Red Mountain Actions

14 Arrested in San Juans

BY DENIS HALL

The Red Mountain Timber Sale is located west of the San Luis Valley in the South San Juan Mountains. This sale is in the last known habitat for Grizzlies and possibly wolves in the state. The Forest Service and Stone Forest Industries (SFI) plan to construct over 18 miles of new roads to remove 8 million board feet of trees. Like many Colorado forests slated for timber harvest, Red Mountain is unique, beautiful and pristine. Roads are being constructed this summer and logging is due to begin in 1994.

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The summer has been immense. Major direct action campaigns which have been going on throughout North America are winding down somewhat, and people are drifting back to work, or school, or heading home. While the attack on Mother Nature is more intense and sustained than ever, so is the level of resistance great—and it is increasing. One thing we should keep in mind is that we are effective: it's evident by the oppressive tactics used by the powers that be. If you are one of those who took time off to take part in a summer campaign and are now going back home, remember that the campaigns and issues are still there—don't just drop what you have been doing. There is plenty to be done, no matter where you are.

Cove/Mallard has become much more than a summer campaign; as Dogpatch puts it, it's become a struggle! The fight to save the largest wilderness in the lower 48 has been transformed into a permanent "occupation" in Dixie, Idaho (let's face it, Earth First is putting Dixie on the map!). Stalwart Cove/Mallard activists are starting to batten down for winter by building structures and collecting warm clothing.

It is important to remember those facing legal hassles as a result of summer actions. Eight people arrested in a July road blockade spent 19 days in jail and still face charges. Altogether over 50 people were arrested during the summer, and unfortunately they will have to deal with the charges for a while. They deserve our support.

The Cove/Mallard base camp was raided by Feds on August 8, and the road contractor for the Forest Service is suing to deal with the charges for a while. Altogether over 50 people were arrested since June. These are the largest protests ever to occur in BC. A tremendous amount of pressure has been brought to bear on the BC government to reverse their disastrous logging decision.

In Britain, a new group devoted exclusively to monkeywrenching has arisen from the Twyford Down protests. The Earth Liberation Front acts purely out of dedication to the earth. They are calling for nights of action against all corporations and governments that trash the earth—what are you doing on Hallowe'en?

Good news for Peg Millett. She was recently released from the halfway house she had been in since May. But Mark Davis is still in jail and we should do whatever we can to support him.

Many thanks to the folks in Missoula (who we are convinced had a huge party right after the Journal came out!) for their work on the Twyford Down protests. The Earth Liberation Front acts purely out of dedication to the earth. They are calling for nights of action against all corporations and governments that trash the earth—what are you doing on Hallowe'en?

The move from Missoula has set us back a bit, and we thank the Fund for Wild Nature for their generous support. But—and we say this over and over—we need people to subscribe. This is the Journal of the Earth First! movement; our journal. In order to keep it going, Earth Firstiers must support it. Twenty-five bucks for a subscription isn't that much, and donations are always welcome.

—Kimberly Dawn
—John Green

Mabon - Fall Equinox

by Peggy Sue McRae

Giving and gratitude mark the season of harvest. Mother Earth begins her annual contraction—pulling life back into herself. Day and night are equal length as the balance shifts toward the deep blue quiet of winter. Hibernation is under way. Our ducts of attention are packed with rejected, perhaps, unwanted surplus, a copious offering of energy. This energy is the seed of the growth to come, a rest for the systems. We listen, we dream, we reflect, we reorient ourselves, our thoughts, our energies, our spirits. We will not abandon this season's gifts, these precious, precious gifts. We honor and reflect, we gather together to give thanks for the gifts of the earth, the bounty of nature, the richness of our lives, the gifts we have gathered, the gifts we have yet to receive.

We give thanks for the abundance of the land: the flocks of birds, the herds of animals, the vegetables, the trees, the plants, the air, the water, the rain. We honor the medicine of the plants, the strength of the trees, the power of the animals, the nourishment of the earth. We give thanks for the gifts of the wind, the sun, the earth, the sky. We honor the air, the water, the fire, the earth, the sky. We give thanks for the abundance of the water: the rivers, the streams, the lakes, the oceans, the rain, the snow, the ice. We honor the water, the cycles of the water, the power of the water, the nourishment of the water. We give thanks for the abundance of the fire: the sun, the fire, the spark, the flame, the heat, the light. We honor the fire, the cycles of the fire, the power of the fire, the nourishment of the fire. We give thanks for the abundance of the earth: the soil, the rocks, the minerals, the nutrients, the cycles of the earth, the power of the earth, the nourishment of the earth. We honor the earth, the cycles of the earth, the power of the earth, the nourishment of the earth. We give thanks for the abundance of the sky: the sun, the moon, the stars, the cycles of the sky, the power of the sky, the nourishment of the sky. We honor the sky, the cycles of the sky, the power of the sky, the nourishment of the sky. We give thanks for the abundance of the mind: the thoughts, the ideas, the dreams, the visions, the creativity, the imagination, the power of the mind, the nourishment of the mind. We honor the mind, the cycles of the mind, the power of the mind, the nourishment of the mind. We give thanks for the abundance of the body: the cells, the tissues, the organs, the systems, the energy, the strength, the power of the body, the nourishment of the body. We honor the body, the cycles of the body, the power of the body, the nourishment of the body. We give thanks for the abundance of the spirit: the heart, the soul, the mind, the body, the earth, the sky, the fire, the water, the wind, the sun, the moon, the stars, the planets, the galaxies, the universe. We honor the spirit, the cycles of the spirit, the power of the spirit, the nourishment of the spirit. We give thanks for the abundance of the soul: the love, the friendship, the family, the community, the culture, the tradition, the heritage, the history, the future, the present, the past, the present moment, the beauty, the wonder, the joy, the peace, the unity, the diversity, the complexity, the simplicity, the richness, the depth, the breadth, the depth of the soul. We honor the soul, the cycles of the soul, the power of the soul, the nourishment of the soul. We give thanks for the abundance of the spirit: the love, the friendship, the family, the community, the culture, the tradition, the heritage, the history, the future, the present, the past, the present moment, the beauty, the wonder, the joy, the peace, the unity, the diversity, the complexity, the simplicity, the richness, the depth, the breadth, the depth of the spirit. We give thanks for the abundance of the body: the cells, the tissues, the organs, the systems, the energy, the strength, the power of the body, the nourishment of the body. We honor the body, the cycles of the body, the power of the body, the nourishment of the body. We give thanks for the abundance of the spirit: the love, the friendship, the family, the community, the culture, the tradition, the heritage, the history, the future, the present, the past, the present moment, the beauty, the wonder, the joy, the peace, the unity, the diversity, the complexity, the simplicity, the richness, the depth, the breadth, the depth of the spirit.
The Native: Of the Earth, With / In the Earth

by Long Wool Cycles

IN-DIG-ENOUS: adj. 1) Occurring or living naturally in an area native, 2) brainless, innate.


- Barbara Mor

The sun slowly ascends over unspoiled wilderness, with clouds of moisture rising like heavy-boned spirits. Down in the valley a small village seems to grow out of the Earth itself, a ring of circular lodges made of the soil and water, rock and branches they lie among. It's then we first hear the threat, thicksoles crushing fragile flora, the metallic clank of armor never before seen on this side of the mountain. Dressed alike in grass uniforms and bright colors, they can be heard answering to a single leader. He in turn orders them from a distant legal despot, ordained by a white male God to deliver order to those remaining less-than-orderly frontiers. They bring with them a language and belief system based on reductive logic, highly destructive technology, and a host of deadly diseases to which the people below have no immunity. They come to conquer, to tax, to force or by force control the land's value, processing sacred nature into "resources" and indigenous peoples into slaves. Acts of greed are committed in the name of some "higher" moral imperative.

In contrast, the villages in the valley are judged to be without morals—nearly naked heathens "born of chaos" and rendered into a state of permanent barbarity. They are deformed bodies, better than the animals whose skins they wear on their matted fur. But, they are loosely even in the midst of winter's storms. They appear to be idol-worshippers, unable to understand the stories. Otherwise we just burn people out and lose active participation of some of our most experienced activists.

They would do great for the journal to be self-supporting, but in real life an outreach publication with a lot of "free" distribution and no corporate advertising needs a subsidy from somewhere. The cost of production is inordinately expensive.

All the people of the valley are said to have no understanding of organized warfare. Still the invaders seem to fear them, terrorized by the way the women lead from the men, shaking spears in the air! Their war cries are deafening, and it is not uncommon to see a single warrior rush ahead of the rest, growing and ripping into the ranks of the infantry with a vengeance.

The invaders kill every animal for a hundred miles around, and then fire to the orchards and forests, depleting them of any physical or spiritual sustenance from the Earth. Recognizing the power in ritual objects and sacred sites, they then strip them of their meaning.

Having arrived from distant shores, they feel no empathy for the land. It is a frontier to be conquered, tamed, and then split up into its marketable components and sold. This tribe's struggle is one of landed-based people against urban-based invaders, a struggle that has played innumerable times in as many places.

Imagine the foot that crushes the flower. Those are not yet Spanish boots, but shoes, Roman sandals! The wilderness they will plunder first is northern and western Europe. The barbarians standing in stark opposition to their grandiose civilization—their "explosive "new world order"—are not Amerindian but Celt and Norse. Those who go underground rather than give up their beliefs and practices will be hounded and killed as witches in the bloody centuries to follow.

"Conquests are more easily made than kept. You can kill all the conquered and turn your country into pasture land; occupy it with immensely superior force; or bring to the blessings of civilization."

- Karl Weber, "Das Lachende Demokritos"

Such "blessings," from packaged foods to teletext, have been as effective as genocide in controlling the remaining world order. The invaders kill every animal for a hundred miles around, and then fire to the orchards and forests, depleting them of any physical or spiritual sustenance from the Earth. Recognizing the power in ritual objects and sacred sites, they then strip them of their meaning.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITORS...

To the Editor:

I would like to add my congratulations to the number of people who have submitted enthusiastic letters to the journal this past year. It is clear that there is a growing base of support for the journal's goals.

- David Parks

Dear Editors everywhere,

For the Board of the Fund for Wild Nature (FWN) I would like to thank you for your support and encouragement. This past year we have seen a significant increase in the number of people who have submitted enthusiastic letters to the journal.

- Lee Mabon

Dear Brian,

I am a member of the Oregon Citizens Alliance and have been a faithful subscriber for three years. I am writing to express my appreciation for the hard work and dedication of the staff.

- Dave DeBrje

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We drove back into the forest and joined the protesters at camp. I was told there were special agents in the woods, and at one point, I saw Forest Service enforcement officers dressed in camouflage gear, carrying semi-automatic sidearms. It seemed a bit much.

The agents blocked Joni into one of the cordoned-off areas. They had chainsawed the tree, tied it to the tree, until physically removed, or until the loggers conceded defeat.

Joni: "Get the hell off my tree."

Dogface questioned the use of leg-irons. "Old school. What do we have to learn from history?"

Joni: "The agents pulled the tree out of the ground, and I was arrested, and left for lunch. Joni traversed back to the Englemann, and clipped herself to the trunk. The new closure comprised an area of a hundred yards on both sides of our camp which included Joni and her tree.

Burd: "It's over now." But Joni refused to leave her tree. We reached the hundred-yard limit and stopped to look back for Joni. We were all in shock, and could watch the freeloaders trying to talk her down.

Charlie Burd climbed Joni's tree to bring her down. She climbed onto ropes rigged to other trees, and traversed out over open space. She hung there, knowing that without water and a ground support team, her tenure among the branches couldn't last long. Charlie cut down her platform, climbed back down, and left for lunch. Joni traversed back to the Englemann, and clipped herself to the trunk. She was exhausted. The rest of us stood on the road, periodically calling to Joni to monitor her safety. The situation continued all afternoon.

At 5:00 PM Joni said: "Enough of this."
It took about an hour to get her down and de-rig the ropes—more time to arrest her, and place her in handcuffs and leg-irons.

Dogface questioned the use of leg-irons, suggesting that the 9mm Smith and Wesson automatic pistols carried by the agents should be enough to dissuade an escape attempt. Somehow, Joni didn't seem to see that desperate a criminal. The agents loaded Joni into one of the vehicles, and left for jail.

We moved our camp several miles away from the closure, into a meadow with a beautiful view of 12,018 ft. Red Mountain. We dedicated our new camp to Joni, and hung her Earth flag to affirm our solidarity. We could still hear the chainsaws.

Monday morning the protesters had left base camp early. They blocked a narrow place in the road with logs and debris. A police cordon was set up, and Joni raced back and forth to the barricade. Officers Charlie Burd and Chris Ortiz, and the group called for a circle to discuss the next move.

Several of the support group had gone to summon the sheriff who didn't show up for a few hours. It's also interesting to note that camouflaged Forest Service Special Agents who had shadowed the group for two weeks were suddenly nowhere to be seen. Where is a cop when you need one?

Tuesday afternoon I drove to the San Luis Valley. I met a representative of Boulder's Ancient Forest Rescue, and we drove past the defunct barricade, and left for lunch. Joni traversed back to the Englemann, and clipped herself to the trunk. She was exhausted. The rest of us stood on the road, periodically calling to Joni to monitor her safety. This situation continued all afternoon.

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The agents blocked Joni into one of the cordoned-off areas. They had chainsawed the tree, tied it to the tree, until physically removed, or until the loggers conceded defeat.

From Sunday afternoon to Thursday morning Joni sat in her Spruce without incident. On Thursday morning at 8:00, the shit hit the fan. We heard the sound of an idling engine and, looking through the brush, saw a big Ford, windows darkened, men in military gear.

The Ford and three other Forest Service vehicles converged on our camp. Several Forest Service Special Agents emerged from the woods. They had chainsawed and cut down the trees, and now wore green jackets identifying them as agents. Officers Charlie Burd, Chris Ortiz and others, told us that the closure had been expanded. The area in which we were camped was now closed.

The new closure comprised an area of a hundred yards on both sides of our camp which included Joni and her tree. "Come on down, Joni," called Charlie Burd. "It's over now." But Joni refused to leave her tree. We reached the hundred-yard limit and stopped to look back for Joni. We were still in shock, and could watch the freeloaders trying to talk her down.

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Outrage in Humboldt County

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The Headwaters bill is better than nothing. But it serves as yet another testimonial supporting the Earth First! position that the radical changes needed to get us out of the biodiversity crisis will not come from working within the compromised political system. This is why direct action campaigns have been the focus of the Earth First! strategy, which dates back to the 1985 PL takeover. Earth First! is demanding that all logging cease within the area of Headwaters included in HR 2866 while the bill is before Congress.

“Jail Hurwitz!”

The theme of the Week of Outrage would establish common ground between Earth First! and the timber workers: Jail Hurwitz! Obviously both groups have an interest in getting Hurwitz out of town, but Earth First! demanded more. As a reporter recounted on the local six o’clock news: “Jail Hurwitz and call it even!”

At the beginning of the week, Earth First! hung an enormous “Jail Hurwitz!” banner high on the prominent cliffs above Scotia, PL’s company mill town. A couple of days later, when the banner had come loose and was hanging like a bathtub from the cliff, a local man from Scotia re-hung the banner. He was found by a search and rescue team shortly thereafter, having gotten himself stuck up on the cliffs.

“Charles Hurwitz” Comes to Humboldt County

Guerrilla theater involving a Charles Hurwitz clone continued on the theme of the banner. “Hurwitz,” flown in from Houston for the occasion, was clothed in stereotypical Western attire and spoke with a thick Texas accent. A mock trial took place in front of Humboldt County District Attorney Terry Farmer’s office. Not surprisingly, the “jury” found Hurwitz guilty of six crimes committed locally, none of which are being pursued by Farmer. The crimes include the illegal takeover of Pacific Lumber, the liquidation of PL’s pension fund, violation of the Endangered Species Act, fraudulent acquisition of timber rights along the Northcoast Railroad, violation of the Forest Practices Act and the looting of United Savings and Loan of Texas. Hurwitz’s guilt was so obvious that the jury didn’t even have to go into deliberation. Shouts of “guilty!” and “criminal!” pierced the air above the area midway traffic as the procession of angry jurors, including Earth First! organizers and others, including Earth First! organizer Judi Ban, held signs, played music, and spoke through a bullhorn as the activists and supporters passed by on Highway 101.

Closing Demonstration

Saturday’s demonstration at the court/jailhouse brought the Week of Outrage to a close. Seventy-five activists showed up in solidarity with the six jailed activists. Direct action participants and others, including Earth First! organizer Judi Barili, held signs, played music, and spoke through a bullhorn as the prisoners upstairs and passersby on Highway 101 looked on. One PL employee drove by and exchanged his company shirt for an Earth First! shirt. But as a logger drove by hurling insults from his car window, Ernie Pardini yelled back, “You wouldn’t make a pimple on a logger’s ass. I’ve forgotten more about logging than you’ll ever know, you little puke!”

Things calmed down after that. Five of the six arrested were released the next day, but Darryl Cherney was held for four days on $5000 bail. All charges were subsequently dropped, except those against Cherney.

The resistance against Hurwitz and Maxxam will continue until they’re out of Humboldt County for good. Unfortunately, the rate of liquidation logging is only increasing. The situation is getting desperate as Maxxam rushes to file Timber Harvest Plans throughout the Greater Headwaters area before the Humbart/Stark bill can pass. The Week of Outrage was a step in the right direction, and there’s always a glimmer of hope in the eyes of Earth Firsters and progressive timber workers as they stare up at the cliffs over Scotia to read that passionate plea: “Jail Hurwitz!”
It's the End of the World As We Know It—or is it?

By Scott Grable

The emergence and fate of the Clinton forest plan—forever known as Option 9—will surely mark a watershed of some kind. What we don’t yet know is whether groups working for Northwest forest protection will decide to fold or learn to fight.

Although Option 9 is laid out in an environmental impact statement (EIS) that was released on December 28, there has been very little informed discussion of the plan and only feeble efforts to alert the public to its dangers. People who ordered the two-volume, 1000-page Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) and Report of the Forest Ecosystem Management Assessment Team (FEMAT) weeks ago are still waiting for their copies. Others are still hoping it’ll go away if they don’t look at it.

Jim Britell, conservation chair of the Kalmiopsis Audubon Society and a former West Coast forest activist, has put together an analysis of Option 9. We took the liberty of excerpting his memo below. Don’t forget to write to Bubbie.

A recap after the Portland Forest Conference, while a bunch of scientists were locked in a big room coming up with a “range of options” for the President’s consideration. Interior Secretary Babbitt was telling the timber industry they’d get 2 billion board feet (bbf) in federal timber sales this year—and into the future. When the scientists came up with a maximum of 1.2 bbf, Babbitt and company flipped. New Forestry guru Jerry Franklin replaced Jack Ward Thomas as leader of the design team, and Option 9 was born.

With some luck, the industry will kill Option 9 for us. But we have to be sure, which means opposing it clearly and strongly as possible. We also need to understand what Option 9 tells us about the Clinton administration and its environmental agenda.

A glaring signal of the administration’s intentions is its effort to make some timber from federal judges’ injunctions. The only people who can make that happen are the environmental groups who sued the Forest Service and BLM. To convince the plaintiffs to pony up some timber sales, the Clinton administration has threatened to support the timber bearers in Congress who will soon try to suspend various environmental laws.

The national organizations, law firms, regional and local groups that mostly speak for the “Ancient Forest Movement” haven’t made up their collective mind whether to fight or flee in their pants. At press time, it looked like a group of “moderates” will drag a few holdouts into signing over between 40 and 80 million board feet.

If the national environmental groups keep praising Option 9 and maintaining that the outlook could be bleak. By the time the industry’s legion of Congressional lackeys gets done with it, Option 9 could make Section 318—the Rider From Hell that liquidated 400 square miles of owl habitat and turned countless decent citizens into wild-eyed lockdown art—look like a Sunday walk by the river.

Dismayed by the rapid capitulation of their Washington collaborators, “mainstream” activists have begun to speak of mass civil disobedience. That’d bring the Clinton administration to its knees. Wouldn’t it?

Meanwhile, the manics who’ve been putting their butts on the line are wondering what real options are left. Small-scale civil disobedience is a delaying tactic at best. The industrial state is still playing the only game it knows how to play. Option 9.

Maybe it’s time to change the playing field. Time to take the battle for the forests to the houses, cars and offices of the old white men destroying our only planet. Maybe it’s time for direct action to cut the demand for dead trees by reducing the number of mills left to turn forests into truckloads of chips and stinking, poisoned pulp. Picket signs and protest marches alone won’t sway the industrial elite. A few million dollars’ profits lost might help them see the situation differently.

While but the many process violations of this report are disturbing, it is the substance that is truly spalling. One thing that jumps out of the report are the hundreds of viability ratings that show Option 1 protects millions of acres beyond any timber industry case.

Option 9 trades protection of 60% of the remaining multi-canopy forest for clearance of all other A areas. It will rely on logging of Ancient Forests for over half the timber volumes projected in the plan for the indefinite future. Logging abuses on the Northwest areas are of such magnitude that even the option most restrictive of logging—Option 1, called by the scientists who did the Portland Forest Conference “big Green”—is inadequate to preserve the viability of many species.

The effects of the preferred alternative are noted only in the back of the report, and the magnitude of logging depends on future studies and processes not yet designed. Specifi- cally, the amount, location, and effects of thinning and salvage logging and roadbuilding are not disclosed. Much of the logging is to be done after “watershed analysis.” This is another phony process. The methodology was not disclosed—the chapter on this being merely an encyclopedia of practices, not required procedures.

Westside Old Growth Already Gone

Protected Old Growth (New “Healthy Forests”)

Option 9—Late Successional Reserves (Thinning & Salvage Logging

Option 9—Matrix (Intensive logging)

Option 9—Adaptive Management Areas (Intensive logging with local timber community control)

Option 9—Riparian Reserves (No logging, at least until assessments are completed)

Where’d It All Go?

Splitting Up the Last Piece of Old Growth Pie

By Jim Britell

Making plans is often the preoccupation of an ostentatious mind, which thus obtains the reputation of a creative genius by demanding what it cannot itself supply, by conjuring what it cannot improve, and by proposing where it knows not where to find it. —Immanuel Kant

The Clinton Forest Plan is a wickedly political “attractive nuisance” in which the Ancient Forest community embraces at its peril. While it is pre- sented in the form of a decisional document (a DSEIS), the Clinton plan actually represents as “science” a decision made months ago: that much of the remaining Ancient Forest, roadless areas and species in the Pacific Northwest must be sacrificed.

To package this decision as sound ecological science, it presents data in a way that underestimates both the amount of An- cient Forest that will be placed at risk and the benefits of creating parks, but overestimates the benefits of logging. It arrays data so that it cannot be compared with previous reports and assumes the success of major projects at a time when everything is in doubt. The process records and meeting minutes are sealed or nonexistent, and the methodology received inadequate peer review. The plan’s technical and legal construction is so weak, and its species protection so poor, that it probably wouldn’t even survive an lawsuit.

Option 9 trades protection of 60% of the remaining multi-canopy forest for clearance of all other areas. It will rely on logging of Ancient Forests for over half the timber volumes projected in the plan for the indefinite future. Logging abuses on the Northwest areas are of such magnitude that even the option most restrictive of logging—Option 1, called by the scientists who did the Portland Forest Conference “big Green”—is inadequate to preserve the viability of many species.

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What’s Up With Option 9?

“Logging is to be done after “watershed analysis.”

The DSEIS states that watersheds will re- cover under Option 9. But some scientists believe that most, if not all watersheds, are on a downward path and that when normal rainfall resumes roads and denuded slopes will fail. The Elk River wa- terfully controversial future restoration, is in fact a highly unlikely scenario. The entire restoration guidance document (a companion to the FEMA report) is now out for comment and will be published by 11/15/93. It should be obtained by anyone interested in watersheds.

The historical pattern of forest planning clearly shows that successive administrations at- tempt to establish a predetermined level of logging on public land, and then apply underestimations of future water availability, remaining habitat rather than adhere to clear legal mandates by setting aside land for the survival of species and then scheduling any logging on what land is left. This practice is continued in the Clinton forest plan. This practice, and the lack of any scientific evidence, must face the fact that billions of board feet more of timber cannot be cut in the Pacific Northwest Na- tional Forest unless a number of environ- mental laws are repealed.

Despite 1800 pages we still have no an- swers to basic questions that should have been asked: what is the maximum amount of species protection that is yet possible on federal lands? The conclusion the data suggests is not even mentioned in the report: except thinning for restoration and fire pre- vention, further logging of National Forests should probably be ended; restrictions on logging private land imposed; and uncut timber sales repurchased.

The conclusion the data suggests is not even mentioned: logging of National Forests in the Pacific NW should probably be ended; restrictions on logging private land imposed; and uncut timber sales repurchased.

By Jim Britell

As a practical matter, this report may be consigned to the dumpster by a current timber industry lawsuit over alleged illegal administrative procedures used in preparing it. The briefs and affidavits filed in that lawsuit will outshine by a nose the hundreds of viability ratings that show Option 1 protects millions of acres beyond any timber industry case.
**Log Option #9**

**lyrics by Bill Oliver & Glen Waldeck**

*(To the tune of “Love Potion #9”)*

They took their summit
out Portland town
You know that city
where the stumps abound
They sat down and talked
out of both sides of their mind
They said what you need in: Log Option #9

They said they came to put a stop to this
Divisive forestry and politics
They brought the Secret Service
and they did a presentation
They said what you get in: Log Option #9

The think tank was handled
like a backing up sink
He said, “I want you to know over which I will think.”
But none would be the one committed to ink
We held our noses, we closed our eyes ...
This really stinks!

We didn't know if we were hearing it right
They started kissing every axe in sight
And then they made the moderates fall in close behind
You'll get nothing better than Log Option #9

**Hey! What About the Eastside?**

One of the largest holes in the Clinton forest plan is its neglect of the hammered forests east of the Cascade crest in Oregon and Washington. Though the Eastside forests have been even more badly damaged than the Westside, the Clinton timber team is working hard to keep timber volumes high.

As this issue went to press, the Eastside Forests Scientific Society Panel released the Executive Summary of its upcoming report on the protection of eastside forests, commissioned by seven members of Congress.

The panel includes representatives of the American Fishers Society, the American Ornithologists' Union, the Ecological Society of America, the Sierra Biodiversity Institute, The Society for Conservation Biology and The Wildlife Society. The report's environmental recommendations, listed below, are firm confirmation of activist opinion that the Forest Service must be stopped.

1. Do not log late-successional/old-growth forests in eastern Oregon & Washington.
2. Cut no trees older than 150 years or with a diameter at breast height (DBH) of 20 inches or greater.
3. Do not log or build new roads in aquatic diversity management areas (places with wild fish).
4. Do not construct new roads or log within currently roadless regions larger than 1000 acres or 2 roadless regions that are biologically significant but smaller than 1000 acres.
5. Establish protected corridors along streams, rivers, lakes, and wetlands. Restrict timber harvest, road construction, grazing, and cutting of fuelwood within these corridors.
6. Prohibit logging of dominant or codominant ponderosa pines.
7. Prohibit timber harvest in areas prone to landslides or erosion unless it can be conclusively demonstrated by peer-reviewed scientific study that no associated soil degradation or sediment input to streams will result from harvest.
8. Prevent livestock grazing in riparian areas except under strictly defined conditions that protect those riparian areas from degradation.
9. Do not log on fragile soils until it is conclusively demonstrated by peer-reviewed scientific study that soil integrity will be protected and that forest regeneration following logging is assured.
10. Establish a panel with the appropriate disciplinary breadth to develop long-term management guidelines that will protect Eastside forests from drought, fire, insects, and pathogens.
11. Establish a second panel to produce a coordinated strategy for restoring the regional landscape and its component ecosystems.

**Ground-truthing a “Model Unit” in the Blue Mountains**

**by ANALET RIVERWOOD**

**BLUE MOUNTAINS BIODIVERSITY PROJECT**

A petition and threatened lawsuit by the Natural Resources Defense Council, challenging the Forest Service’s glaring failure to maintain habitat for old growth forest species in eastside forests, has thrown a wrench in the eastside timber program. The Forest Service has responded by concocting some “screens” which it claims will protect remaining habitat but allow timber sales.

The Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project has field-surveyed several timber sales in eastern Oregon’s Blue Mountains presented by the Forest Service as examples of its new “screening” process in action, including the Genesis timber sale. Malheur National Forest Supervisor Mark Bohne described Genesis as “a model unit exemplifying the more eco-system-aware type of management to be expected in future planned cuts.”

Upon field checking the units, we did not find clearcuts. We did find:

- Most of the area high-grade logged.
- Most of the large trees, old-growth and mature, were cut.
- Those large trees that were left were usually isolated, and as such subject to inland harvest.
- Soils and ground vegetation were heavily disturbed by machinery.
- Compaction and deep cuts destroyed much of the forest floor and the soil’s fungus community, upon which a healthy forest depends.
- Spindly thickets, so defoliated, are the trees that escaped the cut, left with a few isolated snags and mature trees — no real old growth.
- Canopy closure was virtually non-existent, definitely below the 50-60% needed for canopy-dependent species (woodpeckers) which formerly used the area.
- Despite the Forest Service’s claim that the Genesis sale would remove fir

“encroaching” on a Ponderosa Pine area due to a century of fire-suppression (a real problem), the sale actually destroyed a natural mixed conifer forest. Fire stands showed fire scars and an average age of 165 years—well before white encroachment. Some were much older.

Springs and the headwaters of creeks were logged as well, seriously damaging the riparian areas.

Projects like the Genesis sale—and presumably much worse, if that’s their “model”—are imminent on all four of the Blue Mountains’ National Forests (Umatilla, Malheur, WallaWallawhitman, and Ochoco), destroying some of the last roadless areas and other areas of contiguous old-growth.

If Genesis is what we can expect from "the more ecosystem-aware type of management to be expected" of the Forest Service, then it is well past time to take responsibility for the forests away from this agency.
One of the worst aspects of the Clinton Forest Plan is its plan to allow “salvage” logging after fires in western Oregon has spent the last year resisting the so-called Warner Creek Fire “Recovery” Project, a Forest Service scheme which shows clearly what the Clinton Plan will mean if it becomes law: arson fires in old-growth reserves will be rewarded with jobs and logs. Though we’ve made some headway, we expect an announcement soon of a decision to salvage log the Warner Creek fire area.

The next phase of the Warner Creek Fire “Recovery” Project is set for the Autumnal Equinox when the Willamette National Forest releases its decision in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The fire October 1991 burned a portion of a Northern Spotted Owl Habitat Conservation Area (HCA) near Oakridge, Oregon known as the Compack Roadless Area. In the Draft EIS released last October, the Willamette Forest Supervisor, Darrel “Dare All” Kenops, proposed salvage logging in the Warner Burn, claiming that the stands of “dead and dying” trees were no longer “currently suitable” owl habitat, and increased the risk of catastrophic fire hazard to adjacent owl habitat. The agency’s preferred alternative F released in the DEIS would have extracted 40 million board feet of trees across 1200 acres of this Roadless Area/HCA through “New Forestry” style clearcuts (e.g. leave four fumled snags per acre).

This proposal, dubbed the “Firebug” proposal, shocked and angered environmentalists because it not only breached the concept of an HCA as a reserve where no commercial logging should or could take place, but it also set a dangerous precedent for rewarding arson fires in HCAs with firefighting jobs and salvage timber sales. After attempting to cover up the crime, Supervisor Kenops was forced to admit that it was, in fact, determined that an arsonist had started the Warner Creek Fire, and that he had known this long before he ordered false statements about the fire’s origin to be published in the DEIS. The public’s outrage at this crime was compounded by anger at the Supervisor’s attempted cover-up and his shameless complicity with Bush, Bob Packwood, and Big Timber in sham salvage logging scams. Kenops was eventually forced, under intense public pressure, to grant two extensions of the comment period—and the public sent him a stunning 2400 comment letters!

The Supervisor’s preferred alternative was so blatantly destructive of owl habitat—and the agency’s credibility—that the Forest Service’s own internal oversight committees quietly rejected the plan. It has taken the agency 11 months to process the hundreds of critical comments received from the public and come up with a new proposal for “recovering the resources” in Warner Creek. The details of the new plan have been revealed in official state secrecy, but the FEIS will most likely contain another salvage (sic) logging plan. Most definitely, it will reveal the proposed methods and rationales by which criminal corporate timber magnats and their co-conspiring bureaucratic hosts will attempt to “get the cut out” of and-slash deforestation of Cascadia’s temperate rainforests.

The Warner Creek FEIS will also establish a new avenue for eco-resistance. It will contain an alternative management strategy written by Cascadia Earth Firsters. Alternative EF (for Ecology of Fire, of course) proposes to manage the Warner Burn as a natural recovery research area, permanently preserving the land from logging, roading or replanting in order to facilitate recovery of Spotted Owls, natural succession, and fire ecology processes. Alternative EF has earned active aid and support from a wide community of non-traditional Earth First collaborators including academic scientists, mainstream environmental organizations and even Forest Service workers who, against all odds, still have some sense of professional integrity and environmental ethics. Dubbed the “KNOW Action Alternative” for its goal to learn from the burn, Alternative EF will in fact represent the first official acknowledgment given to the natural role of wild fires in maintaining biodiversity critical to westside ancient forest ecology and spotted owl habitat. The fact that this EF proposal, with its assumption that natural fires are vital for old-growth forests, will appear in the FEIS alongside the agency’s new preferred alternative, built on the opposite premise, that natural fires are detrimental, represents an important coup for paper monkeys.

We don’t yet know whether Supervisor Kenops will submit a Record of Decision along with the FEIS, or if he will try to sign a ROD through by exempting it from appeals (which has been the norm in previous fire salvage logging scams). Big Timber and its pimps in the agency and Congress have lost all patience and will be pulling all stops to begin logging soon—as early as this Fall, if possible. The scenarios will likely entail helicopter assault teams and Federal courses in this rugged Roadless Area. If Clinton’s proposed Forest Plan and its wide-open salvage logging loopholes become law, nothing short of direct action will be able to stop this ongoing crime against Nature. Once again, it will be up to Earth Firsters to stand against all compromisers, collaborators and capitulators with State-sponsored eco-terrorists.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

After two years of fighting this proposed project, the day of reckoning is upon us. Should the Supervisor have a miraculous eleventh-hour conversion of integrity in forest stewardship and decide not to salvage log Warner Creek, then we can all head for Idaho. More likely, though, Kenops has chosen to salvage the shit out of this area. The precedent for gaining timber access in reserves is not going to be set by the Clinton Administration, but by the Warner Creek Recovery Project. We will not allow salvage logging to happen. This is our call to action, and we will show Mr. Kenops exactly what putting the Earth First means in Oregon! A Base Camp site has already been chosen, and may be occupied this Fall. We have an Action Alert for all who want to partake in this. This may be our last chance to prove that Bill and Al that reserves must be off-limits, especially to match-happy industry pyros.

Please send us your name, mailing address, fax and phone numbers so we can contact you in the event of a large-scale action at Warner Creek. Write or call Cascadia EF, POB 10384, Eugene OR 97440 (503) 343-7305.

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Trees in Big Branchgrass Meadows killed in the 1991 Warner Creek arson fire. photo by Steve Hazlett
August 17th was declared by Earth First! to be the 2nd annual International Wild Rockies Wilderness Day! The following week, activists on the NREPA bill, like their counterparts on the NRRA bill,中秋中committing to the Noble Road campaign, and other issues, with what you can do. Most important at this point is to call the Forest Service and express your outrage over the destruction of roadless wilderness and the raid on the Noble Road.

Legislation: The Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act (NREPA) has been introduced in Congress by Carolyn Maloney, a New York Democrat. It would protect 15 million acres of public land, create a Wild­land Reserve in the Northern Rockies, protect Native American­ious and treaty rights, designate 1300 miles of Wild and Scenic rivers, and study two areas for National Park status. Another 2.5 million acres would be protected by a series of isolated island ecosystems without free genetic exchange and the age-old dance of inter dependence. NREPA passage is critical to end wilderness dem­olition in the Wild Rockies, the last stronghold of wilderness and biodiversity in the lower 48 U.S. A moratorium on roadbuilding and logging on public lands is necessary pending passage of NREPA and an investiga­tion by Congress into wrongdoing by the Forest Ser­vice.

Please contact Rep. Elizabeth Furse, D-OR, and ask her to co-sponsor NREPA: 1-800-442-4003 or (302) 225-0855, fax: 503-326-5066.

Also contact the following and ask that they protect the wilderness and wildlife of the Wild Rockies through NREPA or similar measures:
- President Bill Clinton, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, DC 20500, phone: (202) 456-1111
- Vice President Al Gore, Office of the Vice President, Old Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20501
- Senator Max Baucus (D-MT), U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510
- U.S. Congress, phone: (1-800) 332-6106, fax: 606-667-4793
- You can write to any Representative at: U.S. House of Represen­tatives, Washington, DC 20515

Cove/Mallard campaign: The Forest Service is pro­ceeding with the destruction of Cove/Mallard. This is an area which would be protected by NREPA, so the USFS is trashing an area slated for protection by pending legislation. It is illegal. Cove/Mallard is the classic example of public wilderness areas being ruined due to lack of much-deserved federal wilderness design­ation.

The Earth First/Ancient Forest Bus Brigade activist base camp was raided and ransacked by federal agents August 8th. The federal tree-splintering has occurred in justifying the raid. Many activists are likely to be sub­poenaed before a new Grand Jury. Michael King, Supervisor of Nez Perce National Forest, callettes protesters "terrorists." The Forest Service are the environmental terrorists, bringing death and destruction to formerly wild and peaceful places, employing armed, camou­flaged agents, ransacking peaceful camps, taking per­sonal property, enfamiling local residents to the point of violence against protesters, and doing all this with $500m taxpayer money—terrorism and extortion! Please express your outrage at the ruin of premier wilderness and suppression of peaceful protesters.

Contact:
- Dave Robertson, "Chief," U.S. Forest Service, P.O. Box 96909, Washington, DC 20009 USA, phone: (202) 447-3957.
- Ed Jolly, Region 1 Forester, P.O. Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807, phone: (406) 325-3111.
- Michael King, Supervisor, Nez Perce National Forest, Route 2, Box 475, Grangeville, ID 83530, phone: (208) 983-1950.
- Ed "Dead" Wood, Red River District Ranger, Red River Route 2, Box 23, Elk City, ID 83555, phone: (208) 842-2245.

International Actions: Hosted by the Rainforest Information Centre (RIC) and the Native Forest Net­work (NFN), Smokey Bear joined a demonstration outside the US embassy in Canberra, Australia, to protest logging, road building and the hash suppress­ion of peaceful protesters in Cove/Mallard. Smokey provided an entertaining focus for the event, sup­ported by a "Save Cove-Mallard" banner.

In Sydney, NNN Southern Hemisphere Coordinator Tim Cadman presented a letter to the US consul­late on Smokey's behalf. "All we are asking for is a moratorium on roadbuilding and logging on public lands pending passage of NREPA, and an investigation by Congress into alleged misconduct by the U.S. Forest Service," said RIC spokesperson Brent Hoare.

Demonstrations in support of the Cove/Mallard campaign also occurred in Canada, and at other locations around the world, including a demo at the US embassy in Estonia.

A C/M legal defense fund has been established for defen­dants in the SLAPP suit. The address is: 120 W. 6th St., #252, Moscow, ID 83843.

### Old Farts Blockade the Noble Road

Tuesday, August 17th, Wild Rockies Wilderness Day, dawned cold and damp, just like every other summer day this year near the Cove/Mallard timber­disaster. At 6:00 A.M. base camp split into two groups, with forty or so heading for the (Ig)Noble Road to do a legal demo just outside the closed area, and about twenty off on a backwoods trek to do a "diversion." The demo went along swimmingly for about two hours as three bored Freddie cops watched us mill about singing and shouting. When does a direct action campaign reach epic and legendary status? Why, when it has its very own songs, that's when!

Then the diversionists arrived from an unexpected direction, up the (Ig)Noble Road from the forest. "Boo! Hey Freddie! Whooop!!" they booed and white上有the road. The cops turned away from the demo and charged, albeit slowly and with caution (they're still being taught that demonstrators are terrorists, see). The ruckus, of course, brought the O.F.A.G., the Old Farts Affinity Group, linked arms and stroiled into the closure and down the road. Surprised, the gendarmes turned and attacked, one managing to do a tremendous face-first pratfall. The Old Farts, seeing that they were about to be maced into a backwoods path, whooped, and the now-awake Freddie co's watched us mill down the road. "Boot Hey Freddie! Whoop!!" they booed and white. It was an enjoyable day. 'Twas a good thing nobody had to pee; their position was now somehow enhanced, as no one was able to move off their offending nose. 'Twas a great thing nobody had to pee; however, the now-awake Freddie co's watched us mill down the road. The usual abuse was heaped upon them by the local forces of law 'n' order advanced and retreated. It took power, toward the party. In half an hour, they actually had covered almost two feet of road; then they bugged out for the Idaho potato harvest.

Said reinforcements continued to arrive after all noon until over a dozen vehicles from every jurisdiction imaginable were represented. Mostly, of course, they just milled around and took videos while the demonstrators did their thing. Connor of the Idaho police thought it would be a good idea to lock himself to the undercarriage of a cop car. The cop took umbrage and a great deal of pulling, pushing, macing, and shouting went on. The law won, and she was tossed into the back of a pickup truck like a sack of Idaho potatoes. Eventually she was dragged off to the juvenile gual where she spent a number of highly enjoyable days.

But, to the common, the cops decided they'd never get home in time for dinner unless they actually did something, so they began the arrest process. Lots of the eighteen arrestees went limp and refused to cooperate, including most of O.F.A.G. (except Ramon, who was watching the Idaho police reinforcements). The cops then added the nineteenth "criminal" of the day to their catch. Scout Waldingflower was just standing on the public highway, but they decided that he recognized them from earlier in the day. Or the month. Or maybe the summer.

All were then driven to Grangeville, two and a half hours away, in shackles (buses, actually) and thence to jail in Boise. The usual abuse was heaped upon them for the next forty-eight hours; dreddickers were treated like dogs; the women were tested for HIV; vegetarians got to eat bologna; vegetarians got to eat mayonnaise; Ramon couldn't get any gin. It was truly terrible.

The trial is Monday, September 27th at Federal Court in Moscow, Idaho. It should be the usual circus; so get your tickets now.

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Page 2 Earth First! Modern 1992

Photo: Julian LaFroude, Deschutes County Sheriff's Dept.
Fed's Raid Base Camp

by Nk Moul

Because of the importance of Cove/Mallard, activists have gathered in Dixie, Idaho, employing direct action and civil disobedience in a long-term struggle to stop its destruction. Because of this no compromise attitude the US Forest Service obtained a warrant for search and seizure for the land. I was there and this is how it went down from my point of view...

At approximately 5:30 a.m. on August 8, 1993, I awoke to a booming male voice shouting: "Federal agents with a warrant! Everybody out now!" I bolted upright. As I reached for my pants a federal agent outside my tent yelled for me to get out. Politely responded: "yes sir," and inquired: "What time is it?" He didn't answer. He reminded me to get my coat as it was a cool northwest morning. He "allowed" me to grab my water bottle upon request.

As I emerged from my tent the armed agent herded the towards my friends, who had been corrallined in the Grassy open area. We stood together as 8 armed agents with shotguns surrounded us. Various others, also armed with shotguns, continued to force friends of mine to the waiting stockade. Eventually, the commanding officer told us there had been a total of 30 agents involved. As we were placed from various campsites, tensions rose. Boundaries were set where we could and could not step. We circled the warrant area.

A US magistrate judge had given Forest Service agent Michael Merkley the "legal" authorization to search various temporary camps, vehicles, outbuildings, located on the Robert Amon property (base camp). Because they were forced to recognize them as an unstoppable force. Exhibit B was the list of property to be seized and includes needles, hammers, digging tools, axes and hatchets, spray paint, metal cutting tools, tree climbing equipment, saws, photos, negatives, undeveloped film, video tapes, computer discs, records, diaries, documents, receipts, canceled checks, vehicle registrations and titles.

The warrant specified activities prohibited while the search was ongoing including trespassing, threatening, intimidating, interfering, falsification or fraudulence.

We had initially been split into two groups, one on either side of the property. After approximately 30 minutes or so, the other group was marched to our grasy spot. While the agents searched tents and campsites at the other end of the land, we talked to our guards. Recognizing Ron, an agent who had kicked a 15-year-old dog during the summer of 1993, I turned towards him and asked, "Have you kicked any dogs lately?" He turned his back towards us.

As the morning wore on, we kept our spirits up by singing environmental songs and telling jokes. We noticed the way one agent was leaning on the butt of his shotgun while the muzzle was digging into the dirt. A 9-year-old camp resident informed the agents, "The way one agent was leaning on the butt of his shotgun while the muzzle was digging into the dirt.

It's funny how the plaintiffs complaint are worth repeating here...

To deny the charge that Earth First! is an association:

"DENY, Earth First! is not an association of any kind. It is a slogan that may be used by anyone who appreciates the beauty of the earth and believes its financial affairs. The defendant believes the extensive rain during the summer of 1993 may have caused delayed and made plaintiff's performance of its contract more expensive and burdensome. She denies she is responsible for the rain."

He also asked for sanctions against the plaintiff's attorney in the amount of $10,000, citing his "failure to determine whether the claim against her is well-grounded in fact, and for filling the suit for an improper purpose, either to harass the defendant or to discourage her from exercising her right to peaceably assemble and to speak out against the destruction of the largest roadless area in the lower forty-eight states."

So there.

Meanwhile, legal hassles in other areas continue unabated. The Feds are seeking jail time for several hardened criminals who have been accused of (gasp) sitting in the middle of a logging road. The State of Idaho is going after seven who blocked the same road and asking for (somewhat extreme) remedies... like, would you believe up to fourteen years for a "Conspiracy to Commit Grand Theft?"

Since all of these happenings involve one or more members of your Ancient Forest Bus Brigade, as well as the Brigade itself as an "organization", we have decided to take them seriously, or at least semi-seriously, and have narrowed our plan of action to a few well-thought-out options, to wit:

A) Hire real lawyers and counter-sue the company.
B) Hire real lawyers and sue the State of Idaho.
C) Hire real lawyers and sue the US Government.
D) Hire real lawyers and sue the company.
E) Change our name to the Ancient Forest Bus Brigade and suive.
F) Change our name to the Ancient Forest Bust Brigade and emigrate.

There's a place there called "Ramon's Reef"... you can look it up. As always, stay tuned.

Your humble (but worthless) scribe, Ramon.
FALL IN IDAHO; RESISTANCE CONTINUES...

A DogFen.ich

As I write this summer is closing down and cold temperatures are coming on fast in the wild Rockies. Activists at the Cove/Mallard base camp are in a mad scramble to put together structures for the fall, and for some, the winter. We have a new office in Monta.gna and mountains out, activis...n Idaho, the country have decided to make the western flank of the Salmon-Selway Ecosystem their permanent home. What just two years ago was envisioned to be an "action" to protest these unconsolable, insoluble timber sales has developed into a full campaign and year-round occupation. Now some are beginning to call it not a campaign but a struggle.

It has been a summer of full-on, quick-burn intensity and so much has blown past us, so much has zipped by at full speed. It's nice to have a bit of Indian Summer; a pause to relax and to contemplate what a beautiful and wild thing we have done together. And to begin to plan for the next chapter in this campaign.

The Cove/Mallard campaign has had certain for- midable constraints. First, it is far away from any city and a long, long drive even to basic services like telephones and electricity. The remoteness of the place makes it dangerous work to be an activist and difficult to complete the bureaucratic duties necessary to run a campaign. But the land has turned out, as even we bureaucratic humans should have known, to overcome all disadvantages. Cove/Mallard is a place more wild than most people have ever seen. Cove/Mallard and the Salmon-Selway Complex is a big, big place and when people go there they start to understand its magnitude all the way down in their bones. For the magnitude of Cove/Mallard is a thing that hits you not in your head, but somewhere in your guts. When you hike out into Cove/Mallard on a compass bearing and spend a few nights under the stars you know you are in a place that is still almost whole, a place that still does not bleed and shake under the weight of multiple Forest Service inflicted wounds.

You who have spent years under domestic strain begin to feel a little wild in your teeth. Then your toes, your hair, your kidneys, your knees get a new spring to return to the weight of multiple Forest Service inflicted wounds. Your hair, your kidneys, your knees get a new spring to return to the weight of multiple Forest Service inflicted wounds. Your kidneys, your knees get a new spring to return to the weight of multiple Forest Service inflicted wounds.

This summer has seen dozens and dozens of arrests, a federal raid on base camp, a $300,000 SLAPP suit, a promised Grand Jury investigation, and increasing fits of aggression on part of the freddies. In addition, newspapers have reported incidents of serious monkeywrenching. The purported victims include a demolished dozer, spiked trees, a torched rock crusher, and miscellaneous wounded, mangled and mutilated light equipment. Rumors abound that in Crazy Horse-inspired ambushes, freddie vehicles have been destroyed in broad daylight, sometimes with, sometimes without their wide-eyed drivers barricaded inside. We may not be the only ones in the woods defending this treasured ecosystem.

The campaign has carefully and pointedly disavowed environmental activism. We're making them nervous. We haven't got a lot of alternatives? There are none. Giving up is no answer. We won't leave them alone. Not in Cove/Mallard, not in French Creek, not on Memp Mountain, not in any of the Salmon-Selway roadless areas they have designs on. We are wild and this is serious. We haven't got a lot of time. We are angry. They will lose.

Cove/Mallard Action in Vermont

On August 23, Earth First!ers and Native Forest Network (NEN) activists converged on the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) Supervisor's Office in Rutland, VT, where they hung a 25-foot banner reading "Destroy the Forest Service" and took over the lobby, disrupting business as usual. The forest defenders were showing solidarity with activists in Idaho trying to protect the Cove/Mallard roadless area.

When activists attempted to lodge complaints about Forest Service conduct in Idaho, Mary Jeanne Packer, GMNF Planner refused them, stating that they would have to go to Idaho. Packer later said, "Frankly, I don't know anything about what's going on out there." The NEN did not bring a USFS brochure that stated that GMNF would answer any questions about USFS policy. Packer later said, "Frankly, I don't know anything about what's going on out there." The NEN did not bring a USFS brochure that stated that GMNF would answer any questions about USFS policy.

Somewhere back in the frightened, silent minds of these decision makers, do they think for some reason finally to mangle and plunder Sink mountain, to scrape every last stick from 18 mountain sides, something they surely know would be an act of war? Somewhere back in the frightened, silent minds of these decision makers, do they think for some reason finally to mangle and plunder Sink mountain, to scrape every last stick from 18 mountain sides, something they surely know would be an act of war?

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Meanwhile, in Idaho, the legal system is set up to shut up activists and the courts have shown no interest in siding with the public. In Idaho, the legal system is set up to shut up activists and the courts have shown no interest in siding with the public.

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The "Grizzly Discovery Center" is allegedly designed to educate tourists about Grizzlies and Black Bears so they will know how to behave in the bears' habitat. But is seeing bears at close range, in a zoo-like setting, going to give people the right message? Probably not. As Bob Ekey of the Greater Yellowstone Coalition said, "It's a great idea, with out the bears."

What Robinson fails to realize, or to admit, is that his bear zoo is going to put yet more demands on the species it is allegedly designed to protect. By putting captive Grizzlies in the midst of critical Grizzly Bear habitat, right on the west boundary of Yellowstone National Park, Robinson has created another potential "black hole" for bears. Captive bears and their food could draw wild bears, leading them into trouble in West Yellowstone, a town which has done a great job of cleaning up former bear attractants. Of course, this may be just what Robinson wants—his first choice for bears for the facility is "problem" bears from Yellowstone and Glacier.

The three bears now serving to lure suckers to the zoo are all captive-bred from Alaskan stock. The poor critics (two are cubs) have been declawed and neutered. Are these even bears any longer? They are on long-term loan from Charlie Robbins' bear "research" center at Washington State University in Pullman. Robbins is the chief bear "expert" hired by Robinson for the West Yellowstone mess. What a cozy arrangement.

Robinson is attempting to obtain a wild bear which has been getting into trouble in Denali National Park, Alaska, and a Brown Bear from Russia.

Robinson must obtain permission from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in order to legally keep Grizzlies from Yellowstone, Glacier, or elsewhere in the lower 48. These bears are listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. So far he has not received the required permit. Could this be because, as of June 15, 1993, 97% of the comments received by the USFWS were opposed to the zoo?

Robinson has gotten the required permit from the state of Montana. Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (MDFWP) made some lame attempts in the Decision Notice to respond to public concerns over Grizzlies and Black Bears and therefore jeopardize Grizzly Bear recovery efforts.

MDFWP Discussion: The vast majority of the visitors to Yellowstone never see a Grizzly Bear. Therefore, seeing one in the pens would otherwise be dead. They might as well be.

It is not too late.

We can still keep Robinson from obtaining Grizzlies from the lower 48. USFWS hasn't given him any permits so no wild bears have been grabbed yet.

*Please keep those letters flowing to Ralph Morgenweck, Region 6 Director, USFWS, Box 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225.

*Don't hesitate to create a ruckus at the bear zoo when you are in West Yellowstone (there's a huge bear statue right at the entrance—great for publicity stunts), and help us explore ways to create opposition to this zoo amongst the very tourists it's intending to profit from.

*For more numbers to have: the public information line for the grizzly zoo is (406) 646-7672. The Money Man funding the grizzly zoo is Jonathan Stern and he can be reached at 770 Lexington, NY, 10021, phone: (212) 355-4500 or fax: (212) 355-4598. (For more information contact the Predator Project at PO Box 6151, Bozeman, MT 59771.)

**Huh-oh, a Fire!**

"It's pretty well cooked," said the despondent District Ranger. Seems his brand spanking new, million-dollar Coyote Ranger Station on the Carson National Forest spontaneously combusted just days before it was to open. Lucky he wasn't shot—this is the same area where radical Chicanos, chanting, "Tierra O Muerte," killed a cop and Freddie while trying to reclaim the Carson National Forest as a Spanish Land Grant.

Some nearby road building equipment was not so lucky. Two big yellow machines conscripted to slash a road into the Felippito timber sale apparently shot themselves rather than rip through the old growth ponderosa pine forest. One of the few islands of old growth left on the Carson, Felippito is the most controversial timber sale in the Southwest. It is opposed by New Mexico Game and Fish, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and even the local Chilocos logging cooperative. The latter claim that decades of overcutting on the Village Sustained Yield Unit (of which Felippito is part) is threatening the future of their rural community.

Having jammed Felippito down everybody's throat, Freddie is now drafting plans to log the next drainage over, essentially destroying all of the District's functioning old growth. Coyote will have something to say about that. "Que no!"
By John Green

When I was a young boy in the Sierra Club, I prayed to the Freddies and the good lord above. I asked them for wilderness and some old-growth trees. I quoted the facts and I always said please.

Maybe that just isn't enough in these days of forest fishing and mass extinction. The Sierra Club's idea of good wilderness proposals seems to depend on what keeps them in good with the politicians who write them. And I've never heard of a politician answering to the big money that elected it, so everything's cool, right?

Apparently some Sierra Club members think otherwise. In the Wild Rockies, there is a movement within the Headwaters group of the Club to support the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act and the Alliance for the Wild Rockies. Makes sense, since NREPA is an excellent, comprehensive wilderness proposal. But their actions have put them at odds with the Montana office of the Sierra Club (not to mention the national organization), which seem to have their noses buried in Pat Williams' (D-MT) ass. The Montana office is supporting Williams' atro­cious, business-as-usual wilderness' proposal. They see the Headwaters group as quite a threat, and are threatening to disband the group if they do not fall in line with official Club policy.

Various local groups around the country are joining the Headwaters group in supporting NREPA and criticizing Williams' bill. This has led to the exchange of nasty e-mail. James Conner, the head of the Montana office, has become downright territorial, telling California Club members to keep "hands off Montana." Making judgments on acreage [of wilderness] is risky," he intones. "Only those with local knowledge can make informed judgments." Sound familiar? "Clearcutting is a local issue. Now hand me my chainsaw." Hack, hack.

Meanwhile, in the midwest, the Downstate Illinois chapter is circulating a petition to change Club policy on forest issues. Their proposal is downright visionary: it calls for an immediate end to all logging in roadless areas and ancient forests, and a gradual phase-out of logging on all public lands. The chapter (and others) had been squeezed out of the normal process for such changes by a wilderness committee protecting its own power. The committee does not want the general membership of the Club to decide on such things because the issue is "too complicate­d." One of the co-chairs of the National Forest subcommittee believes that stopping logging on public lands would not be moral (?), and the other feels that it would harm biodiversity. Go figure.

As is usually the case, the grassroots are way ahead of the national organization. Maybe if the national leadership would listen to the grassroots there would be more real wilderness proposals written. But the Sierra Club, like so many mainstream groups, is more interested in protecting its imagined power and bringing in members and money, so it will never do anything risky or forward-thinking. In this case, the national leadership, in the person of Executive Director Carl Pope, feels the petition will "discourage many members... We will lose supporters and financial strength..." Why, our members would never stand for being allowed to decide for them­selves on such an important issue.

Maybe it is for the best if they kick out all of the dissident members. It seems the Headwaters group would be more comfortable giving their support to AVR anyway, or maybe even Earth First!

If you are a member of the Sierra Club and would like a copy of the Forest Policy petition or more info, send a stamped self-addressed envelope to Jim Bensman, 711 Lafayette, Godfrey, IL 62035, or call (618)466-7143.

If 1,400 Club members sign the petition, the Board of Directors must either adopt the policy (or gasp) put it to a vote of the membership.

Sierra Club Rebellion

Wilderness Held Hostage

The Sheep Mountain Alliance is alerting environmentalists about a wilderness land-swap between the US Forest Service and the West Elk developer, Tom Chapman, of West Elk Development Corporation, is demanding that the Forest Service trade its 240-acre parcel in the West Elk Wilderness Area for a more valuable National Forest parcel near Telluride, Colorado. The Forest Service is the Telluride parcel a value of $6,000 per acre despite recent sales and appraisals of adjacent properties ranging from $20,000 to $45,000 per acre.

Chapman purchased his inholding in 1992 and wasted no time constructing a luxury home on it. Access is currently limited to foot and helicopter but Chapman has threatened to sue the Forest Service for road access. Chapman isn't new to the public-land-swap game: in 1984 he forced the National Park Service to buy land above its appraised value to prevent development within Black Canyon National Monument, and later got a private citizen's alliance to pay him over $400,000 to preserve traditional river access near Delta, Co.

Developer Chapman is holding the West Elk Wilderness hostage, and the ransom he demands is public land where the development potential is enormous. Although land trades are sometimes good for preserving intact wilderness, the Forest Service can not afford to squander National Forest acreage and the taxpayers' money. Sheep Mountain Alliance, a citizens group in Telluride, CO, has been fighting private development on public lands and is calling for reform of wilderness inh­holding laws and land trade practices. They welcome your involvement and suggestions, and urge you to express your outrage at the spinelessness of the Freddies. For more information contact Sheep Mountain Alliance, PO Box 389, Telluride, CO 81435 (303) 728-3729.

Also of Interest:

Rainbows Demonstrate (!) to Protest Proposed USFS Rules

Between July 8 and August 4, 1993, 200-300 activists from the Rainbow Family, that's right, Rainbow activists, streamed through Washington, D.C. to protest proposed regulations which severely restricts freedom of assembly and speech within National Forests. On the final day, 16 Rainbows even got popped, as a large crowd presented a petition (signed by 22,000 people) opposing the regulations to the Freddies at their DC headquarters. All were charged with "unlawful entry," were ORed, and face trial September 15.

USFS propose regulations which would require groups of 25 or more to get a permit before gathering in a National Forest. The proposal would also require a permit to distribute literature or educate people within a National Forest.

This isn't just about hippie gatherings. The proposed regulations are a direct attack on Earth First! They would require permits for virtually all gatherings and demonstrations within National Forests. A permit can be denied, and the gathering declared illegal if Freddy believes the gathering would "delay, halt, or prevent administrative use... or other scheduled or existing uses or activities..." This includes "blocking, restricting, or otherwise interfering with the use of a road, trail, or gate." Disturbing timber, mining or livestock industry right-of-ways is specified as grounds for permit denial. Distributing printed material or educating the public while doing so would also require a permit. This includes hanging a banner, holding up a sign, handing out pamphlets, distributing a petition, talking to loggers and campers, etc.

Violators of the new regulations could be fined up to $500 and imprisoned for up to six months. When put into the context of the recent creation of laws specifically aimed at tree-savers and animal liberation, this proposal represents a continuing and very serious attempt to outlaw Earth First! and all direct environmental activism on our public lands.

The comment period on the proposed rule ended August 4, 1993. Send your comments in anyway. It will be at least two months before a final rule is issued. The Rainbows have successfully sued the Forest Service over permits requirements in the past and are planning to challenge these as well.

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CLAYOQUOT PROTESTS CONTINUE...

On April 13, 1993 BC Premier Michael Harcourt declared that the largest remaining temperate rainforest on Vancouver Island, Clayoquot Sound, would be clear cut by Macmillan Bloedel and Interfor. This decision has provoked a huge public outcry which continues to grow despite the best efforts of industry and government to sell the decision as a "balanced compromise." Since base camp was set up July 1, activists have been protesting the on-going destruction of Clayoquot sound.

Bus Load of People "Held Hostage" On September 9, Gerald Hartwig and about 120 other business owners and professionals planned to travel to the Clayoquot Sound blockade to stand alongside the protestors. But at about 2:00 AM their two buses and several private cars were waylaid by about 200 pro-logging Vancouver Island residents and held for three hours with vehicles parked in front of and behind them. "That's a hostage-taking," said Hartwig. "What they did was not a blockade. In a blockade people have the option of turning around and going the other way," he said.

Hartwig said a RCMP officer was on the scene, but sat in his police car 100 meters away from the scene. When asked what he was going to do, the officer replied, "I'm not going anywhere near that." When more officers had arrived, Hartwig said, he suggested to another that he take down license plate numbers and names. But the officer replied that he already knew everybody.

Grandmothers in Jail Since July 6 Two grandmothers are being held in the Victoria drunk tank for refusing to agree not to return to the Clayoquot blockade. They are being subjected to sprays of pepper gas routinely used to quell unruly drunks. Betty Krawczyk, 72, and Judith Robinson, 69, have been in jail since they arrested at the Kennedy River bridge on July 6. They are both beginning their third week in the drunk tank intended to hold prisoners for no longer than 24 hours.

Another grandmother was arrested September 9. Inga Kornetch, 70, told police she was standing for her children, grandchildren and "great great great" grandchildren. Kornetch was among 160 rainforest protectors blockading the Kennedy River junction near Tofino on September 1 by 145 people who blocked the Kennedy River bridge on July 6. They are both beginning their third week in the drunk tank intended to hold prisoners for no longer than 24 hours.

Another grandmother was arrested September 9. Inga Kornetch, 70, told police she was standing for her children, grandchildren and "great great great" grandchildren. Kornetch was among 160 rainforest protectors blockading the Kennedy River junction when loggers were ordered back to work by MacMillan Bloedel (Mac-Blo) following a two day holiday. Police arrested 16 people before the bridge was cleared. When asked if he would like Premier Harcourt to call a Clayoquot referendum which protectors would have to honor, an Mac-Blo killer replied: "I'd like to see Harcourt shoot the buggers."

Interfor Turned Back by Blockade On September 9, a road-building crew contracted to Interfor was turned back September 9 by 145 people who blocked the Kennedy River bridge. The workers were en route to Fortune Channel, where recent road construction had cut an ugly swath through Clayoquot's ancient forests. The crew trucks were turned back by the action, which halted logging for the second consecutive day. About 60 percent of current Clayoquot logging takes place beyond the Kennedy River bridge.

"For eight weeks, we've been watching the logging trucks roll through," Friends of Clayoquot Sound spokesperson Willy Thomas told the circle of rainforest protectors. "Now people who come out here can actually stop the logging. It's important that we continue showing up every day to keep the trees standing."

Protesters Demand Attorney General Intervene in Clayoquot Court Fiasco On September 10, hundreds of activists rallied in support of 51 environmentalists who began their 9th day in court for peacefully protesting clearcutting in Clayoquot Sound. Environmentalists from around the globe have written letters in support of people like Andrew Swain, an 18-year-old who was arrested earlier this summer at the Clayoquot blockade. Mr. Swain had previously told the judge that he would not be in court because he wanted to continue his education. He was arrested September 9 by RCMP officers as he entered Oak Bay high school.

"Over 600 people face imprisonment for protesting the government decision and now a student is in jail for attending his classes," said Tzeporah Dorman, spokesperson for the Friends of Clayoquot Sound. "This is not democracy. This is not justice."

The court has refused to assign trial dates to the hundreds of protestors arrested. Many of these people have commitments which preclude the extensive time required for "mass trial." Many of accused are unable to afford lawyers and have been forced to represent themselves.

The Crown Counsel is representing the public and is prosecuting public citizens for defending public land against a logging company in which the public is the largest shareholder. This situation is an international disgrace and must be dealt with immediately," said Karen Mahon, Greenpeace spokesperson.

While the jailed protestors awaited the court decision, protestors outside the Victoria legislative buildings carried placards that asked: "Who are the real criminals?"

Arrests now total over 500 people. Julie Draper, from the Friends of Clayoquot Sound, said they are expecting anywhere from 200-500 more people and the "actions are not going to fizzle out." For more information contact the Friends of Clayoquot Sound, POB 489, Tofino, BC VOR 2Z0 Canada, (604) 725-4218.

PADDLERS FOR PRESERVATION

By Kimberley Dawn

Recently I returned from a sea kayaking trip on Clayoquot Sound with thirteen other North American activists. During our trip we became entranced with the Sound. We gathered berries and shellfish, kayaked through the phosphorescent water at midnight, and went on day hikes in the rainforest. In the Sound we saw innumerable eagles and sea lions and on the open ocean saw grey whales and porpoises. We also saw clearcuts. Big clearcuts. The US citizens, like myself, were struck by the size of the Canadian clearcuts. It is an exaggeration to say that British Columbia is the Brazil of the North.

As we ended our trip in Tofino someone noticed a Macmillan-Bloedel propaganda center. Disinformation targeted at tourists included a placard titled, "Clearcuts Grow Back," which read as follows: "No one would call a clearcut pretty. But done properly, it does not mean the end of the forest. In British Columbia's west coast old-growth forests, clearcutting is the safest and most economical way to harvest timber and regenerate a new stand." Mac-Blo obviously paid a lot for their propaganda.

We spent a couple of hours talking to tourists, chanting and causing general havoc. We closed the place down by turning off the electricity and jamming the front door shut; eventually, we were successful at persuading the PR lackey guy to officially close the door. We hope our action, in addition to the time we spent at the blockades, offsets the fact that Mac-Blo's buyout of BC.

Mac-Blo recently received approval to log over 60 percent of Clayoquot Sound. By sheer coincidence, the BC government (which made the decision to log) is Mac-Blo's largest stockholder.

So don't forget to wrap up your "eco-vacation" with an action at the nearest Forest Service deforestation office.

Meares Island in Clayoquot Sound, BC.
In 1985 Native American author David Seal wrote a couple of essays for the Earth First! Journal proposing an alliance between traditional Native Americans and Earth Firsters. One of the articles was written from Big Mountain, where the government and goons from Peabody Coal were attempting to force relocation on the traditional Dineh people. The resulting strength that David Seal predicted from this alliance is beginning to be realized in campaigns across the US and Canada. Unfortunately for the Ticc-yaa’toh Dineh (traditional Navajo of Big Mountain) the relentless harassment of government agents continues to this day. A small group, mostly elders, still resist against the odds. The following is a report from the frontlines, their home.

SARAH BEGAY

From all sides they’re taking care of us, like we take care of them, when we sleep on her. To her it is like holding her, there are sacred prayers to them; the rocks—we cannot be disturbed. We want them left alone.

Ticc-yaa’toh Dineh Resisters

IRENE YAZZIE

My name is Irene Yazzie. In the Dineh way I am an old medicine woman. I was born here, in the place called Ticc-yaa’toh. My father, my mother and their father and mothers before them were buried here.

Those of us who resist here, our lives are like trees, plants. Like them our roots have grown into the Mother Earth. On this land, our medicine people have done ceremonies to heal people. On this land, they have offered back sacred objects. The cedar and juniper—there are sacred prayers to them; the rocks—we have offered blessings for them; the wells—we have sung to them. These things are very sacred to us. They cannot be disturbed. We want them left alone.

In our way, the six Sacred Mountains surrounding our reservations are a female hogan. It is in this way that we have respect for them. The rivers around us, these are our boundaries. And what we call the Rainbow; this surrounds us.

This is our Mother Earth. She likes it when we live on her, when we sleep on her. To her it is like holding her children. This is what keeps her happy. The Universe, the Sky, is our Spirit. Also it is our Father. We live on the Mother Earth, we are surrounded by our Father. From all sides they’re taking care of us, like we take care of our children.

These sacred things I talk about, these that I sing to, these that I pray to—this is why I remain here. This is why I resist for my land.

SARAH BEGAY

My name is Sarah Wilson Begay. I am 56 years old. I have no school education. To this day, I follow the old teachings of my parents, and my great-great-grandparents; the things that they taught me in the traditional ways. These I go by, these I live by.

From the first time my eyes opened, in the place, I was taught to hold that when my time came to start having my children, it was my responsibility to teach them of the old ways. I’m resisting here for my children, for my grandchildren, so they can carry on this kind of living in their future life.

This is the place of our sacred herbs, that grow here on the land. We want to continue using them for healing, for giving us strength. We want always to have our hogans, our cornfields, our weavings. These have many teachings that show us a way of life. These things are our mind, they make us strong, they give us guidance. For these reasons, I resist against PL 93-531. We’re not to talk about constructing anything, not to rebuild our hogan, houses, our sheep corrals. They look sad—ready to fall apart. It is in these hogans we have our sacred ceremonies. We pray that soon we can rebuild them as we used to. We will not relocate.

This is our land. We know what relocation brings: the life with no future, the misery life. It is especially hard for our elders, those whose children have left them and now they are living alone.

These who will read my statement of how we are struggling here, I ask that you understand what I’ve said with good hearts and minds. I’d like to ask also that you remember us in your prayers and that you give of your help, in any way you can.

JEFFERSON JOE:

Greetings to you. My name is Jefferson Joe. Maybe some of you have heard already about the struggle here against PL 93-531. This Public Law was passed in January 1974. Since then, we’ve been suffering day by day with our livestock, the four-legs, the winged ones. It’s sad to live in this way because of what the government and energy corporations are doing to us—disturbing our Sacred Mountains, the flowers of Mother Earth. All the Native American Indian tribes are struggling to stop these same things. They wanted everything from us. How much more can they take? That is the key to our life. Our sacred ceremonies, our prayers, our language. These were here before the Europeans arrived here. This is the way the Creator gave us life—to live in these ways. We want the young ones, the newly born, the yet unborn, to continue learning these ways, to follow these teachings.

The Public Law has hurt a lot of our elders—the stress, frustrations, worries that come with relocation. I pray that the time will come when I won’t see them cry, when there will be smiles instead of wiping away tears. I pray the time is near when they will be strong again in mind, in spirit, in body.

I have some of my own relations that have voluntarily relocated to different areas. Some of them lost their new homes—they’ve got nothing, nowhere to go. Some of them went to the “New Lands” where they’re drinking the radiation poisoned water—causing all kinds of problems. Now they have to buy water from the store. The houses they live in, they have to pay for utilities. A lot of them. They are unhealed in the modern way—they have a hard time paying these bills.

When some of the elders come back to visit the land, they cry: “I’m living in the loneliness.” They’re living, some of them, in a house all by themselves. They tell us “What you’re doing is right—by resisting. Relocation isn’t worth it. We don’t have nothing.”

Some of the young ones had good families and jobs. In place of these they took the bottles into their hands. They kill their own teachings with this disease of alcohol; breaking up their families.

When you go to the New Lands, you don’t see any hogans. When we were put here on our Mother Earth, we were given certain natural laws to live by. We have to have hope for our people. We have to have the love and strength—this is our life. We are the people of this Mother Earth. We are the people who are struggling here.

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I’d like to thank each one of you that will read my statement, those by my Grandmother and my Mother and Earth First! for putting our words on the Internet.

Please help us here on the land, write to: PO Box 1003, Hotovilla, AZ 86030.

Six Sacred Mountains

Update on Public Law 93-531

BY JEFF SHARP & MARIONA

An organized action against the corporate land grab of Public Law 93-531 and the specific perpetuators, Peabody Coal, is taking place this October. Mass non-Indian support is needed to demonstrate unilateral solidarity of Earth’s children against the fragmentation, assimilation and destruction of Indigenous peoples and their sacred lands.

Some sidebars towards reality:

- This is not Disneyland, resource land or national sacrifice land. It is Indian land;
- In 1974 through corporate contrivance with the help of Evans and Associates, a public relations firm, the range war between the Dineh (Navajo) and Moqui (Hopi) was created so that Mormon lawyer John Boyden could push a law through Congress forming the New Lands.

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U.K. Mahogany Campaign Gathers Force

On the July 10th, five people raided the store and removed items of mahogany. Those not stopped and arrested for shoplifting at the door handed their booty at the local police station as stolen property. The initial response to these law abiding citizens of Norwich was far from friendly—they were promptly arrested and strip-searched. However, persistence (and the presence of a video camera) prompted an inspector to check the law books, and to pledge to approach Lewis for an explanation. Now there are plans to extend “ethical” shoplifting to larger stores across the country.

A lot more is planned, including a major ship action in September and a week of actions in December. It would be great if EFI groups in the US could be involved. People interested in working with us on this, (the US is the largest importer of mahogany after Britain) write:

George Marshall, Oxford EFI, Box E, 111 Magdalen Rd., Oxford OX4 1RQ, Tel: 0865 201 706, Fax: 0865 201 705, E-Mail gznearthar:

Below: EFI/UK in a banner-hanging, crane-sitting frenzy.

Malaysia Tries To Counter Anti-Tropical Timber Campaigns

The Malaysian Ministry of Primary Industries has directed the Malaysian Timber Industrial Development Council (MTIDC) to establish an office in the United Kingdom to coordinate efforts to counter the anti-tropical timber campaign, particularly from the European Community.

Calling the campaign a battle to counter anti-tropical timber sentiment, the Council is soliciting contributions from all sectors of the wood-based industries. “The battle to counter the anti-tropical timber sentiment must be pursued continuously,” Minister Yaik told the Malaysian Panel Manufacturers’ Association.

“Flower Pot Tribe” Needs Help

Protests have been raging since mid-May against the destruction of Jesmond Dene, one of the most beautiful parts of Newcastle, England. The Gosforth Bypass being constructed by the local council will destroy 171 trees and wildlife habitat. In response, the ‘Flower Pot Tribe’ has emerged, a collection of nomadic Earth defenders and locals committed to defending Jesmond Dene.

Four action camps and tree-sits at three separate sites have been started for the growing numbers of people that are gathering to resist this little bit of earth rape. The injunctions are beginning to fly as the battle begins.

You may fax or write requesting a complete investigation of the case and punishment for the guilty parties to:

Ilmo Sr., Mauricio Correa, Ministerio da Justica, Esplanada dos Movidores Bl. T., 70.064 Brasilia DF, BRAZIL; Fax 011 55 61 224 091.

Send a copy to: Ilmo Sr. Rubens Ricupero, Embassadress of Brazil, Embassy of Brazil, 3006 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. 20009; Fax 202 745 2827 (or to the ambassador of Brazil in your country.)

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Brazilian Miners Slaughter Yanomami

On August 17, an entire village of Yanomami people were slaughtered by gold miners in the northern Brazilian Amazon. The killers used shotguns on the men and hacked the women and children to pieces with machetes, apparently to save shotgun shells.

Brazilian federal police began a search August 20th for the killers, and also for Joao Neto, a rancher who is thought to have financed them. The investigation, conducted by the government’s National Indian Foundation, indicates that about fifteen miners took part in the massacre, which occurred at the Homi-Itu village near the Venezuelan border.

After luring the villagers from two malocas (communal huts) to trade sugar and rice, the miners fired upon them with shotguns. Following the fusillade, they stormed the malocas, stabbing the huts. Although estimates total thirty to forty people killed, the exact number of victims is unknown: the Yanomami do not count their dead.

The Yanomamis, one of the last Stone Age people, are resisting a gold rush which began in the mid-eighties. By 1987, some 50,000 gold miners had invaded the Yanomami land, bringing virulent malaria and epidemic diseases.

Many of the miners were removed at the end of 1990, under federal court order to enforce the legal recognition, or demarca­tion, of the Yanomami territory. However, military miners, mining interests and the local political elite blocked the demarcation, arguing that recognition of the 9.2 million hectare area inhabited by the Yanomami represents a threat to Brazil’s national security. And so the miners continue their invasion.

Worst of all, many miners who survived the gunfire escaped into the forest and fled to a Found­ation outpost. The government, which used army helicopters in the search for the killers, said that in all likelihood they fled across a remote section of the border into Venezuela.

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The EFJ Oceans Task Force is seeing its ugly head once again to come to the aid of their brethren—the ancient sea turtles.

Sea turtles, symbol of the Earth’s creation in the mythology of cultures from North America to Asian Buddhists, are being pushed to the brink of extinction for you... guessed it... corporate greed, while uninformed US consumers satiate their appetites on these delectable crustaceans known as shrimp.

The Kemps’ Ridley, the most critically endangered sea turtle in the world, has been reduced to the last 400-700 adult females. The Kemps’ nests at only one beach in the world, in northeastern Mexico, and spends a significant part of its life in US waters along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts.

In April and May of 1993, Mexican shrimpers drowned at least eleven of the remaining Kemps’ females. This occurred illegally inside the nesting reserve, in full view of US and Mexican biologists. The Mexican marines who usually guard the beach had been removed by the government. Nothing was done about it. It is also occurred after the Mexican government issued proclamations stating that all of their Gulf shrimp boats would be using turtle excluder devices (TEDs).

TEDs are devices that allow turtles to escape from a trawler’s net through a trap door, and their use is critical to the survival of sea turtles in areas where shrimp trawling occurs.

The following problems have been identified by Mexican biologists and conservationists and have now come to the attention of the international environmental community:

1. Mexico keeps promising to put turtle excluder devices (TEDs) on all Mexican shrimp trawlers as required by US law. The deaths of thirteen Kemps’ Rildies prove that this is not being enforced. Without the use of TEDs, thousands of sea turtles will be drowned each year.
2. The unpunished raping of turtles in the wild by known tuna poachers is not only unforgivable, but has also created a climate of fear and intimidation for biologists doing frontline work.
3. The sale of two important nesting beaches despite promises to recognize these areas as protected turtle preserves.
4. The continued poaching and open sale of sea turtle products throughout the country.

If Mexico is not pressured to improve sea turtle conservation, the Kemps’ Ridley, and other critically endangered sea turtles will swim closer to the brink of extinction.

It took a grassroots activist movement to close the notorious sea turtle slaughterhouse in Mexico where 75,000 turtles were being killed every year.

The EFJ Oceans Task Force helped lead a coalition of grassroots activists which helped force Japan to stop importation of endangered Hawksbill sea turtle for jewelry. Now Mexico needs to be pressured again by a grassroots campaign. The EFJ Oceans Task Force plans on leading this campaign and we need your help!

What you can do:
1. Sponsor a demo at a sprawl near you—there are Mexican consulates in all the major cities—and more. We’ve got the list.
2. Start a petition or letter drive— we urgently need letters sent to the president of Mexico to help build their political pressure.
3. Get some of our stickers and go plaster the local consulate or Mexican travel agency.
4. Find out the fax number of the consulate near you. Get creative—pass it around to all your friends, and send it to us too! 5. Call us at 703-588-5666 for more info—or to suggest how you would like to become more involved.

See turtles forever!

(Ask Mark if he knows where to get these cool green sea turtle stickers—el.)

Samarskaya Luka Action Update

The summer has come to an end and we are back in our urban headquarters, remembering the steamy days on Mozogotov Mountain. The Samarskaya Luka action has completed its first phase and now we are strategizing for the upcoming phases. We want to thank you for your support and fill you in on the progress we have made.

The protest tent camp ended on August 12th with the announcement put out by the Oblast Administration to suspend the work of the Quarry company until an environmental assessment is completed. All documents were transferred to the Oblast Committee on Environmental Assessment, which has been ordered to complete the assessment of the restoration project of Mozogotov Mountain within one month.

The restoration project was initiated three years ago as the "environmental compensation" for the destruction being done by the Quarry company. The project was drawn up by the company itself in consultation with a few scientists. According to the National Park Scientific Director and other local experts, the restoration project is not the solution to the problem as the destruction has mainly been done on the southern side of the mountain where trees do not grow. Eradicating the blasting and mining gives the mountain much greater potential to heal itself. Regardless of the restoration and other efforts put on by the Quarry company to complete the project by 1997, it has done very little either to phase out the mining or to restore the mountain.

The international protest camp was a huge success in decreasing the number of explosions and intensity of mining from July 5 until the present. Fifty-two people participated in the camp itself.

The following problems have been identified by Samarskaya Luka Action and other local environmental groups and have now come to the attention of the international environmental community:

1. The system of the River Shebelle will be destroyed if a dam is built on the River Shebelle to provide electricity for the Samarskaya Oblast Administration.
2. The unpunished rape and torture of two women in the natural community.
3. The sale of two important nesting beaches despite promises to recognize these areas as protected turtle preserves.
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Hands Off From Water In Somalia!

Military plans for Somalia include building a dam on the River Shebelle to support crops with water and back in the next rainy season. The River Shebelle is not only a fragile ecosystem but also supports a very sensitive socio-economic system created by the Somalis to support their lives. The destruction of this ecosystem will lead to severe consequences. The River Shebelle has been destroyed to a certain extent during the former rule of Siad Barre and with the support of Western "development" aid. The systems of the River shebelle will be destroyed if these plans are not stopped immediately. The result will be long-term environmental destruction and a tremendous decline in the traditional, flood-based agriculture that still exists. Last, war between the clans will result from any change in the water regime.

This is a request from conservationists who have worked in Somalia for many years and who have the local and scientific knowledge to back up any effort to stop the plans of "river development" which will destroy the Shebelle Swamps (Somalia’s last wetland and a national park).

What we seek is the full support of experienced campaigners to start a major campaign “HANDS OFF FROM WATER IN SOMALIA” Please send messages and information immediately to E-mail: (National) FRG / OLN: WILDFIETE@OLN.ZER, (International): APC: WILDFNTE@oln.com link.apc.org.

Internet: WILDFNTE@unralscentral.de.
JIM BOB TO THE RESCUE

Don’t you hate when you come back from vacation to find you’ve left the water running? That’s how we felt. When we went to Austin from the Rendezvous, we learned that only six hours previously our City Council had approved a “development agreement” with our most despised developer, Jim Bob Moffett. Without our friends at the Sierra Club and other environmental groups, we were party to the agreement! Local media were applauding the “peace plan” without critical evaluation. There was nothing to do but engage in a little bondage ritual (familiar to all Earth Firsters) in the Mayor’s office.

ABOUT JIM BOB

For three years, Austin EFl and other local eco-activists have done battle with our equivalent of Charles Hurwitz, a New Orleans mining magnate by the name of Jim Bob Moffett. In the US, his company Freeport McMoRan has been recognized as the nation’s biggest single water polluter for discharges from their feniric leachate on the Mountain, and is notorious for its gold and copper mining in Irian Jaya, Indonesia, where he has converted a mountain into a hole of the same dimensions, dumping the tailings into a river local tribes use as their water source. Freeport is the biggest taxpayer to the brutal, genocidal regime of Indonesia’s General Suharto, who gained power in a coup the CIA called “one of the worst mass murders of the twentieth century.” In a letter to Rainforest Action Network, Jim Bob described Suharto as “a compassionate man.” Do birds of a feather flock together?

A WASTEWATER VICTORY

Here in Austin, Freeport bought four thousand acres on our sacred Barton Creek, and proposed a massive development called the Barton Creek Planned Unit Development (PUD). Back in June of 1990, a thousand Austinites showed up at a City Council meeting where Jim Bob had the votes sewn up to approve the PUD. Our rallying point was and remains Barton Springs, a huge spring-fed swimming hole in the middle of Austin, which gets much of its flow from the Barton Creek watershed. At six in the morning, after a hearing in which hundreds of folks spoke in opposition to the PUD and in favor of the endangered species, clean water and beautiful vistas of Barton Creek, the City Council unanimously rejected the PUD.

Not satisfied with a temporary victory, Austin environmentalists unified to pass a citizens initiative, the Save Our Springs (SOS) Ordinance, to strictly limit development in the watersheds that contribute to the flow of Barton Springs. Although the initiative was passed by a landslide two-thirds of the voters, the private development community worked in delirium to pass the SOS Ordinance, enabling hundreds of developers to throw together applications, thus “grandfathering” their developments from the SOS Ordinance. Jim Bob was one of those in the wire, submitting thirteen subdivisions in lieu of the defeated PUD. Those thirteen subdivisions have subsequently been approved by Austin’s Planning Commission, and have been used as a gun to our heads in the “good faith” negotiations of the Development Agreement.

NO MORE BLACKMAIL

It was clear to us what had happened. Sympathetic City Council members and mainstream environmentalists voted for the Deal with the Devil because they thought there was no other way to get the Sweetwater and Uplands. Supporters of the BCCP, afraid to ask for more than half a loaf, backed the deal, thinking that the half a loaf would be taken away if the County backed out of the BCCP. It was up to Earth First! to say, “No Deals With Jim Bob! No More Blackmail!” Since Mayor Todd was the architect of the whole Task Force/Development Agreement, and since the whole idea was to get the political albatross of the Road District off his neck, we decided to bring our wrath down on him.

On August 9, the day after the anniversary of the passage of the SOS ordinance, a good number of us occupied City Hall, bringing with us a variety of show-n-tell items with which to decorate the Council members’ work environments. With no resistance from the Mayor’s office, we spilled into his unlocked, private office and made ourselves comfortable. Three of us made ourselves comfortable in spite of the krYPtonite locks connecting us to the Mayor’s chair. Bongo drums and Danny’s guitar in the hallway made it certain that there was no more “business as usual” at City Hall while we waited for the Mayor to recant his evil ways.

To make a long story even longer, the Mayor has not recanted, and now Hank Erb, Tamar Rivers, Robert Singleton and Neal Tuttnip face charges of trespassing on City property. However, after the action, a groundswell of rank-and-file environmentalists broke ranks with the organizations that sold them out. Even the environmentalists who previously supported the deal have reconsidered since details of the agreement have come to light.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP:

Boycott gold. Jim Bob owns the largest gold mine in the world. What he has done to us in Austin doesn’t come close to what he has done to the land and peoples of Irian Jaya. Write your congresspeople and ask them to strengthen the ESA’s protection of endangered species on private lands and to abolish the Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs). To make a long story even longer, the Mayor has not recanted, and now Hank Erb, Tamar Rivers, Robert Singleton and Neal Tuttnip face charges of trespassing on City property. However, after the action, a groundswell of rank-and-file environmentalists broke ranks with the organizations that sold them out. Even the environmentalists who previously supported the deal have reconsidered since details of the agreement have come to light. We now know that the new “son of PUD” is much larger than its previous incarnation, and that a good deal of the bond money reserved for the purchase of the Sweetwater and Uplands may be diverted into Jim Bob’s pockets.

A new coalition of EFlers and refugees from the mainstream groups has formed to fight the deal, calling itself Citizens Opposed to the Development Agreement (CODA). As a couple of us noted over beers, “the wheels of this thing are bound to fall off—all we have to do is provide a bumpy road.”

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It was clear to us what had happened. Sympathetic City Council members and mainstream environmentalists voted for the Deal with the Devil because they thought there was no other way to get the Sweetwater and Uplands. Supporters of the BCCP, afraid to ask for more than half a loaf, backed the deal, thinking that the half a loaf would be taken away if the County backed out of the BCCP. It was up to Earth First! to say, “No Deals With Jim Bob! No More Blackmail!” Since Mayor Todd was the architect of the whole Task Force/Development Agreement, and since the whole idea was to get the political albatross of the Road District off his neck, we decided to bring our wrath down on him.

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To make a long story even longer, the Mayor has not recanted, and now Hank Erb, Tamar Rivers, Robert Singleton and Neal Tuttnip face charges of trespassing on City property. However, after the action, a groundswell of rank-and-file environmentalists broke ranks with the organizations that sold them out. Even the environmentalists who previously supported the deal have reconsidered since details of the agreement have come to light. We now know that the new “son of PUD” is much larger than its previous incarnation, and that a good deal of the bond money reserved for the purchase of the Sweetwater and Uplands may be diverted into Jim Bob’s pockets.

A new coalition of EFlers and refugees from the mainstream groups has formed to fight the deal, calling itself Citizens Opposed to the Development Agreement (CODA). As a couple of us noted over beers, “the wheels of this thing are bound to fall off—all we have to do is provide a bumpy road.”

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP:

Boycott gold. Jim Bob owns the largest gold mine in the world. What he has done to us in Austin doesn’t come close to what he has done to the land and peoples of Irian Jaya. Write your congresspeople and ask them to strengthen the ESA’s protection of endangered species on private lands and to abolish the HCP loophole. We’d love to hear from other activists who are facing HCPs in their community. And, of course, send all your money to Austin Earth First!
**Earth First! Trinkets & Snake Oil**

**T-Shirts**

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**Carmeggedon**
- Turquoise, all sizes $10
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**BOOKS & PRIMERS**

**Wilderness On The Rocks**
by Howie Wolke
Ned Ludd Books, 240 pages $15

**Earth First! Reader • out of print**
SALE • $12.00
Edited by John Davis
Gibbs Smith Publisher, 272 pages $15

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**The Earth First! Songbook**
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by Lone Wolf Circles, Llewellyn Publications,
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**Tabloids (FREE!)**

**Earth First! Primer,**
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**Rainforest Information Centre**

"Nightshades" A one-hour long documentary of the successful defense of the Nightshade Rainforest in Australia in 1979. One half music including Take Your Bulldozers Away, Tonka Toys, and other great Australian environmental songs. The rest of the tape is live action recording from the blockade... $10.

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Black Bear and Cougar Struggle to Survive

—ADVOCATES OF THE WILD

Black bear and cougar are under severe attack throughout the US by the timber and livestock industries and other special interest groups. Trophy hunters are often hired by these groups for purposes of "damage control." Hunting for black bear is allowed in 27 states. Twenty states permit the use of lethal control in response to "emergencies." As low-density predators, neither black bear nor cougar has evolved to withstand human-induced stress and mortality. Black bears are attacked by dogs almost every night, and many are killed by hunters in the fall, when they are normally preparing for hibernation by storing up fat. Dog packs often separate mother bear and cougar from their young cubs and kill them, resulting in their deaths by starvation or predation. Poaching of bear is at epidemic levels due to an expanding black market for body parts destined to become Asian medicinals. Bear gall bladders can sell for over $1000 apiece. A California Department of Fish and Game undercover poaching investigation contacted over 100 more detailed informants, of which several were involved in the illegal sale of bear parts. Poachers and hunters are indisguisingful to law enforcement officials. Poachers often use the legal hunting season to harvest illegally every animal they see. It is suspected that at least as many animals are poached as are legally hunted. The only way wildlife agencies could tackle the poaching problem would be to ban the legal hunt. Most state wildlife agencies lack any hard population data on bear and cougar, and use vague population estimates to sell their big game hunting critics. Considering global habitat loss and the fact that both black bear and numerous large cats are endangered worldwide, wildlife agencies should use every means in their power to preserve these beings. However, most state wildlife agencies have held on to predator hunts as a blatant subsidy to industries such as timber, where black bears are perceived to damage even age tree farms.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?
• Get as much information as you can from your state's wildlife management agency. Get the word out. Most urbans don't even know their state has bats and cougars, alone that they are being hunted. Write letters to the editors of your local papers.

Black Bear in Lake Tahoe.

and cougars throughout the U.S. Almost all of these hunters employ dogs which chase and tree the target animal. Bear and cougar scent can be used to drop and bear and cougars and send them on false trails. This can be accomplished by making a very dilute tea out of the animals' scat, which can be scraped up along logging roads (if the animals still remain). Some times scat can be obtained from animal rehabilitation groups or zoos. If you have any sort of pressurized spray equipment, the tea trail can be distributed without even leaving your vehicle, just like the houndsmen. Another tool for thwarting the houndsmen is the electronic jamming equipment. This equipment is used to track and locate the dogs after they have tried the target animal. One would have to research the specific frequency used by the houndsmen, before any use is attempted.

If these techniques were employed on a large scale over bear and cougar hunting hot spots, maybe hunter success would drop and bear and cougar could again run free without harassment.
Forget Mt. Graham and its ancient Engleman spruce. The most outrageous and heartfelt RRR campfire went down in a sweaty Tucson living room by a makeshift strobelight (red bandana and table lamp) and 25 raucous EF!s slam dancing 'til dawn. Eighty of us had taken over the office of U of A President Money Pacheco that day, demanding the University respect the rights of native peoples and endangered species.

We wanted the Emerald Peak scopes torn down. Instead, twenty-five of us were brutalized, arrested, and held for hours in the sweltering heat of the University stable grounds. So what did we do? Look over a bar, watched ourselves on the news, dragged a mattress into the cactus strewn backyard, had an ogg, got attacked by fire-ants, and slammed to AC/DC, Hank Williams and Irish jigs.

Somewhere in there we planned another action, so early the next morning we dragged our abused bodies back down to the University. This time though, we were areled to the teeth, EF! style, with axes, hammers, monastery wrenches, shovels, ropes, slingshots, a huge pitchfork, and an eight-foot cross-cut saw. The U of A cops watched in disbelief as Mothers Against the Scopes came right back to them chanting "We're back, we're pissed, and we're not going to talk!" They didn't even try to fuck with us this time. Instead they closed off the Administration Building and watched from behind glass doors as we headed off to the Vatican office in the Steward Observatory.

The papal posers didn't try to stop the crowd as it chanted, "The people united will be rounded up and shot," while whacking away at the building with axes and pitchforks.

The confrontations added a whole new dimension to the Mt. Graham debate as Tucsonites were treated to story after story of police brutality and graphic footage of peaceful protesters being dragged down stairs and having their eyes and noses gouged by Tucson's finest. The relationship between environmental destruction, genocide and the police-state was actually the subject of radio talk shows and cable news programs! Our ragged affinity group was swept into the freedom and empowerment of direct collective action. We were defending the Earth, we were wild, spontaneous. We wanted to dance and sing and fuck and tear down the state and learn how to be tribal and human all over again.

Still, we were exhausted. It was 105 degrees, the mon­soons were nowhere in sight, and police helicopter­ers were buzzing the house every night. Our bioregions were calling us. Time to de­scend on the University again. After a little "shop­ping" in the campus book­store, six of us headed back up to President Manny's office. His administrative as­sistant (ASS) tried to block us out of the elevator, but we barged through—only to find that the elevator no longer stopped at the Presidential Suite. Huh. ASS frantically clutched at the phone as we dashed out of the elevator, up the staircase and into Manny's office. Amidst the chaos of yelling, shuffling and locking of doors and files, the cops finally arrived—just in time to watch us waltz out of the frenetic office.

The next morning it was back to the Administrative Building one last time. We held a press conference on the steps to announce our "excessive force" lawsuit against the University and City police. Meanwhile it was not the cops but us who faced arraignment. Negotiations with the DA broke down when the University thugs requested the trial be delayed so they could trump up more charges against us. Not letting us in the courtroom, the judge entered not guilty pleas across the board and set re-trial for October 7. Now what is a bunch of tired activists supposed to do in downtown Tucson? The court was only two blocks from the Coronado National Forest Headquarters, so three and four at a time, we headed over to visit Forest Supervisor Jim Abbott. Abbott was none too happy to see 50 angry enviros drinking his coffee and perusing his bookshelf.

"Coronado National Forest Supervisor Jim Abbott was too happy to see 50 angry enviros drinking his coffee and perusing his bookshelf"

The Pope Sins on Mt. Graham

BY CARDINAL KNOWLEDGE

This was the message brought to a half-million lost Catholic youth who found their way to Denver the weekend of August 15th. Protest the highly immoral and hypocritical desecration of Mount Graham by the Vatican, activists from Arizona and Colorado Earth First! joined forces with the Animal Rights Mobilization to vocally oppose the Vatican's actions. World Youth Day 1993 began in downtown Denver with 30 thousand plus youths from around the world milling about to a background of evangelical rock and roll. EF treated them to a slide show projected on the wall of the Denver justice department, adjacent to the concert, which explained the Vatican's role in disrupting the home of the endangered Mount Graham Red Squirrel and the religious freedom of the San Carlos Apache people. Passers-by also were handed information about Father George Coyne's desire to "suppress" environmentalists and native Americans "with all the force we can muster."

The day before the opening of World Youth Day, the Pope had told indigenous people in Izamal, Mexico, that their rights have been disrespected, naming several indigenous groups, including the Apache, as examples, and added "the Church contemplates your authentic values with love and hope." What a crock of shit, especially in light of the fact that the Vatican is planning to further its commitment to cultural genocide on Mount Graham by joining as a partner in the planned third, and ecologically most destructive, telescope, the so-called Columbus Project (now the "Large Binocular Telescope" — ed.).

The last two days of the four-day extravaganza saw a mock pilgrimage of youth to Cherry Creek State Park, and a huge papal Mass in the park. On both days, the faithful were showered with confetti inscribed with such messages as "Respect the Earth, Stop Vandalizing Nature," and "Vatican off Mt. Graham...." a small but annoying contribution to the hundreds of tons of McIlwraith bags and other trash left in the park by papal pilgrims.

Incidentally, over 3000 prairie dogs were clandestinely poisoned by park workers before the Pope's visit to ease the efforts of maintenance people to blade and scrape a former prairie into a level field for the events.

The final to the weekend's events came as the followers started to leave, and the no-fly rule was lifted from the park. A plane trailing a huge banner reading "The Pope Sins on Mount Graham — Earth First!" circled the captive audience trying to leave the park.

Page 24 Earth First! Malon 1993
University of Arizona Plan to Destroy Traditional Apache Culture Exposed

A Superior Court judge has ordered U of A to release a report censored on the grounds that it "would be detrimental to the interests of the State." The Bozoo Allen report was indeed detrimental: it detailed national Native American resistance to the Mt. Graham Observatory project and outlined a plan to further destroy traditional Apache culture and religion. The report was released in response to a suit brought by the Maricopa Audubon Society. The University apparently planned to take what it could get and bully or buy off the Forest Service later. No deal, assholes. Reinitiation of ESA consultation will seriously endanger the entire project and make fools of the U of A, who spent over $3 million dollars lobbying Congress to have the project exempted.

University of Michigan Bails Out of Mt. Graham Observatory Project

Robert Tippeconnic recently admitted, however, that he knew from the earliest planning stages that many traditional Apaches considered Mount Graham to be sacred, but would be reluctant to suppress their feelings to non-Indians. According to Tippeconnic, the Forest Service "made no effort to solicit the views of San Carlos Apaches, beyond asking a letter to the tribal council to announce the proposed development." Shortly after signing the Decision Notice authorizing the Mt. Graham telescope project, Tippeconnic was promoted to Washington, DC, as the head of the Forest Service's Tribal Government Program.

University of Michigan Meets Opposition to Partnership in Mt. Graham Project

The U of A's boondoggle Mt. Graham Interna­tional Observatory project changes partners almost as quickly as it changes public relation ploys. The Smithsonian Institution and Ohio State University dropped out when U of A's moral and ecological bankruptcy became evident. Well-timed, surprise demonstrations helped convince the University of Toronto early on that it didn't even want get in­volved in this mess. Now the U of A is trying to rope in Michigan State University.

The mouthpiece this time is MSU Associate professor Timothy Beers, whose ignorance stretches the bounds of imagination. According to Beers, "(it) is very difficult to think of a less intrusive presence on land than an astronomical station." Think hard Tim, we know you can do it. Interim president, Gordon Guy, has admitted, however, that MSU is concerned about the "controversy over the project among the Native American community."

As it continues negotiations with U of A, MSU has found a formidable opponent in the MSU Mount Graham Coalition, which has pledged "to use any means necessary," to keep the University out. The Coalition has thus far waged a successful educa­tional campaign. If you've helped to ward off other partners or want to get involved, give them a call: MSU Mount Graham Coalition/127 Whittierlills/East Lansing, MI 48823/(517) 351-4490.

Tatarawa@MSU.EDU. You may also want to call Timothy Beers (517) 353-4541; Natural Science School Dean Frank Hoppenstedt (517) 353-4473; or the Astronomy Department (517) 353-9665.

University of Arizona Mt. Graham Notes...

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USFWS Requests ESA Consultation on Plan to Move Mt. Graham Telescopes

After US Fish and Wildlife Service biologists revealed that they had been forced to conclude that the Mt. Graham International Observatory project would not endanger the Mt. Graham red squirrel, the U of A, with help from Manny Lujan, convinced Congress to exclude the construction of telescopes "on Emerald Peak" from the Endangered Species Act and the National Forest Management Act. The University now claims the original site was chosen on the basis of a measurement "error." It wants to build its largest scope on Owl Peak, some half mile away, further fragmenting the mountain's forest.

Fish and Wildlife, however, has rejected the University's claims that Emerald Peak encompasses Owl Peak as well, and is therefore also exempt from the ESA. They have asked the Forest Service to enter into Endangered Species Act consultation if the Service decides to approve the University's move request.

A report liberated from the U of A's Steward Observatory during last year's Earth Day occupation has revealed that the U of A knew all along that Emerald Peak was a poor observatory site. The University apparently planned to take what it could get and bully or buy off the Forest Service later. No deal, assholes. Reinitiation of ESA consultation will seriously endanger the entire project and make fools of the U of A, who spent over $3 million dollars lobbying Congress to have the project exempted.

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Explaining that the University's callous approach has not worked, the censored report urged the University to "create a positive atmosphere with the San Carlos Apache Tribe," in order to "successfully manage," the Mt. Graham issue. It also called for a "new public relations strategy," centered around "new Indian programs to enhance U of A's reputa­tion." The University's Office of Indian Programs has since created a "model program" with the San Carlos Apache Tribe, thus far dumping at least $45,000 into the new propaganda/buyoff effort.

U of A was penalized $5,000 for censoring the report, which cost the public more than $40,000 to prepare.

Vatican Looking for Aliens—Forest Service Can't Find Native Americans

According to Vatican Observatory Director George Coyne, S.J., "(the Roman Catholic Church is to team up with America's space agency to look for life in outer space and so spread the gospel to extraterrestrial.) NASA has officially denied that such a coalition exists. To find these heathen aliens, the Vatican wants to desecrate Mt. Graham, a sacred Apache site, and push the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel off the earth entirely. Coyne has described tradi­tional Apache beliefs as "a kind of religiosity to which I cannot subscribe and which must be suppressed with all the force that we can muster." He declined to comment on the religiosity of Red Squirrels.

The Forest Service, meanwhile, has trouble finding Native American cultures right here on this planet. They have repeatedly claimed there is no evidence the San Carlos Apache used Mt. Graham as a sacred site. Former Coronado National Forest Supervisor Robert Tippeconnic recently admitted, however, that he knew from the earliest planning stages that many traditional Apaches considered Mount Graham to be sacred, but would be reluctant to describe their feelings to non-Indians. According to Tippeconnic, the Forest Service "made no effort to solicit the views of San Carlos Apaches, beyond writing a letter to the tribal council to announce the proposed development."

Shortly after signing the Decision Notice authorizing the Mt. Graham telescope project, Tippeconnic was promoted to Washington, DC, as the head of the Forest Service's Tribal Government Program.
Bet you hadn't heard that President Clinton has called a "Prairie Dog Ecosystem Summit" in an attempt to avoid further decline of the besieged ecosystem and its keystone species, prairie dogs (Cynomys sp.) and Black-footed Ferrets (Mustela nigripes). There's a good reason you haven't, and won't any time soon. Although at least as threatened as the Pacific North-west old growth forest ecosystem, prairie dog ecosystems have yet to receive the public notice they deserve. To date, only the farmers, ranchers, oil and gas developers, ORV users and prairie dog hunters have paid Prairie dog colonies and the grasslands they occupy little mind, and with drab results. It is generally thought that the prairie dog ecosystem has been reduced to less than 5% of its historic extent, and only a fraction of that remainder presently receives full protection from farmers, ranchers, and the rest. Another indication of the plight of this ecosystem is the status of the species most often associated with prairie dogs—the Black-footed ferret. Ferrets are prairie dog obligates, depending on them for both food and shelter. The Black-footed Ferret is often referred to as the most endangered mammal of North America, having barely escaped extinction when a mere eighteen individuals were placed in a captive breeding program in 1986. In the fall of 1991, ferrets were reintroduced into the Shirley Basin of west-central Wyoming, creating the only known population of ferrets in the wild. Unfortunately, but to no one's great surprise, the wrangling of the ranching industry prompted the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to designate the Shirley Basin population as "experimental, nonessential." This designation allows "greater management flexibility" in dealing with a reintroduced species, which in this case includes the continuation of prairie dog control in the area. USFWS, with help from other federal and state agencies, has identified five or six other potential reintroduction sites (in WY, MT, SD, AZ, CO, and UT). Until recently, plans were set for reintroducing ferrets onto public lands in northcentral Montana and the Corsona Basin/Badlands of southwestern South Dakota. Plans for each of these reintroduction sites include designating the ferret populations "experimental, nonessential." This is particularly frustrating because the ferrets would be returned to public lands. Defusing political opposition on private lands in order to secure a cooperative management plan for the species is one thing, but it is both illegal and unacceptable to propose a recovery plan on public lands that allows for excessive "incidental take," removes protective measures, and undermines the long-term recovery prospects for the ferrets.

Predator Project and the Biodiversity Legal Foundation are adamantly opposed to these proposals. From the outset, our contention has been that for both prairie dog, social and moral reasons, the "experimental, nonessential" designation is entirely inappropriate. Instead, at the very least, USFWS should designate either the Montana or South Dakota population "essential." Sound biological reasoning demands full protection for both reintroduced populations.

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**Black- Footed Ferret (Mustela Nigripes)**

By Kathy Boyan, High Country News

population of less than 300, every ferret is essential to the continued existence of the species.

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**Biological & Social Importance of Wild Populations**

The USFWS should also consider the importance of establishing and maintaining protected wild populations of ferrets. The proposal to create the northcentral Montana population states, "[continued captivity increases the risk of losing important wild survival instinct and reduces the likelihood of successful reintroduction and recovery of the species." This highlights the need to place ferrets in the wild and provide them with the greatest protection available.

The Montana proposal also states that "[a]l additional wild populations become established, the captive population will diminish in relative importance and the wild populations will increase in relative importance in the overall species recovery effort." The decision to designate the Wyoming population "nonessential" may become a precedent the USFWS may be afraid to reverse. If so, a critical, historical precedent is about to be established whereby a species, once declared extinct in the wild and being "recovered" in captive breeding facilities, might never receive full protection of the ESA when reintroduced to the wild. What are the chances the USFWS will up-list one or more ferret populations once they've been declared "nonessential?" It would be better and cheaper for the USFWS and the involved state(s) to pursue ferret recovery by using individuals from other wild populations than it would be to continue to depend upon the more expensive captive breeding program (which has already cost millions of dollars). We may want to retain the captive breeding program to bolster wild populations, but not as the essential population.

Finally, ferret reintroduction in both Montana and South Dakota has been cancelled for fall, 1993, because the captive breeding program did not result in a sufficient number of ferrets. Only the existing Wyoming population will receive ferrets this fall. Though a formal evaluation has not been completed, up to four different factors may interfere with captive breeding: pseudo-pregnancy, cannabilism, dietary problems and ineffective late breeding. This is a significant setback, which highlights the need to get Black-footed Ferrets back to the wild while providing them with full protection under the ESA.

**Ecosystem Protection**

Persistence of the same human impacts which helped cause the initial demise of the ferret, high risk of catastrophic events such as canine distemper (a disease to which ferrets are susceptible) and sylvatic plague (in prairie dogs), and a genuine lack of quality ferret habitat stand as the prominent reasons this species should be granted full protection under the ESA—designated as the "endangered species" they are. Full protection could provide critical habitat for the recovery and long-term survival of ferrets. However, the ESA was developed not only to protect and recover threatened and endangered species in the wild, but also to "provide a margin whereby the ecosystems upon which endangered species and threatened species depend may be conserved."

Based on six studies since 1958, a total of 163 vertebrate species have been sighted on Black-tailed Prairie Dog colonies across their present range. Potential habitat for founded species—the Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Piping Plover and Black-footed Ferret—exists within the ferret reintroduction site in Montana. The area also contains habitat for the following candidate species: Ferruginous Hawk, Mountain Plover, Long-billed Curlew, Baird's Sparrow, Black Tern, Loggerhead Shrike, Swift Fox and Preble's Shrew. US Fish and Wildlife's proposals to designate the reintroduced ferret populations in Montana and South Dakota as "experimental, nonessential" demonstrate a reduced commitment to native prairie dog and grassland ecosystem protection and restoration, and particularly to programs for the conservation of listed and candidate species that now exist within these ecosystems. Certainly, this ecosystem is critical to far more than the ferret, and the ferret—as a keystone species—should be given full protection as a means of conserving the long-term viability of what little remains of the prairie dog ecosystem.

**What You Can Do:**

- Write Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt (Dept. of Interior, 18th & C Sts., Washington, DC 20240) to remind him of the intent of the ESA and his pledge to protect ecosystems, and to ask that he see to it that the Black-footed ferret populations be granted full protection.
- Contact Predator Project (POB 6733, Bozeman, MT 59771 (406)587-3389) for additional information on Black-footed Ferret reintroduction.
- Support Predator Project and the Biodiversity Legal Foundation (POB 15227, Bozeman, MT 59718 (406)587-3389) in their efforts to protect prairie dog ecosystems.
The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is now preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the proposed reintroduction of the Mexican Gray Wolf to New Mexico and Arizona. The proposal is the long awaited response to a successful lawsuit brought against USFWS and the Department of Defense by New Mexico EF alf activists as the Wolf Action Group (WAG). The suit was originally opposed by the more established (read: conservative) Wolf Coalition which has since taken credit for it. The reintroduction proposal has a number of serious flaws that need national attention and pressure (that means you).

USFWS has identified five possible sites for Lobo reintroduction, including the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico and the Blue Range Primitive Area, the Chiricahua, Galluro/Finalito, and Patagonia/Atascosa mountain ranges in southeastern Arizona. A preliminary analysis by the Arizona Game and Fish Department, which has pushed for reintroduction in Arizona, showed the Blue Range to be the best prospective site in Arizona, as it is the most remote, has the least grazing pressure, most contiguous habitat, and the best connection to other large natural areas in the Southwest—especially the Gila Wilderness and the Mogollon Plateau.

An independent biological analysis of White Sands Missile Range found it to be a suitable site as well.

However, the USFWS says any reintroduced population "would be designated experimental in accordance with Section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act, and would not be considered essential to the continued existence of the species." (The Predator Project articles on this and the facing page discuss problems with this designation in some detail.) With only 77 wolves making up the entire captive breeding population, none can be considered nonessential.

The recent, verified sighting of wild Mexican wolves with pups near Patagonia, Arizona by two Forest Service biologists underlines one of the concerns predator advocates have raised with the "experimental, nonessential" designation—that it unnecessarily and illegally reduces protection for wild wolves in reintroduction areas.

The plan is also deficient in that it arbitrarily limits reintroduction to one site. Several reintroduction sites of fully protected wolves are necessary to establish well distributed viable wolf populations in the Southwest. Lobo still has a long way to recovery

Though public attitudes about wolves in the Southwest have changed a lot, anti-wolf forces are still potent and vindictive, and the USFWS is still mostly asking the wrong questions, to wit:

1. Will reintroduced wolves prey on domestic livestock? (Cows are easy meat.)
2. What will be the economic effects? (What about the ecological effects?)
3. How would the reintroduction affect other species and the balance of nature? (No wolves, no balance.)
4. Is the captive population of Mexican wolves genetically viable? (Recover 'em, then study 'em.)

Wolf Recovery in the Northern Rockies
Support Letters Needed by October 15!

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is out, and as we predicted, the recommended Alternative is to reintroduce the Gray Wolf to Yellowstone National Park and Central Idaho as an "experimental, nonessential" population, a designation which would "Reintroduction of Nonexperimental Wolves."

The information above is defensible. The following points need to be emphasized in comments on the proposal:

- All wolves reintroduced into either region should retain full protection under the ESA. The best approach is outlined in Alternative 5 of the DEIS, "Reintroduction of Nonexperimental Wolves."
- USFWS must immediately commence a significant, thorough wolf monitoring and detection program in both Yellowstone and Central Idaho.
- Critical habitat must be designated for both regions. Federal and state agencies should protect all critically designated and potential wolf habitat in the two regions, addressing issues affecting wolves and their habitat, including road densities, livestock grazing, and hunting.
- No wolf control should be allowed. If the American people insist on continuing to subsidize the cattle and sheep industry by compensating ranchers for depredation losses, so be it. But the loss of wolves to "hunting removal" and "management translocations" (killing and kidnapping) must not continue in Northern Montana.
- Wolf advocates must respond in unprecedented numbers! Please alert your friends, family and activities to the need to respond. "Use Wise People" will be people responding in droves, as they have during all of the past comment periods. The wolf cannot afford to be outnumbered this time.

Your comments must be received by October 15.

Send them to:

Yellowstone Wolf EIS
Deadline: October 15

Helena, MT 59601

November 15

Washington, DC 20240

Copies to:

Bruce Babitch
Secretary of the Interior
MS 6218
1849 "C" Street NW
Washington, DC 20036

5. How will wolf reintroduction affect other wildlife management programs, especially hunting? (How does hunting harm the Lobo?)

6. How will it affect other land uses, such as grazing, mining, logging, off-road vehicle use, hiking, and back-country camping? (How do they harm the Lobo?)

7. Are there better ways to achieve the recovery objective for Mexican wolves? (Is there any way to restore the Lobo more quickly and completely?)

8. Is Mexican wolf recovery philosophically and ethically correct? (You have to ask?)

Wolf advocates need to mobilize for the Lobo by writing USFWS with scoping comments. The Mexican Wolf Recovery Coordinator U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service P.O. Box 1306 Albuquerque, NM 87103

Dr. John Vucetich, PhD

Wyoming's first wolf must be re-introduced to the state now. It is the only way to save the species, and it is the only way to save the future of the state. The time to act is now. We cannot wait any longer. The wolves are coming, and we need to have them back in our state now.

The reintroduction of wolves to Wyoming is a vital step towards the recovery of this species. It is also a crucial step towards the protection of the state's ecosystems. The reintroduction of wolves will help to control the overpopulation of predators in the state, which will benefit the overall health of the ecosystem.

The state of Wyoming has been working towards the reintroduction of wolves for several years. However, the process has been slow and difficult, due to the resistance of some individuals and groups. It is time for the state to take decisive action and ensure that the reintroduction of wolves is successful.

Wyoming is not alone in its efforts to reintroduce wolves. Many other states and countries have successfully reintroduced wolves, and the results have been positive. The reintroduction of wolves has helped to bring balance back to ecosystems, and has led to an increase in the overall health of the environment.

We urge the state of Wyoming to take the necessary steps to reintroduce wolves to the state now. This is a crucial step towards the recovery of the species, and it is a step towards the protection of the state's ecosystems. We cannot afford to wait any longer, and we urge the state to act now.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Contact Information]
Such a group, sincere in intent and having made numerous sacrifices in the course of their work for the Earth, had a demonstration in F. Bragg, CA. They formed a circle in the middle of town and, beating on drums and singing, they began to create and act out a ritual on behalf of the Spotted Owl threatened by rampant logging. The energy was building, each person finding their voice and power to contribute, nearing that point where self-conscious ritual shifted into real magic. At that moment a handful of Native Americans showed up carrying signs and chanting "Shame! Shame!" The circle broke off to talk with them, while the rest completed the ritual without raising the level of energy they'd hoped.

After having had their homelands appropriated and sold, the extinction of Native American rituals and symbols is seen as the final gift: cultural genocide. The one thing left to beaten and dispossessed peoples is their unique cosmology, the songs and rituals through which a culture knows and defines itself. The new Indian traditionalists growing with their ancestors, old to museums, their implements bastardized as rubber tomahawks and pueblo ashtrays, their people stereotyped by western movies. They have struggled to excieve the materialist ways of the invader culture and to learn from their own lands. They are other Native Americans charging for lessons in their spiritual ways. They find Euro-Americans marketing "Lakota" Inipi ceremonies (sweats), and making money writing books about Indians.

It is a false, how-ever, that exists between pro- testing the Native ...
Armed With Visions

Clear as cut glass
& just as dangerous

TRIBAL RELATIONS

In this age of mindless video games
meaningless air strikes
and ever faceless victims
in the name of coagulated dinosaur bones
of everyone plugging into their
impersonal computers
fast lane faxes
and conference room power plays
as the forests come crashing down
in Europe’s wake
another species drags itself wearily
to the brink of extinction
and ozone depletion burns my shoulders red
every spring in reminder
of local crises spreading globally—
Now I seek my tribe on the Mountain
as I too feel dragged and bruised
and weary
after nearly a decade of fighting back
a decade with all my relations
who gather at the Rendezvous—
there sweeps the Mexican Spotted Owl
nights past working in the moonlight,
swooping from tree to tree
under the cover of darkness
protecting the ancient ones
whose branches enfold us
and there walks the Great Bear,
snuffling boisterously still,
small eyes gleaming in memory
of many woodland rambles,
in testimony of the banners and road blockades
that may not have stopped
the historic sales
but amped the clamor
of an unknown issue
until now so many are holding off
the crashes
And there glides Stellar’s Jay
calling with her art and daring
on every terror
that crosses her flight—
defying the entrenched powers
imitating and harassing the hawk
stealing the scraps
essential to our survival
Here flutters Spotted Bat,
inconspicuous and humble
from thinking in shady caves
but leaving behind a trail of research
boosting species after species
up the bureaucratic ladder
to protection of helping hands
There howls Coyote,
often confused in trickster meanderings
yet relentlessly leading pack spirit
away from inward snarling
to full moon power
dancing on the cliff edge
taunting pursuers
Cougar leaps and pounces
from one group to another
bringing together the scattered
with individual energy
dazzling all with visions
leading the hunt

Restlessly flies Murrelet,
anxious eyes at the sight
of dwindling home
but ever present organizing
holding diversity in unity with her wings
sheltering the tribe
with determined wingbeats
tired after so long a flight
Armadillo emerges bright and playful
from venturing into last enclaves
of nature in suburbia
where only developers have dared to tread
saving the homes of isolated friends
with her scaly-backed ancient resistance
Red Racer Snake glides from one of us
to another
adding individual scales
to her lengthening tale
to be passed down
to the seven generations
so our work may go on
Mosquito buzzes in the faces
of corporate and wise use thugs
raising irritating and conspicuous welts
on exposed flesh of the F.B.I.
not letting any wrong rest
whirring about our own heads
keeping us awake
These are my tribe
many interconnected waves
reaching deep into green-blue Life
foaming at the surface
lapping and splashing against hard obstacles
wearing down the concrete pillars
submerged in our ceaseless frothing
battering against the societal edifice.
I am wheeling above
watching the turbulence
that surges around me
immerses me when I land—
one of the Sandhill Cranes,
facilitating the endless meetings
scanning the horizon for storms
watching our response
at home at many different feeding grounds
a nesting site there
a rest from migration here
connecting with the far flung members
of our band
checking conditions
rejoicing again at the sight of the glistening marsh
the smells and sounds of the desert river
among the cottonwoods
what we fight for
writing in crane tracks on the sand
not stories, not songs
but feelings joining us
We all fit together,
nuances in one ocean current
reaching deep
linking minds, hearts, bodies
as we flow.

Sandhill Crane
Reflections on the 1993 RRR
SAPPHIRE SIX SACRIFICED BY OREGON SUPREME COURT

BY KELPIE WILSON

SLAPP! We filed out of the Gold Beach, Oregon, courthouse, having just been told by the judge that we were a threat to democracy and should move to a communist country if we didn’t like it here, when we were approached by a large, pink-skinned man sweating in the August heat, waving papers at us. He looked like a meat eater. “Are you Kelpie Wilson?” he asked. “Last time I checked,” said I, and was handed a thick wad of paper.

And so the Sapphire Six learned that we were being accused of “tortious interference with logging,” an old suit that we had never heard of before, but that turned out to own the logging yarder we had done a bit of work on a few weeks earlier. The judge in Gold Beach had just convicted us of “criminal mischief,” a misdemeanor defined as “injuring the property of another,” for chaining ourselves to the yarder and hanging a banner.

That was back in 1987. Trying to stop the logging of the Sapphire Six, in the North Kalmiopsis roadless area of the Siskiyou National Forest, we arrested that yarder for crimes against trees. Gortsema media and stopped by a very polite man for a day, dutifully went to jail and thought that would be it. Little did we know that the weight of the entire Northwest timber industry establishment had just slammed down upon us. We were to be “made an example of.”

The timber industry sliced their true lawyer on us. Mark Rutzick, who has done all the Spotted Owl cases, but he’s been winning against us. Heck, with his poor record on the Spotted Owl, maybe we’ve been the savior of his career. We asked the Oregon Supreme Court to overturn that decision and it’s impossible to tell what is going to happen with it. The sad reality is that the justice system is completely overwhelmed, and there is a good chance that my motion will join the vast numbers which are rejected without ever really being read. Even the quick wins will not work off the court’s calendar. I should know something by the end of this year at the latest. Since virtually everything has been reduced to a free speech case, I can’t say I’m optimistic. But you gotta keep trying.

Prison isn’t glamorous and it isn’t fun. I’m hanging on, keeping myself busy, trying to maintain the respect that is so important to me. I can’t say I’m optimistic. But you gotta keep trying.

Greetings to my sister and brother enviable, and others,

I want to thank all of you who sent backs in response to my pathetic plea last time I wrote. Enough came in to send a little to my ex-wife for my kids, and placate the lawyers, sort of. I’ll be OK for a while unless something happens which I cannot control, in which case things will get desperate again real quick. Attorneys are just amazing. Even when they are working for expenses only, as mine are, the money vanishes astonishingly.

My legal situation is mighty complicated, but I’ll try to give a simplified version in the interests of brevity. I have been dentied parole and am appealing that decision in court. The Parole Commission has to have a reason to hold an old-law (pre-November ’87) prisoner beyond the time called for in their guidelines. My guidelines call for a maximum of 18 months in the slammer. I have served 26 of this printing of EPJ. There is a long and convoluted history. I won’t go into, but the upshot is that the Commission has justified its action by claiming that I was arrested while trying to sabotage a nuclear power plant and caused multiple deaths. The fact that the FBI arrested me cutting down a power line going to a water pump that had no connection with anything nuclear at all didn’t impress them a bit. At least they hadn’t been exposed to this system; it all sounds too strange to be true. It’s sort of like Alice in Wonderland with all the parts played by the Red Queen.

Anyway, I have a motion filed to overturn that decision and it’s impossible to tell what is going to happen with it. The sad reality is that the justice system is completely overwhelmed, and there is a good chance that my motion will join the vast numbers which are rejected without ever really being read. Even the quick wins will not work off the court’s calendar. I should know something by the end of this year at the latest. Since virtually everything has been reduced to a free speech case, I can’t say I’m optimistic. But you gotta keep trying.

Prison isn’t glamorous and it isn’t fun. I’m hanging on, keeping myself busy, trying to maintain the respect that is so important to me. I can’t say I’m optimistic. But you gotta keep trying.

So I send my respect to all of you out there on the Coupe/Mallard, the North Coast, all the places the battle is being fought. I hope you have enough spirit and appreciation and gratitude and love, the ones I know and the ones I don’t. I thank you for fighting for Life, and when I get out I’ll try and make some minor contribution myself.

In her service, Mark Davis

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DEAR NED LUDD

DEAR NED LUDD is a regular feature in the Earth First! Journal for discussion of creative means of effective defense against the forces of industrial totalitarianism. Neither the Earth First! movement nor the Earth First! Journal necessarily encourages anyone to do any of the things discussed in DEAR NED LUDD.

Dear Ned,

Late one night, on a recon errand for a possible lockdown, I learned a valuable lesson which I'd like to share with your readers. While on a logging road, in Any National Forest, I heard voices from around the bend. My friend and I discussed leaving the area but the voices were getting closer fast, so we opted for ditching to the side of the road. We stayed close to the road and listened for voices after a while but sounded like the voices brayed off. We decided to head "home" using the road for the first leg. My friend was in front of me, away on the road, when we heard footsteps coming toward us. My friend crouched frozen on the side of the road. Within seconds I saw what motivated him to freeze: two freddies dressed in black, without flashlights, walking in step, were coming down the middle of the road in our direction. They were totally silent, making me believe they wanted to surprise unsuspecting "criminals" like ourselves. We stood there on the side of the road, acutely aware of the sound of our heartbeats and breathing.

As the guards walked in front of us, my friend was close enough to reach out and grab one of them. We were flooded with relief when they were out of sight and we realized that they never saw us. The lesson I learned was sometimes the best thing to do is to fight the "fight or flight" instinct. The other thing I learned is that much like the long-extinct Tyrannosaurus Rex, Freddies, even the camo-type paramilitary ones, won't see ya if ya don't move.

"Rosa"

Support continues to pour in and I am continually amazed at the love and help I am receiving. I don't know how to but I want to thank everyone who has been of help with tangible (money and goods) and intangible (emotional and psychological) support. Blessings on you all! I couldn't go to the RRR but got to be welcomed home with a group hug and howl by friends old and new who stopped into Tucson to see me. I am truly blessed! I really feel like I made it back alive.

Thanks for everything, I love you all. Keep fighting with love and remember you can take the wild out of the women ...

Blessed be with Love and Light, Peg

A Letter from Peg Millett

Howdy folks,

Here's a little update on the status of yer felonious friend. I've made the transition from "immate" to three months as a "resident" at a halfway house to "parolee" with a longer leash and only six months to go before I'm free at last! So right now I'm just celebrating my "I'm an ex-con" status.

While in the halfway house I put together a little gift for my friends Jack and Feltie, who faithfully write the Nuclear Resister and who have been totally supportive of all of us, especially the prisoners. It was successful and it felt totally wonderful to be singing again to folks who want to hear my message. I want to do some singing around, possibly a roadshow or two so anyone out there who'd like to host me for a roadshow, let me know. The feds did me the service of building and painting me a soapbox and I feel obliged to stand on it. I'm up for also doing benefits if you can pay my expenses.

Dear Ned Ludd:

Pulling out survey stakes after a seismic crew has been through will not hinder future work, as the locations are recorded using Global Positioning Systems nowadays. Pulling out a few pegs is a minor hassle, as they get knocked over by non-humans anyway. A better tactic would be to swap pegs around or change the numbers at frequent intervals. This will not be noticed until the crew is working. The resulting confusion can be costly to the seismic contractor.

Yours Truly,

An Ex-Seismic Worker

WMX Technologies is offering executive speakers to Earth First! groups nationwide. How much would you expect to pay for an executive from the company which is bringing waste incinerators to towns all over the country? $100,000? $200,000? NOO! If you order today you receive a WMX technologies executive delivered to your door ABSOLUTELY FREE!! So to insure a WMX executive at your next action, rendezvous, or barn raising, call today.

In case you are unsure as to why you should order an executive, here are just a few excellent reasons.

They own Wheelabrator Technologies Inc.—makers of trash-to-energy plants. Their Wheelabrator waste-to-dioxin energy plants are being forced into towns all across the country. They own Chem-Nuclear systems, which deals in waste processing, radiological controls and, you guessed it, nuclear transportation. They own all sorts of waste-to-profit enterprises and are getting rich off environmental devastation.

WMX is offering speakers and they are offering them for free. I would like to suggest that you do your part to disrupt WMX business and order your very own executive speaker. Do what you will with them, but make sure your executive takes home the message that waste-to-dollars plants are bunk. Call Christine Combs (she will accept person-to-person collect calls) at WMX Technologies Speakers Bureau, (708) 572-3074. Or write Christine Combs, Speakers Bureau Manager, WMX Technology and Services, Inc., 3003 Butterfield Rd., Oak Brook, IL 60521.
Dear Earth First Journal:

In every issue of EF! Journal there are several outstanding articles and calls for effective action or support. One of the best was featured in the latest issue: "Overpopulation and Bumpersticker Politics" by George Wuerther. The author discusses the importance of our actions and the need for collective effort in addressing overpopulation.

-John Sammon Bloomington, IN

Dear Readers,

Back at the height of their activism the IWW had a slogan to remind other workers not to forget jelled Wobbles. We're in here for the same reason. If the radical ecology movement is to remain as a visionary force for change — in fact if it is to remain at all — we'd better continue our work until the end. This will be a difficult task and not for the faint of heart.

-Johnny Walker

Encroachment of the fish developers on the kids in their own communities:

Obviously an enormous amount of work would be required by dozens of people, but we could certainly reach it. If we can successfully pull off an EF! summer camp by, say, the summer of '95, just think! We could change the world by the time for the camp? (It would be great to have some money, but a small amount of money would be enough.)

-Johnny Walker

Dear Whatever Your Name Is,

I wish to express my gratitude for the realization that there is an organization that is working for Earth First! Well, it seems, there's a group using their talents and resources to support the cause. I hope that they continue their work and that their efforts lead to a brighter future.

-Johnny Walker

Dear Editor,

I read with interest your recent article on the impact of overpopulation on our environment. As a concerned citizen, I would like to add my voice to the call for action. Overpopulation is a serious problem that requires our immediate attention.

-Johnny Walker

Letters-to-the-Editor, Earth First! Journal:

The U.S. Forest Service regularly violates or ignores Congress' laws. James Abbott, Coronado Forest Supervisor, was summoned into Senator McCain's office on May 18, 1989 for what McCain's aide described in the General Accounting Office documentation as an "ass-chewing." It was a 60 minute tirade by McCain (with DeConcini and Rep. Kolbe present) to speed up the telescope project. Within 72 hours Abbott was disregarding all laws protecting forest habitats and endangered species. The ultimate anti-environmental position: CongressMt. Graham will never be. (Imperial Valley) authors lead the fight against the mountain. The mountain was captured wild horses had been and will always be worth the freedom you gave up.

-Johnny Walker

Dear Earth First Follower,

I wish to express my gratitude for the efforts you put out for the Earth First newsletter, and for all the environmental activism you contribute to the concerns of our Mother Earth.

-Johnny Walker

Dear Whatever Your Name Is,

I am an impassioned activist in the State of New Mexico. I'm only two years old and already I'm fighting for the future. I've seen the way our government is treating our environment, I've seen the way our society is treating our people. I've seen the way our leaders are treating our world. I've seen the way our people are treating each other. I've seen the way our people are treating the Earth. The Earth is our home, and we need to protect it for ourselves and for the generations to come.

-Johnny Walker

Critics Say NAFTA Will Hurt Jobs and the Environment

They say Mexico has low wages...

-Johnny Walker

Hey, look, more letters...
Dear ABC News,

This is to protest your reporting on the protest of road building and clear-cutting in the Nez Perce National Forest at Dixie, Idaho. Your news item was by Barry Serafin on August 19th, 1993. It was not news reporting; it was a propaganda perpsective. There has been the recipient of US Government giveaway programs for many years but especially during the last few years.

If your reporter had spent a few minutes with the people doing the protest he might have discovered that these are young idealists who have known about these things for many years. They are the kind of people you would want your children to be like. One of them is my granddaughter and I am so proud of her chest pops out. They are non-violent. The violence being committed is the violence of those in power-owners of national forests and to the youngers doing non-violent protest.

If your reporter had done a little research in order to discover just what is happening to our national treasures. They are exactly the kind of people you would want your children to be like. One of them is my granddaughter and I am so proud of her chest pops out. They are non-violent. The violence being committed is the violence of those in power-owners of national forests and to the youngers doing non-violent protest.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

POSTSCRIPT

I am writing this letter in a windowless cell on an island in Puget Sound, Wash., which has aggressively lobbied for more timber-cutting in national forests, regularly engages in irresponsible logging practices, and is currently cutting in the Wilderness Mountain area of the Pristine National Forest.

Office: Suite 1000, Colosso Building, Metropolis 99999, phone (000) 000-0000.

Publishing the home addresses and phone numbers of these people is important. They usually have unlisted phones for obvious reasons. If they get angry phone calls from environmentalists at their office, or 14 testers in suits and ties calling their home, that is only a minor annoyance. If they gather at the homes of these ecocriminals or phone them at 2:00 AM, that hits them where it hurts. The problem is how to find out their addresses and phone numbers without setting a trap.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Postscript: As an EFer you have a responsibility to publish their addresses and phone numbers.  These people are non-violent. I am a member of the Earth First! movement. They say that in the old days everybody in town read the paper to read about what's happening in the town. What controversial in the past years. This means peddling subscriptions to everyone you know. This means setting up new retail outlet (bookstores, co-ops, etc.) and distributors (contact the Journal office for details). This means telling your subscriptions at merchandise tables. As an EFer you have a responsibility to the paper. Not only to sell subscriptions, but to buy subscriptions yourselves, to reduce the amount of "free" newspapers you take and to help the paper whatever way you can.

Admittedly, the paper has been somewhat controversial in the past years. This means setting up new retail outlet (bookstores, co-ops, etc.) and distributors (contact the Journal office for details). This means telling your subscriptions at merchandise tables. As an EFer you have a responsibility to the paper. Not only to sell subscriptions, but to buy subscriptions yourselves, to reduce the amount of "free" newspapers you take and to help the paper whatever way you can.

L. W. Brown [508941]
Eulis L. Haynes[57984]
Tucson, Arizona

Dear SFB,

It seems to me that the Earth FIRST! JOURNAL is neglecting an important tactic. The JOURNAL should regularly publish lists of ecocriminals, stating the environmental crimes of each, and giving their home addresses and phone numbers. An entry in the list might read, for example, "F. Creed Monegubrue, member of board of directors of Arthropogumst Lamaperb Co., which has aggressively lobbied for more timber-cutting in national forests, regularly engages in irresponsible logging practices, and is currently cutting in the Wilderness Mountain area of the Pristine National Forest."

Office: Suite 1000, Colosso Building, Metropolis 99999, phone (000) 000-0000.

Susie Bancroft

Dear SFB,

Dear muscles for brains,

Yea, I just finished the last issue of the Journal. Nice layout. But how about more photos? How about something more than journalism. I want more than just news reporting. I want something more provocative, something controversial, something to make me think. I want inspiring ideas, visions.

And too many writers stuffing their egos. How about giving it a rest. As a reader I'm just not interested in that you, personally. I'm probably not alone in tiring of the self-indulgence.

As for another thing, this talk of being a tribe...is this for real? Oh yea, I know, like our reference to ourselves as a movement, it's because they don't take us seriously, right? If these tribes are, you know, notorious for enforcing conformity, with plenty of ostracizing, policing, and negotiating, to cleanse the group of interlopers.

Well, for one I would like more resistance, more militancy. But I suppose its not non-violent enough. Maybe Earth First! is becoming more an initiation, a passage...into adulthood.

FB

[Signature]

Dear Sir,

I spent a year with Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. In that time I came to realize that Paul Watson is no god. Yes he is charismatic, a good speaker, a dreamer, and a great story teller. He is also a bit of a kidder. I thought he was a friend. He is also a sexist, an egotist and a self-important poop. He is an avid supporter of meat eating and must always feel in charge. But no matter what he or Alfred, think Sea Shepherd is not Paul Watson. He invented it but he is not a solo player. Without engineers, deck and bridge crew, office persons and the Board of Directors Sea Shepherd's boats would never move without the huge number of people behind the camera. Paul's pearly whites would never save another whale and while he Sea Shepherd would continue to protect marine life.

If Paul Watson was 'lost at sea' than possibly Sea Shepherd would run it without a proper captain, not a dictator, and a crew that has a choice and a voice in all non-conflict situations. People said Earth First! would never come out without Dave Foreman. Well, look at us now!

Alfred, please do not inflate already egotistic, Sea Shepherd is a society not an individual.

Kai Marsi

Earth Liberation Front Ignites Britain

The battleground of Twyford Down saw numerous acts of ecotage and served to catalyze the British monkeywrenching movement.

Earth Liberation Front (ELF) has called for an international series of Earth Nights to protest the way the Earth and its inhabitants are being destroyed by governmental policies and multi-national greed.

We call for a broad alliance of environmental, animal liberation, worker and revolutionary groups to take the opportunity on these nights to strike back together! Inflict economic sabotage on road 'construction', vivisection labs, anti-union corporations or oppressive State legislation! Every minority and species should be allowed to be heard from and we already know that actions speak louder than words.

We have chosen Halloween as an ideal time to kick off the event since that night people are traditionally afraid to go out after dark, worried that the 'little people' might get them. On this occasion, it is the uncaring profit barons that we hope to scare. It's time to make them realize that we have had enough of how things are being run by them.

It is hoped that with enough imagination, groups can create enough chaos to disrupt whole transport, power and communication networks. Only through this kind of strategy will we be taken seriously.

The only thing we ask is that there be no injury to life. The ELF is a non-violent movement and does not condone any violence to living beings. Sabotage to property, however, is liberation and solid protest, by far the most effective means of disruption....

International Earth Nights
October 31st to November 5th

The Earth Liberation Front (ELF) has called for an international series of Earth Nights to protest the way the Earth and its inhabitants are being destroyed by governmental policies and multi-national greed.

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MAKE HALLOWEEN A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Earth Liberation Front
Taiwan Slaughters Endangered Species

Taiwan Defies International Law

All wildlife trade is regulated by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) which is administered by the United Nations. International sale and trade of species listed on CITES Appendix I is prohibited. Species on CITES Appendix II can be traded only after a CITES scientific committee has given its approval. Tigers, leopards, rhinos, elephants, orangutans, pandas and all species of Asian bears and cats are on Appendix I. All other species of bears and most Asian primates are on Appendix I or II. Every one of these species is illegally traded on the Taiwanese black market.

Open Season on Endangered Species

The Taiwanese market also supports a heavy trade in live animals. As many as two hundred tigers are held in captivity for breeding purposes to supply Taiwan’s market demand for tiger meat, blood, bones, organs and skins. These “farms” inside Taiwan also serve as staging areas for the illegal importation and transport of live animals like leopards, bears and orangutans.

What You Can Do

The Taiwan government will continue to disregard the lucrative trade in endangered species until it costs too much to ignore. 1. Don't buy goods made in Taiwan. Look for the “Made in Taiwan” label. If you don't know where it was made, ask. Tell shop owners why you refuse to buy any goods from Taiwan and encourage them to do the same. 2. Tell President Clinton to impose sanctions.

Tainan

The Taiwan government fears international trade and diplomatic sanctions. Please write to President Clinton and demand that the United States pressure the government of Taiwan to halt the illegal trade of endangered species by strictly enforcing its own laws and CITES regulations.

3. Support the Endangered Species Project

Over the last two years, Endangered Species Project investigators have traveled to Taiwan, China, Russia, Burma, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Hong Kong and Viet Nam documenting the illegal black market trade in endangered species. Our field investigations provide up-to-date information to CITES, Congress and government bodies, and could be the deciding factor in securing sanctions against Taiwan and other countries trading in endangered species. We rely on the contributions of people like you to support our campaigns. So please support the Endangered Species Project's work. Endangered Species Project, Earth Island Institute, Fort Mason Center Bldg E-205, San Francisco, CA 94123, (415) 921-4063, fax: (415) 921-1302.

Write to:

President Bill Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500 USA

Taiwan slaughters endangered species.

Out of the Cages!
A Radical Animal Liberation Journal

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Earth First! Mabon 1993

Page 35
Boycott Chevron.

The public is not powerless to counter the cynical “wise use” movement. An old-fashioned consumer boycott of sponsoring corporations could help us weaken financial support for organizations such as People for the West, Oregon Lands Coalition, Blue Ribbon Coalition, National Wetlands Coalition and others who are promoting commercialization, privatization and development of our public lands under the guise of grassroots anti-environmental sentiment.

Many of these groups are, in fact, cleverly using boycotts and boycott threats to intimidate businesses into withdrawing support for conservation organizations. For example, Ford Motor Company and General Electric withdrew support for a PBS Audubon special on federal land grazing last year under pressure from “wise use” groups. In Oregon, small businesses supporting forest protection have been targets of boycotts sponsored by “wise use” groups funded by large timber corporations.

We can boycott Chevron Oil Company which last year donated thousands of dollars to the Western States Public Lands Coalition, sponsor of “People for the West?,” (PW?) a pro-logging and mining group based in Pueblo, Colorado. PW? advocates opening wildernesses and parks areas to mining, road building, and logging and has joined with multinational corporations in the Southwest to thwart endangered species protection on federal lands while fighting reform of outdated mining and grazing laws.

I suggest that readers cut their Chevron credit cards in half and send the remains with a letter of explanation to Chevron Oil, PO Box 7753, San Francisco, CA 94120.

Unfortunately many other “wise use” sponsors are religious organizations, Japanese motorcycle manufacturers or large mining companies which aren’t so vulnerable to consumer market boycotts. But with your help, companies such as Chevron will think twice about supporting the “wise use movement” in the future.

—Tom Rie

Warrior Poets

Poets are invited to submit their work to the Warrior Poets Society. The Journal regularly features a page of poetry submitted to us by the Society. Send your poems to Warrior Poets Society, Bancroft and Telegraph, ASUC Box 361, Berkeley, CA 94720-1111. Of course, we still welcome poetry sent directly to the Journal, too.
1994 Earth First! Activist Conference

At the 1993 RRR it was decided that the 1994 Earth First! Activist Conference (AC) would be held in Southern California. EF groups from Los Angeles, Alluvial Sage, Orange County, and San Diego have formed committees and are planning to make this the best conference yet!

Three days is a short period to cover all the areas that need attention, discussion and strategy in the EP Movement. In the past, the Journal has been a central topic of the AC. This year, the organizers would like to be last on the agenda, or a fourth day added just for the Journal.

Proposed Agenda Items:
New Directions for the Movement
Indigenous Alliances and Defense of Sacred Sites
Campaign Strategies
Tactics and Tools
Natural Laws and Legislative Laws
Media Massaging
Direct Action Video
SLAPP Suits and Grand Juries
Environmental Activist Harassment
The 1995 EF Activist Conference
And, of course, The EFI Journal

Note: This is a proposed agenda. Additions and requests should be mailed to Alluvial Sage, #102, PO Box 77027, Pasadena, CA 91107-6921 for collation as soon as possible.

Proposed Site
The AC will be held in one of Southern California’s many beautiful National Forests. We suggest that you read a little of John Muir’s writings to refresh your memory. The coastal mountains can be snow-covered in midwinter. For those not wanting to camp, we will can have lodges and cabins. The exact site has not been determined yet, but it won’t be too far from the L.A. Airport. Other opportunities in the LA area include press conferences, benefit concerts and Direct Action!

Wild Idaho Live!

The Idaho Conservation League (ICL) is hosting a gathering of Idaho-area environmental activists in Boise on October 2, 1993. A highly-placed source in the ICL specifically invited “Cove-Mallard Firsters,” saying “we need No Compromise voices to be heard in this region, badly.” One presume that means we wanting to camp, we will have lodges and cabins. The exact site has not been determined yet, but it won’t be too far from the L.A. Airport. Other opportunities in the LA area include press conferences, benefit concerts and Direct Action!

With lessons learned from past conferences, an action defending endangered Coastal Sage will follow the AC.

Local groups and individuals are encouraged to propose agenda items and to send a representative of their bioregion or campaign.

The Wild Rockies Review

“Tell the Truth and Skedaddle”
Send name, address and any cash you can part with to:
POB 9286, Missoula MT 59807

Wild Rockies EF! T-Shirts
100% Cotton shirts. Tell us what colors you like (give us a few choices).
Long Sleeve, $14. Short Sleeve, $10
POB 9286, Missoula, MT 59807
Story Earth
Native Voices on the Environment
Compiled by Inter Press Service

 Reviewed by Chris Roth

Story Earth is a collection of 18 narratives by indigenous people from six continents, on the subject of the "natural order" and the place of human beings within it.

According to the book jacket, "these healing visions of a harmonious relationship between people and the earth offer hope and inspiration for sorely-needed change." And the book does offer many accounts of how humans can live in appropriate, respectful ways on the earth: every indigenous culture represented has found an approach that has proven "sustainable" for centuries or millennia.

Yet this is a deeply disturbing book, expressing as much pain as reason for optimism. For without exception these cultures are under assault—their traditional ways of life rapidly becoming, or already become, impossible. "We are, I fear, on the brink of collapse as a distinct people," Tanien Ashini, a Natashan from Canada writes. "Like indigenous peoples all around the world, our distinct culture and economy are being crushed by an incredible greedy and environmentally irresponsible industrial order."

The more recent the incursion of the West, the fresher the pain. For some, the devastation to land and culture introduced by Western development schemes and resource exploitation, often accompanied by missionary and neocolonial activities, has occurred only within the last generation, as in the case of the Nahua. [Displacement from our land]

In the essay, "Pilgrim's Earth" Gary L. Bogaardt of the University of California, San Diego, "dissects" the phenomenon of religious conversion among the Nubians of northeastern Sudan.

Of the Nubians' conversion to Christianity, Bogaardt writes, "the white men will destroy the world," and "yet this is a deeply disturbing book, expressing as much pain as reason for optimism. For without exception these cultures are under assault—their traditional ways of life rapidly becoming, or already become, impossible. "We are, I fear, on the brink of collapse as a distinct people," Tanien Ashini, a Natashan from Canada writes. "Like indigenous peoples all around the world, our distinct culture and economy are being crushed by an incredible greedy and environmentally irresponsible industrial order.""...
Earth First!

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sex & the hassled activist

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