Idaho forests in regard to baiting and a potential permit system:

Salmon N.F.: Favors an Idaho Fish&Game permit system.

Clearwater N.F.: Does not feel there is a problem with current situation.

Nez Perce N.F.: Supports development of joint permit system with State.

Challis N.F.: Objects to bear baiting, but if it is to occur, supports joint permit system with State.

Targhee N.F.: Supports joint permit system.

Boise N.F.: Taking lead on developing uniform bear baiting guidelines and permit system.

Intermountain Region Office: Favors a coordinated effort between State and F.S. similar to that used in Utah.

Northern Region Office: Still favors a phaseout of bear baiting in Idaho, but if baiting to occur, supports standardization between all Forest Service units in Idaho.

We await responses to our letter from quite a few forests. Clearly there is considerable opposition to baiting within the F.S., but they bow to the policies of the States, whose wildlife agencies are dominated by hunting lobbies. The Predator Project maintains that the F.S. should use their clout to oppose this appalling method of bear slaughter and should continue to pressure the State wildlife management agencies to do away with bear baiting.

What You Can Do to Help

A year ago, we explained how a large number of National Forests' Animal Damage Control (ADC) predator control programs had never been analyzed for their environmental impacts, and therefore were out of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Soon the opportunity to use the NEPA process to challenge ADC activities on National Forest lands will be past. However, there still exists plenty of ways to con- pressure on activities on lands, as well other public (BLM and USFWS) and private lands.



While our preference is to shut down ADC, the following comments are directed toward minimizing ADC's activities. Since a 61-year old law allows ADC to exist, much of our work is focused on limiting the damage ADC does. Your help is needed to drag ADC out into the light of day, and make them more accountable for what they do.

At the state and local level, ADC personnel are greatly irritated by and resistant to growing public scrutiny. At the regional and national level, they are very sensitive about bad press and public image. No surprise there, but worth remembering! As you delve into predator control, you'll likely find allies with the biologists and recreational special-



DC - William Clay; POB
DC - Operational Staff; Room
Western Region; Bldg. 16 -
Eastern Region; Kinsport Bldg,
Denver Wildlife Research Center;
Pocatello Supply Depot; 238 East
AR - Thurman Booth, Jr.; 55 Post
AZ - State Director; 1960 W. North
CA - Ronald Thompson, Director;
CO - Alan Foster; Independence Plaza;
FL - Richard Thompson; 227 N.
GA - Douglas Hall; School of Forest
IL - Director; Fed Bldg, Room 104; 600 E.
IN - David Williams; Entomology Hall,
ID - Mike Worthen; 1828 Airport Way; Boise, ID 83705 (208) 334-1440
LA - Dwight LeBlanc; POB 25315, University Station; Baton Rouge, LA 70893-5315 (504) 389-0229
MA, RI, & CT - Laura Henze; 463 West Street; Amherst, MA 01002 (413) 253-2403
MD, DE, & DC - Les Terry; 1825 B Virginia Avenue; Annapolis, MD 21401 (301) 269-0057
ME - Alfred Godin; 40 Western Ave., POB 800; Augusta, ME 04330-0800 (207) 622-8262
MI - Douglas Parr; 108 Spring Street; St. Johns, MI 48879 (517) 224-9517
MN - Richard Wetzel; 162 Fed Courts Bldg; 316 N. Roberts Street; St. Paul, MN 55101 (612) 290-3157
MO - Lyle Stemmerman; (MO & IA); Fed Bldg; 601 E. 12th Street; Kansas City, MO 64106 (816) 426-6166
MS - Frank Boyd; (MS & AL); PO Drawer FW, Dorman Hall; MSU; Mississippi State, MS 39762 (601) 325-3014

ADC's
USFS
as

the USFS, BLM, USFWS, and state wildlife agencies. Again, no surprise, but....

Generally stated, you should go about collecting as much information on ADC activities as you can, and then condense that information into a packet of unavoidably hard-hitting facts about the reality of ADC. Here are some ideas of what information to ask for (beware, you are now entering the realm of official jargon).

- Ask for a copy of ADC's national and state annual reports (see accompanying addresses). Ask ADC for copies of the regular (usually monthly) reports they send to cooperating agencies (USFS, BLM, USFWS, state wildlife agency, or county) on numbers of livestock lost, requests for control, control actions taken, and results of their activities. Consider asking for a year's worth, and to be placed on their mailing list.

- Get on agencies' (USFS, BLM, USFWS) mailing lists for public announcements. You'll be amazed at what you'll learn about ADC and related issues (livestock, predator management, habitat loss, etc.).

- Ask for copies of public land agencies ADC work plan and environmental analysis, national memorandum of understanding with ADC, that agency's directives for ADC predator control, and any other documents which affect or relate to ADC activities on that land.

- Both USFS and BLM policy is for the local Forest or District to meet with ADC personnel at least once a year to evaluate and update the work plan. While these meetings are not public meetings, they are open to the public and your presence would certainly add a new light to them. You'll need to ask when those meetings will be held, as none of the



Here is a list of addresses of the regional and state offices. Trust us when we say that they are anxious to help.

96464; Room 1624 South Agricultural Bldg.; Wash., D.C. 20090-6464 (202) 447-2054
820, Federal Bldg.; 6505 Belcrest Rd.; Hyattsville, MD 20782 (301) 436-7921
Denver Federal Center; POB 25266; Denver, CO 80225-0266 (303) 236-4031
Koger Center; 215 Centerview Dr; Brentwood, TN 37027 (615) 736-5095
POB 252266, Bldg 16; Denver, CO 80225 (303)-236-7820
Dillon St.; Pocatello, ID 83201 (208) 236-6922
Office Bldg; 600 W. Capitol Avenue; Little Rock, AR 72201 (501) 378-5382
Lane; Phoenix, AZ 85021 (602) 241-2537
Room E-1831; 2800 Cottage Way; Sacramento, CA 95825 (916) 978-4621
529 - 25 1/2 Road; Grand Junction, CO 81505-6122 (303) 245-9618
Bronough Street, Suite 1022; Tallahassee, FL 32301 (904) 681-7459
Resources; U of GA; Athens, GA 30602 (404) 546-2020
Monroe Street; Springfield, IL 62701 (217) 492-4308
Room B-14; Purdue U; West Lafayette, IN 47907 (317) 494-6229



Yet Another Example Of Being Unclear On The Concept

The federal Montana ADC 1990 Annual Report is filled with facts and figures of wildlife killed, livestock protected, money spent. Of the 6,569 mammals killed, one was an endangered gray wolf! For those of you who follow the travesty called the Northern Rocky Mountain Wolf Recovery Program, you're aware that ADC has become a regular feature of the far-to-numerous government control efforts. This particular wolf kill should be of interest to EF'ers! And we quote (typos included):

"Upon request by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Animal Damage Control Program assisted the Service in capturing a gray wolf responsible for killing calves near Marion, Montana. ADC and Service personnel confirmed the damage, which totaled \$2,500.00 and initiated actions to capture the animal. Steel leg-hold traps were set to capture the wolf alive; but, due to the interference from Earth First protestors, lethal control was necessary to stop the killing. Costs associated with the project were funded by the US Fish and Wildlife Service."

IDEAS FOR WORKING WITH THE PREDATOR PROJECT!

Here are some odds and ends which you can pursue in your efforts on behalf of the wild ones at the top of the food chain.

Get On Our Mailing List

We try to get a newsletter out about every three-four months, and send out nation-wide and regional alerts on a much more regular basis.

Sent Us Any News and Graphics About Predators

We are always interested in any information pertaining to predators (newspaper article, government announcement or document, etc.), and those actions needed to increase or ensure protection for them. As well, we are interested in any graphics, poetry, or writings you might have about the wild flesh eaters.

Control the Controllers

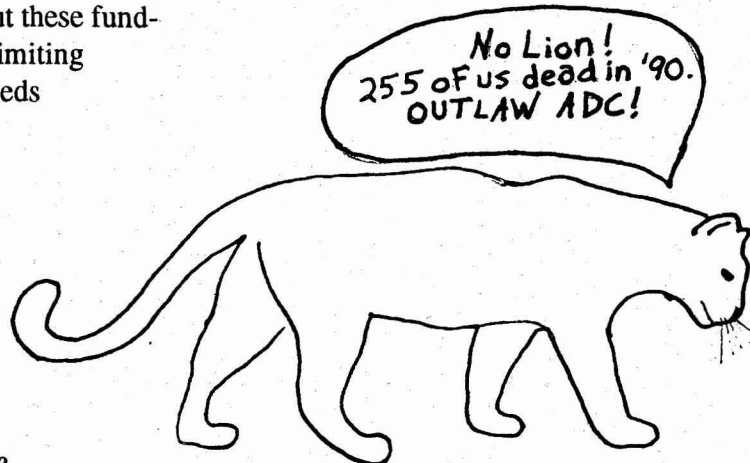
agencies are volunteering that information. Consider organizing a public meeting about ADC activities, and invite someone from those agencies involved to speak.

- Every year, predator control gets funded at the national, state, and county level. Federal funds go directly to ADC, and some state and county money slated for predator control is given to ADC as part of the cooperating agreement states and counties have with ADC (see ADC's state-level annual reports for details). Learning more about these funding agreements, and then limiting them, is something which needs more public attention.

- Learn about the cooperating agreements between ADC and other state, county, and local animal damage control efforts. Although the ADC program we generally refer to is a federal program, most states and many counties also have an animal damage control program. Ask the federal ADC program for addresses of the state and county programs.

- Ask to go out into the field with ADC "control agents" to see how their work is done. Thus far, only a few individuals have done this, and it would be great to see more people pursue this angle.

There are many more ideas, and the list keeps growing. If you have any other ideas, or come across them in your diligent quest for knowledge and change, please let us know of them. Diversity is strength!



Well, it's that time of year again; appropriations process! The federal appropriations process is opportunity to try and establish some temporary controls on ADC by limiting their general funding, as well as get a greater percentage of that funding earmarked for non-lethal control and research. It is also a great opportunity to educate the the general public and all congressional delegates about the ecological and financial inappropriateness of the program. We encourage you to get involved in whatever way you can (letters to Congress, letters to local papers, public meetings, etc.).

The USDA has requested \$24,905,000 for operations and \$9,353,000 for research and development for fiscal year 1993, a decrease of \$707,000 and \$164,00 (respectively) from this year's estimated final expenditures. The various appropriations committees and all congressional delegates need to continue hearing from people who feel ADC shouldn't exist. They also need to hear that a decreased overall budget (30-50%), with an increase in the amount designated for non-lethal operations and research (30-50%), would be a good start in phasing out the program.

Write to:

Subcommittee on Rural Development, Agriculture, and Related Agencies; House of Representatives; Washington, DC 20515-6016 [Jamie Whitten, (MS), Chair; Bob Traxler, (MI); Matthew McHugh, (NY); William Natcher, (KY); Wes Watkins, (OK); Richard Durbin, (IL); Neal Smith, (IA); Virginia Smith, (NE); John Myers, (IN); Joe Skeen, (NM); Vin Weber, (MN)].

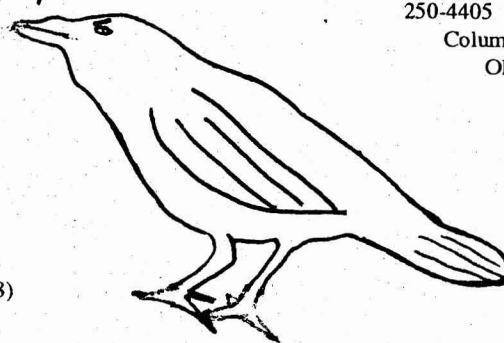
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies; U.S. Senate; Washington DC 20510-6026 [Quentin Burdick, (ND), Chair; Dale Bumpers, (AR); Tom Harkin, (IA); Brock Adams, (WA); Wyche Fowler, Jr., (GA); Robert Kerrey, (NE); Thad Cochran, (MS); Robert Kasten (WI); Arlen Specter (PA); Don Nichols (OK); Christopher Bond, (MO)].

offices for the federal Animal Damage Control Program.

xiously awaiting your inquiries.

MT - Larry Handegard; POB 1938; Billings, MT 59103 (406) 657-
NC - Director; Fed Bldg, Room 624; POB 25878; Raleigh, NC 27611
NE & SD - Charles Brown; 437 Federal Bldg.; Lincoln, NE 68508
NH & VT - Dennis Slate; POB 2398; Concord, NH 03302-2398
NJ & PA - Edwin Butler; RD #1, Box 148-A; Pleasant Plains Road;
NV - Gilbert Marrujo; Bldg. C; 4600 Kietzke Lane; Reno, NV
NY - James Forbes; POB 97; O'Brien Fed. Bldg, Room 126;
NM - Director; 10304 Candelaria, NE; Albuquerque, NM 87112
ND - Director; 1500 Capitol Avenue; Bismark, ND 58501 (701)
OH - Doug Andrews; Fed Bldg, Room 622; 200 N. High St.;
OK - Berkeley Peterson; (OK & KS); 2800 N. Lincoln Blvd.;
OR - Thomas Hoffman; 727 N.E. 24th Avenue; Portland, OR 97232
SC - Johnny Williamson; 1835 Assembly Bldg; Columbus, SC 29201
TN & KY - Kenneth Garner; 441 Donelson Pike, Suite 340; Nashville,
TX - Gary Nunley; POB 830337; San Antonio, TX 78283-0337 (512)
UT - Director; POB 26976; Salt Lake City, UT 84126-0976 (801) 524-5629
VA - Director; 105 Wilson Avenue; Blacksburg, VA 24060 (703) 552-8792
WA, HI, & AK - Gary Oldenburg; 3625 93rd Avenue, SW; Olympia, WA 98502
WI - James Winnat; 750 Windsor Street, Room 207; Sun Prairie, WI 53590 (608)
WY - William Rightmire; POB 59; Casper, WY 82602 (307) 261-5336

I'm Raven mad!
ADC Killed 867
of us in 1990!!



6464
(919) 856-4132
(402) 437-5097
(603) 225-1416
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920 (201) 647-4109
89502 (702) 782-5081
Albany, NY 12201 (518) 472-6492
(503) 761-4640
250-4405
Columbus, OH 43215 (614) 469-5681
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4298 (405) 521-4039
(503) 231-6184
(803) 765-5957
TN 37214 (615) 736-5506
229-5535

(206) 753-9884
837-2727

Design A Logo For The Predator Project!

We are also seeking an artist who would be willing to donate her/his time to design a logo for the Predator Project. We'd like to be able to use it on newsletters and alerts and/or as a T-shirt design. Send your artwork our way! If we use your work, we will acknowledge it in our newsletters and other publicity (that is unless you don't want us to).

Activist's Grizzly Bear Guide Available!

We are offering a six-page guide of current issues across North America which you can use to get involved in helping the grizzly survive. This guide is constantly being refined and updated. If you'd like a copy, send an SASE if possible. Do it NOW - do it TODAY, there's ever less time left for the Great Bear.

Get Your Group To Sign On To The Lake/Bridge Bay Resolution.

This document, which is being circulated by the Predator Project, calls for delayed opening of these two tourist developments in Yellowstone National Park. These delays would provide more safety for grizzly bears which feed in the late spring on spawning cutthroat trout living in tributaries of Yellowstone Lake. This proposal has the support of an array of biologist and activists. Add your support!

We Need Your \$\$\$\$

Give us your hard-earned pennies. How brash, you say! Who else will put your donations more directly to work for our wild brethren of the fanged? Who else covers the spectrum of issues affecting wolves, grizzlies, ADC, wolverines and other predators? Choose us as recipients of your generosity, and you'll be supporting the only grassroots group that covers predator issues across the continent.

Grizzly Situation In British Columbia

Article by Wild Wolf
Western Canada Earth First!

British Columbia, the western most Canadian province, is world renowned for its vast tracts of pristine wilderness. In truth, this is bullshit. B.C. has recently become better known for its horrendous logging practices, among the most destructive on the planet. But there are yet more troubles brewing in "Super, Natural" B.C. The province is one of the last refuges for grizzly bears and people are coming here in spring and summer to kill them. B.C. still has a legal grizzly hunt, with 337 killed legally in 1989! Un-fucking-believable! As far as we can estimate, another 300-400 bears will be slaughtered this year. And the legal kill is just the tip of the tombstone.

A leaked Ministry of the Environment report shows further grim statistics from 1989. Eighty five bears are estimated to have died from being wounded and not recovered. Another 68 were killed as "nuisance bears", generally by residents of logging and mineral exploration camps. Poachers claimed another estimated 260 bears! (a minimum figure, perhaps way low). The pressure from illegal

killing of grizzlies has increased over the past few years because of the rise in price of legal body parts in B.C. and illegal hides and trophies in the U.S. and other parts of the world, particularly the Orient. Grizzly cubs are also victims of this genocide. A conservatively estimated 170 cubs died after their mothers were killed illegally. A further 22 bears were killed in accidents with vehicles and machinery. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF GRIZZLY BEARS KILLED BY HUMANS IN B.C. DURING 1989 = APPROXIMATELY 935 BEARS!! This is about equal to the entire grizzly population of the Lower 48, and may be as much as 20% of the entire B.C. grizzly population!

This is intolerable. We demand an immediate halt to all legal grizzly hunting in British Columbia. A halt to legal grizzly hunting, aside from stopping the killing of hundreds of bears annually, would make it impossible for poachers to disguise their victims as "legal kills." Our campaign to stop the hunt will include direct action. If the government does not meet our demands the we will need YOUR help. If enough people are interested we'll organize a hunt sab!

PLEASE, WE'LL NEED YOUR HELP TO STOP THIS NEEDLESS DESTRUCTION OF GRIZZLIES.

If you can't participate directly, please send money or supplies. This will be a long, hard fight, but with every one's help the bear WILL win. Send inquiries, money and stuff to:

Western Canada Earth First!, Box 61245, Brentwood Postal Station Northwest, Calgary, Alberta T2L 2K6 Canada (403) 934-5159

SEND LETTERS OF PROTEST TO:

John Reynolds
Minister of Environment
Parliament Buildings
Victoria B.C. V8V 1X5 Canada

Premier of British Columbia
Parliament Buildings
Victoria B.C. V8V 1X4 Canada

J. Walker
Ministry of Environment
Wildlife Branch
780 Blanshard St.
Victoria B.C. Canada V8V 1X4



Khutzeymateen: World Class Grizzly Sanctuary or Clearcut?

One of the world's most significant populations of grizzly bears resides in British Columbia, Canada. Sadly, B.C. has perhaps the least progressive bear policies in North America (see related article). B.C. has not set aside one refuge for grizzlies. Alaska has three. In fact, there is not one grizzly sanctuary in all of Canada, home to about half of all surviving grizzly bears.

The Khutzeymateen River Valley, 25 miles north of Prince Rupert on the coast of B.C., is the best candidate for a B.C. grizzly preserve. Here the Khutzeymateen River meets the Pacific Ocean in a deep fiord after plunging from the

glacier-draped mountains above. Giant Sitka spruce form stands of ancient rainforest where generations of grizzlies have trampled deep trails in the forest floor. Sharing the valley with bears are wolves, eagles and harbor seals. Big peaks rise from the narrow valley where the river winds between alternating stands of Sitka and open meadows. As many as 50 grizzlies use this valley regularly. The main attraction for the bears are the salmon—pink, coho, chum and chinook—which begin their spawning runs in early August. Due to the easily available protein which the fish provide, grizzlies here reach huge proportions, with bears over

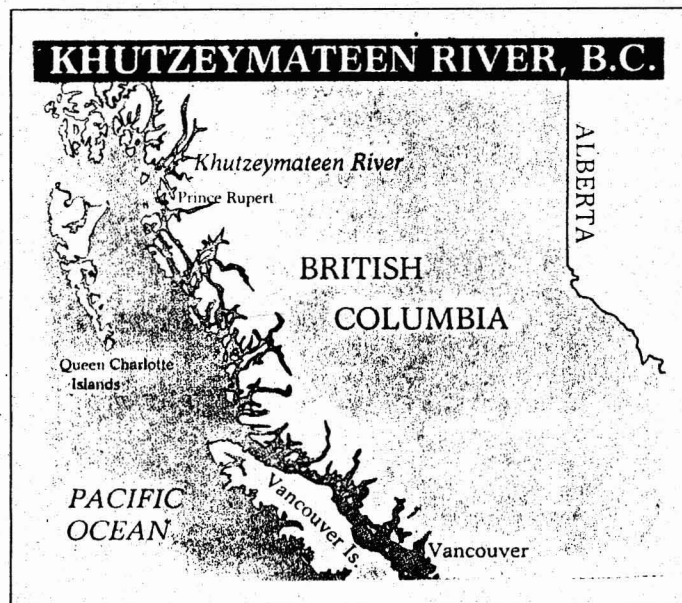
1,000 pounds not uncommon. The bears continue to feed until late October, when they depart, fattened by months of fish-flesh, to seek winter dens.

It is this amazing combination of coastal temperate rainforest, spawning salmon and grizzlies, all in a remote, undisturbed valley amongst high mountains that makes the

Khutzeymateen a superb place for a sanctuary. But the B.C. government, in all its twisted wisdom, favors logging the place, no doubt coveting the great stands of Sitka spruce. In 1986 B.C. withdrew its long-standing recommendation that the valley be protected. The provincial govern-

ment claims that logging and grizzly protection are compatible, which is utter bullshit. Within 5-10 years there may not be one unlogged major coastal watershed left in B.C., yet the government can't see fit to set aside one 10 square mile area as a sanctuary! Logging the Khutzeymateen, according to an independent study, would result in a cost to taxpayers of 4-44 million dollars.

Which would you prefer? Massive clearcuts or a pristine wildlife sanctuary? It's not too late, the Khutz remains intact, but the decision to log or preserve it could come at any time. Write to the B.C. Minister of the Environment



WANTED INFORMATION ON THE WOLVERINE.



After reading over the initial responses to our inquiries about the status, distribution, population trends, and threats to the wolverine (*Gulo gulo*) across its entire historic range, it would appear as if the "devil bear" isn't fairing so well in the Lower 48.

According to a summary of the last Lynx, Fisher, Wolverine Coordination Meeting (which included the majority of land and wildlife managing agencies from the 11 western states), the status of this scavenging predator is as follows:

USFS Region 1 -	Sensitive
USFS Region 4 -	Sensitive
USFS Region 5 -	Sensitive (proposed)
USFS Region 6 -	Sensitive
USFWS	- C-2 (candidate)
BLM	- Sensitive
MT DFWP	- Furbearer
ID F&G	- Nongame
UT DNR	- Sensitive
WY G&F	- Unknown
CO DOW	- Endangered
WA DOW	- Protected
OR F&G	- Threatened
CA F&G	- Threatened

Elsewhere in the boreal forests of the contiguous U.S., it appears as if the wolverine exists in one or more states, but is generally considered extirpated. We are interested in any information you might have, or be willing to seek out from federal, state, or independent sources, regarding the ecology, status, and distribution of this less-charismatic flesh-eater.



Colorado Kills Mother Bears

The Colorado spring bear hunting season has been extended by two weeks, despite opposition from the public and the Colorado Division of Wildlife. It now runs from April 1 to May 31. The use of both bait and dogs will be permitted. The spring bear hunt gives Colorado's black bears the dubious distinction of being the only big game mammal hunted in Colorado during its annual young rearing season.

Much to their credit, the Division of Wildlife had recommended the end to the spring season, despite threats to their jobs from sportsmen and outfitters. During the public comment period, 1199 people wrote opposing the spring bear hunt and 1099 opposing the use of bait and dogs, while only 75 and 9 people, respectively, wrote in favor of these practices. Editorials in five Colorado papers called for the end to the spring hunt. Unfortunately, the Wildlife Commission, which had the final say on the matter, was wrapped around the trigger happy fingers of sports hunters.

The Commission's lame concession to the Division and the public was a gradual phase down of the number of licenses available for spring hunting. Recommended restrictions on the use of bait, dogs, radio collars and other electronic aids by hunters and a limit on the length of time a guide may hold a bear in a tree were simply swept aside. A proposed ban on the sale of bear parts, such as hides, skulls, paws, claws and gall bladders was rejected. They ignored wildlife biologists' estimates that the new season structure will more than *triple* the number of lactating females killed during this year's spring season and *double* the number killed next spring.

The Fund for Animals is pursuing a ballot initiative to prohibit spring bear hunting and the use of

bait and dogs. The goal is to gather enough signatures to place this issue on the November 1992 general election ballot. If some small level of financial support can be secured, there are people willing to challenge the Commission's refusal to adhere to their commitment in the Long Range Plan to "schedule timing of black bear hunting seasons to protect female bears with dependent nursing cubs."

In addition, the chance to reform the Wildlife Commission itself exists with the turnover in March of two Commission seats. The Governor should be asked to appoint Commissioners that reflect the views of the majority of Coloradans.

SOURCE—MICHAEL SMITH, PRESIDENT, BOULDER COUNTY AUDUBON SOCIETY

BY WILD WOLF

"Black bears in British Columbia are under attack and at this rate they will all be gone in a few years." This statement was not made by an "eco-radical" or even a representative of the Sierra Club. It was made by the Canadian federal government's wildlife trafficking expert, Gary Grigg.

Grizzly and black bears are being hit from every direction at once. Record numbers of bears are slaughtered each year for their gall bladders, genitals, and paws, which are in high demand from the oriental medicinal market.

Alberta, the Yukon, Alaska, and other parts of Canada and the US have prohibited all trade of these special parts. This is a minimal, but essential, step in protecting bear populations. If you live in BC or have fought for BC's wild critters, it probably is no surprise to you that *BC has taken no such steps*.

Some people have faith in the recently elected New Democrat Party to solve all of BC's environmental woes. The new government made many promises about taking immediate steps to protect wilderness and wild critters. *No such luck!* The forest still falls and the Wild Rockies still is threatened by existing and proposed oil and gas development.

Tell your Member of Parliament to "Keep your paws off the bears!" Demand an immediate ban on all trade in bear parts. Of course, to save the bear, this is only the beginning. And every EF'er knows that letters rarely (never?) work. So remember to take Direct Action!

In BC your Member of Parliament can be reached at Ministry of the Environment, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A2 Canada. Send a copy of your letter to us and contact us for more info. Terra Prima EF!, Box 6491 Depot 1 Victoria BC V8P 5M4.



Black Bear with Cubs

Peggy Sue McRae

Game Commissioner Kills Black Bear

Canebrake Earth First! of Florida is demanding that Gov. Lawton Chiles begin immediate action to remove Mr. J. Ben Rowe from the position of commissioner on the board of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

Mr. Rowe, who slaughtered a Florida black bear during a hunt in Nov. 1991, is unacceptable in the position of Game Commissioner, an appointed protector of wildlife, says Bill Brooks of CEF!

When Mr. Rowe used the excuse of having an "educational experience" by killing this animal, he put himself in direct contradiction with the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission who have stated that they consider the Florida black bear a threatened species.

—SOURCE CANEBRAKE EARTH FIRST!

Clayoquot Sound

continued from page 8

Bill Vander Zalm, who was visibly upset by what he saw during a helicopter tour of the area. By nonviolently blockading the Bulson River Road in September 1991, protectors sent a clear message to the parties in the recent election: we will not go away. At a wilderness gathering in Clayoquot Sound last September, the Temperate Rainforest Action Coalition (TRAC) was formed to coordinate grassroots actions in defense of these last areas of rainforest wilderness. FOCS is taking a major role in organizing Rainforest Summer 1992, a year-long campaign of direct action in the forests, small communities and cities of British Columbia. A nonviolence direct action intensive training for workshop leaders was

held at the beginning of March in preparation for massive direct action. It is believed that we are now at the final deciding moment.

The recently-elected New Democratic government has just initiated a land use commission to study the competing values and prospects for sustainable use of BC's forests and rivers. Yet another process of consultation and discussion has begun while the logging contin-

ues. Last month, three contended areas on Vancouver Island were temporarily withdrawn from active logging pending the deliberations of this new body. Clayoquot Sound was not included in the deferrals.

"Nearly every day we hear the blasting echo out of mountains and down the inlets as new roads are going into our last great wilderness areas," the FOCS report said.

The time is once again at hand to demonstrate our commitment to a different vision for the future of our forests. It is time to stand up for what we stand on. Please come to Tofino for Rainforest Summer '92. Contact the Temperate Rainforest Action Coalition (TRAC): Friends of Clayoquot Sound Box 489, Tofino, BC V0R 2Z0, CANADA (604) 725-4218 VTRAC #50 2147 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, BC V5N 4B3 (604) 251-3190

Coyote

BY PETER STEKEL

In 1980 I worked for the Bureau of Land Management in southern Idaho. It was dreary work that belied the local name for the Snake River bottomlands: the "Magic Valley." My job, as range technician, was to look for grass, find how much there was, and report to my superiors. They could then determine whether or not too many cattle were grazing on "public" land.

I use quotes around "public" because the local ranchers considered the land their own.

Ranchers continually told me there was more grass out there now than when daddy or granddaddy first settled up and "improved" the land. Some ranchers told me they had photos to prove their claims though they were never able to find any pictures when I was around. If there was more grass now than previously, then all there could have been in those early days was rocks, rocks, and sagebrush.

Part of my inventory area consisted of lava buttes dissected by ephemeral stream courses. To get to the top of the buttes often required driving up stream courses to where the roads ended. From there, I would pack my clipboard, pencil,

"Crazy Human," it could have said, "what are you doing up here?"

and data sheets, along with lunch and canteen, and start to climb.

One afternoon I climbed a butte in search of grass. It was uniquely warm that day. The climb seemed correspondingly higher and longer. Sweat ran down to the tip of my nose and took off like a ski jumper to splash on the thirsty Idaho ground. The rocks seemed sharper, blacker, and looser the higher I got. And the further up I went, the greater became my irritation with the whole process.

Reaching the top of the buttes was like climbing over a fence. I swung my leg over the edge and pulled my body up and over. I ended up lying face down on the rough rock. There I caught my breath and waited for what little breeze might come up to cool me off.

I dozed, meditating. I felt a warm, dog-like breath on my ear. Who would bring a mutt up here? Opening my eyes, and turning my face, I was eyeball to eyeball with a full grown German Shepherd, I thought. It licked twice the sweat from my face, whined, and then walked off a step or so.

I sat up to make friends with the dog. A stray that wants to play, I thought. I've never been a dog expert. Add to that a bit of disorientation. It took me a good twenty seconds to realize I was face to face with a coyote. Up close they do look like shepherds. You try it sometime. Only from 100 yards do they have that familiar, peculiar coyote look.

It whined again and loped off. It stopped one more time, turned, and looked at me. It seemed to shrug its shoulders, then walked off. "Crazy human," it could have said. "What are you doing up here?"

In all the years I've spent hiking in the wild, trying to touch the wilderness, that is the only time the wilderness has reached out to touch me.



Robert Bly's Iron John

The Relevance of the Men's Movement to a Deep Ecology Lifestyle

BY BILL MCCORMICK

It has been well nigh impossible to open any known periodical in the last six months and not see either a review of Robert Bly's *Iron John*, or an article on the "mytho-poetic men's movement." Some of these reviews have been laudatory, more have taken a mocking tone, replete with images of yuppie businessmen with tom-toms dancing around fires and so forth (R.W. Connell's piece in *TIKKUN*, Jan/Feb 1992, a sterling example of the latter).

My own view on the emerging men's movement is, on the whole, positive. I was a fan of Robert Bly's poetry long before he was catapulted into the national spotlight by Bill Moyers, when he was better known as a founder of Writers and Poets Against the Vietnam War (a fact curiously overlooked by his critics). At the same time, I see certain aspects of the men's movement—such as the New Age notion of charging huge sums of money for a weekend workshop—that leave them open to ridicule.

Bly started writing in earnest about the state of men in western society in the early 80's. In a widely reprinted article entitled "The Meaning of Being Male" (*L.A. Weekly*, August 5, 1983), he sets the stage by contrasting "the 50's male," who behaves callously toward nature and his fellow beings, with the post-60's males:

"The waste and anguish of the Vietnam War made men question what an adult male really is. And the women's movement encouraged men to actually look at women, forcing them to become conscious of certain things the 50's male tended to avoid....

"Now there is something wonderful about this, and yet I have the sense there is something wrong...Many of these men are unhappy: There's not much energy in them. They are life-preserving but not exactly life-giving. And why is it you often see these men with strong women who positively radiate energy? Here we have a finely tuned young man, ecologically superior to his father, sympathetic to the whole harmony of the universe, yet he has no energy to offer."

Does any of this ring true for you? Well my head just about revolved 360 degrees when my sister first showed me this article. Bly put his finger on exactly what I and so many other men were feeling, as evidenced by the fact his book stayed at the top of the best seller list for many weeks.

Bly goes on to trace the Grimm Brothers tale of Iron John, and to offer a variety of suggestions as to why men are in crisis. Chief among these is the lack of initiation of young men by older men in our society, a key you will find running through the entire men's movement. Bly points out that native and natural peoples had very specific rituals for a boy to become a man, from the Hopikivas to the bar mitzvah. But since the industrial revolution these processes have lapsed, and entire generations of young men have grown up without moral guidance, groping for meaning in their lives.

Bly goes on to say that when older men do not take responsibility for initiating younger men because they are too busy making money or whatnot, young men will search for ways to perform these rituals themselves, whether it means joining a gang, engaging in mindless violence, tearing up wilderness, etc.

Bly also points out through the Iron John metaphor that men need to regain their own fierce energy, but not the Reagan/Bush energy:

"The kind of energy I'm talking about is not the same as macho, brute strength, which men already know about. It's forceful action undertaken, not without compassion, but with resolve." (A better definition of an eco-warrior I have not seen!)

Another book that has not been quite so

Native peoples had very specific rituals for a boy to become a man, but since the industrial revolution these processes have lapsed.

popular as Iron John, but has much to contribute to deep ecological awareness, is Sam Keen's *Fire in the Belly*. For those who can't look at the word "warrior" and think of anything but violence, Keen's book perhaps offers a more balanced starting point.

Keen also strongly brings home the point that defending the Earth is the legitimate end of male energy. He also provides one of the most fascinating discussions of male/female misunderstandings I have ever seen. Consider this:

"Men got the feeling of power./ Women got the power of feeling. Men got the privilege of public action./ Women got the privilege of private being. Men got the responsibility and guilt that goes with action./ Women got the innocence and the shame that goes with passivity. Men got the illusion of control./ Women got the illusion of security."

This brings me to something that has always concerned me, and that is the tendency to identify the Earth with the mother, feminine, and everything good, at the same time identifying the male with patriarchy and everything destructive. An increasing number of writers, both male and female, are beginning to voice concerns over such a one-sided approach. Here is eco-feminist Elizabeth Dodson Gray: "We are impressed with nature's power, but by projecting upon this power an image of the feminine, the mother, we reassure ourselves—for surely a mother will always be loving toward us, continue to feed us, clothe us, and carry away our wastes, and never kill us no matter how much toxic waste we put in the soil or CFCs into the ozone. The sense of nature as inexhaustible mother encourages us to feel there are no limits to a finite planet, while the sense of nature as benign and ever-loving mother permits us to continue disregarding a crescendo of warnings" (*Creation*, May/June 1989).

Male writers like Shepherd Bliss have also written eloquently of the need for an Earth Father, citing historical data which suggests in many parts of the world the principle of Mother Earth was balanced with Father Earth (it sounds strange to the tongue, doesn't it? We are so accustomed not to think in those terms). He also gives several examples of male earth deities and myths, from the ancient Green Man to Johnny Appleseed. This is not to say the female creative principle is not also very real: it is simply to say rather than labeling one sex as inherently destructive and the other as inherently life-giving, recognizing that each of us holds both life-giving and destructive tendencies within us, and we have a choice which pole we will gravitate toward might be a more hopeful view.

This has really been a whirlwind tour through a rapidly evolving men's movement. My main purpose has been to highlight some of the ways eco-masculinism—as defined by Robert Bly, Keen, et al—converges with, and would seem to strengthen, a deep ecology lifestyle. One thing is certain, we will be hearing lots more about these issues in years to come.

Aerial Wolf Kill in the Yukon

BY PREDATOR PROJECT

According to a January 31st article in *The Whitehorse Star*, the Yukon government may soon authorize a short-term aerial wolf control program. Residents of the Kluane area (in the southwest corner of the Territory) have complained that wolves are killing horses and caribou, and have called for a control program. The article says that the government is preparing for a possible wolf kill. The first announcement calls for 50 hours of aerial wolf tracking in the Aishihik area. The second announcement calls for a helicopter to do 100 hours of "wolf reduction."

According to Graham McDonald, the executive assistant to Yukon's Minister of Renewable Resources, the caribou herd is not as healthy (in numbers) as it should be in comparison to historic levels. Apparently, a speedy increase in caribou numbers is important enough to the Champagne-Aishihik First Nation for them to have requested the wolf killing.

The wolf is being treated as a scapegoat for the decrease in the numbers of caribou. McDonald acknowledged that hunting during the construction of the now fifty year-old Al-Can Highway may have had a significant effect on the herd numbers (although he questioned whether that was a major factor now). He also said caribou are hunted for purposes of both subsistence and sport. To the government's and Champagne-Aishihik First Nation's credit, resident and non-resident sport caribou hunting has been shut down for 1-2 years, and the local aboriginals have self-imposed a reduction in the numbers of caribou they are killing for food. When asked if the caribou herds were showing any sign of recovery as a result of these limitations on hunting, McDonald said it was too early to tell. He also claimed other environmental/habitat issues didn't seem to be a factor.

In the eastern part of the territory in the early 80s overhunting put the Finleson herd "at risk." Several years of suspended game hunting, a self-imposed reduction in aboriginal hunting (reducing the caribou kill from 200 to 75 per year) and a wolf control program resulted in a 300% increase in caribou population. McDonald added that the wolf numbers also recovered and there now appears to be a stable equilibrium between the two species. A success story, no doubt.

While it may be culturally-taboo these days to challenge aboriginal people's right to subsistence hunting, McDonald's assessment of the situation points out a critical bias: the assumption that the

Champagne-Aishihik people have a right to ask for the manipulation of wolves because they, as humans, need those caribou more than the wolf. It is worth pointing out that McDonald never once even insinuated that the survival of the Champagne-Aishihik people was at stake.

So what alternatives does the Yukon government have to this potential aerial killing? Well for starters, they could allow themselves more time to see whether the ban on resident and non-resident caribou hunting will have a positive effect on accelerating the increase in caribou numbers. Secondly, they could accept that populations of both predator and prey will rise and fall in numbers, and that a natural level of predation is unlikely to wipe out the Aishihik caribou herd. Lastly, decision-makers within the Yukon's Ministry of Renewable Resources could acknowledge the rights of all predators of that region's natural community (human and non-human alike). A simple step toward this end would be to resist any requests to give hunting precedence to the Champagne-Aishihik people, but rather promote a natural and even competition between wolves and humans.

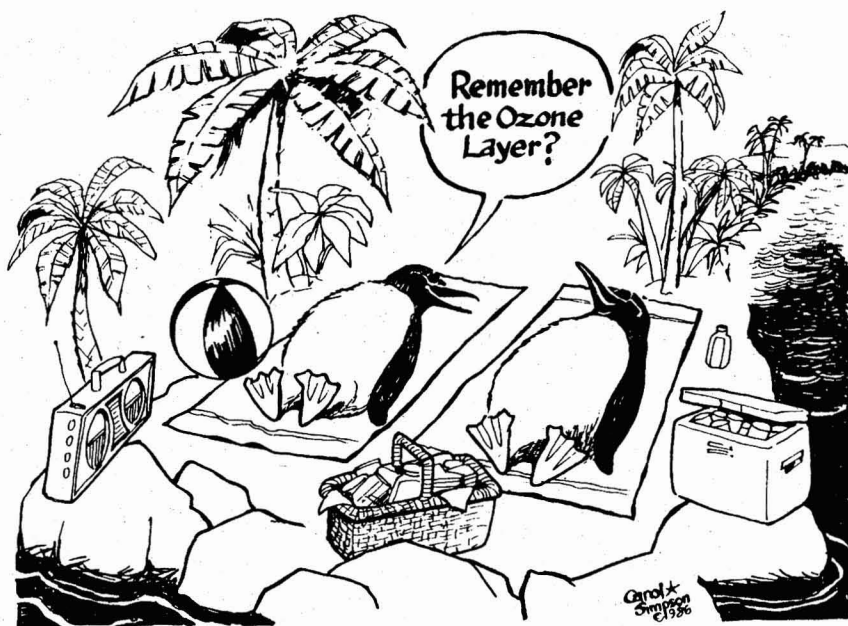
The problem lies in that two of these ideas require hands-off management, something in which we humans aren't very experienced. This is where you come in. As is the case when anyone tries to kick a bad habit, the decision-makers in the Yukon will need lots of support in kicking the over-management habit. Your calls, faxes, and letters (though time is a factor) are greatly needed. As citizens of North America, we need to let these people know the idea of killing wolves to artificially increase ungulate populations is a bad one. Political boundaries don't inhibit global concern. As citizens of the US, we can offer the Ministry of Renewable Resources, and the Yukon government as a whole, our valuable services; services which might include

1) helping educate other humans living in North America about the Yukon government's potential for wayward reasoning, and 2) helping keep the Yukon a wild and unmanipulated place by staying away should they initiate this misguided proposal.

These people can be reached at: POB 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Territory Y1A 2C6 Art Webster, Minister of Renewable Resources: (403) 667-5376 and (403) 667-3633 (fax); and also Minister of Tourism: (403) 667-5340 and (403) 667-2634 (fax). Tony Penikett, Premier: (403) 667-5376 and (403) 667-3633 (fax).



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DuPont vs the World: The World Strikes Back

BY TOM ROONEY, SEACRET

It seems that DuPont and the Student Environmental Action Coalition at the University of Delaware just can't get along. First, it was the rainforest thing. Now it's the CFC thing. If you haven't made plans yet for April 11-13, allow me to invite you to a most excellent party in the good ol' DuPont state. April 13th is a sacred day in Delaware. It is holier than Christmas. It is the day that DuPont has their annual shareholder's meeting.

DuPont, the company that brought us chlorofluorocarbons, has promised to phase out the ozone-depleting chemical by 1997. They plan to replace them with hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). These two classes of chemicals...well...they suck!

Both HCFCs and HFCs are global warming gasses, some 1000 times more potent than carbon dioxide. When HCFCs decompose in the atmosphere, they form a highly toxic molecule called perfluoroacetic acid. Once again the chemical companies, under DuPont's fearless leadership, are playing Russian Roulette with the atmosphere.

Our refrigerators will have to be retooled to run on alternative refrigerants produced by DuPont. They could be retooled to run on carbon dioxide, but then DuPont wouldn't make any money, would they?

DuPont invented CFCs in the 1930s and they control 25% of the world market. CFCs take 30 to 50 years to reach the ozone layer. The CFCs destroying the ozone layer right now were released between 1942 and 1962. The bulk of the CFCs in the atmosphere haven't even reached the ozone yet! In other words, we are on the spray now, pay later plan.

We haven't really started paying yet. Skin cancer, cataracts, genetic mutations, and immune system damage will likely skyrocket in all species, especially those living near the poles, where ozone depletion is the most severe. Invertebrates, which see in the ultraviolet spectrum, will be affected most seriously. We have little idea how increased UV-B will change their mating and feeding habits, or how this in turn will impact the plants and animals which rely on insects for food or pollination services—in

short, most birds and flowering plants! Likewise, the far-reaching consequences of ozone depletion on phytoplankton, the base of the oceanic food chain, can scarcely be imagined.

The "experts" are predicting that we will hit peak ozone depletion around 2010 to 2020. If CFC's are banned now the ozone layer will begin to replenish itself at the equator around 2060. By that time we may be just starting to realize the effects of HCFCs and HFCs.

The bottom line is this: the shit is about to hit the fan real hard, and it is DuPont's fault. Some folks are considering lawsuits against the company. We are kicking off a campaign against DuPont, and we won't stop until the company is dissolved and the executives are in jail.

We are planning a big camp-out for April 11 and 12. Musical entertainment will be provided by Dana Lyons and Lone Wolf Circles. We'll have workshops, drink beer, run naked through the woods, make signs and banners, howl at the moon...you know, party for the Earth! Bring your friends, parents, professors—this is an open party! Every year, Greenpeace has an action at DuPont. This year, we plan to have the action of all actions. We want it to be huge!

The address here is SEACret, POB 1175, Newark, DE 19715. The phone number is (302) 368-3736. We will send you directions and information. Please RSVP real soon.

If you can't come to our little get together, do three things:

- 1) send us your money for legal fees, copying costs, phone costs, etc.
- 2) write a letter to or call DuPont. Ask them if they have phased out CFC-11, 12, 113, 114, or 115 yet. Let them know they are killing people, critters and trees. Ed Woolard, CEO, EI DuPont de Nemours and Co., 1007 Market Street, Wilmington, DE 19898 1-800-441-7515. and 3) boycott Seagrams beverages and Tropicana juices. Seagrams owns DuPont! Write them and tell them that you won't buy their stuff until DuPont phases out CFCs. Edgar Bronfman, CEO, Joseph Seagrams and Sons, Inc, 375 Park Ave, New York, NY 10152.

George Washington National Forest

By ERNIE REED, VIRGINIANS FOR WILDERNESS

On New Year's Eve, Wayne Kelley, the Forest Supervisor of the George Washington National Forest, released the Draft 10-year Land and Resource Management Plan for George Washington National Forest in Virginia. This document and the accompanying Environmental Impact Statement are the result of over 11 years and millions of dollars spent in an attempt to fulfill the requirements of the GW to create a plan under which its operations can be directed. The result is a document that is a vehicle for continued devastation of forest ecosystems, fragmentation of habitat and which paves the way for virtual elimination of all citizen input and environmental review of Forest Service decisions and activities.

This direction is nothing new in the George Washington National Forest. The forest has had virtually no forest plan to guide its operation for the last decade. In September, 1986, Regional Supervisor John Alcock released the original version of the plan. The National Resources Defense Council called the document, "the worst from an environmental standpoint" of the 123 plans which they reviewed nation-wide. As a result of 18 different appeals, and after three years of attempted revision, Alcock threw in the towel and on September 6, 1989, instructed that the plan be totally rewritten. Ron Lindenboom, a planning specialist, was enlisted as head of the "ID team"; his task was, and continues to be, to produce a plan that will stand up against the 1986 appeals and that will allow the GW to continue to maintain its multiple-use direction.

Virginians for Wilderness led a loud outcry that the integrity of the forest needed to be preserved until a forest plan was in place. The result was that, in August of 1990, Wayne Kelley issued "interim management Guidelines" which were significantly more restrictive of activities that would threaten biological areas, riparian zones and protect the status of roadless areas.

Instead of continuing the direction forged under interim management, the current draft takes those controversial and ecologically destructive practices of the timber program and makes them the focus of the wildlife management and recreation programs. Mike Jones, researcher for Virginians for Wilderness, calls the plan "criminal behavior masquerading as forest management." The only major shift is one of appearances and not of substance.

The most obvious problem with the plan is its refusal to recognize the most basic principles of ecology. "The draft plan is ecologically illiterate," says Rick Wellbeloved-Stone, the president of the Virginia Association of Envi-

ronmental Educators, pointing out that many scientific terms are wrongly defined, misapplied and biased towards industry and away from science. "The EIS is a misrepresentation of forest ecology," he says. "It contains definitions I would not accept from my 9th graders."

The draft plan appears to contain significant decreases in the timber program, limiting production to 27 million board feet with 260,000 acres as suitable for logging. In reality the plan puts no ceiling on logging. Salvage sales in areas that have had gypsy moth defoliation or areas of "potential" defoliation are not part of the timber program accounting. Salvage sales are allowable virtually anywhere there are roads. Clearcuts of up to 50 acres are disguised as "wildlife habitat improvement."

The GW National Forest al-

ness designation.

A draft plan proposed by Virginians for Wilderness, known as "Alternative 3," is based upon conservation biology and applied restoration ecology. It would eliminate all timbering and roadbuilding. It would place over 500,000 acres or just over half of the forest under wilderness management to protect rare and sensitive forest interior habitat. There would be an additional 150,000 acres of migration corridors that would connect the wilderness core areas. Extensive road closures, reintroduction of wolves, cougars and extirpated species are an important focus for the plan. The entire forest would be off limits for ATV/ORV recreation.

The EIS notes that this alternative provides the highest levels of protection for biological diversity, air quality, water quality, soil retention, and has the lowest risk of fire.

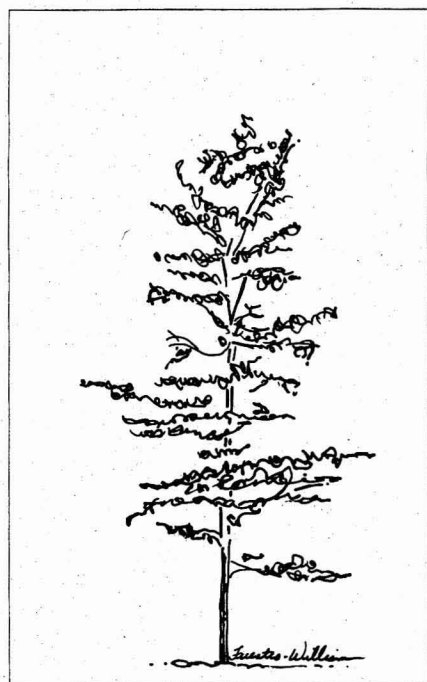
It provides the widest spectrum of low-impact recreational opportunities for the 57 million people living within a days drive of the forest.

One of the strongest arguments in favor of Alternative 3 is economic. It has the smallest budget and eliminates all below cost timber sales. The Forest Service's proposed draft was the second most expensive of all the alternatives and the timber program

would lose over \$1 million a year, despite the fact that roads are considered an asset rather than a cost. It would have no effect on current payments to counties "in lieu of taxes." Approximately 7% of the timber harvest statewide comes off National Forests. The EIS states that private lands have sufficient supply to absorb this tiny increase in demand on private lands with no negative economic effects. In fact it is most likely that elimination of logging in the GW would stimulate the private sector and increase both the value of timber and the value of private forested lands.

The George Washington National Forest is the closest forest to the nation's capitol, making it a focus of intense debate and political visibility. To receive a copy of the draft plan and EIS, call the Forest Planner in Harrisonburg at (703) 433-2491. For more information on Alternative 3 contact: **Virginians for Wilderness**, RF Mueller, RT 1, Box 250, Staunton, VA 24401.

Your National Forests—Enjoy Them While They're Here; Protect Them Before They're Gone



GW National Forest Action Alert

Written comments on the "10-year Land and Resource Management Plan for the George Washington National Forest" are urgently needed. Your comments should make the point that the plan should:

- 1) Designate all 26 roadless areas as wilderness study areas.
- 2) Eliminate logging on the GW.
- 3) Eliminate wildlife management for all featured species with the exception of naturally occurring disturbances.
- 4) Eliminate all salvage sales, wildlife management and mineral extraction in existing roadless areas.
- 5) Eliminate all new roadbuilding and reconstruction.
- 6) Eliminate all use of chemical pesticides and herbicides and defoliants.
- 7) Provide for restoration of forest ecosystems damaged by human activities.
- 8) Eliminate all off-road and unlicensed vehicle use.

Alternative #3 does all of these things. The ecological concepts that drive this alternative are totally missing from the Forest Service's preferred alternative; in fact, Alternative #3 is the only approach that has been totally ignored by the preferred alternative. This approach is essential to a healthy forest ecosystem that is truly dedicated to protection of natural native biological diversity. It is important that the concepts presented in Alternative #3 are incorporated into the final plan.

Address your written comments to: George Kelley, Forest Supervisor
Forest Plan Revision Team
POB 233
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Send copies of your comments to your representatives with a cover letter expressing your concern with current practices in the GW. In this way your comments can become their comments.



ready contains over 4000 miles of roads. Under the draft plan, 200 miles of new roads will be built in the next ten years. No road closures are proposed. Road reconstruction is allowed in "roadless areas" and road densities are allowed a four-fold increase in bear habitat areas.

Of the 27 roadless areas, only three are recommended for wilderness designation. The 12,000 acres recommended is less than 1% of the available land and would raise the amount of wilderness to 3% of the forest, far below the national average of 17%.

177 miles of Forest Service roads are opened for unlicensed ATVs. 17,000 acres are opened for ATV use. "Peer pressure" will be the main way of limiting abuse.

No areas are specified for watershed protection. Logging is allowed in and alongside rivers, streams and watersheds. Over 23,000 tons of sediment will enter watersheds yearly, according to the EIS.

Virtually all forest service activities in the draft plan would be "categorical exclusions" from both citizen input and environmental review under the proposed changes in the National Environmental Policy Act.

Mineral extraction is allowed in all areas of the forest except the 3% designated as wilderness or for wilderness study. Many of these areas are under existing claims that take precedence over their wilder-

Appalachian Clearcutters Flunk Silviculture

BY ROBERT F. MUELLER

To hear the US Forest Service tell it, our primitive Appalachian forests in all their virgin splendor, were really impossibly decadent, scarcely alive. And to hear these bureaucrats, the ancient trees lacked only one ingredient to cure their ills: clearcutting. A simple remedy!

To get this message across to an initially gullible but increasingly skeptical public, these industrial foresters use a well-honed rhetoric and lexicon of terms ranging from euphemistic to scary. Thus the present forest, with trees dating only to the turn of the century or later when it arose from the holocaust of logging and fires, is said to be "aging." This characterization is almost invariably used for 80-90 year old trees despite the Forest Service's own literature (Agricultural Handbook No. 271, USDA Forest Service, 1965) which shows that some major tree species add their greatest yearly growth increment at 100 years of age and that some species live 500 years or more. One ranger admonished citizens at a public hearing that, "It's a dying forest out there." Obviously there is no appreciation here for the dead trees and downwood characteristic of old growth, traits essential for the health of the forest. Such a forest doesn't "age" but exhibits dynamic equilibrium between all ages of trees including the dead and dying.

We frequently hear or read that clearcutting is required to revitalize "stagnant stands of timber" which then "regenerate" as "vigorous" and "thrifty" sprouts. The forest is said to be in need of "opening up" or "daylighting" implying that shade intolerant but commercially desirable species such as oaks and tuliptree could not grow but for the aid of chainsaws and bulldozers. To discredit gentler methods of logging involving selection of trees or small groups of trees, they raise the specter that the forest in the dry oak rich George Washington and Jefferson National Forests might be overrun by shade tolerant and commercially inferior species such as beech, red maple and black gum. This argument has also been made in the Monongahela National Forest where shade tolerant species such as sugar maple and beech are common and where oaks are not as common because of moist conditions. How puzzling then that both shade tolerant and intolerant species were abundant in the original virgin mixed mesophyte forests of the moist Cumberland and Allegheny Mountains, while intolerant oaks thrived without management in the dryer forests elsewhere (Lucy Braun, *Deciduous Forests of Eastern North America*, Macmillan, 1950)! In the old growth primary forest shade-intolerant species grew in tree fall gaps and other disturbances which generally left openings far smaller than clearcuts.

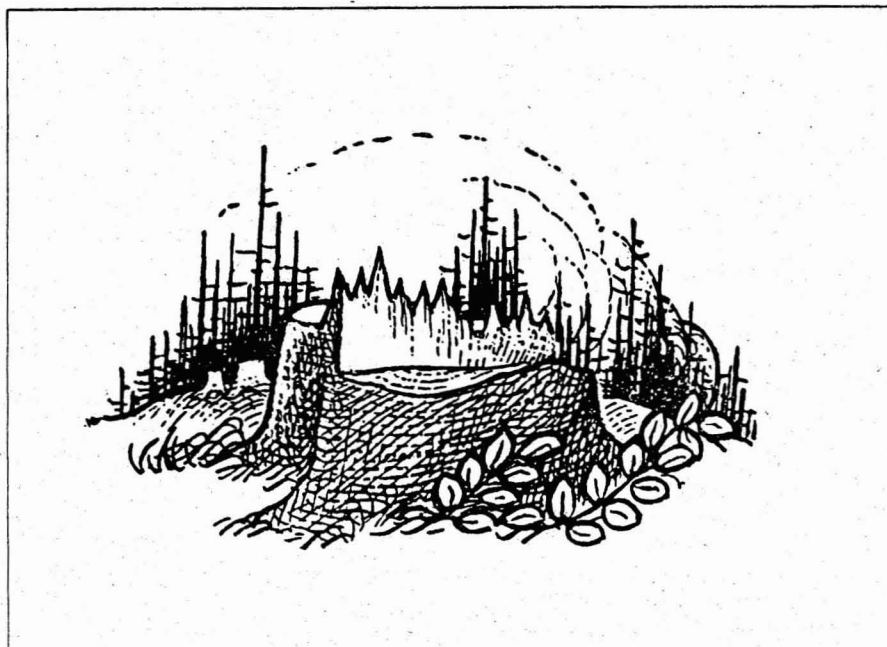
So what does the forest itself say when we carefully examine

clearcut areas? Since most clearcuts done under Forest Service management date back no further than the 1960s, its silviculturists haven't seen their handiwork mature. However some private lands have older cuts of a similar nature and some of these are informative. Even for the Forest Service the trends are disquieting as reflected in their reports. Northern red oak, white oak and black oak are frequently replaced by scarlet oak, black gum or a plague of red and striped maples. A striking example may be observed in a 10 year old clearcut near the popular North River Campground of the Dry River R.D. in the GWNF. Here the uncut forest surrounding the clearcut consists dominantly of upland oaks with little red maple. However, red maple has practically taken over the clearcut.

Also in many areas in which the Forest Service has tried to use clearcutting to convert hardwoods on poor sites to pine, this fight against nature has proved expensive and frustrating for the industrial mindset. In these cases the FS uses herbicides, adding to the general degradation of the watershed. Certainly this challenges the Forest Service axiom that red maple and other relatively shade tolerant species pose a threat only in small selection cuts and clearings.

We are told that one advantage of clearcuts is that they provide numerous sprouts which, since they utilize the root systems of the large trees they replace, grow faster than seedlings, at least initially. However this proliferation of sprouts also has disadvantages. The sprouts are usually crowded on and around the stumps. This exposes them to basal rot as the stump underneath rots away. Although vigorous, clearcut sprouts may not be thrifty. Of course, clearcuts result in numerous sprouts only if the trees cut are hardwoods and sufficiently small, since large hardwoods seldom sprout much while conifers almost never do so. Most of the existing clearcuts in the Central Appalachians were done in very immature stands less than 50 years in age, hence the sprouting success. However the trees which were clearcut were by and large derived from seedlings that resulted from cutting the original primary forest of large trees. Trees being clearcut are straighter and sounder than those now developing from these sprouts in clearcuts.

The many small trees which have been cut in clearcuts have resulted in other disadvantages. Because most of the nutrients, exclusive of those in leaves, limbs and roots, reside in the bark, and since small trees contain a larger proportion of bark than do large ones, their removal depletes the soil disproportionately when compared with the removal of large trees. It is likely that this effect contributes to the disproportionate growth in clearcuts of red maple and scarlet



oak, species adapted to poor soil.

Proponents of clearcutting usually say that opponents object to the method because its results are unsightly and then patronizingly assure them that nature will soon heal the scars and regenerate a vigorous new forest. Yet no informed critics of clearcutting base their criticism on mere appearances. To many people, fire scars and blowdowns would seem as unsightly as clearcuts. However, natural disturbances have few if any of the negatives of timber extraction. Nutrients are not hauled away with wood products. Compaction of soils and destruction of the forest floor do not occur unless the fire burns very hot—usually as a result of human-induced fuel loads. Most importantly, unless human intervention via fire suppression and salvage logging occur, naturally disturbed areas have little contact with the outside human-modified world. Consequently there are fewer avenues of entry for alien species—including humans. Still, appearances do count for something, and the ugliness of clearcuts also indicates their destructiveness. Many unsightly and devastating clearcuts exist in the Appalachians. Gross erosion scars, acres of barren ground, and poor regeneration are found in the ecologically distinctive Hidden Valley Special Management Area in the Warm Springs Ranger District of the GWNF. Here on dry low site index land west of the Jackson River a forest of largely scarlet, white and chestnut oak trees less than 10 inches in diameter were clearcut with disastrous results. Bare sandy eroding soil is exposed over wide areas, while regeneration is confined to widely spaced clumps of crowded and inferior sprouts. These clearcuts are in gross violation of the forest plan and were done despite citizen objections.

Unfortunately, clearcutting on state lands, where it is justified as wildlife habitat improvement (as it is on the National Forest), is as yet little challenged.

This article is a contribution of Virginians for Wilderness to Alternative Forest Plans for the George Washington, Jefferson, and Monongahela National Forests. The enthusiastic assistance of Mike Jones, Steve Krichbaum and Gus Mueller is appreciated.

For a copy of our widely distributed flier "Clearcuts: Why They're the Worst" contact Virginians for Wilderness, RT 1 Box 250, Staunton, VA 24401.

Victory on Mill Mountain

The US Forest Service is keeping it a secret, but they recently dropped the Mill Mountain Timber Sale on the George Washington National Forest in Virginia. This sale would have rooded a critical area adjacent to the Rich Hole Wilderness and threatened a rare mountain pond on Pond Ridge. Dropping the sale is associated with the recent designation of 10,826 acres of Mill Mountain as officially roadless.

We first learned about Pond Ridge from Brenda Vest in 1988 before our First Eastern Big Wilderness Conference. Trees had already been marked for cutting to the Pond's very edge. Despite the impressiveness of the area and our presentation regarding the need to designate it a Wilderness, we got only minimal commitment by the Forest Service to protect it. It was important to gain at least temporary protection from the imminent timber sale until such time as the area might be designated a Roadless or a Wilderness Study Area.

We continued to press the issue in numerous letters, demonstrations and field trips and particularly in our Spring 1989 rendezvous. The Forest Service had failed even to mention the Pond in its EA for the timber sale, stating that no unusual values were present in the area. We were kept in the dark as plans for the area unfolded. Only recently did we learn, from a West Virginia activist, that the Mill Mountain Sale had been dropped.

All who supported the effort to save Mill Mountain deserve credit for the rescue of a variety of species—the salamanders, invertebrates and aquatic plants of Pond Ridge and the bear who use its mud wallows, the countless trees, shrubs and wildflowers and diverse wildlife of the expansive mountain slopes and hollows and, as importantly, the solitude of unfragmented habitat. However, such areas are never truly safe, as experienced activists know. The Mill Mountain Roadless Area is still at the mercy of the evolving Forest Plan. We must continue our vigilance to assure Mill Mountain remains inviolate and takes its place in an expanded Wilderness/Corridor System for the entire Appalachians and beyond.

—BOB MUELLER

Pals in Prison, cont...

continued from page 14

lights. When I get back outside to work, my nerves will settle and time here will go faster. Zen mopping is much harder than Zen raking. I'm learning to knit in a class and have knitted two sweaters for the homeless project. There are three "12 step" meetings in here I attend plus the unity church, yoga, spiritual healing and stress management class. These help me stay in touch with my recovery and self-discovery I was pursuing on the outside. Also, they help us inmates who want to change ourselves find each other so we can build a support system for each other. Another gift and challenge is the sweat lodge. I've taken the responsibility to pour the water for one group each month and tend the fire for another. Even though I don't feel qualified to do this I have the most experience of anyone in here with the sweat lodge. It's kind of like the blind leading the blind.

For sanity I get up each morning at 5 or so and run on the track for two miles, then walk and watch the stars fade, think, pray. I listen for the pair of Great-Horned owls and the coyote's song as the dawn begins. I sing my prayers, salute the sun and do the only two Tia Chi moves I know. Very helpful books to read every day are Earth Prayers and the many poetry collections friends send in. Poetry helps me access my feelings and keep me open. Its easy to numb out in here and I have to work to stay open. I crave this time in the morning in the dark. At dusk after work we aren't allowed to walk on the track, so I find a corner in the dark and gaze at the stars. My musical tendencies are becoming well known. I've sung a few times in classes and at church services and I am practicing the guitar regularly.

Mail comes every day and I am in awe of how many people write and send things. I can receive only paperback books, magazines, papers and money (in postal money orders only). I can buy things like yarn, toilet items, laundry soap, etc. but cannot receive any from the outside. No audio tapes either. I bought a radio and that's my source of music besides myself and some of the women in here who are talented singers and instrumentalists.

My tape is advertised in three catalogues and sales trickle in to my friends in Jerome. Soon they will have to have another batch of tapes made. It's nice to be learning business skills in here so when I get out I can manage a mail order business; new concepts to me. If you want to get a tape of 18 acapella environmental songs, write to: Jerome Headlands Press at POB N Jerome, Ariz 86331 USA. The tape is called *Gentle Warrior* and is \$12.

The desert and critters who live here have helped me stay connected to who I am and why I'm here. The women I'm meeting are of many colors, cultures and classes. Everyone here, inmates and guards, are teaching me things it would be harder to learn somewhere else. I (sometimes) know why I'm here. When I get out of my own way, it's a rich and rewarding experience. I've become friends with and met some beautiful souls here. There are transformations happening in people regularly, miracles every day to see how some of us are waking up. As our culture crumbles and decays, there are emerging from the rotten stench some beautiful perfumed flowers.

Keep writing, your support and care have been phenomenal! I'll update this in a month or two. Thanks for your interest and encouragement. It helps so much.

Blessed Be with Love and Light

PEG

The update on that letter is as follows:

Peg just got moved out of the kitchen job; that's the good news. Her parole hearing took place on Feb. 26 and from there stems the bad news. Peg was denied parole. Not only that, they are attempting to change her "rating," which is used in part to determine a release date, from a 4 to an 8. Higher is worse, 8 is the worst. A rating of 8 would give her a release date 100 months from her entry date, which of course doesn't hold because her entire sentence is 36 months. But for the parole board to express that they would like to see her stay in prison even longer than her sentence—even though she was not convicted of a violent crime, there were no weapons involved, she is not a repeat offender, she had a job and housing lined up for her release and many letters of character

Watch

CIA is in this jungle
somewhere
i can smell
their white thighs
their balls hanging sodden
between;
even the monkeys are quiet.

—WILDHARTE

reference, she is taking classes in prison and her behavior has been everything it should be—in other words she would appear to have everything going for her for an early release—their action confirms our fears. That is, that this is being treated politically, not based on the facts, and that the "system," in this case the parole board, continues to label Peg and Mark as terrorists. This latest development is, of course, pretty devastating to Peg. She needs the movement's support more than ever. Her attorney is appealing the parole board's decision, and there is reason to believe he could be successful. Let's hope so.

Mark Davis, who began serving his 6 year sentence on Sept. 23, was moved in January from Safford, Arizona to another federal facility in Boron, California, in the Mojave desert. During the transfer, which took a number of days, he got a tour of federal prisons and county jails in Arizona and California, a view of the incarceration scene that was quite grim indeed. He said it reminded him that many, many people are far worse off than he, chilling perspective though it may be. The Boron prison where Mark is now is a step up from his previous digs in that it is a less high security place (no razor wire) and somewhat more accessible to those who would want to visit him. He told me when he first arrived that he observed that many of his new "roomies" had subscriptions to publications like *Forbes* and the *Wall Street Journal* which would say something about the place. Restrictions on mail and such are the same: only paper, no hardcover books. When sending (paperback) books, magazines or newspapers (i.e., anything other than a letter), write "BOP authorized material enclosed" on the outside and it stands a better chance of getting through. It is rather arbitrary whether stuff gets through; some books I sent never got to him nor were they returned to me. Sending stuff "return receipt requested" helps. Mark now has access to a typewriter, so he's able to write, and in fact said he plans to submit something for the next issue of the *EF!* journal. He has secured a lawyer to see him through the parole process. The legal team is working pro bono; however, there are expenses and the Arizona Legal Offense Fund has run dry. Mark also needs funds to help cover collect calls to his daughters in Arizona, and money for personal expenses in prison (stamps, envelopes, etc.) He cannot receive items like stamps directly through the mail, but he can purchase stuff at the commissary if there is money in his account. The address of the Legal Offense Fund will follow; you can earmark a donation for Mark's personal expenses or for his phone bills or for legal expenses if you like, but funds are fairly urgently needed.

Both Peg and Mark greatly appreciate letters, from old friends and new acquaintances alike. They need and deserve our support.

Addresses:

Arizona 2 Legal Offense Fund
1385 Iron Springs Rd.
Box # 104
Prescott, Arizona 86301

Peg Millett

#23 1 1 8-008
37900 No. 45th Ave.
Dept. 1785
Phoenix, AZ 85027

Mark Davis

#23 1 06-008
FPC
Box 1000 MB064
Boron, CA 93516

Simply substitute the word "minister" with some figurehead of our enslaving power elite, such as congressman so and so.

As for the issue of "monkeywrenching" itself, I may not, by court order, advocate it, nor would I have done so otherwise. I feel that it is ironic, however, that the FBI can freely use illegal and unethical tactics toward their political ends (especially considering that politics is not part of their just description). Are their goals more noble than those of *EF!* supporters? Even the judge presiding over our trial said he did not hold the FBI accountable for their actions—as if they had some unwritten license to defy ethics and law. The injustice and hypocrisy here is frightening. What is especially frightening is that the actions of the FBI cannot be justified by considering necessity with respect to law enforcement but can only be explained by their preoccupation with bigoted, selfish motivations. And what is most frightening is that there is no one to oversee the activities of the FBI.

According to the Bill of Rights, we as US citizens, have the right to bear arms and to defend ourselves in the event of such oppressive hypocrisy. You might think now that I am going to write something that will titillate those of you who are members of the NRA. It might seem logical that in response to the FBI's violent show of weaponry that we acquire our own flesh-mutilating devices as a means of defense...but that is exactly what they would like us to do. They would silence us as fast as they did the Black Panthers and the American Indian Movement (AIM). They would point their fingers at us as "violent militants" while all the time they would be hiding behind their backs an arsenal of hideous weapons and anti-personnel tactics. If you are fed up with the intrusive tactics of the FBI and other government agencies, the way to fend off their assault is through the press. Expose them for what they are and what they do. This is their most dreaded nightmare. I know—I was present at our plea bargain pow-wow, along with the other defendants, the US Attorneys and several FBI agents. The main concern of all parties of the government was how they would appear in the press. Quite frankly, with what had already been exposed and with what was likely to be exposed, they were terribly paranoid...and only the tip of the iceberg had been exposed.

It seems overburdening that those who work so faithfully to protect and improve our world should also have to defend themselves against oppressive forces. For those of you who have had the forbearance and tolerance to turn the other cheek to the government's ambush, I tip my hat. I guess it is all part of pursuing change.

I would like to end by expressing my respect for all of you who are so caring and devoted and if there were memberships available in *EF!*, I would be the first to join.

—MARC BAKER



My First Monkeywrench

BY ANONYMOUS

I'd never done any monkeywrenching before, although I allied myself with Earth First! several years ago. I was a completely above-ground activist; road blockades, some demonstrations and guerilla theater, playing the legal game a bit. I had yet to see a single victory, a single scrap of land saved through any of my efforts. I felt ready to broaden my range of tactics.

The thought of being included in an Earth Night action with a few of my more experienced friends appealed to me. But, that didn't work out, so I decided to take the initiative myself while visiting home, to vent the energy I'd built up. Besides, it would give me the chance to avenge a few old (ongoing) wrongs.

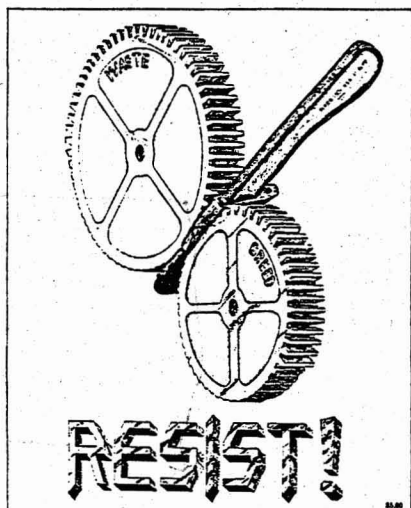
I grew up on the fringes of suburbia and spent my childhood watching my favorite escapes bulldozed to make room for more prefabricated neighborhoods, creeks silt up and choke the salamanders, fields turn into shopping centers, and country roads widen into six lane speedways.

I left that area five years ago. Every time I come back to visit, I'm shocked at how many more apartment complexes there are, how much more traffic, how many fewer groundhogs, skunks and possum. Only the deer seem more abundant as they dazedly wander into housing developments (neighborhood is really too kind a word) or out into the roads that encircle their islands

of trees. On a personal, emotional level this hurts me more than losing the redwoods I've never seen or the wolf I've never heard howl. Although I never could live in the area again, in some ways it will always be home.

Driving to an old friend's house my first day home I saw the target I'd been subconsciously looking for: Various large implements of destruction posed in front of a model home with a sign that said "NOW SHOWING." The last of

ARTWORK: BY BILL TURK



the corn fields, the last of the old, rotting barns, the last of the people who work on the land rather than at a computer, would soon be gone.

I went back later that night and prowled around the machines, looking. A trailer on the lot had a light on. I peeked in but saw only an empty desk and chair, a phone and a lamp.

In fact, the whole place was pretty brightly lit, with spotlights on the model house, and all its lights blazing too. This made me nervous. The machines sat close to the roads, and despite the hour, there was a fairly constant flow of traffic. But people in the suburbs are conditioned not to notice their surroundings. It would probably take spotlights and a sign on me: "NOW MONKEYWRENCHING" before anyone paid any attention.

All I had with me at the time was my Swiss Army knife. I tried poking a hole in one of the tractor tires with the leather punch. No luck. I'd need to get some real tools.

The next day I bought etching

cream at a stained glass craft store, tin cutters and paint. I raided the tool box and pantry at home for epoxy glue, karo syrup, rubber gloves (etching cream burns skin), a sponge, a hammer and nails. I returned to the construction site that night; the full moon and winter solstice.

I felt like a high school kid sneaking out of the house, taking the car keys from my mother's purse, trying to close the door silently, backing out of the driveway with the headlights off. It added a few complications to the procedure, being at my parents' house, but it also provided the perfect cover. Unless I was actually caught red-handed, the cops would hardly come to their very respectable split-level looking for eco-terrorists.

I parked next to the construction site. I shouldered my backpack of paraphernalia, pulled on the rubber gloves, and walked along the road. A bulldozer sat just off the shoulder, its shovel poised at the edge of a narrow strip of trees. They'd be gone the next working day. Granted, it wasn't exactly an old growth forest; scraggly maples a few inches around and thorn bushes. The place had obviously been cleared before. But this was like ripping the scab off a wound just as the healing began.

As I stood contemplating the situation, a car whizzed by, flooding me in its headlights. A bit close for comfort. I moved on. A diesel steam shovel sat the furthest back, so I walked over to it. Glass enclosed the high cab, so I knelt down and took the etching cream out of my pack. I poured some of the brown paste on a damp sponge I brought, climbed up on one of the tires and smeared it all over the windshield. I'd never used the stuff before. As far as I could tell, it just turned the window mud colored but according

to the bottle, it reacts chemically with the glass to produce those nice designs you see on expensive glass salad bowls and pitchers. So, when the workers try to wash it off in the morning, it will leave the glass opaque and rough. Next I pulled out my cutters. Unfortunately, the ones I bought only opened wide enough to snip the narrowest cables, tubes and wires. I could have done much more damage with a bigger pair. But what the hell; a few main lines cut, some karo syrup in the gas tank, epoxy in the locks and a ruined windshield. I'd raise the cost of operations a bit.

I moved from machine to machine, cutting what I could, gumming up the engines and etching the glass. I tried banging nails into the sidewall of the tires, but still couldn't make a hole. I decided not to use the paint because the damage I'd done was not as impressive as I'd imagined it would be. I didn't want to leave a militant message on a half-assed job. I'd wait until I had better tools.

On the way back to the car I paused again in front of the dozer by the strip of trees. I remembered seeing dozers just like that take out my childhood castles and caves. I just couldn't pass it up. I ducked until there were no cars coming, then quickly unscrewed the gas cap and poured in the rest of the karo syrup. Done.

I trotted back to the parking lot, my pulse racing. The whole way home I kept glancing in the rear view mirror, expecting to see the red and blue lights any minute. It had been too easy. I found myself planning for the next time; I'd get bigger cutters, find something to pierce that thick rubber. Of course, I wouldn't go back to the same site, but there's no shortage of deserving targets.

SERVICE WITH A SHARL!



EARTH NIGHT NEWS

Dozers Decommissioned

A motor-grader and a John Deere bulldozer were damaged at a development in Ashland, Oregon on January 25 or 26. Hoses were cut and dirt poured in the fuel tanks and oil fill tubes and the machines were covered with graffiti saying, "Down with Development" and "This is Deer Country."

Ed Houghton, owner of the property to be developed, said the monkeywrenchers did \$15,000 worth of damage. This is the second time machinery at this site have been targeted. Mike Benke, of the subcontracting company that owns the machines, said the cost of development in Ashland could be driven up and contractors, "...are going to take a second look at their bids...."

—SOURCE: THE ASHLAND DAILY TIDINGS

Electrocuted Luddite

An unknown Luddite met his death trying to sabotage a Pacific Gas & Electric tower in Los Gatos, just outside San Jose, California. The body of a man in his 20s was found in the tower with explosives strapped to his body. He caused a blackout of 10,000 homes in the area. PG&E, police and the county coroner have given out no information about the man or the blackout.

—SOURCE: SEATTLE POST INTELLIGENCER

Logging Tower Torched

A logging tower and some logging equipment were burned in the Coon Skinner Timber Sale of the Siuslaw National Forest in Oregon. The fire started on Sunday, February 2, when no workers were on the site. The fire was reported by people cutting firewood nearby. There was \$400,000 worth of damage done before the fire was put out.

Although a Forest Service official claimed the sale was not particularly controversial, the 115 acres slated to be clearcut was owl habitat and the average age of the trees was 120 years old.

The loggers and Forest Service assume, because no note or logos were left, that the fire was not the work of Earth Firsters.

—SOURCE: THE REGISTER GUARD

F&WS Spikes Trees

A stand of huge walnut trees along the bank of the Mississippi River in Iowa which is recommended for "reclamation" has been spiked. The Tallgrass Prairie EFlers don't have to worry about police knocking on their doors over this one, though: the trees were spiked twenty years ago by fish and wildlife employees. A couple trees were stolen for their valuable wood, and the government drove metal spikes into their trunks to dissuade tree poachers.

The current regime of fish and wildlife employees were confused by the tactics of their predecessors but the old guard are proud of the precedent they set. "Us old Fish and Wildlife employees sometimes knew what we were doing." Let's follow their shining example.

—SOURCE: THE WAUKON STANDARD

Shit Fer Brains, cont....

continued from page 3

I must accept a portion of the blame since at the time of publication my work schedule made it impossible for me to take an aggressive role in the editing process. On the other hand, the final form the article took betrays an utter lack of understanding of the content of the article itself and raises the question—did the editors even read it before they edited it?

What was sent to the journal was an eight page, meticulously documented history of the ongoing process by which one part of the mountain after another have been trashed despite state and federal laws protecting it as endangered species habitat. It's hard to imagine that someone could read those eight pages and then begin the article with the sentence: "S.B. Mtn...has at last fallen to developers who intend to build 578 residential units on San Bruno's south end."

S.B. Mtn. has not "at last fallen," it is in the process of being torn down, it has been in the process of being torn down for 30 years and if nothing changes it will continue to be torn down for another 30 years!

But wait a minute! That's not all that is wrong with this idiotic opening sentence. Someone has apparently imagined that the "Northeast ridge" is somehow on S.B. Mtn's "south end." I wish I could just shrug it off and say nice try, but what comes to mind is something close to Wake Up! Put that joint down for a moment and take a look at the stuff you're supposed to be editing. Miss your deadline if necessary but get it right!

There are other examples where editors overstepped their bounds and added their own bogus information or just used bad editorial judgement, but in the interests of avoiding hysteria I would like to close with one positive point about the future credibility of EFi and the journal.

It is possible for us to publish a journal that is not an embarrassment to the movement! But people have to realize that a rotating, temporary staff of overworked, underpaid editors will not ever work.

I have seen a frightening level of denial among members of the journal staff(s) in discussions that I've been a party to. I'm not threatening to quit the club and I don't think the journal's problems are the fault of the editors who work so hard and so thanklessly. The problem is that we're trying to do too much with too few resources and thereby guaranteeing failure.

My hope is that people arrive at the Oregon activist conference deadly serious about the task at hand and not in denial and not looking for somebody to blame.

—MARK HUNTINGTON

Earth First!

I was in my favorite book store here in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, when I noticed a paper that, for some reason, really caught my eye. It was the Yule 1991 edition of your paper. I paid for it, took it home, and discovered the radical in me staring up from the pages. What a surprise to find a paper, indeed a whole community, of people like me. (The difference is that you actually do these things.)

During September '91 we here in Calgary had an incident involving two dogs—a rottweiler and pit bull—who'd killed the neighbour's dog. The city demanded the dogs be put down (executed) under the vicious dog bylaw of the city.

The owner of the dogs—a man named Cluckie—refused to give up the dogs and was put in jail for not telling the court where the dogs could be found. He'd moved them to a farm outside of town. When he finally did reveal their whereabouts, there was only one dog. The other had been "returned to its owner in Ontario." The courts seemed happy with that and, after killing the one dog, they released Cluckie.

During this time I had applauded Cluckie for not turning the dogs in. He'd maintained the dogs were not vicious. He said they'd attacked the neighbour's dog (a toy breed if I remember correctly) because it was always tormenting them. One day the Cluckie dogs managed to escape their run and answer the challenge the toy had issued time and again.

All my friends said there was something wrong with me if I supported these "killer dogs." And cheering for some criminal who refused to allow the animals to be killed was certainly not mentally healthy. I wrote two letters at that time, one to the local editors and one to the world. My brother didn't agree with me but he thought the letters were well written so he faxed them around. I received no response from anyone. I'm sending copies to you simply so I'll know

they finally went to someone who can understand.

I don't think I'm going to become a radical any time soon but I do support any action that brings death to no one. In our present global situation, that's rare. I can't think of many human endeavors that don't bring death to the world in some way. There's a part of me that so much wants to really put an end to the destruction caused by humans that I can't be sure I'd stop before somebody got killed. Maybe I'm just a bit too passionate. Maybe I'm just making excuses.

—CHRIS PEARCE

Dear Shit fer Brains:

Phillip Slater asserted that individuals who have been raised with televised companionship exhibit the peculiar sociopathy of unwillingness to interactively contribute to community. When a television program ceases to entertain, one changes the channel or turns the television off; there is no input from the viewer. Similarly, when a game or activity ceases to entertain, an individual raised with television leaves the game to join another or to go home.

Regardless of the sociological merit of Phillip Slater's argument, the assertion provides a powerfully repulsive metaphor for some behavior. Here I apply the metaphor to letters from the Ecotopians, Devall, and Grumbine in the Yule issue. The Ecotopians appear to have departed the Journal with several slaps on the face for the editorial collective and a little horn-tooting; Devall (with a great deal of horn tooting), Grumbine and their Fund seem to have leveled unwarranted, unspecific complaints against the collective and said "We're gonna take our money-ball 'n' go play with someone else."

Allison Slater responds adequately to the Ecotopian's queries and worries; Devall's speculative accusations do not merit response; and Grumbine's charge that the Journal compromises deep ecological values is shown to be flawed by Sprout's editorial.

Beyond responding adequately to the complaints, the editors have contributed positive statements. Sprout suggests that nonviolence and anti-sociopathy are norms that are subject to questioning within the Earth First! movement. Employing Naess' format, Sprout's assertion is that Nonviolence! and No sociopathy! are lower level norms than Earth First! Sprout also manifests a fundamental understanding of deep ecology: "I simply put this out and ask that we begin to question. We must question our ideas and especially our reactions" (my emphases).

Unfortunately, what has potential to be part of a productive dialogue in the Journal may not bear fruit as the Ecotopians may not read our input or continue to contribute to the discussion and Devall and Grumbine have gone to play elsewhere.

Eliminating her conditionals, Allison Slater has written an accurate description of the Earth First! movement, incidentally consistent with Foreman's description of the movement at its inception: "Earth First!ers...are...activists, drawn together in the belief that the destruction of nature has to end now. Everything else...is up for debate. We don't have to agree with each other. We don't even have to like each other." Our statements of fundamental belief (Naess' level 1) may differ and our consequential and particular decisions and practices (levels 3 and 4) may not coincide but our general norm (level 2), Earth First! unifies us as a community with an effective communications like in the *Earth First! Journal*. That is a link worth preserving. Keep contributing to our community, Ecotopia, bring back your money-ball, Grumbine, and stick with the game, Devall.

By the way, where's Foreman?
Going deep for Earth first!

—KRISTIAN SHAWN OMLAND

To Earth First!

The thought police have finally arrived to the Earth First! movement. Although in true EFi fashion, it happened backwards: not from the stagnating central powers trying to hold on to their fickle funding or any political inroads they have established by avoiding and censoring an issue that may go against the prevailing thought, but from a small group trying to decide for the rest of us what we should not be discussing. I'm referring to the "Count Us Out" article written by Ecotopia Earth First!, in the Yule '91 Journal, where they condemn the Journal's printing of an article that alludes to the shooting of hunters..

Ecotopia EFi claim that "Earth First is opposed to violence against humans and

other living beings." In the same article, they claim "we are not even opposed to hunting in general..." Maybe the cheeseburger stuffed in their mouth is not letting them see the contradictions in their own thinking.

The issue of meat-eating, its environmental devastation, as well as the ethical arguments against it, is a good example of how the non-censorship of an idea, upsetting as it may be, can stimulate thought and discussion. Most of us in Earth First! grew up eating meat and caring about the environment at the same time. And most of us met the idea of giving up animal eating with defensiveness, denial, and even anger. After thought and discussion, many of us have turned vegan.

Hunt sabotage is another subject that didn't receive much support in the early years of the Hunt Sabs, even though most Hunt Saboteurs were Earth First!ers. With this in mind it is quite ironic that Ecotopia EFi refers to Hunt Sabs as "true eco-warriors" and invokes our safety as a reason for censoring the idea of using guns as a tool to stop hunting.

Personally, I think—after many days of going back and forth over the issue with friends and in my own mind—that there is nothing that one can do with a gun that cannot also be done with other tools and a little stealth. A gun is the tool of a coward and a lazy-ass. But so is censorship.

Ecotopia EFi may argue that the concept of killing another human is where they must draw the line, and so, censor all discussion on this issue. But it is thought and discussion on the concept that has revealed to me, and those I have spoken with, the flaw in the prevailing Earth First! thought. I submit that the flaw is the patriarchal idea of fighting, killing, and finally winning over an enemy and then setting up your better way after final victory. The censorship of the issue of killing humans and cows would not reveal to us so profoundly this flaw. Our effort should be put into discussing and tearing apart the idea of killing, and then finding the root of the problem—not quitting. And if the current editors of the Journal are censoring your efforts to do so, then get your ass to Missoula and do it yourself.

Be warned. Our thoughts and beliefs are travelling so far from the mainstream that we are becoming non-compatible with even our families, neighbors, and old friends. And those who cannot open up to the ideas of veganism, animal liberation, anti-hunting, hunt sabbing, and feminism will write articles telling us we should shoot cows, hunters, and maybe even the President. But we must stay strong (even though the concept may be inviting) and explain that the thought of killing as a means to solve a problem is a thought central in the minds of those that are killing this planet.

—TONY, IN SANTA CRUZ

Dear Editor:

I am so inspired to see EF starting to change from the unenlightened redneck image to a more intelligent and humane movement. The redneck macho man days are coming to an end and the Eco-feminist, non-alcoholic, non-violent, vegetarian, animal lovers are infiltrating and taking over EF. The letters condemning the stupidity and cruelty of shooting cows is just the beginning of a change in the EF movement. Those same men who advocate killing cows also eat meat and drink milk. They buy their meat and dairy products in the supermarkets and then have the nerve to blame cows for being environmentally destructive, when they support the beef and dairy industry! Give me a break, please. Those bumperstickers have got to go: "I'll take my beef poached, thanks." "Hunt cows, not bears." "Hunters: did a cow get your elk?" Dropping out is exactly what the EF rednecks want you to do and then EF will never change. There are a lot of good people dropping out of the movement, because they can't tolerate the rednecks, who are refusing to change their consciousness. We need to educate them, be patient it may take some time. To all the vegetarian, animal lovers, non-violent, non-alcoholic, eco-feminists and other enlightened folks out there, please keep writing your letters and articles and come to the rendezvous. "Everything must change", yes even EF. Keep the Faith.

Sincerely, another vegetarian,
EcoFeminist, anti-hunter

—DAVE CUTLER

PS Also how come some EF's don't use their real names. What are they scared of? Maybe their not macho enough to take some criticism for their writing? How childish and

paranoid can some people get? After 2 assassination attempts on Judi Bari's life, she isn't afraid to use her real name! I am real sorry she and the Ecotopia EF folks are dropping out, we need you inside their movement. Don't let a few ignorant rednecks force you out! The struggle continues.

Dear Shit For Wits—

The advice to carry a firearm for mercy killing on animal liberation actions is witless. That advice is a crap trap. One activist with a gun and it's open season on us all. It'll be shoot first ask questions later. The same issue gave directions, w/graphics, of how to trap animals. Hmmm.

Now lotsa people here in Ecotopia say the Journal has gone in a bad way. The Journal is infiltrated. Infiltration begins w/ in I say. The plain simple fact is bad advice be emanating from these pages. I won't be buyin this journal anymore. Anyway, A Journal don't jibe w/E.F.! Jive.

Adios

—E.T. BUTTES DWELLER, ECOTOPIA

Dear SFB:

The "Trees are For Hanging—Kill a Developer" cartoon in the Brigid Journal is the kind of worthless bullshit that hurts us all. Come on. SAB a developer: as often as possible. Lynchings: we really are a very white movement, aren't we?

Love from griz country,

—FRIDA ROME

Dear EFlers:

The reaction by the Ecotopia group(s) to the article "A Hunting We Will Go" is about as irrational as anything I've seen in the Journal. They seem to forget that the Journal is a forum for all views, including those with which we may not agree.

By all means, let us have non-violent demonstrations if they serve our purpose, but historically, those in power will risk their total destruction rather than abandon their privileges. It is well that those who choose the violent way understand this. That's why revolutions tend to be bloody affairs — and a revolution is long past due.

The perfect scheme;

The grand old plan;

They will take who have the power;

They may keep who can.

What we are contending for is control over our natural heritage that is being laid to waste by those who are in control of our government.

I expect that more will choose the violent way as they come to realize that their own lives are endangered by this government's policies and that the change required is beyond what peaceable means have been left to us by those in power.

—ZORRO

Dear Fertile Minds,

It never ceases to bore me when over and over again in the Journal we are reminded by some jerk-off or another (possible euro-CENTRAL lack of INTELLIGENCE acme AGENCY plant) about the so-called corruption of Earth First! principles by ecofeminist allied "WIMPS." Putting all the pieces of the oppression jigsaw puzzle together is still obviously a bit too tricky (read: confrontational and even radically EFFECTIVE) as far as more than a few good ol' boys and their cohorts are concerned.

So, for all those stunned stunt men and women who think that WE'RE some kind of enemy, I say: Go right ahead...call us WIMPS! Like many terms distorted by the hierarchical establishment of yesteryear (and today), I'm quite sure that 'it', too, holds some meaning much DEEPER than the shallow rationale espoused by the truly anthropocentric and loathing separatists in question. Heretofore, dear readers, when the word WIMP crosses your path in the context you know I am referring to, how about trying a little more reading between the lines?

For example, perhaps WIMP really spells—"Wiseone Interrupting Mysogynist Patriarchy," or "Women Infiltrating Male Privilege!" And howabout, "Warriors in Mobilization for Peace," and Wary of Internalized Mainstream Propaganda"? Then of course there are, "Witches Implicating Mal(e) Practice," and "Worship Inspired by Matrifocal Perspective." After all, "What If More Mothers Protest Sterilization"?

Yes, some of us ARE empowered in our non-violent active defense of Wilderness by an understanding that all things are indeed connected, and wonder how any so-called radical environmentalist could lack the will to examine/acknowledge his or her own

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privilege in a social (or anti-social, as the case may be) relationship to the whole grand ordeal, and then not apply that awareness DIRECTLY! We will continue to challenge the stagnant notion that expanding (as opposed to limiting...get it?) our activism to include the human animal's facts of life, inevitably places the Earth in any position other than absolutely, positively, 100% First! And like it or not, for some of us EFL also stands for EcoFeminism. So mote it be!

Sincerely,
—FIREWEED

Dear SFB,

Rejecting the letter of support from the Reb. Niel Voight (SFB Samhain 1991) *simply* because he is a Catholic priest, as Zorro does (SFB Yule 1991), seems to me like telling a politician who drafts a no-compromise piece of biodiversity preservation legislation to go jump off a cliff. Simply because the Church, like the government, has been "one of the environment's most destructive institutions", does not mean that someone affiliated with that institution cannot "see the light." And sometimes the people and circumstances that shape an institution (whether it be our government, the Catholic Church, a regressive Sierra Club chapter, etc.) make it "crooked," rather than an inherent crookedness. We don't need to condemn the principles our government borrowed from the Iroquois confederacy, for example, just because they have been twisted by corporate interests to create an institution out of harmony with that original spirit. (This is not to claim that at the instant of their adoption by the "Founding Fathers" they had not *already* been twisted to a degree.) We also need to remember that we can find good people even in the worst places.

To continue the discussion of Christianity and the Church in the forms they are currently taking, I want to say first of all that after awakening to some of the patriarchal, anti-nature, destructive aspects in my early teens (I didn't have words for all this then), I separated myself from them and have not returned since. I would have to "reform" and "change" Christianity and its institutions in too many ways to make them an option for me right now. But I've also started to recognize that what we currently see is not necessarily what the "original spirit" of the institution, or the person whose name it took, was. Even within the Catholic Church right now there are voices, such as Matthew Fox's, proposing a wholesale reappraisal of the Church's assumptions. At a recent Earth and spirit conference I attended, Fox suggested that the person we know as Jesus—whose name has been used to justify and promote all kinds of authoritarian oppression, exploitation, negative attitudes toward self, other people, and the natural world (thus allowing their trampling and destruction)—would have been horrified by the fear-based religion that some have erected and called "Christianity." Fox has frequently referred to the Christian deity as "Goddess" (earning him a one-year silencing by the Pope), and at the conference went so far as to say that the historical Jesus was in fact a Pagan. There does seem to be a lot of evidence that Jesus advocated not only radical social, political, and personal change but also a renewed harmony with the natural world. He did not dress up in a suit and drive to church every Sunday, to assuage his guilt and try to fill the spiritual emptiness left by the rest of his life. He camped out, flew in the face of society and convention, espoused no-till lilly-of-the-field permaculture, and promoted values that (if someone other than the current, probably unwilling and outraged, symbol of "White Man's Religion" had articulated them) most Earth Firsters would probably agree with.

Hypothetically, it would take only a few misguided or power-hungry minds and empty hearts to reinterpret a statement such as "I, you, everyone and everything are inseparable parts of Nature, of one Great Spirit/Goddess, meant to live in harmony with the whole, which is greater than us," via an intermediary statement like "I am a manifestation of God(dess)", into a statement such as "I am the only begotten Son of God the Father Almighty; you are wretched sinners whose only salvation lies in obeying my designated authority figures: Popes, preachers, Presidents, prayer books." That transformation could occur in a two-minute game of "telephone", if enough drinks have been consumed and the "Jesus" game of "telephone" has been going on for 2000 years. I don't mean to "deify" this person—that's already been done by others, as they say—but I do want to suggest that who he was and

what has been spoken or done in his name may in some cases be diametrically opposed.

People within as well as outside the Church right now are standing up for not only social and political justice and renewed personal wholeness but for ecological integrity—and acknowledging the harm that religion has done in all of these areas. The hypocrisy of the churches' investments is no secret even within the churches. I don't attend Church nor can I find motivation to get involved voluntarily in an institution which seems out of sync in so many ways with what I believe and value. (This is partly because I had an "overdose of compromise" as a child.) But I've encountered people who are, through some combination of circumstances, involved peripherally or directly in organized religion, who either already put the Earth first or are very close to making that leap. Whether or not we all claim to be 100% enlightened, we can't afford to shut out those who are "waking up." If biocentricity is ultimately the only viable viewpoint, then all sorts of people will be coming to it, and we should welcome them.

Expressing distress and outrage, as Zorro was doing, at what our religious and spiritual institutions have done, is important. But taking this out on an individual who writes a friendly letter may not be the most appropriate way to promote change, either within or without those institutions. I personally had many more fears about the Rev. Voight's proposal to put birth control fluid in our drinking water supplies than about his being a Catholic priest, but that's another subject. (At least his proposal illustrates that there's diversity within Catholicism.)

Thanks for the Journal.
—CHRIS ROTH

Dear Friends,

Sydney Haskell's "British Columbia Betrayed" in the Brigid issue makes sad reading. Not for the particular story of betrayal it tells, but because of the naivete of Haskell and others like him who really swallowed the New Democratic Party's (NDP's) pre-election promises. No politician or political party that aspires to power can be trusted. The NDP is a better crew than the wild bunch of right wing fanatics that savaged British Columbia for decades, but they are still a political party whose goal is to gain power. Once having gained it they know what they must do to retain it: appease those voters who will return the party to government at the next election. Those voters believe overwhelmingly that the only path for this province to take involves more and more progress, jobs, development, etc. The only way these people and the NDP party they support differ from those who support the right wing Social Credit and Liberals is in the means by which this goal is to be achieved; the goal is the same. In this scheme of things, wilderness, wildlife, old-growth forests, etc. play a role and are important only in so far as they don't get in the way of the stupid, headlong, economic development of the province. Haskell & Co, bless them, really believed the NDP's pre-election promises (i.e. lies). But they had an option: the B.C. Green's ran candidates in most ridings and the Green's platform was clean and clear—the senseless, full blown economic binge must slow down and eventually stop. Since the election last October, I have met many individuals who sheepishly admit to voting NDP rather than Green because they feared the Social Credit yahoos would sneak back into power on a split vote. But if only one or two Greens had been elected or if the Green vote overall had been substantial, the mainline parties may, just may have realized that a large minority of the voters was deadly serious about *changing* the system, not just *tinkering* with it. The NDPers are tinkers.

I support Stephen, & Sockeye Sue, & Sarena, & Wild Wolf and all their wonderful colleagues, but I hope they have learned a fundamental lesson—"NEVER, NEVER, NEVER TRUST A POLITICIAN WHO ASPIRES TO POWER!"
Peace
—JIM MILLER

Greetings from the Big Apple, rotting at the Core,

After months of trying to get a Manhattan Earth First! group going amidst the financial and social gloom of 1992, I have decided to call it quits, and be of service in other ways. During this difficult time, I kept my spirit high by burning a lot of candles and incense under my Earth flag and photo of

Geronimo holding a rifle, and meditating for hours in the great warrior's image. Call it 90's woo-woo. On my way back from the post office on West 18th Street today, I was momentarily startled by the sight of an 18" ridge (industrial size) monkeywrench in the middle of the street! There is no logical reason for it to be there. Just a school and some small antique shops in the area...no construction, sewer repairs, etc. going on. Obviously this is "the miracle of West 18th Street" a sure sign from the Creator that I (and all of us) are doing the right thing, and just what I needed to spur me on in these difficult times. I'm going to clean the monkeywrench up and keep it, and look forward to showing the gnarly looking thing off at regional and national rondies in the future.

With God on my side,
—CRAIG STEHR, MANHATTAN EFL

Queridos Mierdas del Cerebro,

This first as a contribution toward my longstanding observation that this entire (semi-radical) environmental commotion is a middle-class-drop-out-urban-drop-out-anglo-drop-out endeavour.

Now to the beef. In my udderly humble opinion, the more Western beef we can stamp out rather than stamp on (meaning the USDA approval stamp), the better. I have nothing but solid advice for the "Memphis Softline" middle class white anglo drop-out whose wooshy liberalism seems to have taken such offense in a little imaginary huntin' trip (Robert Marten, A Hunting We Will Go, Fall Issue).

First, let's call phenomena by their established names for better communication: the domestic production of cattle is generally referred to as "animal husbandry," rather than animal agriculture (that only to enrich you own urban culture a bit. The question nonetheless arises: have you ever seen a C-O-W?)

Second, I assume you've indeed never had the unfortunate but sadly enlightening opportunity to observe your first-grade reader Mooh-Mooh in action on a mountain slope, never seen them hooves displace a cosmos of plant and microbe life, not to mention the rocks and soil habitat, in one single plop-down? You do know enough about the beastly, though, to realize that it's always four of these destructive plops, don't you? And you know enough about herd animal behaviour to realize that where there is a Mama Mooh, there's also a Baby Mooh? And that before long, that Baby Mooh weighs every bit of 400 pounds, all stolen from the native grazers and non-grazers who also live "out there."

Third, though it rains a lot in Memphis, you do have an inkling that the West is mainly dry, with seasonal rains, often in the form of downpours? And you have heard of some ecological principles, or just the simple Law of Gravity, and what happens when overgrazed, and overstepped slopes are exposed to wind and water erosion? Or winter snows which soak the soil and cause entire mountain sides to slide away at melting time unless secured by solid vegetation covers?

Now, how many species' habitats is our Mooh-Mooh destroying here? Or do we measure species "humane" value in terms of size? How many Inky Caps or Fungus Beetles for one Walking Hamburger? Which brings me to the purpose of Old Bess bein' up there in the first place. Is that perhaps what they call "humane" in Memphis, down the street at Ol' Mac's?

Finally, I hope you see now that if indeed we wait until Big Homo changes his collective food habits...(considered by students of human behaviour to be more stubbornly resisted than religious changel) ...there would be no need no longer. So, Memphis, why don't you come out West and we'll turn you into a true "Hardliner." Keep on strugglin', We all love ya!
—TOROLOCO

Dear SFB:

When talking to people about EFL, I keep running into a problem. When people hear "Earth First!" what comes to mind is "tree-spikers" and not deep ecology, biodiversity, or sustainable economics.

A person wrapped in a cocoon of material comfort, in a city of cement far from the natural world, cannot relate to the horror of a clearcut or appreciate why it is wrong to dam a wild river. What that person can relate to is a threat to personal safety. People do not see spiking as an attempt to save trees and ecosystems. Spiking is seen as an act of violence against the loggers, an act of terrorism.

So stop spiking trees! All it does is

alienate people who otherwise would agree with us. It is bad enough to threaten a logger's job, but to go after his personal safety really pisses him off. The infighting spiking creates isn't any good for the movement. Too much time is spent debating whether or not to spike instead of working on ways to fight corporate socialism. People and organizations, who EFL could be working with, work against us because of spiking. In 1989, the Sierra Club in Oregon made the passage of an anti-spiking bill their number one legislative priority. This we do not need! Spiking just causes us to fight among ourselves which is what the corporate boys love to see.

You can disagree with me personally, but I feel it is important that EFL as a movement publicly denounce spiking and all forms of violence. The Journal should try to bring people together on this matter and not work to break the movement apart. We cannot speak to people about the importance of saving the Earth if their minds are closed to EFL because of spiking. Nor can we be effective when we are continuously fighting among ourselves.

Solidarity,
—JOHN SHAY

To the Editor,

Jack Turner's article on "The Abstract Wild" raises more questions than he answered and left most readers very confused. Some of his points are excellent, but he fails to draw them out to any conclusion. For example, he points out that the more nature movies and programs we have, the more we destroy nature. He fails, however, to note the causal connections in this observation.

Some of Mr. Turner's other statements also seem contradictory. On the one hand, he laments the absence of a coherent vision of an alternative for the environmental movement. On the other hand, he laments the absence of a true wilderness. If there is not wilderness left, why should we need any alternative, or for that matter, any environmental movement at all?

Why does Mr. Turner recommend whale contact for whale activists, if the whales have absolutely no need for human contact? He doesn't seem to realize that using other species for "inspiration" may be as acquisitive and destructive as any other use. Why does he lament the fact that so many people do not go backcountry, when he asserts that there is no real wilderness back there, either? I say keep them in their cars and away from the whales.

The key to his confusion is his obsession with the whole idea of "wilderness." The term was invented by the modern nation state as a technique for expropriating other people's land. As soon as something is designated wilderness or wild, that gives "authorities" the right to expropriate it for whatever purpose *they* choose, making a park or a bowling alley.

Note the use of the term "expropriate" and not "appropriate." The land already belonged to someone else. The last piece of wilderness on this planet disappeared sometime in the 13th century, when the last remaining spot on earth was finally colonized by some human group. With the exception, maybe, of the Antarctic, human beings had made a claim on every square inch of the planet.

Preliminary to the passage of the Alaska Native Claims of 1972, as you remember, Alaska Native groups established aboriginal title to over 100% of the state and up to 200 miles of the offshore area.

There was not one square inch in Alaska that did not belong to some human group who were systematically exploiting it. So much for the Alaska "wilderness." The idea that indigenous societies there or elsewhere did not know their own land as belonging to them is one of the great myths of the white race.

The sooner we liberate ourselves from the myth of wilderness, the sooner we will be able to effectively manage our resources and protect those species we deem valuable. The real question is not one of definition (e.g. What is wilderness?) but one of politics and power (e.g., Who really owns and controls this land and its resources?)

Earth First! and other environmental groups have created an enormous problem by trying to anthropomorphize the environment and attributing independent "rights" to various species. This is fraught with the same dangers as trying to attribute rights to children. The more autonomy and adulthood we attribute to children, the more we deny them what they need to most: loving parents and a nurturing environment. The

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Still More Shit fer Brains...

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more we attribute autonomy and independence to other species, the more we endanger their survival.

An alternative environmental movement would do well to recognize that humans have been part of nature for a long time and have considerably affected its development. It is absolute nonsense to speak of wolves, forests, whales, or penguins without the recognition of their continuing dependence on our care and management. No one speaks for nature but humans. The question for the environmental movement is, "Which humans?"

Some activists protest that we can't own nature, but they attempt to appropriate nature for *their* own uses, not for hunting or development, perhaps, but for their own use nevertheless,—no matter how "detached" or esthetic they claim that use to be. That is why arguments about the environment are always and radically political arguments: who has control?

The question is not whether nature is owned, but who owns it, not whether it is exploited, but who does the exploiting and how they are doing it.

As indigenous peoples around the world have learned, protection of their habitat is essentially and radically a political problem, ultimately having to do with political structures. In our society as well, the degradation of the environment has been accompanied by the systematic degradation of democracy and the ability of ordinary people to affect the political process.

The increase of nature movies, groups, and education may, in fact, be counter-productive if it is not accompanied by an obvious political strategy. The more publicity there is about the danger to the environment, the more the business interests make sure to limit and constrain the power of citizens to do anything about it. Look what has happened, for example, to the Coastal Management Act. Originally, Congress mandated that local communities would have the final say on the fate of the coastline. Industrial and developmental interests have taken great pains to limit the power Congress originally gave the people. All problems, especially environmental problems, are radically political, having to do with the control of land.

The environmental movement has failed not because it is too middle class or too materialistic, but because it has not taken into account the relationship of the people to the land and their responsibility for it. It has painted nature as the capitalist state paints nature, not as our homeland, but as something wild, remote, independent, and foreign. It fails to engage the political relationship we have with the land.

Such an engagement, of course, would be in direct opposition to capitalism, which requires a surfeit of goods to establish a profit, and to achieve that goal must utilize slavery, the exploitation of labor, and the constant expropriation of other people's resources.

Capitalism is bad not because it plows the land or chops down trees or makes cars or CD players or water pumps, but because it takes the land and its resources out of the control of people who live there and puts them at the disposal of others who need to turn a profit for their stockholders. Capitalism is bad not because it puts human first—it doesn't—but because it alienates humans from the land on which they live.

Those interested in the fate of the planet have yet to recognize the extent of that alienation and take steps to correct it. Nothing will produce quicker or more far-reaching results than returning control of the land back to the people who live on it. This, of course, is the most revolutionary agenda of all, forcing us to change the way we live and see our world. We cannot save our planet without first saving ourselves.

Sincerely,
—WILLIAM H DUBAY

Dear SFB,

First I would like to commend everyone on the EFLJ. It is a quality work on the whole, of course. But I guess you can't please everyone.

However I may as well say what I wrote for in the first place. In the Feb. issue I read all this noise about how to define EFL, the role of the Journal, some falling out between East & West Coast EFLers blah blah blah... whatever happened to "No Compromise In Defense of Mother Earth?" No matter what we all share a common bond, and that is a love of our Mother. And that must take precedence to all other causes. So much time and resources are being wasted away only arguing & debating

about how to define EFL what it's goal should be etc etc...I may not be a familiar face among the EFL camp due to the fact that I am fairly new but I do know one thing for sure. All the work that Dave and crew put into EFL shouldn't go to waste. They started a good movement and it's up to us to continue that. We must ignore our differences and unite to defend our dying planet. Didn't I read that somewhere... "Unity through Diversity"? In our individuality we can strengthen the movement. I guess I haven't figured out the point of this letter...I hope someone has. Just stand strong and through unity the war can be won and that environmental reduction may not be too far away.

—ANGEL ICE

Dear Earth First!

In solidarity with Ecotopia Earth First!, the women of Ecofeminist Visions Emerging (EVE) support Ecotopia Earth First!'s position regarding the "shoot hunter" article. In light of the government's fascist behavior against all political activists, the decision to publish such an article was cavalier and politically immature.

Although we support much of the work of Earth First!, we continue to be distressed by various speciesist positions that erroneously exclude human and nonhuman animals from Nature (ex., article on shooting cows, various anti-animal EFL bumper stickers).

We sincerely hope Ecotopia Earth First!, the *Earth First Journal* staff, and the entire Earth First! organization can resolve its differences. Your work is very important to the advancement of a postpatriarchal harmony with Earth.

In struggle and peace
—ECOFEMINIST VISIONS EMERGING (EVE)

Dear Friends at EARTH FIRST:

Peace be with you. I trust that this letter is finding you all well and enjoying the best that life has to offer. Thank you for the current issue of EARTH FIRST, which I received last week.

I found myself to be in more agreement with you than I was with the previous issue that you sent me. Though for the most part I was in agreement with that issue, as my then letter indicated. Though I find it very hard to accept the idea of harassing people who wear furs. I believe, as long as the animal isn't endangered, it is no-one's business what another wears. On the other hand, I believe that people should be educated as to the consequences of their choices as consumers.

Here is a larger issue for you all to follow up. The nation of Iceland is going to resume whaling. Now here is a dire issue. As most of the species of whales are still endangered. The best way to fight this is with consumerism. An immediate boycott should be instituted against all products of Iceland. If ALL Americans and most Europeans stop purchasing all items from Iceland, their financial losses will be much greater than anything they can hope to gain by whaling.

Will also include a more radical letter for the "SHIT FER BRAINS" sections. It is under a pen-name. If you want you may also include any of the above three paragraphs in that section or as any news section.

Until next time I remain with a blessing for a more peaceful and just world.

In Liberty,
—JACOB FEUERWERKER

Dear Vacuum for Brains:

When reading some of your latest articles regarding shooting grazing cows and hung sabotage ("A hunting we will go") and the responses from readers, it becomes clear that Earth Firsters appear to be confused about what means should be used for a desired end such as putting the earth and all it's living inhabitants first. Western societies have consistently promoted the idea that the right end justifies the means no matter what. Unfortunately this maxim is dead wrong. Using the wrong means for a noble end might give short term results but will always fail in the long run. A good example for EFL and other environmental organizations on how right means will lead to rights ends can be seen in the life of great leaders like M.K. Gandhi or Dr. Martin Luther King. The successes of their campaigns was largely due to using the means of non-violence and self-respect to obtain similar ends such as civil rights and independence. In short, the choice of the means directly or indirectly determines the outcome of an activity.

The question then arises as to what means should EFL use to protect the earth's

ecosystems and all its living creatures. The answer is simple: Since the ultimate goal is protect all life and its supporting systems, the means must be in harmony with these goals. That is any actions must reflect for life. For future EFL actions this would mean that public ranching cannot be eliminated by shooting cows but rather by not eating them and by promoting vegetarianism. Similarly, hunting may be more effectively opposed by non-violent hunt sabotages than by confronting hunters aggressively.

In summary, the long term success of EFL is crucially dependent on using means which affirm life. This will demand sound judgement, strength, discipline and personal sacrifices from all activists. Success to us!

—MICHAEL

Dearest Excrement Synapses,

Back in the days of Freedom, the Diggers used to espouse, when questioned by "authority" as to who was in charge, "You Are." Thus there was no responsible party to arrest or charge, besides for rubbing "authorities'" already chafed hide the wrong way.

Diggers provided food and clothing freely, suggesting people take it with, "It's Free because it's yours." Diggers encouraged a Free Frame of Reference, where rules, mores, ethics and laws were ignored and challenged on an individual basis.

We hope sincerely that some of these ideas will be tried more throughout the EFL Movement & in decisions for the Journal. We appreciate the rotating staff, even if that means "inconsistencies" and occasional bruhahas. Life itself is filled with both. Creativity & uniqueness are the biggest things humans have going for them.

Blessings,
—MER & TOAD

Dear Earth First!

I was very interested in your recent survey, as it has reiterated concerns I have had with the Earth First! movement in our locale.

It is my belief that the radical environmental movement is past teetering on the precipice, if not already on the rocks. The dissolutions and fragmentation of Earth First! is not solely the fault of government harassment and infiltration, either. If it is self-destructing it is we environmental radicals who have not worked hard enough to keep the revolution at the cutting edge of change.

Instead of remaining an elite cadre of eco-guerillas, our overactive egos began to bask in the notoriety of the vampires we call "media," and the consuming public which they serve. As "membership" began to swell, and the philosophy spread, it became weaker and weaker as it absorbed individuals who were not really committed to saving the planet but interested only in the infamy that association with radicalism would bring. As Earth First! became gentrified, it began to incorporate philosophies that were detrimental to the single-minded approach of "no compromise in defense of Mother Earth." These beliefs obscured our goal.

Some of these philosophies I felt drove EFL into disarray are many of those usually associated with the New Age and political correctness: pacifism, a concern for human life, vegetarianism, feminism and other issues that should have been left in the socio-political arena. *We were founded to save a planet. Period.*

Those ideals mentioned are important and should never be taken lightly, but when incorporated as a lifestyle without regard for their integral meanings and purpose is absurd. If we don this New Age cloak, like a tie-dyed t-shirt, embracing it and environmentalism like the next big thing, we are as guilty and corrupt as the system we fight!

The journal seems to be a vast improvement over the old one. The former journal was often stifling in an academic way. Too great a concern was placed on lengthy articles on various aspects of conservation biology. I'd like to see a greater emphasis on methods of organizing and ways to educate the public about the wholesale destruction around us. People really don't realize the end of this planet is at hand.

We each need to recommit ourselves to planetary salvation. Human life is not sacrosanct; too many damn people is the number one problem. The second most serious problem is that there's too many damn people consuming! If there is such a concern for human life within the ranks of Earth First! why don't we get Bob Geldorf to do a "We are the World" concert?

Lastly, the paranoia y'all exhibited by the mention of anonymity smacks of cowardice and lack of commitment. If guilt or fear drives you to hide behind an alias, perhaps Earth First! isn't the place for you! The anti-war (Vietnam) movement would never have started if folks like Mario Savio, Abbie Hoffman, Jerry Rubin, Dave Dellinger, Carl Odesby etc had remained anonymous. Or how about the civil rights movement and the Black Panthers? Martin Luther King Jr, Angela Davis, Edridge Cleaver, Bobby Sisk all stood proud and in the open.

Let's please get our collective shit together and stop this petty in-fighting and bickering. *No compromise in defense of Mother Earth* should be our single purpose. Each individual needs to decide for her or his self whether the tools they use will be armed insurrection or pacifism, sabotage or passive resistance, marching peacefully in the streets or destroying the fabric of our society. Let the group stay unified.

Sincerely,
—JAY S GERTZ

Dear Earth First!

The other day I purchased a book of stamps at the post office and noticed an interesting thing: On the inside of the stamp booklet is written "Help speed mail delivery. Please use all capital letters with no punctuation in addresses." The booklet then gives an example. The point of this is that the postal service now apparently uses computers which can read the addresses, and these computers can only read them correctly if all capital letters with no punctuation is used. You can do your part to let the postal service know what you think of them using this unnecessary technology by doing such things as: writing the address in lower case, using as much punctuation as you can in the addresses, writing the addresses in colors other than blue or black, writing slogans all over the envelope (some of you anarchists do that anyway,) putting the stamp in the wrong place, and not using the "zip +4" extension. Stamps such as the American flag stamp should be affixed upside down. (John Muir stamps should, of course, be affixed right-side up.) Also, the envelopes you get with your junk mail can be reused to mail something else, thereby saving paper and trees. Who knows? You might even foul up the postal service sorting machines, and then they would be forced to abandon this unnecessary technology. At the very least, they will think twice about investing in something that nobody is going to cooperate with.

Remember: Always question technology!

Back to the Pleistocene!
—MR. ZIP

Dear SFBs!

Well then here it is: Though I ain't got these faintest what y'a mean with that "Corporate-sponsored" article shit I'll follow your suggestion. We're simply a group of people, small at that, who believe that nothing'll change unless you address the middle-class kids best for still being hopefully open to some Earth-positive influence, and try to reduce big consumption and waste going on there. But have it your way—we'll write that letter. Thanks for printing our T-shirt and sticker ad. Don't sound like a bunch of lawyers, though, please. Re: the SFB-type language. Here in Georgia, you've got to "Shut your mouth..." For the Earth!

—VERA

Hey E.F.

EARTH FIRST? What is all this B.S. about people quitting Earth First? Just because they don't like this or that statement, put away your egos or save them for Eric Estrada. If we don't stick together on real issues we will fail and that's what the Eco Rapers want us to do. Figure it out and get your dam heads out of the T.V., love and understand one another, we are all the same. Peace on earth and global communion.
—HAWK FROM THE WIND SOMEWHERE IN B.C.

Dear EFL

Kudos to Allison Slater for her column "The Party Line" in Yule 91. She shows the kind of thinking and feeling that will lead us away from the bickering and sniping and back to the real work. I am grateful.

—HANK BRUSE, WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WI

Dear Shithead!

Howdy! I hereby recommit myself to the Earth First! movement and comment on recent EFi controversies. I approve of Robert Marten's articles. No compromise=No censorship! We city-born people may need Marten's basic skills one day (maybe today). Desperate times call for desperate measures. We must be able to think the unthinkable, however painful. Corporations pay people lots of money for their imagination.

I also understand why some people are choosing to "quit" EFi. Many are building support through non-violence, an honorable and time-tested strategy. I wish them luck, but they must realize that our opponents will always exaggerate and fabricate stories against us. Some is intentional but most is fear and an active persecution complex. People love to feel persecuted—makes life interesting and has a faintly religious air, i.e. Job, Moses, Jesus, etc.

I've been a Journal reader for only 3 years, but I notice the sense of fear, in the name-calling, labelling, and mud-slinging. We must be strong enough in our convictions to let others express theirs. After all, most of the ways we choose to express ourselves are based on personal preference. The truth that binds us is our connection with the Earth, our life-giver, our home, our source of beauty. We must focus, visualize, dream! Let the mud be slung on billboards and glass towers. End of sermon.

Earth First!

—NIGHTWALKER

SFB:

Regarding hunters, we here at *Save Our Earth* feel it would be nice if all the hunters just killed off each other. We equate those timid "liberals" who object to such thought as similar to those fundamentalists who have the curious notion that to withhold condoms from young people would cause them to not have sex! Earth First! must *perforce* stick to its basic tenet that earth should come first in a grossly over-populated world where people keep on mindlessly propagating then neglecting and then are surprised when the kids turn violent and end up in jail. The real heroes are those who will defend earth against earth's rapists.

—ELAINE STANSFIELD, DIRECTOR

Dear Editor With Brains of Shit

I am a long time Earth First! supporter, and I am enclosing a check to renew my subscription to the *Journal*, but I want you to know, you can no longer take my support for granted as you could in the past. You are right when your editorial staff claims that people like myself can not quit Earth First! and be satisfied joining the Sierra Club. Belief in radical environmentalism demands more of me than that, but there are plenty of local groups to work with.

I feel that the recent alliance with animal rights people and hunt saboteurs is misguided, but this business of shooting hunters goes way beyond misguided to a complete denial of basic principles based on non-violence, civil disobedience and monkeywrenching. When you sink to the level of your enemies, you become the same as and no better than they are. If we open this door, a lot of us could get killed accomplishing nothing. Are you more interested in martyrdom or in saving the environment? I, for one, am interested in saving the environment and living long enough to see the possibility of success.

The grotesque quality of portraying hunters as a threat to the environment on the same level as Maxxam and Dow Chemical is genuinely bizarre. In the letters column of the last issue was one from a woman who told how revolted she was by all the hunters she saw allied with her at demonstrations protesting the destruction of wilderness. Doesn't anybody among us realize that many of these people are seriously interested in defending the environment, too?

What I really object to is the attempt to portray hunters as rich, drunk slob who only want the biggest rack of horns to hang over the fireplace. There are a few assholes like that, but whether you want to deal with it in the *Journal* or not, most of the people out in the woods trying to shoot a deer, including at last count over one and a half million women, are poor people. In case you haven't noticed it, twelve years of Reagan/Bush has done more than trash the wilderness. It has trashed the economy. Lots of good people are out of work. In the cities they try to feed their families by asking for spare change. In much of rural America they try to feed their

families on venison. These people are not out of work because they are lazy bums. They are out of work because they are the victims of multi-national corporations which are destroying the planet by putting profit above all else. It is wrong to blame the victims for surviving however they can. Until we have some means of providing jobs for these people so they can buy food you consider more acceptable, it will be disgusting to me to see one group of low income people (Most Earth Firsters! are not rich.) attacking another group of low income people (Most hunters are none too wealthy either.) when both groups should be working together to attack the real villains in the executive suites of the multi-national corporations who are responsible for both destroying the environment and the economy. Every ounce of energy we spend fighting each other is energy wasted because it does nothing to fight the real causes of our problems.

I find it deeply disturbing that otherwise sensitive and aware people who live in rural Montana and know the plight of the rural poor first hand would insensitively choose to turn their backs on these people in favor of pontificating about a few rich asshole trophy hunters. I expect more from the *Journal*, and I hope to see articles on this topic which are more well thought out in the future. If not, I am sad to say this will be the last time I renew my subscription.

—ERIC KING

To all fellow Earth Firsters,

I have been increasingly concerned by the rising dissension within Earth First! It seems as though we are gradually losing sight of our priorities and placing personalities before our principles.

There is a lot of internal bickering over who is right and who is wrong. I think most of us can agree that the innuendos in Robert Martin's article, "A Hunting We Will Go" were wrong. We all make bad decisions. However, we can't let one such as this occur again.

Obviously, we *all* realize that the Mother Earth is our first priority, but we are letting our social and/or political convictions interfere with Her defense.

Our own diversity is weakening us. Instead, why don't we draw our strength from it. Because the weaker we get, the stronger the opposition becomes.

We must put some of our personal differences aside if we are to be effective. Nobody likes to compromise their beliefs (especially us!), but arguing that the ecofeminist way or the anarchist way is the best, prevents us from accomplishing the things we set out to do effectively as possible.

Another thing we have to keep in mind, is we are not a counter-cultural, anti-establishment or Leftist group. Although we may have certain things in common, we are simply a wilderness preservation/environmental group, who refuses to compromise all that is still wild. We are emissaries for the natural world, because it cannot protest its own destruction. We can't lose sight of the fact that we are simply conservationists.

Internal fighting has been the downfall of most radical groups in the past. We can't let it happen to us—there's way too much to be done. Besides bickering only leads one way. It leads to further dissension and to a lot of hard feelings.

I know we all see the world differently, but I think the one thing we can agree on is that there should be No Compromise in The Defense of Mother Earth! and let it be so.

Resist, Reclaim, Rewild!

—CHRIS ARIGO

Dear Shit For Brains:

I was horrified at your front page article on San Bruno Mountain development. I have been concerned for years about its preservation and have donated to various David Schooley organizations to conserve this open space. What I'm blitzed about is the lack of attention to the fundamental factors that will determine all our fates, the principal one is population and it is followed by several related factors including water supply, sewage disposal, air quality and traffic density.

During the 1980's California population ballooned twenty-two percent to 31,000,000 or an increase of 6,820,000. Worse still it is projected to be 40 to 50 million in twenty-five years. With this kind of increase no place in the state is safe from development. The increase was largely due to illegal and legal immigration, and a healthy birthrate by the immigrants. Any

rational person realizes we are headed for standing room only state within nearly everyone's lifetime.

The factors are ones subject to technical fixes as long as the citizenry is willing to tolerated a SRO pack. A substantial factor and one that weighs heavily on other areas are water supplies for the continuing development. Water is precious in the arid west and where it is under used (in developer parlance), such as wild rivers and streams, riparian retention, wilderness preservation and wildlife conservation, it is insanely coveted by developers. As long as developers can siphon water from distant places or develop schemes to provide a continued supply, there will be development.

Lack of water is one of the few ways to slow or stop growth in the west. It was for that reason I wrote and submitted to you an article titled, *SAVE WATER, SUCKER!* in June 1990. You chose not to publish it. The thrust of it was if we go for "water conservation" and/or "water rationing" we are falling into the developer trap. It will allow them to continue ripping out the redwoods, both for space and building materials, and cover the empty spaces like San Bruno Mountain. Water scarcity is only a tenuous barrier to slow or stop the crush of human over population.

As many conservation writers have noted the unused and undeveloped space on Earth are preserved because they are the more technically difficult and costly to develop. As human population burgeons these too will become cost effective and come under human domination. This is the case with San Bruno Mountain. It will remain under attack until it finally subverted to human use. Water scarcity, lack of sewage treatment facilities, traffic congestion and air quality are sufficient reason for conservation organizations to scream for a halt to all development until they are corrected. Endangered wildlife is only one of the weaker reasons and it will be crushed by the human oriented horde.

My trip to China and Southeast Asia years ago opened my eyes to what can (and will) happen anywhere on earth if human population continues to explode (about 265,000 net new humans added every DAY). No one can conceive of the Orient's dense pack until they see it. Shanty towns along every railroad right-of-way and highway strip. Four foot high crawl spaces under freeway overpasses housing five or six families. Shacks that grew in intersections and now are semi-permanent. Forty five degree hillsides terraced to the top.

The most disgusting sign of this direction in America came about a year ago, and to my knowledge was mostly overlooked by conservation writers, in a Bradley Inman TRENDS column in the San Francisco Chronicle-Examiner under the heading *Kemp Goes on Housing Offensive*, "The report (120 pages by the 22 member Commission on Regulatory Barriers to Affordable Housing, aka, The Kemp Commission)...includes a recommendation to amend 'existing wetlands regulations to eliminate unnecessary barriers to affordable housing while protecting ESSENTIAL WETLANDS RESOURCES (my caps)'. There will be very little ESSENTIAL RESOURCES in the eyes of developers.

"The commission calls for the overhaul of federal procedures for defining and protecting endangered species, pointing to such abuses as a case in Riverside County where \$100 million was spent to protect a 30 square mile preserve for the Stevens Kangaroo Rat."

In substance it, "calls for amending federal wetland rules and Endangered Species Act so that more low-cost homes can be built in areas that are currently off limits to construction."

As human population explodes creating higher cost and a scarcity of land, conservationists must recognize everything they believe they are preserving will be re-examined. Politicians will cave in like snow tunnels in spring and give up any wilderness and exterminate any species to win votes. Every conservationist constantly hears, in response to suggestions of preserving wildlife and/or wilderness, "But what are we going to do about humans? After all nothing is more precious than human life and there should be no limits to how far we should go to preserve it." One humanist suggested to me, "We should quickly and efficiently kill all the endangered species so we can get on with the really important job of preserving humans."

Conservationists must also recognize for every conservationist there are a hundred people slobbering to save humans. And only a select few conservationists, primarily Earth

Firsters! are willing to subvert human goals to wildlife and wilderness (I note in the "About the Journal" statement in this same issue preserving wilderness and wildlife instead of humans is not one of the guides for the EFi Journal). If we don't stop the cancerous spread of human population we will never get close to singing back the swan or dreaming back the bison, instead we'd better prepare to kiss their asses farewell because they're doomed as surely as the dodo and the great auk. Wake Up! And smell the Human Horde!

—TOM STODDARD

Dear Shit fer What

Why can't you get it together you inept buttheads?

I expect professional journalism, why do you insist on sabotaging and censoring me by editing my articles? I hate those long boring articles and I'll be REAL pissed off if you don't print mine!

Shit fer Brains is the best part of the journal, so quit printing it. You are suppose to represent the entire movement, stop being controversial.

You idiot dupes should be worried about the FBI. We want a complete profile and your fingerprints.

Furthermore, quit printing personal attacks you stupid assholes!

Yours,

—FLEX BUTTOX



NEW VIDEO EXPOSE
Even if the bomb is never dropped again, people are dying...

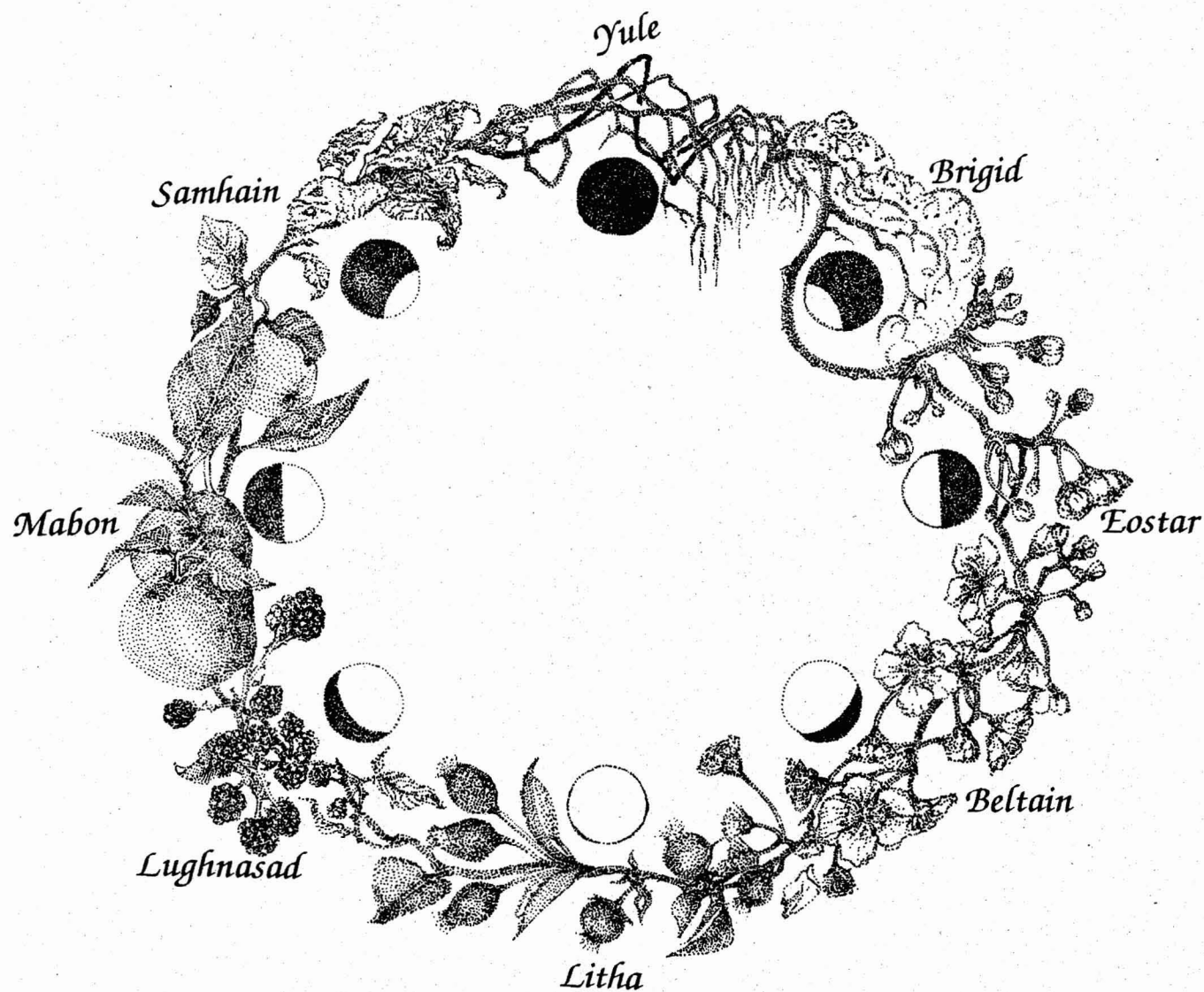
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Pagan Calendar



BY PEGGY SUE MCRAE

The Earth First! journal is published eight times yearly on dates corresponding with European pagan holidays. Most Americans of European descent are unfortunately but understandably ignorant of their own roots. We may be painfully aware of the atrocities and massive cultural annihilation that Europeans are guilty of committing against others. Yet, we remain ignorant of the holocaust those who took power in Europe perpetrated against our own earth-based cultures. The word pagan comes from *pagus*, also the root word for peasant, meaning country person or dweller on the land. The word heathen means literally, dweller on the heath. It was the aristocracy of Europe who were first christianized. Eschewing the christian tenets of love and mercy they used the monotheistic nature of christianity as a rationalization to drench Europe in a bloodbath that would all but obliterate the pagan (peasant) traditions. The dominating class refer to this period of European history as the renaissance. It is also known as the burning times, in reference to those who were burned alive. This calendar marking pagan Europe's nature holidays, is based on pre-christian traditions of Britain. Many of the customs associated with these holidays reflect the close bond of early agricultural peoples to the land which sustained them. Unlike dogmatic religions, paganism is not static but is a spirituality of place. Therefore traditions and rituals varied from village to village. At the same time, because paganism is a spirituality drawn from the earth, similar traditions can be found cross-culturally. The spirit of the earth is powerful; over time first christianity and then capitalism have adapted to and taken power from early earth based religions. In reclaiming our traditions we reconnect with the earth, for like all peoples, our roots are in the earth.

Rebels in Utopia, cont...

continued from page 2

claim. Viewing our world as an orderly time-line, imposing a rigid cultural hierarchy we have created an order steeped in violence, with other pasts and possibilities destroyed, all dreams of futures funneled into the ruling white man's present or past. Other ways, other stories are not perceived, and not being perceived they are erased.

Lofty idealistic visions never need confront the walls of our corporation. Nash argues if reform won't work (stop laughing) "the radical option of force or revolution will make increasing sense... violence, after all, has figured frequently in human history as a way to change paradigms. One thinks of the American Revolution and the Civil War." Yes, well—both those events seemed not so much about

changing paradigms as about defining who would rule. The revolution was about keeping the ripped-off wealth of this continent in the bank-accounts of the 'American' rather than the British elite. The Civil War won the north the right to push it's industrial progress across the country; our human slaves have become only slightly better treated, the non-human much worse. Organized violence seems only to occasionally change the names of our 'leaders'.

We can go on filing appeals to freddies and letters to politicians, pleading our case before the powermongers. We should—their power to destroy, to create suffering, is real. But look—the machines are not slowing down. We know much greater changes than the 'au-

thorities' will ever allow are needed. Responding to their brutal, calculating violence with our own violence won't protect the beauty we love. Neither will retreating in, escaping into the hippy hills. EFlers say no compromise, call themselves warriors. But really, who of us has staked ourselves in place, declaring today a good day to die? Perhaps we should be moving towards that, returning into such deep bonds. But i can't believe we will ever find our place unless and until our hearts are joyful. Those lost in anger easily become fodder for brutal fascists. Pure hearts allow pure deeds—witness those without heart creating this stinking quagmire, witness warm winds waking spring buds—choose.

Beauty asks for as much as

YULE: Winter Solstice, December 20-23
Yule, from the Norse *jul* meaning wheel, marks and celebrates the longest night of the year. As the year turns from darkness towards light, we celebrate the returning sun, hope, faith and new beginnings.

BRIGID: February 2

Brigid heralds the first stirring of spring. While the earth is still cloaked in winter's sleep, beneath the ground seeds begin to form new life. This is a time of inspiration. Brigid is the Celtic goddess of fire, poetry, and healing.

EOSTAR: Spring Equinox, March 20-23

Eostar marks the turning point halfway between winter and summer. New life burgeons forth from the earth. What was dead lives again. This is a time of fertility. Eostar is the Saxon goddess of death and regeneration.

BELTAIN: May 1

Beltain brings the flowering of spring. The warming sun arouses sweetness and desire. The maypole dance represents the shaft of life twined in the spiral web of nature renewed.

LITHA: Summer Solstice June 20-23

Litha marks the longest day of the year. The flowering of spring now begins to grow fruit. The shift is towards darkness. This is a time of growth and fulfillment. Litha is the European goddess of abundance.

LUGHNASAD: August 1

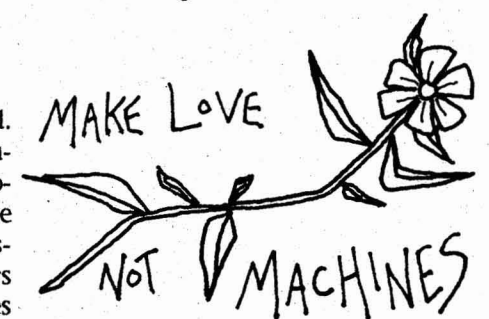
Lughnasad brings the beginning of harvest. Lugh the Celtic sun god is in decline. Harvest includes sacrifice. The Corn King dies as warmth and light rescind.

MABON: Fall Equinox September 20-23

Mabon is the turning point half way between summer and winter. Seed and flower have come to fruit. This harvesting is a time of gratitude and joy. Mab the Celtic fairy queen lavishly bestows mead to her domain.

SAMHAIN: October 31

Samhain is the bringing of darkness, a time to acknowledge death. Gifts of food set out for the ancestors are symbolically collected by children dressed as ghosts. The veil between the worlds is thin this night.



beauty gives. People in tribal cultures knew this, their every creation complementing beauty. That sense of participation, of unity with the hills and seasons is my utopian vision. Feeling so connected that my life and the life of the grandmother tree are equal. Taking personal responsibility—not deciding how people across the globe should live—defending my life, the land i inhabit. That is not violence, that is sanity.

Book Reviews

Full Circle: A Song of Ecology and Earthen Spirituality by Lone Wolf Circles 1991. Llewellyn Publications, St. Paul, MN. Available directly from the author at POB 652 Reserve NM. 87830 \$15.95 169pp 38 illustrations Reviewed by PEGGY SUE MCRAE

Solid change



The Spirit of Resistance

from Full Circle by Lone Wolf Circles

Full Circle: A Song of Ecology and Earthen Spirituality by Lone Wolf Circles is a montage of poetry, art and essay. Much of the work in this book will be recognized by those familiar with Lone Wolf. We've seen some of the artwork in the pages of the *Earth First! Journal* or *Talking Leaves*. We've heard some of these poems against a backdrop of drumming and flute. *Full Circle* is a retrospective collection of the work of Lone Wolf.

As the Earth First! movement reels and ruptures in its diversity we may look to the artists within our movement for some much needed continuity. Lone Wolf is classic Earth First! In this respect, the release of *Full Circle* is a timely reminder of what we are working for:

We must fight for these remaining wild lands and wild species if no human use is ever made of them, if no human eye ever gets to behold their special beauty. We must fight because they belong here, because they have above all else a right to be here! For their own sake not for ours.

and who we are:

Let me take you for a moment to the shadow-lined corridors between Tamarack and Aspen, down those thorny, berry covered tunnels that lead to your naked wild soul.

Shaggy hair hangs over your eyes here, as even your tracks are transformed-larger now, deeper, with a hint of claws.

Lone Wolf brings to the surface qualities that some of us prefer to hide. For others he may give permission...to take courage and gingerly shed a layer of inhibition cautiously wading out into the stream.

I ache for my visions, the way they throw me on my back, roughly undress me, plant feathers in my skin, and toss me off the cliffs.

If you're looking for a new scientific theory, an intellectual dissertation on deep ecology or a pedantic summary reviewing shamanism from the perspective of the modern mind, this isn't it. *Full Circle* is a love letter from a primal man to the Earth.

Every wild fruit rolls out her pores. Tides pound in blood-red grapes, her moon pulling their fluids hard against their giving inner walls. It is the sound of waves crashing on rocks where fruit meets stem, drumming their message of fullness down electrified vines. Their message is translated in her heart, along with timid emanations trickling down the roots of mountain flowers, and the barrel cactus' slow sucking of the centuries.

Nine million European people, mostly women, were tortured and killed between the fifteenth and eighteenth centuries for holding the sacred world view that Lone Wolf writes of. This is our heritage; the fear and silencing power of that holocaust live on in our culture like an invisible hand over our mouths, like flames licking our feet and the smell of burning flesh. We hide our passion and our magic behind a facade of rationalism and have become so adapted to a mechanistic world view that passion and magic seem foreign to us. We must reclaim these qualities if we are to overcome a political and economic system that destroys all that is magical, alive, and beautiful.

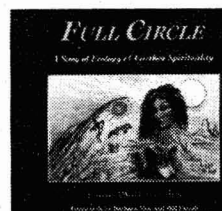
Unseen, under carefully draped darkness, they form up ritual like heavy-breathing sculpture. Shameless, they give birth to revolution

under the painful glare of Chilean stadium lights.

At gun-metal sunrise, at the muzzle-end of government/culture's deliberate misunderstanding, artist's hands bravely expose a natural, miraculous world-create each full moment anew!

Accompanying Wolfs' poetry and essays are 38 pages of illustrations in bold imagery reflecting the unique style of the mountain Viking. The artwork covers a span of time from the early 1970's to the present. His style varies from the fantastic *Viking America* to the poignant *The Prayer*, yet all of his pieces retain a recognizable Lone Wolf quality: passion! Carl Jung put forth that it is the role of the artist to rectify the imbalances of the time in which he lives. Considering the extreme imbalances of the times in which we live this is not a job for the faint-hearted. Lone Wolf embraces this task with a passion.

Return to the Passion of Life.

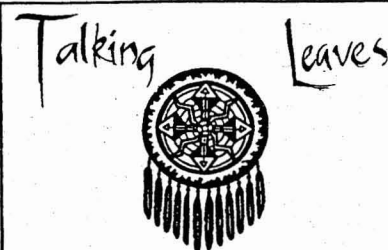


Written by Lone Wolf Circles, *Full Circle: A Song of Ecology and Earthen Spirituality* is a return not only to our pristine beginnings, but also to our true and wild selves. It is the ultimate return to the passion of life. A delicious blend of lyric essay, poetry and visionary art, this book is a personal invitation for all to take part in global and ecological change.

If you are concerned about the direction humankind is taking the Earth, then this book is for you!

To order *Full Circle* (L#347) send \$12.95 plus \$3 p/h to:

Lone Wolf Circles, POB 652 Reserve, NM, 87830



Talking Leaves is a monthly journal of deep ecology, inspired personal activism rooted in earthen spirituality. Past issues have featured articles by Gary Snyder, Starhawk, John Seed, Joanna Macy, Bill Devall, Lone Wolf Circles, Barbara Mor, etc.

Talking Leaves speaks for the natural world and for the rekindling of our own wild spirit.

Subscriptions are \$18.00 one year/ \$24.00 outside U.S. \$30.00 two years/\$48.00 outside U.S.

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PRAN ROOTS

Solid Change - in reality

Regional Roundup

EF!UK Carmaggeddon

Good Carmaggeddon action at Twyford Downs in the UK, where the Ministry of Transport is extending the M-43 motorway through a water meadow. Six arrests, including Jason Torrance, the main EF!UK contact. Permanent opposition camp to be set up starting March 1st. Massive local support and the Tories are on the run.
—SOURCE JAKE JAGOFF

John Seed Tour 92

April 17-19: Council of All Beings, Ocean Song, Sonoma County, CA,
April 19-21: Council of All Beings training, Sonoma County, CA
Contact (707) 874-3913
April 25: Council of All Beings, mini-workshop, Whole Life Expo, San Francisco, CA
Contact (415) 333-4373
April 26: Remembering the Earth, with Ralph Metzner, Sonoma, CA
Contact (707) 935-7257
May 1-3: Council of All Beings, Concord, MA with John Goodrich
Contact (617) 259-9682
May 8-10: Council of All Beings, Litchfield, CT
May 10-12: Council of All Beings training, Litchfield, MA
Contact (203) 567-5738

The Dana Lyons/Lone Wolf Circles "How Do You spell Skin Cancer?" (D-U-P-O-N-T) Tour 92

March 27: Norwich, VT Marion Cross School
March 28: New Haven, CT Yale University (or April 19-tentative)
March 29: Washington DC, Georgetown University at the Basement
March 31: New York City, The Wetlands 161, Hudson St 6pm (tentative)
April 1: Harrisonburg, VA James Madison University (tentative)
April 2: Asheville, NC Warren-Wilson College (tentative)
April 3: Boone, NC Appalachian State University (tentative)
April 4: Murphysboro, TN SEAC regional conference
April 5: Nashville, TN Day of Action at DuPont
April 7: Baltimore, MD Maryland Institute of the Arts College Center, 1208 Mount Royal Ave 7:30 pm
April 8: Newark, DE University of Delaware 8 pm
April 9: New Haven CT Yale University (or March 28)
April 10-12: Philadelphia, PA SEACret, Greenpeace, EF! Rendezvous and Biodiversity conference, Swarthmore College Show: **April 11** Tarble-Clothier Hall, 8pm campout in Krum Meadows, with Joyful Noise, Glen Waldeck, Tom Rooney, Dave Foreman and the entire tribe
April 13: DuPont Shareholders Meeting in Wilmington, DE.
April 29: Wilmington DE DuPont shareholders meeting DAY OF PROTEST

Contact: Jason Halbert
POBox 1175 Newark, DE 19715
info #: Greenpeace (202) 462-1177

Big Roads in Orange County

BY RAMON

Nestled amidst the urban and suburban horror that is Orange County, California, lies Laguna Canyon, one of the last areas that could even remotely be called pristine. Home to the California gnatcatcher, coastal sage scrub and other endangered species, both flora and fauna, it is soon to be devoured by a 15 mile long, six lane "Tollway." As much as 1200 feet wide at some places, this project has already been approved by the authorities over strenuous objections by local environmental coalition groups.

In an effort to block construction of the road, a rally and demonstration was held at the site on Saturday, Feb. 29th. Approximately 3000 people from diverse economic and social backgrounds attended and were treated to a rousing address by none other than Dave Foreman.

"Protection of gnatcatcher and coastal sage habitat is as important as saving ancient forests," Foreman said. "In order to protect the precious diversity remaining on the planet," he asserted that we must, "fight the people who know the 'price' of everything, but who know the 'value' of nothing."

Earth First!ers, including closet EF!ers, cheered and howled wildly during Dave's speech. "Our only hope," he said, "is to develop the generosity of spirit which will enable us to see the trees as brothers, and hear the songs of birds as symphonies...."

For the convenience of decreasing average commuting time by about two minutes, the Tollway would be "...the last nail in the coffin of biological diversity in Orange County," Foreman said.

Said Dave in closing, "The planet does not belong to us; we belong to the planet!" as the crowd thrust their fists into the air and whooped.

Residents of Southern California who are interested in getting involved should contact **Orange County EF!** at (714) 545-8805. Actions will be ongoing and persistent.

Llano Estacado EF!

Echoing through red-rock canyons etched into an immense plateau in the Southern High Plains of Texas can be heard the high, lonesome howls of the red-eyed, rabid beast that is Llano Estacado Earth First! Our tribe is angry, and by all rights we should be. Our brothers and sisters—coyote, cholla, and rattlesnake—have been pushed off the High Plains. Now only bare, dusty earth under a mega-monoculture soaks up the hot Texas sun. But in the midst of this madness, we are striving to protect what is left and encourage deprivatization. The struggle rages on.

At present we are trying to halt a waste-water project that could

Wild Rockies EF! Lobbies Congressman

Eleven Wild Rockies Earth First!ers have been arrested in two separate occupations of Montana Senator Max Baucus' office. Clever Baucus has proposed a bill that will "release" 4.9 million acres of the 6 million roadless acres in Montana to the Forest Service for logging, drilling, paving, grazing, barbecuing, and mining. Baucus has refused to listen to demonstrations and letter writing by mainstream groups and a congressional aide refused to show up to a public hearing about the bill because he was afraid he would be "grilled." WREF! decided the only way to talk sense to their elected representative was to chain themselves to his office in Missoula and hope for the best.

Seven people kryptonited themselves to a pillar in Baucus' office in the first occupation. Before arresting the activists, the police made the press leave the office. One reporter filed a complaint against the police, who pushed him in their haste to keep the public from seeing what went on. Two activists who were locked to one another by the neck refused to walk out with the cops and were dragged to the van.

The next week, at a PR talk at a public high school, Baucus invited Montanans to come to his office for a little chat. Seventy five people took him up on his offer, five of them giving the kryptonite trick another try. Baucus ran out of his own office when the people who came to chat started locking them-

selves to the pillar. The four who refused to unlock were arrested after a few hours. They and the seven arrested in the first occupation were charged with criminal trespass. All pled not guilty and have asked for jury trials. Two activists are filing a complaint against Officer Sells of Missoula P.D., who punched them while they lay handcuffed and chained together in the police van. "We think he'd probably be better off at a desk job," said one of the bruised activists.

Alberta EF! for Mayor

Earth First!er Rick Fisher has announced his candidacy for mayor of Calgary, Alberta. His platform includes reducing the mayor's salary to \$5000 a year and providing cots in city hall for homeless people. He said he doesn't expect to win, but wants to force the other candidates to address environmental issues, women's and gay rights.
—SOURCE: CALGARY HERALD

Casey Neill Road Show

April 15—March 7

Focus: Northwest Forest Issues.

For times and places of Casey's New England appearances call Jeremiah Genest at (207) 945-5283 or Casey himself at (206) 866-1287. Or send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Casey at POBox 10003, Olympia, WA 98502.

Sarawak, Malaysia

Blockaders Arrested

On February 11, some of the Penans who have blockaded at Long Ajeng, Ulu Baram since last July were arrested by the Police Field Force. The number of Penans arrested at the site is still unknown. The Penans were brought to Miri for remand because the Marudi prison was too small to hold all those arrested. The Lambir Prison in Miri is also too small so some still remain at the blockade site. The prisoners were flown by helicopter and taken by Land Cruisers to the prison in Miri.

Sahabat Alam Malaysia
—SOURCE: JOHN BONINE

Environmentalists Keep Out!

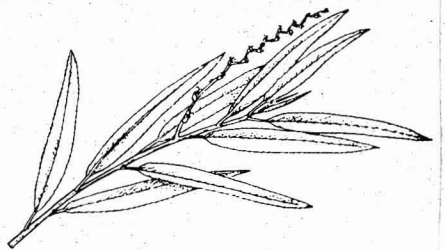
Sarawak, Malaysia has banned the entry of known "militant" environmentalists and journalists into the state. They have also asked the Sarawak Timber Association to set up a fund to counter the anti-logging campaigns which will go towards monitoring all anti-tropical deforestation campaigns inside and outside the country and towards hiring scientists to counter accusations against logging of tropical timber in the public media and scientific publications.
—SOURCE: PANCHAR PENEMU

dump up to nine million gallons of treated sewer water into the only natural canyon area in Lubbock County. The scenario is a typical one. Our local bureaucrats have ushered in the deal through the back door with minimal public input and no regard for ecological consequences.

March 7th and 8th will find us in Taylor, Texas protesting one of our wonderful state pastimes—the infamous rattlesnake roundup. Together with other TXEF! groups and a gang of angry herpetologists, we plan to make quite a showing and hope for supportive media coverage from Austin.

We've kept ourselves busy annoying the local McDonalds and

protesting at our very own Stone Container plant. When not involved in any particular environmental issue or enjoying the beauty and solitude of the canyons, we spend our time consuming copious quantities of cheap beer and dramatically bashing various electrical appliances in public places. Come join us sometime! *LONG LIVE THE CANYONS!*



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Earth First! Reader Davis
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Waste of the West Jacobs \$28
Note: *Ecodefense* is temporarily out of stock. Dave Foreman is in the process of selling his rights to the book, and no printings will be done until the rights are transferred.



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

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The Earth First! movement runs on your financial support. We don't need as much as other groups since we are grassroots, volunteer, decentralized and have low overhead. Moreover, you get to select where your hard-earned money goes. Don't send your contributions to this newspaper, send them directly to one of these hard working groups:

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- *Earth First! Direct Action Fund, POB 210, Canyon, CA 94516
- *Earth First! Oceans Task Force, POB 77551, SF, CA 94107-7551
- *Predator Project, POB 6733, Bozeman, MT 59771
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- *Wild Rockies Earth First!, POB 7891, Missoula, MT 59807
- *Yellowstone Earth First!, Box 6151, Bozeman, MT 59715

This fundraising appeal is placed as a service to the Earth First! movement. THANK YOU for your support!

Ecotopian RiparianRendezvous

BY KAREN LOWE

Buckle up your life jackets, this spring's Riparian Rendezvous will occur near the Oregon-California border in the Ecotopian Province of Riperia within the Smith River watershed April 29th through May 4th, 1992, in Six Rivers National Forest. A slingshot tournament will determine once and for all who the fastest sling in the west really is. The Riparian Action Faction will be guiding a couple of float trips. Call us up to reserve a space. If you have your own boat, by all means bring it. The Smith is one of the few, if not the only, completely free-flowing rivers in California.

Workshops will be happening

on river, dam and hydro issues. Also, water politics, alternative forestry, watershed defense, etc. Plus lots of rivers to run. Call us up and reserve a spot early for the float trip; space is limited in the rafts.

A donation from participants is requested. The directions to the rendezvous will be posted on the answering machine a couple of weeks before the event, but if you can send us a donation in advance we can send you a map to the site along with other pertinent info. Bring camping gear and food as we will not be organizing a kitchen. The site is at high elevation so be prepared for rain, snow, or perfect

Blurbs and Bulletins

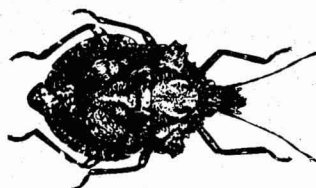
Colorado Bioregional Newsletter Formed

The Wild Ranch Review is a quarterly newsletter offering in-depth profiles of community-based environmental groups working at the opposite end of the size scale from eco-behe-moths like Greenpeace. Issue 1 profiles Wild Ranch, where a wildlife refuge is being carved out of cowboy country, and Mission Wolf, an education center and wolf refuge. Subscriber participation is requested in

other features, including the James, What?!? Memorial Bonehead of the Year Award. Subscriptions are \$15, \$5 of which goes directly to purchase and rehabilitate land at Wild Ranch. Write to: *The Wild Ranch Review*, c/o Tim Haugen, POB 81, Gulnare, CO 81042.

sunny blue skies, we could get some of each. If you plan on boating, call us and we'll fill you in on safety equipment and how to arrange it.

For more info contact: **Six Rivers Earth First!** POBox 133, Cutten (run), CA 95534-0133 Phone: (707) 442-4710.



Designs for RRR T-Shirt Due!

Imagine your artwork going to jail on the back of an Earth First! activist. Your design is wanted for the 1992 RRR! Folks who don't know art, but know what they like will choose one or more designs for T-shirts. We might even be able to arrange for on-site silk screening...you just never know what will happen!

Please submit your sketches, slides, camera-ready art and drawings ASAP. We'd like to get this project rolling by the end of April. Multi-color designs must be able to be hand-separated.

So, get on the stick, you artsy-fartsy types! Don't dawdle, doodle! Send your stuff to Jim Morris T-Shirts, POB 831, Boulder, CO 80306-0831.

Big April Anti-Nuke Demo

Hundreds of thousands of global citizens (hopefully including many EF'ers) will gather in Nevada this April to protest nuclear testing and to demand a Comprehensive Test Ban. Since the Partial Test Ban was signed in 1963, over 700 underground nuclear explosions have turned the Test Site's desert ecosystem into a radioactive, lifeless wasteland. Now is the time to stop this insanity. The "100th Monkey Project" will include: The Event (April 10-12)—music and speakers just north of Las Vegas. The Walk (April 13-17)—walk to the test site at Mercury, Nevada. The Action (April 19)—Earth Day/Night non-violent direct action.

Be prepared for hot and cold weather, and bring plenty of water. Call for directions to site and meeting plans after mid-March so we can form an affinity group. Please call especially if you can organize an EF! outdoor kitchen. Info: Randy Ghent (707) 826-BARF.

Swarthmore PAW Conference

On April 11 and 12, Swarthmore College and Preserve Appalachian Wilderness (PAW) will host a symposium at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA, (ten minutes as the neotropical migrant flies from Philadelphia) on Conservation Biology, Applied Ecology, and Neotropical Migratory Songbird Conservation.

Dave Foreman, Rick Bonney, Buck Young, and others will speak. Let us know you're coming. There is no registration fee. Camping is next to the college and free. All you have to do is get here, bring food, and bring a stein, cause we're even buying the beer.

This event coincides with the Lone Wolf Circles/ Dana Lyons/ SEACret DuPont action (see page 25) Contact Eric Sievers, 400 Walnut Lane, Swarthmore, PA 19081 (215)544-7989 EcoNet: Swarthmore.

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