Un Dia en la Región Zapatista

BY MARK LUCEY

As Chris and I walked along the dirt road leading out of the village of Morelia in Chiapas, the Mexican sun blazed down on our necks. I squinted despite the best efforts of my baseball cap and held the plastic cup of morning java that I had forgotten to put down in the sudden rush out of the cement building where we Peace Campers stay. A man from the village had shown up at the door, out of breath, and said, "El ejército viene!" (The army is coming!) I shook Chris from his hammock, and the ten of us Peace Campers grabbed our cameras and raced out the door to join the community in blocking the army from entering the town.

The evening before we had attended a memorial service for three people who died during the January 1994 offensive when members of the Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN) took over the local governments of several larger cities in Chiapas. Before the fighting gave over to peace talks between the EZLN and the Mexican government, numerous soldiers had died, including three from Morelia. Toward the end of the service, several intruded into the building and announced that they had received word that the army was coming. I followed the running crowd of people out the door and down the road to the village entrance, when I suddenly realized the men had all disappeared. Only women and children were blockading the army!

Yellowstone Slaughter Disrupted

Bison Beats State 34-25

After last year's harrowing winter of government-sponsored buffalo killings, resulting in the death of 1,100 buffalo (over half the herd), the buffalo slaughter has been almost completely stopped. So far this season, 25 of 34 attempted captures have left the killers frustrated and empty-handed. At dawn on December 29, 16 members of America's last wild bison herd went from Yellowstone National Park onto private land near the town of West Yellowstone, Montana. The landowner, who openly expresses antagonism toward buffalo, had threatened to have the animals killed if they "trespassed" onto his property. He allowed the Montana Department of Livestock (DOL) to construct a capture facility on his land, a natural migration corridor between the park and the buffalo's winter range. Last winter most of the buffalo herded into such facilities were killed. The Buffalo Nations morning patrol, observing a freshly plowed road to the capture facility and unfamiliar vehicles, including a livestock trailer, decided to act.

Before any Department of Livestock agents were out of their trucks, cross-country skiers had slipped under a fence onto the property and quickly shepherded the buffalo to safety inside the park. Buffalo Nations doesn't routinely haze the animals or otherwise interfere with their migration. However, with winter on its way, the buffalo can't afford to waste energy, nor can they be kept inside the park because their winter feeding grounds are outside it.

Mickey Mousing with Public Lands

BY SCOTT SILVER, WILD WILDERNESS

In the two most recent editions of the Earth First! Journal, Wild Wilderness, a natural recreation advocacy group, warned of the attack on our public lands from a new enemy. We named the culprit "industrial strength recreation" and identified its chief proponents as the pro-wise corporate-backed American Recreation Coalition (ARC), along with the usual cadre of right-wing Western congresspeople. This article focuses on where this trend is leading and gives specific examples of the potential implications.

It used to be that when we needed a nature fix, we'd jump in the car and head for the nearest mountain or desert. Once we finally pulled off the paved highway, what usually greeted us was a fairly natural outdoor experience. Unfortunately, that type of free-wheeling experience is about to go extinct because federal land managers want to turn nature into a "product" and then repackage it, market it, and sell it in the form of differentiated "brands" of value-added recreation.

Public lands managers are working from basic tenets that are key to their new recreation paradigm. These tenets hold that:

1) Public lands recreation must be self-supporting. The Demonstration Recreation Fee Program recently implemented on many public lands, with the ARC as the program's private partner, is expected to generate only $300 million over the next six years. In order for recreation to fully "pay its own way," access fees would need to be increased dramatically or additional businesses would need to be operated upon public lands.

2) "Interpretation," through informational signage, guided nature tours and the like will be heavily emphasized. This trend is led by two organizations, The National Association for Interpretation and the Disney Corporation, an ARC sustaining member. In 1995, Disney signed a memorandum of understanding with the US Forest Service (USFS),
There was some controversy over making the Bozeman Activists Conference into the Missoula Organizers Conference and Winter Rendezvous. At one point, some of the original Bozeman organizers even suggested that there was no need to have the conference because there's nothing to talk about. As the muckrakers and troublemakers of the movement, we here at the Journal wanted to make sure that there's something to talk about.

At a party not long after the Sabainan issue came out, I overheard some friends talking about the Journal. One woman was saying, “I loved it. I think every new Earth First! should have to read that article once a day. They should be quizzed on it.” “Really?” asked the man she was talking to. “I picked the paper up, saw that and thought to myself, ‘This is why I never read the Journal.’” I knew immediately that their heated conversation was about Sabainan’s op-ed, “The Cult of Nonviolence.”

Those responses were but two voices in the cacophony of reactions we received to the piece. In addition to Rod Coronado’s excellent op-ed that ran last issue, we also wanted to run three other responses—one that argues for nonviolence, one that couches the criticism of dogma from “The Cult of Nonviolence” in a biting analysis of a particular EF! campaign, and one that, arguably, advocates violence.

That last piece begins, “If someone broke into your home and tried to steal everything you had and kill your family, what would you do? A: Make a banner and call the media. B: Call a lawyer and file a restraining order. C: Chainsaw your way out of there.” From there, the author passionately advocates for a vigorous self-defense of the Earth, our home.

As you know, none of those other pieces ran last issue. As you read this issue, you’ll notice that they aren’t here either. At the 1993 EF! Activists Conference, it was consensed that the EF! Journal shall not print any material “that could reasonably be interpreted to advocate violence or physical harm to human beings.” After that, at the 1993 EF! Rendezvous, a proposal for structuring a new Journal collective was consensed on. That proposal included the statement that, “We welcome submissions of articles, letters, poetry and art that put the Earth first, build the Earth that movement, and advance the creation of a world wild and free of speciesism, racism, sexism, violence, exploitation and oppression.”

At this year’s Organizers Conference, the staff of the Earth First! Journal intends to challenge any policy censoring what we may print. We feel that the very self-critical debate pro- voked by the “Cult of Nonviolence” is some of the healthiest the Journal has inspired in years. In deciding to postpone the debate, the five editors read the pieces many times with fine-tooth combs, flushing out every single implication and supposition. We had a number of trusted friends and advisors review them. We discussed many different combinations of editing, running, dumping and bumping the responses.

Fauna Cabala

Fauna. n. animal life. Cabala. n. an esoteric, secret matter or mysterious act.

Prairie dogs not only cry wolf, they cry dark, fat wolf. Often under the shadow of predators, Gunnnison’s prairie dogs have developed a defensive system. These animals, who tongue-kiss to identify each other, scream. Their screams say “hawk,” “coyote,” “dog,” or “human,” as well as convey information about shape and color. This species even differentiates between humans, in the end, the decision we made had less to do with the quality of the pieces than the politics of the matter. That’s not an easy thing for journalists and editors to admit. It is why the staff of the Journal intends to raise the issue of the rules censoring a paper at the Organizers Conference. That debate is sure to ruffle some people’s feathers, much like the articles will. But, in the end, if we haven’t ruffled some feathers, we have really done our job.

Words are just words. Those who take exception to certain combinations of words, reject them outright, commit a logical crime cloaked in an ugly insistence called censorship. The power of words is in their ability to touch truth through logic. I urge and welcome all those people who think the Journal should unflinchingly abide by a rule censoring this debate to dust off their logical caps, pick up a pen and put into words the truth of nonviolence.

That invitation, of course, extends to those who might want to argue the truth of something besides strict nonviolence. Myself, I think it’s going to be difficult to argue that EF! has reached the point where individuals act out of violence. That may need to be systematically defeat the military industrial complex and bring down the grand poop of oppressors.

With all that said, it’s important to know that the Journal staff is not going to, in reality, try and challenge speaking in generalities about the abstract question of nonviolence versus violence. Those who want to submit would do well to reread “The Cult of Nonviolence” and observe that the questions posed there aren’t even about nonviolence versus violence, but about dogma and open-mindedness. We feel that this debate is timely and important right now because many EFers think the movement has reached an impasse—not one where violence suddenly an option, but where it is clear that some of our tactics are worn out.

Submissions on this topic should be concise, powerful words. Submissions that challenge the questions posed there aren’t even about nonviolence versus violence, but about dogma and open-mindedness. We feel that this debate is timely and important right now because many EFers think the movement has reached an impasse—not one where violence suddenly an option, but where it is clear that some of our tactics are worn out.

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The Sierra Club Ballot:
Environmentalism or Racism

BY MICHAEL DORSEY, SIERRA CLUB BOARD

This spring, the Sierra Club membership will face an important ballot question on population policy and immigration. It is timely and current with the election of new members to the board and the direct election of members. The next ballot will vote on one of two positions.

One position argues for comprehensive US immigration policy. It made it to the ballot through the petitioning efforts of a small faction of club activists. Supported by Dave Foreman and various right-wing foundations and organizations like the Weeden Foundation and the National Grassroots Alliance, a group of "immigration control advocates" in Northern California, this faction argues that a reduction in US population growth is only possible through a "reduction in net immigration." This position targets immigrants as a cause of our domestic environmental problems.

The other ballot position argues that if Sierra Club members and environmental activists really want to do something about the population problem then a truly comprehensive policy is needed. Such a policy would address not only US immigration, but migration and the factories that drive it—the lack of economic security, human rights and access to adequate health care in the home country. A strong interest was placed on the ballot by the board of directors and has drawn the widespread support of club leaders, as well as many other environmental organizations, activists, scholars and government representatives.

There are many reasons why the Sierra Club should take no position on immigration. First and foremost, immigration is only remotely an environmental issue. There is no way to make a case to the brim with toxic and solid waste. But do we blame immigrants or the US chemical companies that amass numerous violations of the Clean Water Act for that? No doubt, wildlands have been spoiled by the never-ending press of suburban sprawl. But do we blame immigrants or consumer culture? Environmental issues in the US are ineptically and irresponsibly patterned of consumption and poor resource management. Blaming immigrants will not solve our environmental problems.

North Americans are making a mess. The US, with only five percent of the world's population, consumes 32 percent of the world's petroleum and plastics and produces 25 percent of the world's greenhouse gases. Our 265 million residents produce more solid waste than the one and a half billion people in China and India.

It is specious to consider our per capita excess as an argument to close the borders, rather it strongly suggests that we need to change our super-consuming economy. It is patently absurd that here in the US we consume 75 percent of our non-renewable resources like oil on no soil on Earth and then actually use that as a rationalization against immigration.

Immigration is not the cause of sprawl. Immigration is not the cause of corporate pollution. Immigration is not the cause of phosphorus pollution in the coastal estuaries. Slowing immigration addresses none of these threats. The Sierra Club's interest in population issues has been, until this moment, properly deliberate. The issues of global population growth and the environment are indeed serious and the cause of any anxiety. The club is absolutely justifiable in its strong support for full funding of global family planning programs, for example. But wading into the issue of US immigration—drawing the line at the US border—is perhaps the ultimate act of NIMBYism. Environmentalists are fond of saying that pollution knows no borders, so it is ironic that some environmentalists would argue for greater control over those artificial borders that represent the backwaters of elitism and racism. Environmentalists have no logical or historical use that as a rationalization against immigration.

Otherwise, the main stuff regarded as inciting was 1) the Diary of the Ecodefense Diary with the factors that drive it—the lack of economic security, human rights and access to adequate health care in the home country. A strong interest was placed on the ballot by the board of directors and has drawn the widespread support of club leaders, as well as many other environmental organizations, activists, scholars and government representatives.

With the Vigor of John Muir

BY DAVID OER

The outcome of the upcoming annual Sierra Club board of directors elections will surely ripple throughout the entire environmental movement and the largest, oldest environmental organization in the country. This year's context promises to be the most contentious in recent history: three candidate slates, 22 candidates and a highly controversial ballot initiative. The battle lines are drawn, and three camps are squaring off: the board's nominees (the Old Guard), a group of petitioners calling itself Sierraans for US Population Stabilization and the John Muir Sierraans (JMS) led by former club director David Oer.

Founded in 1950, JMS is an alliance of Sierra Club activists united under the banner of reinstating the vision and vigor of John Muir Into the venerable Sierra Club. The JMS petition-candidate slate for 1998 is the largest yet, reflecting the increasing interest in making significant change in the club. The candidates include Forest Service reformer Jeff DeBonsi, environmental justice lawyer Veronica Eady, grizzly bear-reintroduction activist Jennifer Finkstein, wood-use reduction campaigner/author Emily Higgins, Zero Cutter David Orr, anti-grazing and wilderness-protection activist Susan Schock and Illinois Environmental Council founder Richard Worthen.

John Muir Sierraans seek to set the terms of the debate on core issues of public lands and wildlife protection, and efforts to maintain and strengthen our environmental protection laws. JMS call for enactment of the National Forests Protection and Restoration Act to end the timber sale program on federal public lands. JMS call on the Sierra Club to adopt a campaign to end livestock grazing, mining and petroleum exploration on public lands as well.

Contact the Sierra Club at 30 North Raymond Ave. 8314, Pasadena, CA 91103; (626) 792-0109; fax 792-1565; email: JMSerra@aol.com; http://members.aol.com/JMSierra/JMSlate.html

Letters to the Editors

Dear sphincter for skulls, how much more diversity in coverage? There is Earth First! outside of California, you know. The Sierra Club. That about Headwaters, we can tune into CNN. Otherwise, you oughta put out a killer rag.

Mox Haa

Dear EoF,

Thank you for mentioning the outcome of the Gandall Trial. I have but one concern in your reporting of the trial. You claim "The Gandall Defendants claim they were infiltrated by a secret police provocateur who assisted in writing of most of the articles found "inciting.""

This is untrue and I would like you to print a retraction. This scare suit was started by the General Editor of GA who is a) incredibly paranoid b) can't accept responsibility for his own actions. The main stuff regarded as inciting was 1) the Diary of Animal Liberation which I compiled. 2) The Ecodenice Diary which I helped to compile. 3) The fact that Green Anarchist mail order sold Into the 90s with the AFLF That was the main evidence. These can not be put out by an ego-head. The Gandall Trial is about free speech and the dissemina­tion of material. Not about inciting material.

For Animal/Earth liberation,

-NOE MOLEON CR432I, HMP

GUY MARSH, SMITHFIELD, DORSET, ENGLAND SPF OAH

[End note: We were greeted by this message on our answering machine one morning]

"Yeah, I just received your December-January edition of Earth First! I'm reading it. I'm a hardened environmentalist; I've been doing this for 30 years. I thought I was doing something good by joining Earth First! This is wrong. I don't want to know about a 'wolf whose spirit will never be broken to Mumia Abu Jamal' in the 'Wolves in Foodlines.'"

continued on page 30

February-March 1998 Earth First! Page 3.
BY JAKE KREILICK

It is late autumn and I am driving west from Oshkosh, Wisconsin, back to Big Sky country. My body and mind are weary from nine weeks of rattle-rousing and life is challenging. I stop at Shiprock, a remnant from the Pleistocene, to climb the sandstone monolith. The oaks have dropped their leaves, signaling the onset of winter, but the sky is clear and the air crisp. My fingers soon feel the numbing effects as I climb the crack on Shiprock's backside. I've climbed this route many times, but it's always a challenge—particularly wearing topsiders and sport ing a few extra pounds. I wedge my arms and legs into assorted nooks and crannies and upward. "Neehahkecononaha" I scan the forested terrain sloping gently to the north. The Winnebago Indians called the Dells Wisconsin, back to Big Sky country. The Porcupine Mountains, located in the western UP, are home to the Porcupine Mountains State Park, adjacent to the Chippewa and Superior in Minnesota; the Chequamegon and Nicolet in Wisconsin; and the Ottawa, Hiawatha and Huron-Manistee in Michigan. These forests are far from pristine but are in relatively better condition than adjacent corporate lands. Many forests on federal lands are approaching old growth. Fish and game were reintroduced in the area in the 1960s and are doing well. Moose are found across the region, although brainworm, a parasite passed from white-tail deer, has adversely affected the population. Black bears, coyotes, bobcats and river otters are relatively abundant, and both the Michigan and Wisconsin Departments of Natural Resources admit that Eastern coyotes are present. In short, the upper Great Lakes contain enough public land to enable viable populations of native species to survive. However, the habitat they rely on—older forests with low human numbers—is dwindling.

Last fall I flew over the Ottawa National Forest with Lighthawk. The Ottawa was located in the western UP and contains some of the finest native forest left in the region. The Porcupine Mountains State Park, adjacent to the Porcupine Mountains, was designated as a National Natural Landmark in 1978. The park is divided into two sections: the Porcupine Mountains West Block and the Porcupine Mountains East Block. The park is known for its rugged terrain, abundant wildlife, and scenic beauty. The park contains a variety of landforms, including mountain ridges, valleys, and lakes. The park is home to a diverse array of plants and animals, including wolves, elk, and bald eagles. The park is a popular destination for hiking, camping, and wildlife viewing.

The native forest has been reduced to adolescence. What did the Great North Woods look like prior to European settlement and the onslaught of large-scale agriculture and logging? The US Forest Service is asking now that many private and public forests resemble pine plantations or aspen thickets. Essentially, 19th century high-grading and 20th century industrial forestry "have resulted in a reduced range of tree sizes and ages in the regional forest and have simplified the structure and composition of the regional forest," according to the Forest Service. Across the region, hemlock-hardwood associations once composed nearly 50 percent of the North Woods forests. Pine forests were also common and covered nearly 25 percent of the land. Many hardwood stands were dominated by sugar maple, now one of the most economically important species. In communities such as the Red Cliff Indian Reservation, sugar maples are an important non-timber forest product. American elm and yellow birch were also prevalent prior to European invasion, but are now in decline. Logging of aspen and conifers like white and red pine, and subsequently yellow birch and other mature hardwoods in second-growth forests, caused extensive habitat loss and fundamental alterations in eco sys-
Great Lakes

ended from previous page

to the Ottawa, contains over 30,000 acres of old growth and represents the largest tract of virgin forest in the Great Lakes. The Sylvania Wilderness Area, along the border of the UP and Wisconsin, contains nearly 20,000 acres of virgin forest, making it one of the crown jewels of the Ottawa outside designated wilderness. This sale has not yet been cut and will ultimately be challenged in court. Unfortunately, West II is currently being logged, much to the chagrin of a local landowner whose family homesteaded the area in the 1920s.

We looked at two contested timber sales that target some of the older recovering forests in the Ottawa, the Old M-64 Hardwood sale and West II H. The Trap Hills east of the Pioneers are primarily composed of hardwood species including Northern red oak, sugar maple, yellow birch and trembling aspen. Cut in the 1930s, the Trap Hills have regenerated as a haven for numerous rare plants and animals, and the area is the logger's nightmare. Cut in the Ottawa outside designated wilderness.

the past should serve as a reference point to direct the future of the region’s forests. Citizens must participa- tion in the transformation of the Great Lakes landscape, starting with the cutting of original forests to build the cities, towns and factories of the Midwest. At the turn of the century, as the technology for making paper was improved, pulp and paper mills arrived, further changing the make-up of the forest. When Native Americans paddled in birch bark canoes and French explorers probed the waterways for a passage to Asia, Wisconsin was still a virgin forest.

of the Great Lakes.

North Woods. Perhaps it will take another Ice Age before the wounds are healed, but I am intent on speeding up the process. For more information contact the Superior Wilder­ ness Action Network, 217 Elizabeth Ave, St. Paul, MN 55104; (612) 646-8277; e-mail: fnsense@pioneerplanet.inf.net. North Woods Wilderness Recovery can be reached at POB 122, Marquette, MI 49855; (906) 225-1938; e-mail: drcornet@up.net.

Frontlines

Grey Guerrillas Strike

A new generation of “grey guerril­ lats” is on the march, and their cam­ paign strategy, England’s Pensioners’ Rights Cam­ paign is a splinter group of the highly respectable National Pensioners’ Con­ vention, which has about 2 million members. For years it has lobbied for pensions that are too small to keep up with rising prices. Now is the time. The 5,000 strong Pensioners’ Rights Campaign say the time has come to challenge the status quo.

Its activists have taken to the streets twice this year, causing chaos. Just before Christmas, a small contingent blocked Leicester’s main street and held up traffic for more than an hour. Earlier this spring, over 70 and bent almost-double. In September, seven members with a collective age of more than 500 moved in together, creating a sense of community.

The battle’s not over, and we are always looking for donations of winter camping gear, clothing equipment, and money. Our survival strategies include braving the wild, wild winters here in Minnesota. If you are in the area and want to join us, please call us at the Big Woods Earth First! Hotline at (612) 362-3387 or write POB 58096, Min­ neapolis, MN 55458-0936. For more information about our new Action Resource Center call (612) 825-4745.
TUSCON PYGMYS HALT URBAN SPRALW
Tiny Endangered Owl Stops Development on Outskirts of City of 700,000

BY LACEY PHILLABAUM

"It's a big game for these folks," says Lewis Tenney, owner of Precision Pulp and Timber Company in Herber, Arizona. "They get up in the morning and try to figure out how to make people's lives miserable." Not so, say the activists trying to save the cactus ferruginous pygmy owl. But whether the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity is trying to save species or make developers and loggers miserable, they are succeeding at both.

The last cactus ferruginous pygmy owl is in Arizona. Government surveys in 1997 found only 12 of the tiny, red-tinged birds, down from 19 the year before. It was common to see them in large numbers near streamside thickets, mesquite cottonwood woodlands and riparian areas. The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) says the owl's historic habitat extended along 650 miles of Southwestern streams, 150 miles of which run through Arizona.

Because of the precipitous decline of the owl, it was proposed for listing as an endangered species in December 1994. It was finally listed as endangered in March 1995. Tenney says the federal wheels of justice are grinding slowly, and the true tradition of the owl, it was proposed, would begin. The USFWS, experts report that 56 percent of New Yorkers don't even have a car, The city's fastest-growing area, having failed to designate habitat for the cactus ferruginous pygmy owl under the Endangered Species Act, is the city's fastest-growing area, Tucson. But, federal officials failed to ask for a habitat designation.

The federal wheels of justice, however, critical habitat has not been designated. The Southwest Center is currently engaged in litigation to force habitat designation.

While the federal wheels of justice grind, however, local authorities have decided to take matters into their own hands. In late November 1997, the Pima County Board of Supervisors placed a two-week freeze on new permits to examine a 14,000-acre area, home to eight of the last pygmy owls, near the northwestern edge of Tucson covered by the freeze is the city's fastest-growing area, cluttered with real estate signs for future developments. And woodcock were the mayors forum and woodcock were the have been forced between a rock and a hard place by the federal government, which has failed to designate habitat but has also warned the county that local agencies could be sued for allowing development of habitat vital to the owl's survival. Two federal judges have ruled in separate cases that local and state officials can be held liable for issuing permits to developers who damage endangered species habitat. Supervisor Sharon Branson lashed out at the USFWS for its inaction saying "If the west Center says the guidelines don't go far enough, citing surveys that show similar species range over 279 acres and require buffers larger than 150 acres. In addition, he points out that only a few of the 12 known pygmy owls are in pairs, and the regulations would keep owls away from each other, threatening their survival. "Pygmy owls don't have dating services," he joked, "They don't need land, to survive. You can't just draw circles around them."

On December 19, in response to the weak voluntary guidelines suggested by the USFWS, Developers of Wildlife, the Southwest Center and Desert Watch filed suit against the US Army Corps of Engineers to block further developments that threaten the endangered owl. They are in charge of permitting developments that require a land owner to alter streams, which is was the cutting through their properties. The suit alleges that the Corps randomly approves development permits without holding public hearings, conducting an environmental impact study, or searching for more suitable development sites, violating numerous environmental laws. It also alleges that the Corps has repeatedly failed to consult with the USFWS on the cumulative impacts of developments like a new, 9,000-unit residential complex. "We are trying to push the Corps toward a more systematic approach of protecting valuable riparian habitat," said Steve Holman of the USFWS.

Conversely, the Society for Environmental Truth, a pro-industry group in Washington, D.C., has drawn a circle around wise, Alan Lurie, executive director of the Southern Arizona Home Builders Association. "It is a lifestyle issue. They want to go back to the days when you don't hear a voice, don't hear an automobile."

Though the Southwest Center's King gets his terminology wrong, he does not only try to stop growth, but to reverse growth, "said Lurie of the Home Builders Association. "It is a lifestyle issue. They want to go back to the days when you don't hear a voice, don't hear an automobile."

A shameful, shit-eating poodle to epicurists in France who dined on protected songbirds during a 1997-1998 plate dinner. The theme of the evening was "Forbidden foods," where exotic meats were served. The menu included "French people like to break the law."

A playful wolf rolling in the snow to Anna Koshikova, a 12-year-old activist who chained herself to a streetlight during an action in Solchi, Russia. She helped form a coalition of blockades across Russia to protest the construction and the installation of catalytic converters on all vehicles. The action went away when an unoccupied truck rolled downhill, colliding with the blockade and severing Anna's hand. You can send support to Anna at Conversebank, 24/26 B. Osoybov, Tashkent 100017, Moscow, Russia. For more information about the protests, see the pygmy owl, a ferocious she-wolf who eats cattle ranchers for breakfast to Oprah Winfrey and Howard Stern. In 1996 the environmental guru hosted a discussion between Lyman, a vegetarian cricket, and a representative from the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, on the topic of mad cow disease. Winfrey swore-off hamburgers on the air, sending beef prices plummeting. She and Lyman are defendants in a SLAPP suit for over $12 million by a group of ranchers.
I charged up the hill behind the others, my sweat and the bitter bite of being last mingling. I pride myself on being able to keep up with the boys, but today another woman set the torturous pace. Jess, Chris and Jeff followed quickly after, and I trailed them like a kid sister. Worse yet, though we were parents, we were 2,000 feet of elevation in half an hour and half a mile. Noelle had the breath to speak at her normal clipped speed. Between the rattle of my own breath, I listened.

“The nest has probably been used before, possibly for a long time. I expect the same pair will use it again next year. We won’t see them today, though. Once the kids are self sufficient, Mom only stops in occasionally to check up.” I want to ask if goshawks mate monogamously, but I’m panting too heavily. “We’re close,” Noelle says, eyeing me with a bit of contempt. Known affectionately to her friends as Screech Owl, or Screech, she’s lived in the Scww7cw River area for a long time.

As we climb, she tells us about finding the nest. At the beginning of the summer, she and her assistants started plotting goshawk “pluck posts.” Unlike most bird of prey, goshawks kill and pluck a catch on the forest floor, leaving behind a circle of feathers and bones. After finding 11 pluck posts that could be positively identified as goshawk, the team focused on the area of greatest pluck post concentration. From observation platforms set in the tops of trees, Noelle and the rest of the group had the chance to see the nests.

One of the major problems, they realized, was the recorder was turned off and they heard something. Though she headed off quickly, the two puffballs sticking out of the totem animal of all forest activists. They are known as a specific patch of land and defend it vigorously. While the species Latin name, Accipiter gentilis, means the “Falcon Gentle” of medium falcony, goshawks are known for their fierce and aggressive behavior. By swooping and attacking long before an area of at least 20 to 25 acres surrounding their nest against humans and a larger area against other raptors. And, in the absence of habitat alteration, goshawks are likely to use the same nest for ten years. When goshawks abandon their territory, it is often because of logging. Studies have found a direct correlation between the rate of nest reoccupation and the severity of selective logging.

Because they nest in wooded areas with large trees and high canopy closure, goshawk declines could have affects on logging as far-flung as the boreal forests of Canada and the highland forests across the United States. Goshawks are likely to nest in these areas with active goshawk sites, the North Kaibab Ranger District in Arizona has the highest density of nesting Northern goshawks in North America. On that forest, between 1991 and 1993, the average brood success rate was 85.6 percent, and productivity fell to .54 young per pair. Between 1994 and 1996, brood success plummeted to 31.4 percent, and productivity fell to .54 young per pair.

In our efforts to protect the goshawk, the Southwest Region’s management plan to protect Northern spotted owls in the Pacific Northwest. Many such forests experienced increased logging after 1991 because they were designated as matrix lands, or habitat that did not have to be protected for the owl. Goshawks also rely on a 5,400-acre area for nesting in the coastal British Columbia and southeast Alaska. The goshawk, the truest enemy of the Northern goshawk, has been relatively well documented. One of the truly mysterious nature of these birds is that they are related to the same subspecies that has been used before, possibly for a long time. I expect the same pair will use it again next year. We won’t see them today, though. Once the kids are self sufficient, Mom only stops in occasionally to check up. We mean no harm, we are precursors of the totem animal of all forest activists. They are known for their fierce and aggressive behavior.

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IN INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE TO STOP DAM ON THE DANUBE

BY BELA LIPTAK

In its first environmental ruling, the International Court of Justice put an end to a failed dam project on the Blue Danube River, which separates Hungary and Slovakia. In September 1997, the court found both countries in breach of their legal obligations. It called upon them to carry out the relevant treaty obligations between them, while taking into account the situation that has developed since Hungary suspended dam construction in 1989.

The legal agreement goes back to 1977 when Hungary and Czechoslovakia concluded a treaty to build dams for power production, flood control and improvement of navigation on the Danube. In 1989, Hungary suspended and subsequently abandoned completion of the project, alleging that it entailed grave risks to the Hungarian environment and the water supply of Budapest, Slovakia (one of the successors to Czechoslovakia) denied these allegations, insisting that Hungary carry out its treaty obligations. It planned and subsequently put into operation an alternative channel on Slovak territory, the operation of which affected Hungary’s access to the water of the Danube.

When the lawsuit started, Hungary was ruled by a progressive, environmentally sensitive government. That government lost the elections of 1994 to the former Communists (MSZP). The Communist government favors the construction of the disputed dam. The area is an important habitat for fish and wildlife. Hungary’s decision was based on the assumption of a non-binding commitment between Hungary and Czechoslovakia that would not prevent construction. This commitment was rejected by the court.

The Hungarian public is passive, inexperienced and insecure when it comes to any form of free expression. Demonstrations or civil disobedience of any form were understood as a treasonous undermining of the state. Hungary has been the only country in Europe where free speech has been suppressed. Yet, if we consider the environmental tragedy that is at stake, we have no choice but to try to prevent an out-of-court deal.

A detailed solution has been offered that could satisfy the desires of all parties. This plan would return the area to its natural riverbed by eliminating the temporary Cunovo Dam and by starting up the Dunakiliti Dam, which would not block the riverbed or create a reservoir. Shipping would be guaranteed through both the natural riverbed and through the existing canal. Hungary would regain her border river, her wetlands in the Szegetkoz and her drinking water supplies. Slovakia would receive all the electricity generated at the existing Gabčíkovo dam.

From Hainburg to Szap, the region would become an international nature preserve, operated as an “European Free Zone” where all residents (Austrians, Hungarians and Slovaks) could work and travel freely. This sense of regional community and interdependence could later become the catalyst for wider reconciliation throughout central Europe.

If a positive solution can be reached, the world would save one of the planet’s richest ecosystems. In addition, a legal precedent would be established, showing that rivers and wetland regions are not the properties of nations but are the common treasures of all mankind.

While the Danube picture is bleak, it is not hopeless. A few dedicated environmentalists can make a difference. You can either help with the demonstrations at the Hungarian Parliament, where your organizing skills or media contacts would mean a great deal to us, or at the Hungarian Embassy nearest you.

The full text of the judgment, as well as the press communiques, are available on the website at http://www.icj-cij.org. To learn more about the details of the planned solution, visit the website at http://www.goodpoint.com/duna.htm. For more information, contact Bela Liptak at 84 Old N. Stamford Rd., Stamford, CT 06905-3961; (203) 746-7614; fax 523-3922; e-mail: liptakbel@com. Bela Liptak is the editor of the Environmental Engineers’ Handbook and president of the Foundation to Protect the Hungarian Environment.

NORTH AMERICA’S LARGEST PAPER MILL BEATEN TO A PULP

Eight years ago, the multinational paper giant Parsons & Whittemore (P&W) announced plans to build the largest virgin pulp and paper mill in North America. The proposed site was Apple Grove, West Virginia, on the banks of the Ohio River, conveniently located proximate to Ohio’s Wayne National Forest, most of Ohio’s state forests, West Virginia’s Monongahela National Forest and Kentucky’s Daniel Boone National Forest. Now, at long last, what would have been the largest pulp and paper mill in North America has been defeated.

If built, the mill would have consumed over 2,000 acres of forest each month, turning our recovering hardwood forests into pulp for bright white paper. The mill planned to bleach the pulp with chlorine dioxide, polluting our rivers and air with dioxin, one of the most toxic pollutants known.

The 13-month-old air permit for the Apple Grove Pulp and Paper Company came to a close in early August. After eight days of testimony before the West Virginia Air Quality Board, attorneys for the Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition (OVEC), pro se appellants from the Buckeye Forest Council in Athens, Ohio, Concerned Citizens Coalition in Spencer, West Virginia, and citizen Monty Fowler from Huntingdon, West Virginia, ended with closing arguments.

The air permit, which was issued in June 1996, has been under appeal since July of that year. In January 1997, P&W announced that plans to build the mill had been "indefinitely suspended" due to "world pulp prices." While that announcement was celebrated throughout the region, it was also greeted with much skepticism. The president of P&W also stated that once all the necessary permits were obtained, they would "reevaluate the need for the project."

In March, still more cracks in P&W’s plans emerged. P&W maintained an option to purchase the land for the mill from American Electric Power Company (AEP) for four years, but in March 1997 P&W allowed that option to expire. Opponents of the mill filed motions to repeal the air permit based on the lack of a site for the project. Since much of the permit is based on site-specific criteria, this could have meant the end of the air permit and the mill. Predictably, however, the Air Quality Board denied the motions for amending the permit.

The company is apparently playing games with the people of West Virginia and trying to strong-arm the local politicians into rushing this permit appeal through," said Jason Huber, the attorney representing OVEC in the appeal.

In a recent letter to the president of P&W, Director John Caffrey of the Division of Environmental Protection issued an ultimatum to the company: either demonstrate intention to build the mill, or the air permit will be revoked. Following the recent statement by West Virginia Governor Cecil Underwood in the Charleston Gazette that he believes plans for the pulp mill are indeed dead, the Air Quality Board ruled to delay its decision until after the deadline, that there may indeed be no pulp mill. On December 17, 1997, the day of the deadline, President Arthur Schwartz of P&W faxed a letter to Caffrey stating that the company “withdraws [its] request for all permits required to proceed at Apple Grove, and abandon the project.” The pulp mill was finally, officially dead.

For more information contact the Buckeye Forest Council at POB 99, Athens, OH 45701; (614) 594-6400; or Janet Fout of the Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition, 1101 6th Ave., Room 225, Huntington, WV 25701; (304) 522-0246.
US Orders All Sorts of Dams Destroyed

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), an agency that for much of this century has championed hydroelectric dams as the answer to energy needs, has issued a precedent-setting order that the Edwards Dam be removed from the Kennebec River in Augusta, Maine. The order is part of an attempt to restore the habitat of sea-run fish. Edwards Dam, a 30-year-old structure that has been under construction for three years, has impounded the Kennebec for 160 years, since Martin Van Buren was president of the US. The commission ruled that power produced by the dam “can be easily replaced” and that getting rid of the dam would open up large areas for fish and fishermen. “There will be no environmental or social drawbacks,” said the commission, which also required the company that owns the dam to pay for its removal.

In recent decades, research has shown that dams are the leading culprit in pushing many species of salmon and other anadromous fish toward extinction. The dam also cheats electricity consumers, funneling the bulk of its power needs, which is sold at three times the going rate for electricity in the state. The dam halts upstream passage for nine species of migrating fish. The federal government looks at dams differently these days; at long last, dynamiting all or part of a hydroelectric dam is now a serious proposal for river restoration. Dam removal has swung into fashion because of a dovetailing of historic and regulatory forces, as well as economic and social pressures. Most immediately, hundreds of the 30-to-50-year licenses that FERC issued to about 2,000 privately owned hydroelectric dams are now coming up for renewal. Under a 1986 change in federal law, FERC cannot renew these licenses without subjecting dam owners to a rigorous standard of environmental accountability.

At the end of the 20th century, the deregulation of the electricity industry and technological innovation have begun to push some dams into economic reality. In the Pacific Northwest, for instance, private dam owners have gas-fired turbines sell electricity at roughly the same price as dams operated by the federally subsidized Bonneville Power Administration. Many of the big dams on western rivers are owned and operated by the federal government and are not subject to FERC licensing, which covers dams owned by individuals, utilities or local governments. But the same environmental pressures that led to the demolition order for the Edwards Dam are mounting against federal dams. Most significantly, there is a scheme to breach four large dams on the lower Snake River in Washington State. These dams, which are only marginal contributors to the hydropower grid in the Northwest, are blamed by biologists for all but eliminating steelhead trout who spawn up the Rogue are trapped below the dam and trucked upstream for release. “We are realizing that dam removal is often less expensive than leaving a dam in place and building fish passage through it,” said Margaret Bowman, director of hydroelectric programs for American Rivers, a group that lobbies for free-flowing rivers. The Elk Creek and Edwards Dams are good examples. FERC determined that it would cost $10 million to build a fishway into the Edwards Dam, compared to $6 million to simply tear it down. Cost-efficiency and biologic prudence seem to be just the things that would cull the concrete behemoths once viewed as permanent fixtures on US rivers.

Brazilian Anti-Dam Activist Murdered

By GLENN SWITKES, INTERNATIONAL RIVERS NETWORK

Fulgencio Manoel da Silva, a leader of the northeastern Brazilian people’s movement resisting the Itaparica Dam was shot and killed on October 16, 1997 by an unknown assailant on the outskirts of the city of Breves in the state of Rio de Janeiro. Silva was 40,000 people evicted from their homes in northeastern Brazil to make way for the dam.

While the motive of his murder is still unclear, it is suspected that da Silva’s killing was ordered by drug traffickers operating in resettlement communities. Da Silva played a major role in preparing a complaint to the World Bank (one of the principal funders of the resettlement scheme) from people affected by the dam. The complaint charged that funds earmarked for improving the resettlement situation. But, following intense lobbying by the Brazilian government, the bank’s board of directors refused to authorize an investigation. Ten years after the dam’s construction, resettlement communities still have not been provided the promised irrigation water.

The Brazilian Movement of Dam-Affected People (MAB), which da Silva helped found, blames his murder on the deplorable social conditions resulting from the electric company’s failure to adequately compensate those evicted by the dam. In describing the situation, a MAB spokesperson said, “Money from the World Bank never reached families of small farmers, but was used to irrigate drug plantations.”

Aurélio Vianna of the Brazilian Network on Multilateral Lending Institutions remembered sa Silva as “a leader of rare value, who brought poetic expression to his political work by writing verses for repentistas [homeless peoples’ protest groups].”

“The river is our life-water. What it does with the life of the people, the life of the animals, the life of the environment that makes up the waters. This is true for the world, not just for Brazil.”

FRONTLINES

Helmet Lockdown at Dillon Creek

In the early hours of December 5, 1997, two forest activists locked themselves with metal sleeves to the propeller and landing gear of a helicopter that was prepared to protest continued logging at Dillon Creek, California. The activists remained locked down in below-freezing weather for 16 hours until mechanics removed the propeller and then the helicopter.

The protest was part of an ongoing direct action campaign to halt logging in the Outside timber sale area near Happy Camp, Cali­ fornia. The sale would clearcut near sacred prayer sites used by the Wiyot, Tolowa and Hoopa native tribes. The sale also breaches pristine Dillon Creek, one of only six streams left in California that is prime spawning grounds for steelhead trout. The December 5th creek supports 15 percent of the remaining population of the two fish.

The Dillon Creek action started with a five-day road blockade in June when activists locked themselves to concrete anchors buried in the road. Since then there have been several blockades and lockdowns.

More people and supplies are needed to help with the campaign. For more information write the Dillon Creek Forest Defense at POB 83, Happy Camp, CA 96039; (707) 441-3803.

Activists Expropriate Food from Fancy Montreal Hotel

At lunchtime on December 3, an anti-poverty and anti-hunger action took place in a posh restaurant in downtown Montreal, Canada. The Queen Elizabeth Hotel was targeted for a lightning raid organized by the Comité des Sans-Emplöys de Montréal Centre (CSEM, the Unem­ ployed of Central Montreal).

The action was an appropriation of bananas. A group of 10 people walked into the dining room and requisitioned platters of food to bring to those outside who had turned down a meal to give out the expropriated food. Much to the great surprise of the businesspeople there, two school children brought 110 low-income activists from the city’s working class east end to a steady stream of food-filled platters.

The managers of the restaurant immediately went ballistic, but there were too many well-coordinated organizations, to stop this action. The diners seemed stunned, and afterwards one activist said, “We hope that the action has helped to show the shameless men.” The atmosphere in the fancy dining room was surreal and charged—there was a palpable sensation that very tangibly dissolved the usual hierarchy and class isolation.

Soon, the first wave of actionists were carried walling across downtown, and several vans from the tactical squad appeared to block off the stairway in front of the building.

The hotel was sealed off for at least two more hours, as activists set up blocks along a major downtown street.

The police announced that everyone, including the vehicles that brought the food into the restaurant to expropriate and the people outside who were fed, was under arrest for participating in a riot. Ultimately, 108 people were arrested.

Network

The state and federal governments are deciding whether to remove several dams across the country, most of which have little or no power at the expense of many dead fish.

Dams to be Removed:

- Maine—Edward (Kennebec River)
- Michigan—Sturgeon (Sturgeon River)
- Montana—Birch (Birch River)
- Wisconsin—Woods Creek (Woods Creek)
- Nevada—Pine River

Potential Dam Removals:

- Washington—Cordut (White Salmon River), Elwha and Glines Canyon (Elwha River), four Army Corps dams (Lower Snake River)
- Colorado—Glen Canyon (Colorado River)
- New York—Station 160 (Genesee River)
- Maine—Great Works (Penobscot River), Maine (Penobscot River), Sodak (Soudank) (Soudak River), Florida—Rodman (Ocklawaha River)

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Cyaide Mining for Gold on Battle Mountain

BY DAVID KLEGMAN

In the middle of one of Washington state's most remote and undeveloped areas, Battle Mountain Gold (BMG) of Houston, Texas, plans to blast off the top of a mountain, crush it up, mix it with cyanide and fill the forested canyon of Marlas Creek with nine million tons of cyanide-laced tailings, all for a pick-up load of gold. The Okanogan Highlands Alliance's (OHA) challenge of Washington's first large-scale, open-pit cyanide-leach gold mine is in full swing. In January '97, after years of delay, the Final Environmental Impact Statement was released to the public. As expected, the Forest Service approved the project, and OHA appealed. The appeals were rejected, but we have challenged those rejections in federal court in Portland, Oregon. The Colville Tribes have intervened on our behalf, and the main legal arguments are expected to begin in late February.

In October, the Washington Department of Ecology (DOE) approved water rights for the proposed mine, despite the agency's long-held position that there isn't enough water available for new appropriation—a reasoning it has used to deny applications for water rights from downstream agricultural communities. Cyanide-leach gold mining removes tons of earth and tremendous quantities of water to recover just ounces of metal. The water rights permit was one of the key permits the company had to obtain before construction could begin. It is appalling that the DOE has denied every water permit in this area for decades because of chronic water shortages, then along comes a multinational corporation with lots of money, and it gets more than five farms worth of water.

The Department of Ecology caved-in to the enormous political pressure of the mining industry and granted BMG number of permits, including water rights, construction, stormwater and dam safety permits. OHA has appealed these decisions to the Pollution Control Hearings Board and has gone on the offensive. We have filed two lawsuits in state Superior Court in Thurston County. One case involves the water rights. The second case is intended to pressure DOE into requiring that the mine waste be disposed of in a licensed solid waste facility instead of a forested canyon and creek.

Hard-rock mining like that proposed for Buckhorn Mountain is still "regulated" by the antiquated 1872 Mining Law. Originally designed to encourage settlement of the American West by guaranteeing the extraction of publicly owned minerals for free, multinational mining corporations today profit at our expense from this sweetheart deal. The Forest Service hides behind the 1872 Mining Law and ignores modern environmental laws designed to protect human health.

Over 65 groups representing six million members have taken a position against this mine proposal. Let's get to 10 million and send a clear message that this mine is unacceptable. Write to the Okanogan Highlands Alliance at POB 163, Tonasket, WA 98855; e-mail: kliegoh@televar.com, http://www.televar.com/~kliegoh.

Kalmiopsis Wilderness at Risk!

For those who thought the Siskiyou Mountains in southern Oregon were safe after the victory at China Left (see EJF, Yule 1997), think again. A related environmental battle is just around the corner with the NICORE Corporation's proposed nickel mine on Rough & Ready Creek, within 30 miles of China Left.

The pristine Rough & Ready Creek, a tributary to the Wild and Scenic Illinois River, flows through the South Kalmiopsis roadless area. It is one of the last biologically rare and diverse places in the world, recently recognized by the World Wildlife Fund as deserving "immediate protection and restoration."

The 4,300-acre mining claim was bogt by Walt Freeman under the frontier-era Mining Law of 1872. It would destroy the 40-million-year-old national treasure, Rough & Ready Creek, and the surrounding habitat. The plan proposes building 15 miles of new road into a roadless area to accommodate 25-ton trucks making up to 3,600 trips annually through the fragile landscape. The trucks would cross the creek, known for its exceptionally clear water quality, at up to 11 places, some 14,000 times a year. A smelter would be built on Oregon land and three to five-acre-wide exposed tailing pits would remain, leaching toxic heavy metals into the creek, which is also upstream from some people's water supply.

Many local residents adamantly oppose the project. Kalmiopsis Earth First! along with the Siskiyou Project and the Sierra Club, among others, plan to fight to save this amazing and precious landscape.

Photographer Sandy Lonsdale and Debbie Lukas are taking a slideshow about the project on the road. (The first show will be February 12, the day before the Western Ancient Forest Conference, at the Headwaters Environmental Center at 84 Fourth St., Ashland, Oregon at 7:30 p.m.) They are also circulating a 10-minute video about the project and urge all those interested to obtain a copy and share it with others. To find out the other dates for the show or for more information about Rough & Ready Creek, please contact Debbie Lukas at POB 2093, Cave Junction, OR 97523; (541) 592-3386 or the Siskiyou Project at POB 220, Cave Junction, OR 97523; (541) 592-4459.

A related story: River Network, which negotiates deals for conservationists to buy public land, contracted with miner Darrell Brown to purchase 2,160 acres of mining claims in the heart of the rugged Kalmiopsis Wilderness Area. Brown will receive fair market value, $3.2 million, for the 160-acre, patented portion of the claims. Brown will relinquish the additional 2,000 acres as part of the deal. Federal funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund are being sought to give the land-holding protection comparable to the surrounding wilderness area. Once the land is returned to public ownership, more than 15 miles of access road along the Wild and Scenic Chetco River will be closed, and threatened wild salmon, steelhead and sea-run cutthroat trout will again be safe from the disturbance of gold mining.

Brown's access road is one of two controversial routes into the Kalmiopsis Wilderness. It feeds the Chetco River in two places and crosses several streams. The mining claims lie along an eight-mile stretch of the Chetco.

Of the nearby claims owned by mining companies, one has been relinquished by the owner. The other, owned by Carl Alleman, includes rights to more than 200 acres. The road system to his in-holding runs through the Kalmiopsis Wilderness for about six miles. He is currently seeking a permit for vehicular access from the Forest Service. Although the Alleman holdings are not directly involved with the Brown sale, the precedent of a successful purchase may convince Alleman to accept a buy-out as well.

The US Senate Appropriations Committee is the key to allocations of limited acquisition funds, and support from the Clinton administration is critical.

Send comments to Katy McGinty, Council on Environmental Quality, 360 Old Executive Office Building, Wash., DC 20501; (202) 456-6224; fax 456-2710. Jim Lyons, Under Secretary for Natural Resources, Dept. of Agriculture, 14th St. and Independence Ave., SW, Wash., DC 20250; (202) 720-7173; fax 720-4732.
Lamb Brook Victory Delays Freddies’ Plan to Clearcut Vermont

BY BLUE COYOTE

A federal appeals court in New York City has ruled that the Forest Service violated the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) when it decided to build logging roads into and clearcut the Lamb Brook area of Vermont’s Green Mountain National Forest. In a decision issued December 22, the first of its kind in the Northeast, the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals held that the Freddies “violated NEPA by failing to consider adequately all relevant environmental factors prior to making its finding of no significant impact.” The court left in place an injunction against logging and roadbuilding that has stymied the Forest Service from destroying Lamb Brook for two years.

Mat Jacobson, the executive director of Green Mountain Forest Watch, who was responsible for pushing organizations like the National Audubon Society, Sierra Club and the Wilderness Society, kicking and screaming into the litigation, termed the decision “a great victory for us and for the forests and creatures of Lamb Brook.”

Steve Saltonstall, the lawyer for the coalition, said, “We now call on the Green Mountain National Forest Supervisor, James Bartelme, to protect Lamb Brook forever. Our black bears and songbirds need deep wild forests, not wastelands of stumps and all-terrain vehicles.” Bartelme, who once simultaneously served as an aide-de-camp to timber tool Oregon Congressman Bob Smith while working for the Forest Service in its DC headquarters, would not comment publicly. It’s reported that he’s furious and ready to kick some serious Vermont-Forest-Service-staff butt for making him look like a loser.

Lost in the fog of victory was the fact that the 2nd Circuit’s opinion harmed the forest cause in general. The opinion endorsed the lower court’s conclusion that “irregulars actually look forward to the prospect of battling the Freddies in the forests, not just on paper.”

NEW SQUIRREL COUNT COMES UP SHORT

Just when you thought university bureaucrats fibbed, fleeced and cooked their books to champion rotten deals, along comes the University of Arizona to prove you right. A vilified rodent continues to foil the plans of the school to build seven giant telescopes on Mt. Graham near Tucson, Arizona. The university and their cronies in seven giant telescopes on Mt. Graham under consideration was

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD), which coordinates biannual counts of the Mt. Graham red squirrel, reported that the University of Arizona and US Forest Service officials overestimated red squirrel numbers by 20 to 50 percent in their monitoring program. The AGFD, previously no friend of the Mt. Graham red squirrel or the region’s indigenous people, has counted fewer than 400 squirrels on Mt. Graham. Conservationists claim any number under 500 is not good news for the subspecies’ survival rate.

Corridor H Superhighway ROAD TO NOWHERE

BY MARK ROBINOWITZ

Corridor H, the $1-billion “Road to Nowhere” across the Potomac Highlands of West Virginia, is still largely unfunded, as Congress did not pass the five-year ISTEA (transportation authorization) that would fund the 17-state Corridor H, the $1-billion “Road to Nowhere.” When Sen. Robert C. Byrd attempts to corral $2 billion in funds, road opponents will be pointling to the need to fix existing roads (a federal study found 45 percent of West Virginia’s bridges deficient) instead of building unneeded new highways.

Road advocates say Corridor H is needed to promote economic development. “Corporate welfare” beneficiaries of the road would include road contractors, large ski resorts, big timber haulers and the poultry industry, which has already polluted the Potomac watershed.

Opponents say Corridor H would be wasteful and destructive, and is definitely not needed. The road would cut through two national forests, cross 41 streams and impact two Civil War battlefields. The state of Virginia, citing the expense and the opposition of local communities, has refused to build its portion of Corridor H, which was to connect to I-81. As a result, ABC’s “It’s Your Money,” the Boston Globe and other national media have dubbed Corridor H a “Road to Nowhere.”

One group opposed to the project, Corridor H Alternatives, has appealed an Oct. 7 decision in a lower federal court which let highway agencies off the hook by failing to do timely historical studies or consider alternatives to the major four-lane road. The appeal hearing is expected this spring in federal appeals court in Richmond, VA.

Corridor H Alternatives must raise $35,000 by March to bring the appeal to federal court. They also need funds to educate citizens and public officials about the Road to Nowhere. Groups and individuals can mail contributions to Corridor H Alternatives, POB 11, Kerens, WV 26726. Make tax-deductible checks to the “Corridor H Legal Fund.” Also write to your members of Congress asking them not to fund Corridor H in the next ISTEA bill.

February-March 1998 Earth First! Page 11
The global warming battle is a strategic leverage point. To win it is to defeat the myriad faces of denial that sustain the fossil fuel empire.

From December 1 to 11, 10,000 people gathered in Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan, for the Third Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change. The conference had a sacred mission: to reach agreement among 160 nations on a treaty to restore the natural climate control system of the Earth, the basic planetary life-support system threatened by the six-billion tons of carbon dioxide released each year as humans extract and burn fossil fuels.

Comming away from the conference, I sense an ominous, deepening shift to significantly shift the destructive course of industrial civilization. The fossil fools are beginning to run scared. Enormous cracks have opened in the business-as-usual system, and the grip of the fossil fuel empire on the political flow of events has loosened. You may be surprised by the powerful forces aligning to revolutionize the energy systems and could not deny it—not even the US, Australia, Russia or the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. Even the most notorious fossil-fuel lobby group, the US Global Climate Coalition (GCC), completely avoided attacking the science.

Not that the fossil fuel faction has thrown in the towel just because its $14-million propaganda campaign in the run-up to Kyoto failed to sway the American public. (In a poll taken on the eve of the conference, the New York Times found that 65 percent of Americans believe the US should take action to fight global warming now, regardless of what other countries do.)

A second striking aspect was that “business” is no longer a monolith united in opposition to protecting the global environment. In 1997, the GCC suffered a major loss of corporate backing. British Petroleum announced its withdrawal from the lobby group, conceded that global warming is real and shifted its business strategy, setting a new target of $1 billion a year in sales of solar panels within a decade. Shell Oil followed, not by withdrawing from the GCC, but by committing $500 million to solar, wind and biomass energy technologies in the next four years. Representatives of the global insurance industry, which collects some $2 trillion in annual premiums, presented the industry’s most comprehensive statement on climate change ever, signed by 71 major companies. Their message: “Risk is our profession. Climate change is a real and serious hazard.” They warned that global warming can increase the destructive power of extreme weather events and that in several areas of the US a single storm could cause a staggering $100 billion in damages, enough to shake the industry to its financial roots. A 1996 report from the world’s largest reinsurer (which insures insurance companies), Munich Reinsurance, concluded that the damage from a single mega-storm hitting a major industrial center “would be so great as to cause the collapse of the world’s financial markets.” When asked if the industry is prepared to use its enormous investment resources to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy, spokespeople offered cautious optimism. They pointed to two recent investments by insurance companies in solar ventures: $2.75 million invested by Swiss Reinsurance and $2.75 million invested by the Gerling Insurance Group.

Further undermining the paradigm of the GCC that “saving the climate is bad for business,” the European and American Business Councils for Sustainable Energy asserted interest in a strong treaty that supports energy efficiency and renewable energy. The Worldwatch Institute presented its new paper, “Rising Sun, Gathering Winds: Policies to Stabilize the Climate and Strengthen Economies” that points out that both the solar and wind industries are growing at well over 20 percent annually and have together reached $3 billion in annual sales. Clean energy policies in Japan, Denmark and Germany have created many thousands of new jobs.

I was involved in circulating a proposal from Dennis Hayes, former director of President Carter’s Solar Energy Research Institute, by which the US government can pull down the cost of photovoltaic technology to below that of fossil fuel power within four years. This would ensure a solar revolution with just $5 billion (less than the federal subsidies still enjoyed each year by fossil fuel corporations in the US).

The proposal is based on the precedent of the computer chip. Were it not for massive government purchases in the 1960s (mainly by the Defense Department and NASA), computer chips might not be a commercially viable product today. The purchases triggered efficient mass production and design innovations that pulled prices down, creating a large commercial market. As a result, Hayes noted, “Volume shot up still further, and prices continued to fall... As with computer chips, every time that the volume of solar cells has increased, the cost has fallen.” Hayes’ $5-billion plan would pull costs down, making solar energy affordable to massive worldwide markets, which in turn would result in greater economies of scale and design innovation.

A range of events in Kyoto illuminated just how important it is to poorer nations to see global warming stopped and to take the clean energy path. For example, sea-level rise threatens the very existence of many small island nations. Immediately prior to Köhler’s speech, President Gore’s address, Kinza Clodumar, president of the Republic of Nauru, made perhaps Kyoto’s most searing speech. For thousands of years, Nauru was an island paradise, but in the last century, 80 percent of the island has been devastated by phosphate mining, leaving a thin coastal strip still livable. “And now we face a new threat,” President Clodumar told delegates: “The emission of greenhouse gases in distant lands is warming the Earth and causing the sea level to rise. The coastal fringe where my people live is but two meters above the sea surface. We are trapped, a wasteland at our back and to our front, a terrifying, rising flood of biblical proportions... we submit respectfully that the willful destruction of entire countries and cultures with foreknowledge would represent an unspeakable crime against humanity. No nation has the right to place its own, misconstrued national interest before the physical and cultural survival of whole countries. The crime is cultural genocide; it must not be tolerated by the family of nations. Köhler’s criticism is prettied up slowly by the emission of invisible gas.”

An Ogoni representative meets with the press at the Kyoto climate conference. Protesters wearing hoods and nooses held signs reading, “These are the only loopholes closed!” to reference Shell Oil’s complicity in the execution of nine Ogoni activists in Nigeria in November 1995.

In another powerful moment at the conference, the US government’s demand that poor nations commit to emissions reductions was a cynical negotiating ploy created by fossil fuel PR firms, advanced by the US Senate and taken to heart by US negotiators. At previous conferences, the consensus was that industrialized nations should lead the charge because the bulk of greenhouse gas emissions come from these countries. Also, rich countries that have plenty of food and an overabundance of automobiles and wealth can afford the transition. However, many developing nations have already done far more to curb emissions than the US. For example, has cut fossil fuel subsidies from 50 percent to almost zero. Europe and the US still subsidize fossil fuels to the tune of tens of billions of dollars. The US government continues to increase its military budget by insurance companies in solar ventures: $2.75 million invested by Swiss Reinsurance and $2.75 million invested by the Gerling Insurance Group. The crime is cultural genocide; it must not be tolerated by the family of nations. Köhler’s criticism is prettied up slowly by the emission of invisible gas.”

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Car-Free France

BY RANDY GHEN

Have you ever had to dodge speeding cars while scurrying across busy streets? Been angered by the amount of urban space occupied by cars? Mourned the loss of a car victim? Noticed a community lost to the destruction of nature and urban sprawl?

You’re not alone. A movement of activists has formed to liberate cities across Europe from cars, a growing movement making itself heard across national boundaries and language barriers. At a conference called Towards Car-Free Cities this international movement came together for a first-time fusion of ideas, experiences and culture.

Skill-training days taught bicycle repair, fundraising, “car walking” and building giant tripods to make road blockades. The schedule in Lyon was consensus-based, bilingual and interactive. The goal was to strengthen the international “car-free cities” movement, allow activists within it to exchange skills and information and launch ongoing cooperative international projects, including a campaign facilitation and resource center, a quarterly magazine, a pragmatic action manual, and a campaign facilitation and resource center.
Facing dwindling timber stocks and tightened environmental regulations in overcut forests at home, an army of Asian timber companies is plunging into the world's remaining rainforests. Leading the charge are Malaysian and Indonesian multinationals noted for their poor environmental records.

While logging in tropical rainforests is not new, these corporations are usually not held accountable by the host countries or the terms of their concessions. Atlantic Industries, for example, is a Malaysian firm that has used legal “holding companies,” bribery and intimidation of local officials to acquire the rights to log 200,000 acres of rainforest in the Columbia River Forest Reserve in Belize. Atlantic paid 60 cents per acre for the logging rights.

Scientists believe that the Colombian River Forest Reserve area is of global biological importance. There, for example, 1,500 species of flowering plants in the area, 15 of which are not found anywhere else. Scientists surveying the reserve in 1992 found three previously unknown species of frogs. The destruction of Belize’s tropical rainforest affects endangered tree frogs, neotropical songbirds and thousands of Mayan people. The Maya have lived in the area since 2000 B.C. Atlantic’s logging concession threatens half the population of Mayans in Belize, Julian Cho, a Mayan villager speaking out against the destruction of his homeland, claims that bulldozers dragging downed trees have loosened the thick forest soil, sending it crumbling in great red clumps into nearby streams. In addition, Cho says, game that was traditionally hunted for sustenance is becoming increasingly scarce.

Rebels in Venezuela’s Guianas region have been destroying a pipeline from Canaima, about ten miles downstream from where Cho lives, without drinking water last year when logging operations near streams filled the headwaters of the Temash River with mud. Logging violations are frequent, not only because there are so few government inspectors, but also because most inspectors are paid off to maintain their silence. Even when forestry monitors are present, they are rarely allowed to do their jobs. For example, in 1997 the pipeline was blown up for the 65th time last year. Another attack on January 4, 1998, forced closure of the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline near Arauquita, 230 miles northeast of Bogotá. More than 500 attacks have been recorded on the pipeline in the last decade. In June and December 1997, rebels fired on two helicopters carrying military and repair crew personnel, killing 21 soldiers and a crew member.

Colombia’s army and paramilitary groups repress the people’s resistance. A report by the International Organization of the University of Barcelona titled “Destructive Strategies of Colombian Guerrilla Organizations” says, “The guerrillas carry out a counterinsurgency strategy known locally as guillarte agua al pez (draining the fish tank). Instead of fighting the guerrillas, the army and pro-government paramilitary death squads target people they consider sympathizers.

The destruction of tropical rainforests was not a new phenomenon in Colombia, as they search for land mines and patrol the roadways. The sight of army troops has become commonplace in northeast Colombia, where they search for land mines and patrol the roadways. By mid-1997, the pipeline was blown up for the 65th time last year. Another attack on January 4, 1998, forced closure of the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline near Arauquita, 230 miles northeast of Bogotá. More than 500 attacks have been recorded on the pipeline in the last decade. In June and December 1997, rebels fired on two helicopters carrying military and repair crew personnel, killing 21 soldiers and a crew member.

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Military Opens Fire on Peaceful Protest in Sarawak

Using M16 rifles and pistols, Malaysian police opened fire on the Dayak Iban people without warning during a peaceful protest against the destruction of their lands by an oil palm plantation company. Two Iban were killed, and many others severely wounded during the attack in the state of Sarawak on December 19, 1997.

The small Iban community, living about 100 kilometers from the border with Indonesia, has been granted the right to live on the land it has inhabited for centuries. Despite this, the Malaysian government has encouraged oil palm companies to invade the Iban's land, which is rich in wildlife, including endangered species like tigers and rhinos.

The Iban have been protesting against the destruction of their land for many years, but their efforts have been met with resistance from the government and oil palm companies. The protest on December 19 was the latest in a series of peaceful demonstrations by the Iban to draw attention to their plight.

The police attack on the Iban community was widely condemned by the international community, with many calling for an investigation into the violence and accountability for those responsible. The Iban community remains committed to continuing their peaceful protests until their rights are respected and their land is protected.

Poaching Kills a Tiger Every Day in India

The London-based Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) has released a report that blames Indian politicians for failing to restrict poaching, which is threatening the survival of the Indian tiger and other wildlife. Additionally, the report highlights the role of organized crime in driving poaching.

The EIA report, titled "Wildlife: India's Tiger Crisis," states that India's tiger population is in decline due to poaching, habitat loss, and illegal wildlife trade. The report highlights the need for stronger laws and enforcement to protect tigers, which are considered a national symbol of India.

The EIA report calls on the government to take immediate action to protect tigers, including doubling the number of rangers, increasing fines for poaching, and strengthening laws against the import and export of tiger parts.

The report also calls on the international community to support India's efforts to protect tigers, including providing funding for anti-poaching programs.

The EIA report is the latest in a series of reports highlighting the urgent need to protect India's tigers and other endangered species. The Indian government has announced plans to increase funding for tiger conservation, but more needs to be done to protect these iconic animals.
Genetically Engineered, but it’s OK, it’s Organic!

By GARTH KAHN

While all agricultural production has impacts on natural ecosystems and biological diversity, consuming certified organic products is currently the only way to ensure that one’s consumption has the least possible impact, short of growing your own food and fiber. On December 16 the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) proposed legislation that could seriously undermine current organic practices in the US and lead to the use of materials like a rodenticide with a long history of poisoning wildlife, toxic municipal sewage sludge, and genetically engineered organisms (GEOs) in the production of “organic” crops. In response to the huge national and international demand for organic food sparked by environmental as well as human health concerns, the government is attempting to define and control organic farming. While the idea of a national definition of the term “organic” has merit (there are many organizations, some with relatively low standards, who “certify” the authenticity of organic food), the legislation in its current form has been heavily influenced by large-scale agribusiness and biotech interests, who would like nothing more than to “certify” the authenticity of organic food. The USDA solicited comment from thousands of activists, farmers and consumers across the country. In addition, the agency recruited a number of well-respected organic growers, processors, scientists and activists to serve on the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB). The NOSB prepared a set of recommendations that were generally quite thorough and would have allowed the continued expansion of organic agriculture without compromising its environmental integrity. In the currently proposed rules, however, the USDA ignores the recommendations of the NOSB in many areas, most notably by foregoing a total ban on the use of GEOs.

Among the genetically modified crops widely planted by conventional growers are: insecticide-producing corn, potatoes, cotton, canola (rape seed) and herbicide-resistant soybeans. According to industry sources, nearly 25 percent of both the soybean and canola crops in 1997 were genetically modified, and the 1998 GEO planting is expected to be much larger. These human-made organisms pose innumerable threats to the stability of natural ecosystems, not to mention unknown human health risks, as genes for insecticide production or other unnatural traits may be transferred from the cultivated plants to adjacent wild species via insects or other vectors. Imagine a host plant like milkweed, for instance, suddenly becoming toxic to the monarch butterflies that feed on it. Currently there is a nearly universal prohibition against the use of GEOs in organic agriculture, and the NOSB recommended that they be prohibited wholesale from organic farming and handling. Despite this strong sentiment from the NOSB and widespread public resistance to GEOs, the USDA wants to allow the use of pesticides and food additives derived from GEOs and consider the permissibility of other GEOs on a case by case basis.

Another troubling aspect of this document, and there are many, is a provision allowing livestock to “be maintained under conditions that restrict the available space for movement or their access to the outside.” The USDA took nearly a decade to craft these rules but is allowing the public only 30 days to comment. Once the comment period closes on March 16, 1998, the document will be passed to Congress, where reforming it will be even more difficult. There is a general sentiment within the organic agriculture community to stop the USDA from ignoring so many of the NOSB’s recommendations and may be responsive to public outcry. The agency is accepting written comments as well as faxes and e-mail until March 16. Please contact them and tell them to accept all of the NOSB’s recommendations without change, especially the ban on GEOs, and to only allow NOSB’s list of substances approved for use in organic farming and processing. Better yet, obtain a copy of the rule and contact the organizations below for more information on problems and loopholes found in the document.

Comments should be submitted before March 16 to Eileen S. Stommes, USDA National Organic Standards, Docket # TMD-94-00-2, USDA-AMS-TM-NOP, Room 4007-So., Ag Stop 0275, POB 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456; fax (202) 690-4632.

Additionally, comments may be sent via the internet through the National Organic Program’s homepage at http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop. To obtain a copy of the rule, contact Michael I. Hankin, Senior Agricultural Marketing Specialist, USDA-AMS-TM-NOP, Room 2510-So., POB 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456; (317) 539-4317; fax 539-6935; e-mail: cvo@fiquest.net or the National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides, 701 E Street, Washington, DC 20003; (202) 543-5450, fax 543-4791; e-mail: ncamp@igc.org.

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Additionally, comments may be sent via the internet through the National Organic Program’s homepage at http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop. To obtain a copy of the rule, contact Michael I. Hankin, Senior Agricultural Marketing Specialist, USDA-AMS-TM-NOP, Room 2510-So., POB 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456; (317) 539-4317; fax 539-6935; e-mail: cvo@fiquest.net or the National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides, 701 E Street, Washington, DC 20003; (202) 543-5450, fax 543-4791; e-mail: ncamp@igc.org.
Since 1982, the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) has led a covert campaign of economic sabotage and animal rescue operations in the United States and Canada. Using direct actions and propaganda, it is estimated that mainstream animal rights groups are not as active as the ALF. The ALF is seen by many animal rights activists as a movement's militant wing, breaking the law when necessary to drive the cost of animal suffering and reduce the scale of individual victims of torture. The government has proven time and again that its compassion lies with profiteers, providing sanctuary for the abuse and exploitation of non-human animals despite public opinion. Therein lies the justification for an illegal direct action contingent.

The ALF's early actions were primarily against animal research, or vivisection. One of the earlier raids in North America occurred in May 1987 at the University of Pennsylvania's Head Injury Laboratory, where the ALF confiscated videotapes revealing baboons having their skulls crushed. Releasing the tapes to the public helped lead to the lab's closure. Other raids centered on the rescue of individual victims of vivisection. In 1985, the ALF raided the University of California at Riverside, over 800 animals were rescued from psychology labs, including an infant macaque monkey whose eyelids had been sewn shut and was found isolated in a metal box as part of a "sensory deprivation" experiment. After rehabilitation, the infant was placed with a foster macaque mother who readily adopted her. The ALF escalated its campaign against vivisection in 1987 when it fire-bombed the unfinished Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at the University of California at Davis, causing over $3 million in property damage. The lab's primary purpose was to serve the livestock industry in its efforts to contain diseases that cut into profits. The largest lab animal liberation came in 1989 when the ALF rescued 1,200 animals from the University of Arizona. Computer records and files for vivisection were destroyed by fire in a microbiology lab.

ALF members have also been involved in major acts of eco-sabotage. The communion between direct action environmentalists and the ALF began on the West Coast, where as early as 1987, slaughterhouses and meat-processing plants were fire-bombed. In 1988, the offices of the California Cattlemen's Association in Sacramento were vandalized and the nearby Dixon Livestock Auction was fire-bombed by a coalition of both groups. According to the EF! Anti-grazing Task Force, the Dixon facility was a central hub for ranchers selling livestock, most of which grazed on public lands. On Earth Day 1990, the Earth Night Action Group, including activists from both movements, toppled powerlines from a coal-fired generation station in California to protest the burning of fossil fuels. Also in 1988, the ALF rescued 13 beagles from the University of California at Irvine, where the gas masks strapped to the beagles' faces forced them to breathe carbon dioxide to study the effects of air pollution. In 1987, the Western Wildlife Cell of the ALF was formed and its first action was to release 200 wild horses from a BLM facility in northeastern California where the horses were detained because they competed with cattle for grazing lands.

The ALF's campaign against illegal means doesn't come without government repression. Federal grand juries convened to investigate the 1987 UC Davis arson of the Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, but no activists were ever indicted. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) had their offices broken into; the federal indictment was due to their vocal support of the ALF.

In 1991, the Western Wildlife Cell of the ALF launched a series of raids on fur-farm industry targets, first fire-bombing Washington State University's Experimental Fur Farm, leading to its closure less than a year later. The next week, a fur farm feed distributor in Washington suffered an $800,000 arson attack. In August, the same cell of the ALF raided Washington State University, rescuing seven coyotes used to research sarcocystis, a disease that coyotes painlessly carry in the wild, that can damage the commercially valuable wool and meat of free-range sheep. Six mink were also rescued from the Experimental Fur Farm operated jointly by Utah State University and the US Department of Agriculture, an agency which conducts experimentation on behalf of both the livestock and fur industries. In December 1991, an Oregon fur farm was destroyed by fire. In February 1992, the Western Wildlife Cell of the ALF raided Michigan State University's (MSU) Furbearer Research Facility, which conducted experiments on mink, ferrets and otters. The experiments at MSU include force-feeding toxins such as PCs to study the effects of pollution in the Great Lakes ecosystem. Two mink were rescued and 30 years of animal research destroyed in a fire in the offices and labs of MSU.

Following these actions, the Department of Justice convened three federal grand juries that resulted in the subpoenaing of dozens of Earth Firsters, PETA members and other animal liberationists, four of whom were imprisoned for six months each for refusing to testify. Possibly the only action that best exemplified common struggle between Earth warriors and the ALF was the 1992 raid on the USDA's Animal Damage Control program. Utah State University (USU) vivisector Fred Knowlton has for the past 30 years developed and devised poisons and traps used to kill over a hundred thousand coyotes and other predators to benefit the livestock industry. The Predator Research Facility in Melville, Utah is where Knowlton imprisons over 120 wild-caught coyotes who are force-fed poison baits and used to test new traps. The ALF fire-bombed Knowlton's USU research facility, resulting in its destruction and the rescue of 32 coyotes. Following this action, a joint task force of local, state, university and federal law enforcement officials formed to indict ALF members, leading to the conviction of one of the activists responsible, who is currently serving a 57-month sentence in federal prison.

Undaunted, the ALF relaunched its campaign against the fur farm industry in 1995 when it began releasing fox and tens of thousands of mink from their cages on fur farms into the surrounding countryside. Each release gave fur farm prisoners freedom, but also resulted in thousands of dollars in damage to fur farms when they lost breeding records and genetic history.

By the summer of 1996, over 12 fur farms had been raided in Minnesota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, New York and Tennessee. With an estimated 15,000 mink released, the Fur Commission USA and Canadian Mink Breeders Association offered a $100,000 reward for the conviction of ALF activists.

The ALF's campaign against mink is two-fold. One objective is to inflict economic hardship on fur farms by decreasing profit margins and increasing operational costs. Additionally, pelt quality is compromised due to the loss of identity of prime breeding mink. Secondly, mink liberations allow these native animals to be returned to their natural habitat, which is identical to their wild cousins, the opportunity to refit their ecological niche. Fur farms are also notorious for the efficiency of animal waste into local water tables. In March 1997, the ALF raided Utah Fur Breeders Co-operative, using pipe-bombs that caused $2 million in damages, destroying offices and trucks, but injuring no mink or people. The co-op conducts nutrition research and distributes feed supplies to U.S. and Canadian fur farmers.

However, while mink and fox farm liberations continue across the country, an ALF cell fire-bombed the retail outlet Alaska Furs in Minnesota, causing another $1 million in damages. Following the May 1997 ALF raid on an Oregon fur farm resulting in the destruction of 10,000 mink, the Department of Justice convened a grand jury to investigate the ALF's actions against the fur and wild horses trade. The Animal Enterprise Protection Act (passed in 1992 following earlier ALF actions) makes such acts felonies, punishable by up to 10 years in prison and fines equal to triple the amount of damages.

Despite the attempts to repress activity by the federal government under pressure from the animal agriculture industries, the ALF continues to elude capture. At the close of 1997, it has accepted responsibility for raids on 45 fur farms in the US and Canada, resulting in approximately 75,000 mink and fox being released from their cages and millions of dollars in damage. According to an October 1997 communiqué following the release of 5,000 mink and an estimated $800,000 in damages to a Illinois fur farm, the ALF is far from defeated. "[Fur] stores will be attacked and [fur] farms raided until the whole industry is destroyed and all the animals are free. Millions of animals are slaughtered each year at the hands of the fur industry... Fur farmers and animal murderers beware! The Animal Liberation Front visits you next!" Clearly, as reflected by the industry's high reward for the conviction of activists and the government's investigations, nothing threatens the fur farm industry in the US as much as the ALF, direct actions and continued pressure on the retail market by above-ground allies.

Regardless of how one feels about the ALF's disregard for laws that sanction animal abuse, no one in the animal rights movement can deny that the ALF has helped push the atrocities of vivisection and the fur trade into the light of day. Federal repression is simply the price ALF is willing to pay for a strategy completely free from state control. Now our objective is to shatter the media-generated stereotype of the ALF as a purely "animal rights" organization. Such an image hides the truth that the ALF is an autonomous volunteer insurgency that is as opposed to environmental destruction as it is to animal abuse. The ALF's goal is to destroy the fur, livestock and other animal abuse industries responsible for the extermination of native species of plants and animals and their habitat as the result of direct killing, resource exploitation, development, aquatic pollution and competition from non-native animals. The objective is not only to stop the commercial exploitation of animals, but to see nature restored to a state in which native species are free and captive in fur farms, zoos, aquariums and circuses. The struggles of the ALF and Earth First! are too similar for us to remain divided; our opponents' worst fear is that we unite.
The Ecology of Animal Liberation

Where do the practice of animal liberation and the philosophy of deep ecology converge? Advocates to deep ecology value the intrinsic worth of the natural world as practitioners of animal liberation defend the right of any and every animal to individual liberty. The lynx, mink and fox imprisoned on America's 500-plus fur farms are denied freedom just as they are denied participation in a healthy, undisturbed ecosystem. Animal liberation and deep ecology are complementary visions of a compassionate world.

An animal's liberation means the freedom to live as her/his ancestors have for thousands of years, a life that not only maintains ecological integrity, but also a life that breeds happiness and prosperity for their families and communities. We must remember that 200 years ago (a nanosecond in the Earth's lifetime) there were no labo­ratory rats or guinea pigs. There existed no mice implanted with human DNA, no purpose-bred primates or genetically altered mink and fox on fur farms. These animals are Frankensteinian creations, victims of humanity's selfish imitation of life—humans posing as the creator of the life for the sake of economic gain, at a cost to animal nations and to our own health and shared environment. Animal liberation is a resistance to these attitudes and practices—deep ecology is a way of seeing the other beings with whom we share the earth as equals whose life has a purpose greater than any we can define.

Animal liberationists do not need scientists, linguists, sociologists or any other academic to validate or convince us that animal lives are worth defending. We've seen the expressions in the animals close to us, and if you are able to open your eyes wide enough, you can see it in the wildlife humans allow to survive—in bears who have been known to meditatively gaze at sunsets, dolphins frolicking in the waves and the proud mother wolf who loves her pups and is willing to die to protect them. Similarly, deep ecology teaches us that intuition and emotion can lead to joy and a deeper understanding of those other lives.

Animal liberators are defenders of biodiversity, but in addition to protecting healthy ecosystems we choose to defend the rights of all animals, be they bears, apes, coyotes, bison, rats or mink, because we believe they are part of the wild homelands feeding on the foods that sustain them, raising their children and perpetuating the culture sciences.

An uncle sam's bloody hands

Government agencies play a leading and especially malignant role in the persecution of wild- life. Where are they public agencies, the majority of the public is denied a meaningful voice in policy-making. Agencies pander to industry interests and perpetuate a cycle of atrocities whereby residents are paid to kill wild animal slaughter pays for more of the same.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is one of many agencies that dabbles in this shady business. The BLM has long argued that wild horses overgraze public lands and compete with native wildlife and cattle, though wild horses constitute less than 5 percent of all grazing animals on public land (while cows account for over 70 percent). Every year around 10,000 wild horses are rounded up by the BLM and sold through an "adoption program" where they end up as pets, rodeo broncos or are sold to slaughterhouses.

One BLM-supplied slaughterhouse, the Cavel West horse rendering plant in Redmond, Oregon, was targeted by the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) on July 21, 1997. A fire destroyed the slaughterhouse. Nine months after the fire, a BLM employee on America's 500-plus fur farms are denied freedom just as they are denied participation in a healthy, undisturbed ecosystem. Animal liberation and deep ecology are complementary visions of a compassionate world.

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The animal rights movement has long opposed the intensive confinement operations of the animal agriculture industry which raises over nine billion animals a year for human consumption in the US alone. We’ve heard that the grains fed to these animals could feed eight times as many humans as their flesh does. We know meat production depletes water resources, causes erosion and topsoil depletion and that livestock grazed over public lands destroys sensitive plant and animal life. We see that hundreds of thousands of native animals are killed every year to make way for livestock. But the factory farming of poultry, hogs and dairy cattle in the 1990s is injecting torrents of deadly waste into the nation’s waterways and wreaking untold environmental destruction.

The average corporate hog farm, housing between 15,000 and 30,000 pigs, produces more waste than a city of 100,000 people. With the pork industry’s annual slaughter of over 90 million pigs, each ton of pork results in 32 tons of waste. Half the coastal fish nurseries from Maine to Florida are contaminated with pig slaughter run-off, dumping phosphorous and fecal pollutants into the sea. Waste from pig farms breed bacteria and viruses such as avian bonalism and cholera which kill thousands of migratory waterfowl annually. Still, the industry grows.

In Utah, Smithfield Foods, the East Coast’s largest pork producer and three other North Carolina pork producers are currently building the world’s largest hog farm. When completed at the end of 1998, the operation will occupy 50,000 acres and raise 2.5 million pigs annually. The pigs will be housed 120,000 per barn and will produce more waste than all the human inhabitants in Utah. Smithfield Foods of Virginia was recently fined $12.6 million for polluting the Pagan River, feeding the Chesapeake Bay with animal and slaughterhouse waste containing phosphorous, cyanide, oil, ammonia and fecal coliform bacteria. Contamination levels were so high the state’s computer program believed it to be an error.

Smithfield Foods is not alone in its gross environmental pollution. In 1995, a waste spill from a hog farm, tripled the volume of the oil spilled in the Exxon Valdez disaster, killed 14 million fish and all aquatic life within a 17-mile stretch of the Neuse River in North Carolina. In 1996, there were more than 40 major animal waste spills which killed hundreds of thousands of fish in the San Joaquin Valley, now the nation’s largest dairy state, political donations from the dairy industry in recent years have topped $700,000, as few than half of the state’s 1,600 dairy farms undergo inspection despite the history of agricultural pollution that has nearly destroyed the delicate San Joaquin Valley ecosystem. As shocking as all this sounds, livestock producers face minimal water quality regulations in most states, requiring voluntary compliance at best.

Modern animal agriculture operations dominated by a few multinational agribusiness corporations have replaced small family farms with mega-farms. In these facilities, millions of pigs and chickens are housed in cages and pens where they can hardly move, never touch the Earth or see the light of day. Driven by the demand for a meat-centered diet by primarily affluent Americans, the animal agriculture industry has created factory farming operations that are killing our streams, rivers and estuaries.

Radical environmentalists as well as animal liberationists need to address the issue of livestock pollution if we are to protect our aquatic environments and preserve the lives of wildlife killed by industrialized agriculture. The livestock industry will resist reform as long as possible. It is time we organize coalitions to protect waterways from contamination and wildlife and domesticate animals from the horrors of corporate farming.

VIVISECTION: Torture By Any Other Name...

The cures for our modern ailments and illnesses will never be found through vivisection, the heinous practice of animal experimentation. People of conscience raise the question, “What gives humanity the right to subjugate other living beings to agonizing torture for our selfish benefit?” Nonetheless, vivisection prevails in laboratories all over the world.

Pro-vivisection forces funded by the biomedical and pharmaceutical industries argue that animal research saves lives by testing drugs for human safety on animals. However, the US General Accounting Office’s review of 198 of the 209 new drugs marketed between 1976 and 1985 found that 52 percent had “serious post-approval risks” not predicted by animal tests. Only six percent of all vivisection has any direct influence on human medicine need clinical trials on humans before conclusion.

In 1983, the pharmaceutical company Pfizer carried out a special study to see if animal experiments could correctly identify cancer-causing agents. Human experiments were compared with data from rats and mice for all chemicals known to cause cancer in people. In most cases, the data from animal tests were inconsistent with those from human studies.

Further doubt is cast on the efficacy of animal research because the species most often employed are usually chosen on non-specific grounds such as cost, ease of handling and laboratory tradition. Rabbits are the favorite animal for eye-irritation studies because they are inexpensive, readily available, docile and have large eyes for assessing results. However, there are major physiological and biochemical differences which make the rabbit eye a bad model for the human eye.

In one experiment, different lower primates were fed automatically only when they pulled a lever that administered a painful electrical shock to a fellow primate visible in an adjoining cage. Most preferred starvation, especially those which species is really the more civilized and intelligent. The desensitization that accompanies animal experimentation blinds us to the most obvious observations and allows incredible cruelty to continue.

It would take an encyclopedia to list all of the bizarre and barbaric experiments vivisectors have conjured up to inflict on animals behind locked laboratories. Monkeys are addicted to crack cocaine to replicate human addicts, kittens’ optical nerves are cut to mimic the blind, dogs have bones broken and spinal cords cut to imitate human disability, rats and mice are forced to carry human cancers and millions of other “lab” animals are force-fed poisons and have caustic substances applied to their eyes and genitals.

Vivisection is simply inaccurate and unnecessary in developing drugs and simulating ailments. The path to true health and the cure for our illnesses lies in our recovery from self-imposed madness and a return to a harmonious existence with nature. We owe it to the animal victims of vivisection to take immediate actions which exert economic and political pressure on vivisectors and put an end this barbaric practice.
Despite there being as few as 150 lynx left in Montana, the state continues to allow commercial fur trapping of this species. The US Fish and Wildlife Service acknowledges the lynx is endangered, yet refuses to offer the cat any protection from its nemesis—the logging industry and fur trade. Trappers oppose protection for the lynx under the Endangered Species Act, as it would protect not only the lynx but other furbears who share its habitat.

Veganism is life-affirming. To be vegan is to live, to the best of one's abilities, free from exploitation of animals for any purpose. A leap beyond veganism, it resists the cruelty and environmental footprint of dairy and egg production. It's a lifestyle that chooses compassion toward animals and conservation of the Earth.

The Eco-Connection
Environmental issues such as resource consumption, waste production and water pollution are inextricably tied to factory farming. Veganism is about living lower on the food chain and thereby having a much lesser impact on the Earth. When you consider that 16 pounds of grain and 2,500 gallons of water is necessary to produce a single pound of meat, it becomes obvious how 20 vegans can subsist on the amount of land necessary to support one person with a meat habit. Because veganism requires less consumption, it naturally generates less waste and water pollution.

Stand Up For Chickens
The vast majority of eggs are produced by “battery hens.” These birds are anxious, frustrated, feet-ridden, forced to spend 10 to 12 months squeezed inside small wire cages with up to nine other torturously hens before they are killed. Many birds develop a severe form of osteoporosis know as caged-layer fatigue, due to lack of exercise in their confined quarters. The multi-tiered cages can hold upwards of 125,000 birds. Depleted of calcium from excessive egg laying, millions of hens become paralyzed and die of hunger and thirst, just inches from their food and water.

Battery hens are often debeaked with a hot metallic blade in an attempt to stop the birds from pecking frantically at one another, as well as to save on feed costs. The thick layer of highly sensitive tissue between the horn and bone of the beak is severed in the procedure. Debeaking is usually done in the first few days of life, and typically again if the beak grows back. Researchers compare the chronic pain and suffering of debeaking to human phantom limb and stump pain.

Dairy is Scary
Artificial insemination is now responsible for 05 to 75 percent of all conceptions in the dairy herd. Females are often force-fed on milk substitutes to become dairy herd replacements and begin, at 18 to 24 months of age, the cycle of continual pregnancies. From birth, cows are bred to fill niches in the beef and dairy industries.

The least healthy of the calves are sent to slaughter for pet food or to provide veal for pies or the rennet extracted from their stomachs for cheesemaking. Some are sold at 1 to 2 weeks old to fatten in pens. Others are reared as bulls, spending their lives in solitary confinement, their spem collected for artificial insemination to turn out the next generation pieces in the cyclic plant. In the US the vast majority of unwanted calves are reared for veal; approximately 88 percent spend their miserable lives in narrow crates on wooden slats without straw. In solitary confinement, unable to turn around or groom themselves, they must drink the only diet they are allowed—a milk substitute gruel. Their fashionably white flesh is the result of sub-clinical anemia from the purposes deprivation of iron and fiber. Often suffering from viruses and disease, the calves are fed large doses of hormones and antibiotics to promote growth and prevent the onset of infections caused by the stress of confinement and malnutrition. After 14 weeks, barely able to walk, they are taken to slaughter.

Veganism rejects the facelessness of what appears on our dinner plates. It’s a reminder that the ancestors of animals used for food once fulfilled their ecological roles in the same way wild creatures do today. Now commodified, pigs, fowl, fish and animals endure brief lives and unspeakable deaths. Meanwhile, the Earth shoulders the burden of factory farms that have given less regard for the environment they impact than the animals they produce. In that way, the liberation of the Earth and the emancipation of animals are inextricably linked.

**WHY DAIRY IS SCARY**

**Books**
- Collard, Andrea with Joyce Contrauci. *Rape of the Wild: Man's Violence against Animals*.
- Mason, Jim and Peter Singer. *Animal Factories*.
- Ruesch, Hans. *Slaughter of the Innocent*.
- Newkirk, Ingrid. *Free the Animals*.

**AVAILABLE FROM THE DIRECT ACTION DEFENSE FUND**
- Western Wildlife Unit of the ALF. *Memories of Freedom*. (A step by step tour through Operation Bite-Back): zine. ($4)
- Animal Liberation (1972-1986). *Against All Odds*: (Traces the growth of the ALF movement with detailed accounts of court cases from the campaign. Vital reading for anyone who wants to see an end to vivisection):

**VIDEOS: Available from PETA**
- *Breaking Barriers* (horror account of the SEMA research facility in Rockville, MD, including the liberation of four baby chimpanzees.) Touring SEMA was the worst experience of my life.” — Dr. Jane Goodall
- *East Carolina University Dog Lab* (tape released by an ECU camera crew during a routine exercise.)
- *Silver Springs Monkeys* (historic case of animal abuse and the efforts to save 17 primates.)
- *Unnecessary Fuss* (a complete look into the labs at the Univ. of Pennsylvania as filmed by the viviseectors themselves.)

**“You better hope the anti-vivisection people don’t get a hold of this film.”**
—University of Pennsylvania vivisector
Must be an election year. Clinton's New Year's resolution announcing a new administrative rule placing an 18-month moratorium on roadbuilding in roadless areas was widely perceived to create a wave of positive media about Clinton and Gore being green without requiring any cutbacks in logging levels. Even before it was released, this rule was met with predictable cheers from the DC green sellouts and condemnation from big timber. The biggest recipient of timber industry campaign funds, Oregon Republican Senator Gordon Smith, shrieked, "This is wilderness that can be used by the public and has nothing to do with forest health or a balanced approach to the environment."

The press, encouraged by the DC environmental corporations, trotted out the nebulous proposal "to ban logging and other environmentally destructive practices in millions of acres of pristine forests," with much fanfare. Without yet knowing what the proposal was, proponents of the rule and reporters raved about it as a reversal of the US Forest Service's (USFS) historical emphasis on making federal forests accessible for logging, as a pitched battle for the heart and soul of the forest service as the single most important protection for wildlife and habitat to come from this administration, and as one of the most significant changes in the USFS since its establishment.

If I didn't know better, I'd think we were talking about the campaign for Zero Cut. Sure, it sounds grand. It sounds like Reagan's election-year rhetoric about the "great American crisis," the Bush's election-year claims to have ended the Cold War and then four years later to have prevented the nuclear armament of Saddam Hussein.

In actuality, the interim rule is a mere moratorium on permanent roads in roadless areas of 5,000 acres or greater to be in place for 18 months or until long-term management guidelines are written. The proposal is not permanent, does not protect roadless areas of less than 5,000 acres, does not stop grazing, mining or development, and does not ban temporary roads or logging, and does not protect federal forest areas in the Pacific Northwest or in Alaska's Tongass National Forest—which is a little like an 1853 proposal to free three-fourths of the country's land to facilitate the Outside timber sale at Dillon Creek.

The policy would also codify the 5,000-acre limit, ignoring the USFS' penchant for building miles of "ghost" roads, bringing the inventory up to 433,000 miles—ten times the interstate highway system.

During Clinton's reign, he has had two opportunities to stop similar incursion junkets by supporting the Western Ancient Forest Campaign's efforts to permanently protect even a single acre of public land. Neither time did Clinton do a thing. His vote in 1980 for the Wilderness Act would have protected 34 million acres of wilderness in the national forests. Both times, the legislation failed by a single vote. Neither time did Clinton do a thing to support it. In fact, Al Gore could have cast a tie-breaking vote during second and third readings but did not because he was, where else, at a fundraising dinner.

The 5,000-acre limit is key. The Oregon Natural Resources Council prevailed in a roadless lawsuit over a mere 1,000-acre area at Marble Mountain, an area that could be roaded and cut under the new rule. At that time, the court found that a 1,000-acre "roadless area was worthy of protection.

The results of the Roadless Area Evaluation of the 1979 (RARE II) are indicative of what can be expected. After RARE II protected only 15 million of the 80 million acres eligible, it was harder to defend the remaining 65 million that were equally deserving but which went unprotected. In essence, RARE II served as political cover to open "de facto" wildlands for development. Ultimately, pursuing any strategy based on tallying roadless acres is doomed. It is just too easy for the Forest Service to circumvent. A forest supervisor can destroy roadless areas with means other than strategic roads. Like Oregon, Oregon's Klamath National Forest declared the 34,000-acre Siskiyou roadless area 185-acres smaller than it was in order to facilitate the Outside timber sale at Dillon Creek.

In fact, in its 1995 forest plan, the Klamath "disappeared" whole roadless areas and portions of roadless areas without disclosing any reason for doing so. At the stroke of a pen, thousands of acres of untouched wildlands thus became available for logging. We aren't talking about rogue district rangers here, but a deliberate subversion of environmental regulations.

Worst of all, Clinton's long-term policy could result in more logging, not less, if the acreage protected in roadless areas is "traded" for volume elsewhere. The political mandate of Oregon's Democrats bears this out. They have argued for including Northwest forests in the moratorium but compensating for any losses to the timber industry in increased logging. In short, they want to hope that they are severely reprimanded by envi­ron­mental­ists for this serious greenwashing faux pas. The Clinton policy simply does not include any provision for roadless areas. Basically, Senator Ron Wyden and other Oregon Democrats advocate temporary protection of area A, at the cost of permanent stumps for area B. And, there is no guarantee that area A won't be logged next year. Trades are the bane of the environmental movement. We win nothing through them but collaboration in our own co-opation. As the writer Rick Smith, Executive Director of the Western Ancient Forest Campaign, put it, "A 38-year old road where only one was needed in order to fragment a roadless area into pieces smaller than 5,000 acres. The national forests are littered with road tentacles pushed to wilderness boundaries in order to preclude the segmented forest from ever being considered for protection—a successful strategy. It seems. For example, in 1987, the Umpqua National Forest in Oregon had a total of 133,184 acres of unprotected roadless areas greater than 5,000 acres in size. Two years later, 20 percent of those roadless areas were lost to the remaining 65 million that was due to fragmentation by roads and timber sales.

Environmentalists can't have it both ways, tricking themselves into thinking that this policy might permanently protect even a single acre of public lands while meaning the media out of the other side of their mouths that the policy is nothing but an "earthly suspension of road building in national forests—and it is a superb idea."

And in the end, the forests are unprotected; the environmentalists sound like knit-pickers; and Gore smells like roses. Does anyone else see a pattern here? Call me prophetic, but don't be surprised when the same sellout, mainstream groups sign onto the Gore campaign and push it as the lesser of two evils.
by Rob Edward, Sinapu

It has been a hard year for the beleaguered megafauna of the Northern Rockies. Last winter, ranchers and government officials slaughtered over half of Yellowstone’s buffalo herd, pushing it closer to disappearance. As if the war on the bison were not enough, in December 1997 a federal judge ordered that all of the wolves reintroduced into Yellowstone and central Idaho be removed. The judge’s decision played right into the hands of ranchers, raising deep concerns about the future of the great predators on the Northern Rockies. Further, the lawsuit behind this bizarre ruling speaks volumes about the vulnerabilities of the Endangered Species Act—and the dangers of political compromise.

During the development of the Northern Rockies Wolf Recovery Plan to reintroduce wolves in the 1980s, some environmentalists worried that rural distaste for the Endangered Species Act (ESA) would derail the whole program. The ESA is seen by rural folk as the mighty hammer of liberal urbanites seeking to destroy the institution of private property. Consequently, the organizations hatched an idea to a$$ure such fears.

To sell the reintroduction plan, the government classified the transplanted wolves as “experimental/non-essential,” rather than “endangered.” This change in status precluded any habitat protections (keeping the timber companies happy) and allowed ranchers to shoot wolves caught in the act of killing livestock—no questions asked. A win-win compromise, or so it seemed.

Meanwhile, in other quarters of the conservation movement, consternation was brewing. Some folks believed the compromise set a dangerous precedent, stripping pre-existing wolves in Idaho of their rightful legal protections under the ESA and precluding designation of critical habitat for wolves (thus requiring the US Forest Service to consider the impact of roads, RVs and timber sales on wolves).

Early in 1995, the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (now called Earth Justice Legal Defense Fund) filed suit against the government on behalf of the National Audubon Society, Preda-

tor Project, Sinapu and the Gray Wolf Committee. The suit sought to prevent removal of the naturally reclassifying wolves and did not involve the Yellowstone reintroduction.

On the second side of the barbed-wire, the Montana State Legal Foundation and the Farm Bureau Federation filed suit on behalf of ranchers seeking to halt the reintroduction. Ironically, their suit also challenged the use of the experimental/non-essential rule allowing reintroduction, although they broadened the scope of their case to include the Yellowstone program. This opened the doors for the Justice Department to combine the Farm Bureau case with the one filed by conservationists. While the decision to merge the two cases made the judge’s job easier, it bode poorly for the Idaho wolves.

In the first days of the reintroduction, the Farm Bureau’s lawyer moved to enjoin the wolf release. Earth Justice lawyer Doug Honnold urged Judge Downes to let the program move forward, “Even though we were suing the government over the program, our intent was not to stop wolves from being released,” Honnold reflected. In contrast, the Farm Bureau’s lawyers worked feverishly to prevent the release, right up until the transplanted wolves were let loose.

Though Judge Downes refused the motion for an injunction, legal wrangling delayed the release so long that the health of the wolves was placed in serious jeopardy.

Both sides expected a decision on the full case within a relatively short period of time. Months of waiting, however, turned into years.

Finally, in December 1997, Judge Downes unveiled a 50-page decision—in favor of both sets of plaintiffs. He agreed that the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) had inconsistently applied the experimental/non-essential rule. The ruling itself was cause for celebration, underscoring the fact that the Endangered Species Act must not be subverted for the sake of political expediency. However, Judge Downes threw a curveball, ordering that all of the reintroduced wolves and their progeny be captured and shipped back to Canada.

Few legal experts understand Judge Downes’ removal order. No legal precedent exists for such a decision. The remedy the conservationists sought was an order forcing the USFWS to revise its recovery plans to ensure that the naturally reclassifying wolves of Idaho be treated as endangered. That could have meant devising some complicated scheme to monitor the location of both the transplanted and the natives, declaring wolves of both groups in the areas of overlap as endangered or declaring the entire central Idaho population as endangered.

Honnold plans to ask the court to strike Judge Downes’ removal order and instead order the USFWS to revise the recovery plan to protect the wolves of central Idaho. As for the wolves of Yellowstone, Honnold argues, “The Farm Bureau and Judge Downes got it wrong. The purpose of the Endangered Species Act is to protect and restore species. Using the Act as a tool to destroy these wolves would make a mockery of that noble goal.”

This case will likely have implications for the impending revision of the Wolf recovery plan to protect the wolves of central Idaho. The Endangered or declaring the entire central Idaho population as endangered.

Snowmobilers Run Down Wolves

By Edward Deportes

In December, for the second time in less than nine months, a wolf was brutally maimed and left to die by snowmobilers in northeastern Minnesota. Recent two wolf attacks on wolves and other wildlife seem to be on the rise in the area as frustrated snowmobilers struggle for increased access into Voyagers National Park.

State and federal game wardens are looking for the two snowmobilers who ran down the snowbound wolf on the slippery ice of Birch Lake, near the town of Babbitt. The severely injured, nine-month-old pup was discovered, alive but unable to walk, by other snowmobilers soon after the incident. Ken Schleuter, conservation officer for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, was called to the scene and shot the wolf when it was clear it would not survive.

“From their tracks it looked like the snowmobilers hit him once but then hobbled away. Then they came back and hit him again. It was obvious they were trying to get him,” Schleuter said.

“From where they left him, he crawled about an arm’s length and then his legs were all broken up in several places.... They hit him in the head, too. The worst part is they didn’t kill it.”

Researchers from the USGS Geologic Survey verified the wolf was part of the nearby eight-member Perch Lake pack. “If they were chasing the pack off the lake, the first ones to fall behind would have been the pups,” Merch said.

A similar incident happened last year, also in the Babbitt area, when a wolf was killed by snowmobilers on a trail. State and federal officials are investigating the recent attack, yet haven’t found any hard evidence that might direct them to a specific snowmobiler so far.

Conservationists and wildlife biologists are concerned about the failure of the federal government to protect wildlife and their habitat from the impacts of increasingly powerful snowmobilers and off-road vehicles on national forests, parks and public lands throughout Minnesota—especially in the populous Lake, Minnesota, Superior and Cook Country areas frequented by high-horsepower snowmobilers that run into remote roadless mountains and wilderness areas.

The National Park Service is closing some areas of Voyagers NP to snowmobiling, and other human activities to protect timber wolves and the native ecosystem.

Killing a wolf is a federal crime punishable by a $10,000 fine or more. The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and Minnesota’s Turn In Poachers program are offering an award of $7,250 to anyone who can provide information on the attack that leads to the arrest and conviction of the culprits. To provide information and demand restrictions on snowmobiles in sensitive wildlife areas, call Ken Schleuter at (218) 827-2259, or USFWS’s POB 1000, Babbitt, MN 56623, 2259, Tumb In Researcher interest.

For more information on this issue, contact Predator Project at POB 6733, Bozeman, MT 59771; (406) 587-3389; e-mail: preoproject@avicom.net; http://www.wilddogproject.com; preoproject@sinapu at POB 3243, Boulder, CO 80307; (303) 447-8655; e-mail: rob@sinapu.org; http://www.sinapu.org.

Rob Edward is the acting executive director of Sinapu, a group dedicated to the recovery of wolves in the Wild Rockies and to the restoration of the wild habitats in which all species flourish.
Hog Farmers, Politicians and Other Swine

BY SID BRIDGES

The town of Guyman in the Oklahoma panhandle is surrounded by industrial hog farms owned by the Seaboard Corporation. Spanish and British multinational hog farmers have "discovered" the Oklahoma panhandle, and soon the tiny hamlet of Keyes will also have a 400,000-hog farm. South of my home in Enid, along the Cimarron River, hog farms are hidden among the dunes. Abundant water right below the ground attracts the hog farmers. Pipes from hog sheds pour black, tarry pigshit into huge lagoons. The lagoons are lined with plastic, but all plastic liners leak eventually.

Sinister, windowless buildings stand behind multiple strands of electric wire posted with "no trespassing" signs. Inside, brood hogs live out their lives on raised floors with gaps to waste to drip into the lagoons. When they die, their carcasses are dumped in piles to rot in the sun.

During an unannounced inspection of 44 of Seaboard's farms, the Oklahoma state Department of Agriculture found hog carcasses that had been impaled in a display behind 38 of the 44 farms. Dan Parrish, director of the water quality division of the Agriculture Department, told of the horrible stench created by the bloated, rotting hogs spilling out of containers. Protesters proposed fines totaling $1,075,000. Seaboard's attorney Terry Stratton pleaded for understanding; he's been named to a special task force to investigate alleged violations of regulations.

"Church became concerned when Land o' Lakes Corporation filed a claim for some time: Pig shit stinks and contaminates water supplies."

Officials for the United Methodist Church have indicated that the church has made donations to the Oklahoma Pork Producers, and some pig farmers have made donations to the Oklahoma Pork Producers. The church has also received $1,000 from a lobbyist for the pork council and Seaboard Corporation. House Speaker Loyd Benson had a "holiday bash" with tycoon John Tippens, who is a successful businessman from one of the hosts. Yes, the same Tyson Foods that was fined for bribing Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy. Tippens was indicted that the money was swayed in any way in consideration of poultry legislation in the coming session. "Absolutely not," he chirped, "I've got money from boys who won't let me hang." As a result of public outcry against the industry, some weak regulations have been put into place. No large pig farm can be established within a half-mile residence in the eastern half of the state and three-quarters of a mile in the western half. Plastic liners for lagoons are now mandatory, and the groundwater around lagoons is routinely checked for contamination. The new regulations went into effect in September 1997, and applications were not to be approved in just one of the minimal requirements. A move is also underway to establish a moratorium on any new hog farm. Much of the resistance to this is regarding adverse environmental impacts can be completed. This has created another surge of applications out of the fear that a moratorium will occur. Seaboard Corporation has threatened to move its operation to Argentina if more regulations or a moratorium are legislated.

How did Oklahoma become a Mecca for the hog industry? Two trends converged, the result of the advertising campaign. European countries passed strong environmental laws regarding pork operations. Odor and groundwater contamination were chief concerns. Also, the Europeans have less tolerance for cruelty to animals than we apparently do. Here, pigs are crowded into sheds so tightly that they cannot move, and they are killed by using a wire that chew off the ears and tails of other hogs. The Europeans would not stand for that, so the multinationals headed for a country where the regulations are more lax.

The other factor was the oil bust and farm crisis of the 1980s in Oklahoma. One of our more disturbed and greedy governors decided that to get Oklahoma's economy going again, we should invite the pork boys in. The Department of Commerce ran newspaper ads in publications inviting companies to move here, outing our lack of environmental regulations as a major selling point.

Oklahoma once had a long history of laws banning corporate farming in the state. In 1991, these laws were altered, opening the door to corporate farming in. Smarting from public criticism, some politicians maintain that the deregulation only allowed corporations to continue doing what small farmers were doing and that they did not intend to create a climate conducive to massive corporate operations. They blame slick corporate lawyers for circumventing the intent of the laws.

Farmers, corporate executives and a plethora of political action committees have made donations to Governor Keating, Speaker Loyd Benson and Agriculture Chairman Paul Muegge, among others. Keating's campaign received $2,000 from Mike Simmonds, a questionable contributor to the pork industry. The legislature granted no contracts with independent poultry growers in Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma. Senate Pro Tem Stratton Taylor rejected these contracts.

The state legislature approved a study showing that nitrate levels were excessively high in the Canton Lake watershed, where Oklahoma City gets its drinking water. Both nitrates and phosphates are found in pig manure. When the House of Representatives ordered a watershed study of the area, the hog farm operators were ready for them. Pig Improvement Company, a multinational corporation based in England, maintains that it tested the soil prior to the start of operations and found that excessively high levels of nitrates preexisted. When Pig Improvement was forced to close its operations, virtually no state regulations regulated hog farms. No tests or environmental impact studies were conducted, so the state has no data to refute the claim.

The legislature is finally taking action, not out of undue environmental concern, but because of Oklahoma City's drinking water. Sport fishing and waterfowl hunting are also popular in the area, and the evidence indicates that wetlands are becoming contaminated. Rural residents in western Oklahoma living sparsely populated areas could not get a hearing about their odor complaints or their springs and wells that went dry when the hog farms sucked up the aquifers. Companies installed facilities virtually next to the yards of neighboring houses.

Not all of the swine are confined to the farms; some can be found in the state house and the governor's mansion. The Tulsa World reported that the Oklahoma Pork Council gave contributions to 25 lawmakers last year. Three of those recipients have been named to a special task force to study corporate animal waste and water quality. Environmental threats from the pig and chicken industries are being discussed now in the state legislature.

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A few of the women went into the woods by the side of the road with machetes and cut branches off trees or from the ground for the children collected little piles of rocks. Chris and I volunteered to go up the road a bit to be lookouts. As we walked in the increasing darkness, I wondered if this was the first time I had actually encountered the military. A young boy and his even younger brother came running up to us.

"Tienes miedo? (Are you afraid?), the boy asked.

"No," Chris said as emphatically as he could muster. "Are you afraid?"

"No!" he echoed, looking as brave as a four-year old can.

We headed there as the sky grew black and the view of the 60 women waiting behind us faded into darkness. Eventually a man came to tell us the army had turned around and we could go back to the village.

That morning, the same call had come. We marched down the road and reviewed what we, as Peace Campers, were supposed to do. We were not to become involved in the confrontation in any way. We are witnesses, photographers and an international presence to deter the military from violence. Our job is to just be there.

It seemed an almost false alarm. The people from the village soon went back to their chores, and I stayed at the lookout spot with several Peace Campers and children. I lay down in the rubble, pulled my cap over my eyes and dozed off to sleep.

"The army's here!" I sat up and looked around. Was it true? Indeed, up the road there was a line of military trucks filled with soldiers. I jumped to my feet, and two kids ran toward the village, yelling at the top of their lungs. I turned back toward the military convoy and saw that they had stopped. A man from the front vehicle was checking us out through binoculars.

Out of thin air, the women appeared. I can think of no better way to describe them than as Angry Moms. If you've ever seen a mother react to the unjust treatment of her child, multiply that by 100. A mother's rage is incomparable. They came up the road wielding sticks and clubs and shouting with a fury that I was completely unprepared for. A crowd of children were at their feet, carrying sticks and rocks.

"Killers! Assassins!"

"Stop the war! We don't need your army here!"

"Go back to your barracks! Morelia is not your barracks!"

As they arrived at the crest of the hill where we waited, one of the women pointed her finger in the direction of the refugees and told them to turn back. We all turned toward the vehicles and shouted at them so loudly that I thought they would never hear us. The soldiers kept on running after the convoy in the cloud of dust kicked up by the trucks.

"You should be ashamed of yourself," one woman yelled at a timid looking soldier. "Your army killed my brother! How can you kill your own people?"

Soon there were about 100 people yelling and screaming at about 100 soldiers. Several high-official-looking men climbed out of the trucks and came toward the Peace Campers. I stood off to the side while Chris frantically snapped photos.

A man stepped toward us. He looked straight out of a Tommy Lee Jones movie with mirrored sunglasses, a big mustache, a baseball hat and a coat that said Narrotico. He called over to Chris, "Where are you from?"

"The United States," Chris called back.

"Let me see your papers."

"Are you Migra? (Migra are the immigration police whose main duty is to kick pesky international solidarity activists out of the country so the military can go about its business of terrorizing the indigenous population.)"

"Yes."

"Let me see," Chris challenged him. The man pulled out a badge from his pocket and flashed it, but not quickly enough.

"You're not Migra," said Chris. The man smiled, put his badge away, got back in his truck with the others and pulled away again.

"Maybe this time they'll let them go," I thought to myself. But no such luck. The villagers ran after the trucks, continuing to hurl insults and rocks. Another kilometer further, the military trucks stopped again, and the familiar scene ensued. By now, the men from Morelia had decided it was safe and had joined us.

I looked over and saw Chris beside one of the trucks taking a close-up photo of one of the soldiers. They exchanged some words. Later I asked Chris what he had said.

"I pointed at his gun and said, 'That's your gringo aid,' and then I pointed to my camera and said, 'And this is their gringo aid.'"

I sat down with the other Peace Campers by the side of the road and waited to see what would happen. The Narrotico guy came over to us and said, "This is your fault! You foreigners are putting these people fear of further violence, outgoing and anti-narcotics actions. Since much of the new weaponry, vehicles and other equipment used in these actions is from the US and may have been provided exclusively for use in "antidrug operations," the presence of Mexican narcotics agents serves propaganda purposes. In addition to demanding an end to all US military assistance to Mexico, activists in the US should demand an investigation into the use of equipment for antidrug operations against the Zapatistas. Please write to President Zedillo urging concern at the growing climate of violence in Chiapas, the impunity enjoyed by paramilitary groups, and the recent troop movements into civilian communities in the conflict zone.

Out of fear of further violence, 8,000 people fled Acteal and the adjoining communities. Even those in nearby communities live with little food and inadequate shelter. There is a great need for both physical and psychological aid.

For more information and to send donations, contact the National Commission for Democracy in Mexico, 2001 Montana, Suite B, El Paso, TX 79903; phone: (915) 395-3401.

Send your communications to Dr. Ernesto Zedillo, President of the Republica, Palacio Nacional, 06067, Mexico D.F., Mexico; fax (+52 5) 515 17 94/542 1648.
MOUSING WITH PUBLIC LANDS
continued from front page
the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the National Park Service, and four other federal land-management agencies. That agreement defined a working partnership between Disney and the federal and state governments: "Focus areas will include recreation and education/interpretation efforts." But Mickey Mouse knows no more about ecosystem management or biodiversity than Smokey Bear knows about the benefits of fire. This partnership has major implications regarding the type of self-serving, mind-altering, corporate propaganda that Disney will be forcing upon the public lands visitors. They do it at Disney World, and they will soon be doing it in the real world as well.

By then, we will hardly be able to tell the difference.

3) The cost of public lands recreation must be decreased to the point that privately provided recreation can compete. Raising prices is touted as the solution to the overcrowding now caused by tourism. The theory is that private recreation providers will be able to absorb increased demand for recreation, and that as long as there is little or no cost differential compared to the public alternative. Many of ABC's members, such as the Kamloops of America (KOA), are providers of private recreation alternatives.

4) Federal recreation dollars will be preferentially spent on facilities located near urban population centers. It takes lots of paying customers to run a profitable recreation business. Urban areas tend to have greater disposable incomes and are generally quite willing to "purchase" recreation. Unprofitable federal facilities will be closed or allowed to fall into disrepair. Opportunities for undeveloped recreation do not figure in this equation.

5) "Under-utilized" recreational resources should be developed to facilitate increased usage. The Department of Interior's website includes an article written by an ARC member, a recreationist that speaks of a terrific small-scale motorboat lake near Boise, Idaho, and explains how this crowding problem could be solved by developing new marina facilities and paved access to the absolutely "pristine" Owyhee Reservoir in nearby (yet remote) eastern Oregon. The wanton sacrifice of such a magnificent lake is unconscionable.

6) Partnerships with private corporations shall be encouraged. In a document entitled "Recreation 2000 Update" the BLM states: "The federal government is taking a completely new look at the way we do business. In the past, we relied heavily on congressional appropriations as the traditional means for supporting recreation management efforts. We must now continue to look outward instead of upward for new sources of funding. In the future, we will strive to develop partnerships that assemble a wide range of potential sponsors and to 'share resources to help manage defined landscape units.' " On the last page of this document it is revealed that the American Recreation Coalition and four ARC member corporations helped "coordinate management approach efforts. We must now continue to look outward instead of upward for new sources of funding. In the future, we will strive to develop partnerships that assemble a wide range of potential sponsors and to 'share resources to help manage defined landscape units.' " On the last page of this document, it is revealed that the American Recreation Coalition and four ARC member corporations helped "coordinate management approach efforts. We must now continue to look outward instead of upward for new sources of funding. In the future, we will strive to develop partnerships that assemble a wide range of potential sponsors and to 'share resources to help manage defined landscape units.' " On the last page of this document it is revealed that the American Recreation Coalition and four ARC member corporations helped "coordinate management approach efforts. We must now continue to look outward instead of upward for new sources of funding. In the future, we will strive to develop partnerships that assemble a wide range of potential sponsors and to 'share resources to help manage defined landscape units.' "

7) "Scenic byways" and "all-American roads" will be designated and actively promoted. ARC members Chevron, Exxon and the American Petroleum Institute have been promoting "driving for pleasure," as one of the centerpiece's of their motorization agenda. That agreement defined a working partnership between Disney and the federal and state governments: "Focus areas will include recreation and education/interpretation efforts." But Mickey Mouse knows no more about ecosystem management or biodiversity than Smokey Bear knows about the benefits of fire. This partnership has major implications regarding the type of self-serving, mind-altering, corporate propaganda that Disney will be forcing upon the public lands visitors. They do it at Disney World, and they will soon be doing it in the real world as well.

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To these bureaucrats, our public lands are their working capital.

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A small sampling of projects illustrate how these policies are actually being used to commercialize, privatize and motorize our public lands.

The "nature-based tourism super company," Egeret Communications, has proposed construction of a mile-long "spiderweb of elevated walkways" suspended within the canopy of a 1,500-year-old, publicly owned, giant重新 published from page 25.

The Dodge Ridge Corporation has gained a one-year special use permit from the Stanislaus National Forest to create a "pay-for-use" gondomed ski trail system, an area that has already been used by backcountry wilderness skiers.

One of the remaining old-growth wetlands in central Alabama (Cooter's Pond) was recently clearcut by the Army Corps of Engineers to create a "pay-for-use" golf course. The Corps Corps will receive $1 per year and think this is "deal." The USFS is currently negotiating a land swap that would swap 263 acres of public land in the face of Grand Targhee ski slope in western Wyoming. Three years ago, the USFS ran a rumor that a similar swap saying "it would not be in the public interest." According to Las Vegas Review Journal, "There's no disagreement that Grand Canyon National Park has big problems. [New Jersey developer] DePaolo's answer is a $500 million development including 3,650 hotel rooms, 250 campgrounds and 425,000 square feet of retail space, roughly the equivalent of seven large department stores. It would also include employee housing and a park-and-ride facility. The location of this proposed development is on publicly owned forest land just south of the park. DePaolo has recently purchased private lands elsewhere in Arizona's national parks and has agreed to swap these lands for the Grand Canyon portal. These examples are only the tip of the iceberg for the future of public lands recreation. If you don't want to be "malled to death" in your backyard, you have a right to public lands. If you want to change the administration, you must continue to challenge it.

Readers can learn much more about this subject or spread the word about a future Wild Wilderness Superbill by writing a letter to Senator Frank Murkowski and the American Recreation Coalition.

The author, Scott Silver, is a co-founder and executive director of Wild Wilderness. Located in Bend, Oregon, Wild Wilderness has fought in support of undeveloped recreation since 1991.

February-March 1998 Earth First! Page 25
Bare Bones

Victory for BC Indians

Canada’s Supreme Court issued a landmark decision in December, establishing that First Nations rights to resource-rich land were not invalidated by European settlement. The case involved claims to 22,000 square miles in British Columbia but has implications for almost all of Canada. The ruling could also help bring large compensation settlements for First Nations, with ramifications for lumber and mineral exploration and the health of an ecosystem.

Supporting our people in jail is as important as waging campaigns of resistance. Prison is designed to isolate people and can be brutal and demoralizing. One of the best ways to counter the isolation of imprisonment is by writing letters to activists in jail.

Writing your first letter of support to a prisoner can be intimidating. You may know nothing about the jailbird other than that they have been imprisoned for direct action. You may be asking yourself, “What if they think I’m stupid?” or “Is my letter going to be boring to them?” as you write your first letter of support. If it helps, before anything else, write, “This is the first letter I’ve ever written to a prisoner. I’m not really sure what to write or what you’re interested in.” Then, write the sort of letter you’d like to receive.

A lot of political prisoners receive letters that are basically hero worship: “I think you’re brave. I could never do what you did.” Avoid this. Prisoners are just normal people who care enough to act. They’re not superheroes, and they don’t want demigod status. Above all, statements like, “I could never do what you did!” are total turn-offs to those who feel they had to do that to fight for justice, and who didn’t want to do it but thought they had to. They will not respond to a letter that is only a series of questions. Remember that people in jail can’t see or hear from you. They can’t read the questions you ask, but only what you are able to write. They may have only a few minutes to write a letter. If you send a letter that is only questions, the prisoner may put it in the garbage.

I have received many letters with long lists of questions. As I need to ask questions, I am not in the position of questioning someone who has done what I didn’t have the courage to do. I am not in the position of telling someone else what to do. I am in the position of asking questions, too. So, you need to ask questions that people want to answer.

Writing letters is an awesome way to support prisoners. You may never know how much you helped a particular person, but you can know how much you are helping the movement.

Sicko Cuts Down Sitka

It took more than 300 years for a rare Sitka spruce cut down by the Sicko to get sprouted. Sitka spruce sprouted from the original spruce root planted by the Sitka elders near the site of the Sitka settlement. It was taken by the Sitka elders to a site on Queen Charlotte Island, British Columbia. It took just one night for a Sitka spruce cut down by the Sicko to get sprouted. The ruling affirms Congress’ authority to protect an endangered species whose range is limited to a single state. Nearly half of all federally listed species are in California.

Antarctica Protected

The landmark Environmental Protection Protocol to the Antarctic Treaty was finally ratified on December 16, 1997. The protocol bans all oil and mineral exploration and mining in Antarctica for a minimum of 50 years and designates the whole continent a natural park reserved to peace and science. Enforcement of the protocol is necessary to safeguard Antarctica as a natural and wilderness area and scientific laboratory. Japan’s ratification was the last from the 26 Antarctic Treaty nations that signed the protocol needed to become law. Negotiated in 1991, it has taken over six years for all the nations to ratify the protocol. For US environmental organizations who have collaborated over many years, first to oppose, and then to support, oil and mineral drilling in Antarctica, and then to build the strongest possible international agreement to protect the Antarctic environment, international ratification is a major victory.

Writing Letters of Support to Prisoners

Dos:

- Write like mad! If you can’t always write a full letter, send a greeting card, short note or postcard. Anything received in prison from the outside world is heartening.
- Always use prisoners’ numbers along with their names and the address.
- The more colorful, artistic and creative your letter is, the better! Send pictures of wild places and things that jailbirds can post on their walls to brighten up their cells.
- Clipping and pasting giant support letters or community gatherings you attend. Put a jailbird’s name on a large piece of easel or notebook paper. Stick a removable piece of paper on the card that briefly explains who the person is and why they’re in jail. Posting several such cards at a table, with lots of colored pens is a great way of encouraging people to write to prisoners.
- Include a return address on your letter/postcard. Some prisoners won’t accept letters without a return address, and the prisoner you have written will likely want to send you a reply. Send them a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Don’ts:

- Never intimidate people or jeopardize the security of campaigns or actions by discussing sensitive information in your letter.
- Don’t send money or send anything that could be construed as culturally or religiously offensive, such as Christian- or drug-related references. Remember, prisoners come from all walks of life.
- Don’t send fresher than fresh. Money is often more than fresh. Freshness can be cut by checking on too much support. Letting people down in jail is despicable. Pick a prisoner or a group of prisoners to support, and maintain strong support for them by incorporating it into your everyday life. Pick prisoners to support, not jailbirds every Saturday afternoon. It might be helpful to focus your support of prisoners by the countries they are from in countries where they are from. Earth or animal liberation, anti-nuke resistance or native rights.

Other Tips for Effective Prisoner Support:

- Send free subscriptions of magazines and paperback books to jailbirds if they want them. Magazines may give free subscriptions to political prisoners if solicited (the Earth First journal does). Bookstores, libraries and religious and educational institutions may also give magazines and books to jailbirds. You can easily send your own magazine/books once you’ve read them. Usually paperback books may be received enclosed in regular brown envelopes (no padding). Left Bank Books sells free books to prisoners. Contact them at Books to Prisoners, 92 Pike St., Box A, Seattle, WA 98101.
- If both you and the prisoner feel comfortable with it, you may arrange to deposit money in their financial accounts. The best way to do this is by sending them a jailbird’s name on a large piece of easel paper.
- Circulate giant support cards for jailbirds at any gatherings you attend.
- To the Haida natives of the area, the spruce represented a boy who filed a snowstorm, disobeyed a sign, and went swimming across a river to the site and cut down the trees. He then sent a newspaper a note railing against “freaks” in classrooms and corporate boardrooms.
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The following directory lists imprisoned animal liberation activists and support groups with the intention of increasing support for prisoners of conscience. These activists are dedicated to lasting change towards a world where all life is respected and loved to the fullest. Contact them and their support groups to help us be of assistance. We apologize if we’ve misqoted some names.

**EARTH LIBERATION GANDALF PRISONERS**

On November 13, 1997, three editors from the Green Anarchist magazine were sentenced to three years in prison for conspiracy to incite persons to international terrorism and to violate their alleged “cause.” Their so-called crime was reporting on Earth/animal liberation activity. Write to the prisons and tell them your support.

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**ANIMAL LIBERATION**

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**Peace Prisoners**

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**They’re in there for us...**

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<td>Helen Woodson</td>
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**We’re out here for them...**

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**SAVING OUR EARTH**

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**BARE BONES**

Oregon Aims at Coyotes

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has announced it will allow hunting of coyotes in the Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge in Southern Oregon. The refuge manager cites a study two years ago that found coyotes threatened 50 percent of antelope farm deaths at the refuge as fewer than the hunt. However, in the last 17 years public hunting has survived, and in 1997, 31 fawns per 100 does survived, a percent well above the state minimum healthy herd. For more information contact Predator Defense Institute, POB 5079, Eugene, OR 97400-5079. (541) 875-4266.

**Four Forty-Species Listed**

On December 5, 1997, the US Fish and Wildlife Service listed 44 species as endangered, including the callippe silverspot butterfly and Behens's silverspot butterfly as endangered. A whooping crane's谁家喧哗 at threatened as the Endangered Species Act. The callippe silverbelly is found on coastal grasslands habitat in southern Mendocino County. Both are threatened by development, livestock grazing and exotic plant invasion. California Amelinc, which makes in Contra Costa and Alameda counties is threatened by fire suppression, grazing and insect control. On November 20, 1997, the USFWS listed the Suwanee thistle and several species as endangered. Both habitat tidal marsh habitat in San Francisco Bay. They are threatened by polystyrene transport, pesticides, excessive salinity, erosion and mosquito abatement programs. The five are among 95 species USFWS has allowed to decline toward extinction by staling on first priorities. On May 13, 1997, the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity announced a suit against the USFWS, which for the 95 species the agency has failed to protect unless immediate action was taken. Since then, the USFWS has scrambled to list 44 of the species as endangered. But 51 species still remain unlisted.

**New Improved Moon**

No longer will the moon be wasted on the bestiality of modern humans. With Gary Betts and Malcolm Green have their way and turn the moon into a giant 4,000 square mile mirror. With NASA scientists, they believe they will be able to project corporate logos onto the moon's surface using reflected sunlight from two large umbilical-shaped mirrors. In the scientific community, the major debate seems to be over how, not if, we can project brand names onto the moon.

**Our Nuclear Planet**

The International Atomic Energy Agency reports that a total of 443 nuclear powerplants is operating in 32 countries around the world. With 110 operating nuclear power plants, the United States has one of the highest in the world. Additionally, construction of three new nuclear reactors started in 1996, two at Qinshan in China and one at Onagawa in Japan, bringing the total number of nuclear reactors under construction to 39 in the world. Last year, 17 countries and Taiwan,报表 upon nuclear power plants to supply anywhere near "reasonable electricity needs," the agency said, and nuclear power plants "provided approximately 19 percent of the electricity production in 1996."
Buffalo Nations to the Rescue

continued from front page

Because buffalo are considered wildlife inside park boundaries, a rock outside the park, hazing is sometimes the only means of preventing slaughter.

Immediately after the morning action, Buffalo Nations received a phone call from a local landowner with two buffalo on her property. She wanted the bison off her land. In previous years, her only option would have been to call the DOL to come kill the buffalo. Instead, Buffalo Nations came and saved the buffalo. The DOL gave up.

On Tuesday, activists took a stand next to nine buffalo resting on private land a half-mile beyond a capture facility. During the course of the day, Buffalo Nations was bolstered by news that the land owner didn't want buffalo killed on his property. The DOL left, threatening to come back and haze the buffalo into the capture facility with the landowner's permission. Fortunately, the DOL never returned.

On January 15, Buffalo Nations and the DOL began fighting again. This time the DOL tried to haze buffalo into a capture facility before sending them to slaughter. The DOL attempted to use “cracker barrels” (firecrackers shot from guns) to scare buffalo into a buffer zone of the park. In response, the buffalo turned and running right past them away from the facility. Buffalo Nations volunteers then moved through waist-deep snow into positions where they could interfere with the DOL operations.

The DOL continued trying to haze 13 buffalo towards the facility throughout the afternoon, but by day's end all 13 buffalo had moved into a safe area, and the DOL had retreated.

The Inter-Tribal Buffalo Cooperative had filed a lawsuit to stop the slaughter, but on December 16, US District Judge Charles C. Lovell (notoriously pro-cattle) announced that he would allow 100 buffalo to be killed this year before the DOL must return to court for more slaughter approval.

Buffalo Nations enjoys overwhelming public support.

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. of the Pacific Legal Protection Fund and several other legal leaders announced that they would defend the buffalo against the DOL.

The situation in West Yellowstone becomes more urgent every snow accumulation. Yearly, in excess of 250 buffalo are hazing the park boundary. Buffalo Nations expects serious confrontations any day now when the 250 buffalo leave the park. They are calling on concerned people everywhere to join them in protecting the herd. Also, donations are greatly appreciated.

Contact Buffalo Nations at P.O. Box 95, West Yellowstone, MT 59757; (406) 646-0070; fax (406) 646-0071; e-mail: buffalo@wildrockies.org.
SOLDIERS OF THE NIGHT
Taking out every light
hiding in the darkness of the night.

Shadows aiding our mission
as rain washes away the fingerprints of existence.

Lurking in the last of our land.
Tonight’s destruction is done by my hand.

One guards, one destroys, this way we won’t get caught.
When the night is over, it’ll be a good fight we fought!

So now we control, in our black disguise.
The mask’s main purpose: hide disgust in our eyes.

Now hurry, we don’t want anyone to suspect.
By morning, this site will be wrecked.

Clipping away at your insides
we find our salvation as we rip your machines apart.

As your green blood drips down to the earth
we’ve accomplished our goal, erased your death’s worth.

Next week it’ll happen again, just in a different part.

Wherever yellow death machines rip out my mother nature’s heart.

What we’ve done is so little, it will only slow things down
until next week when the devils are at it again,
that’s when I love having a best friend!

—Garret X

[This poem was written about The routine Missions
and my best friend did when we were 18.
We Monkeywrenched everything within biking distance.]

OUT WEST
THE NATION SHUDDERS A LITTLE
AS THE LEGS OF THE N’S AT
EITHER END BUCKLE WHAT
UNDERPINNINGS NOW ARE GOING
WEAKY. OR IS IT ONLY
THE WAY WE SEE THEM STAND?
DUE TO OZYMANDIAS IN THE DESERT
AND WE MAY THINK OUR HISTORY
INTO BREATHE. OUT HERE WHERE
DAFFODILS ARE GREETED WITH
SURPRISE. BATTLES GO ON
IN THE NEWSPAPER AND A POEM
COULD END UP BY GOING INTO THE
WRONG CAFE. HAD MCDONALD’S
MADE ITS TAOS STATION ADOBE.
WE MIGHT HAVE DREAMED BEYOND
THE FIRST STOPLIGHT. I KNOW
MANY HERE HAVE TENDED THEIR
INNER CHILD. PROPPED IT ON
A COUNTER AND TICKLED ITS
FEET AND I HAVE ALLOWED
ALLOWED MY INMOST HORRORS
TO PARADE IN SLEEP. THERE IS
TIME BEFORE I RECLAIM MY SEAT
IN THE BUMBLING NATION. I
PAINTED THE WORD ‘PEACE’. ON
A SUITCASE. THE LAST TIME I
PASSED THROUGH WASHINGTON I LEFT
IT PROPPED ON A GARBAGE CAN
GOD HELP MY FEBRILE MENTIONS
INSTALL ME AS VICE PRESIDENT
OF MYSELF. MAY THE BLUE SKIES
OF TAOS REOPEN WHEN I TOUCH
THE SHAKY SOIL OF WRATH. LEAN
UPON THE GREEN OLIVE TREE.

RAMAN

 Armed With Visions

CLEAR
as cut
as glass
d & just
as
d as
g e r o u s

Overheard In A Cafe
Conversations...
I couldn’t help but overhear
Justifications and Arguments, what do
You call sustainable?
I hold my tongue
The human hand that
Extends, big brother complex
And arguing that man
Knows best and how
We carefully manage
I calm my thoughts
Asphalt
My home made in a town
With yearly celebration
Of being built along
Old Route Sixty-Six, the
Historic paving of
Land from Illinois
To California
Conversations...
I’ll zip my lips
Their words not meant
To be tossed my way
Their spewing and spouting
And convinced their
Scientific theory the
Ultimate answer
(At least today)
The ever expanding science
Yet all the answers lie
In the simplicity of sunrise
Making love in a canyon
The wind rustling through pines
Overheard in a café...
No Intellectual theories
Can compare to the passion
Of deep connection or
A howl made on a
Mountaintop, body
Blocking a bulldozer
Oh, sage of deep Earth-love
So depicted in one
Clear phrase:
LEAVE IT THE FUCK ALONE!

Klin Lapsardi

send poems to
Warrior Poets Society
ASUC box 361
Berkeley, CA 94720-4510

Meadowlark

Meadowlark sings between
The off-ramp and the on-ramp
Sings the prairie tune
Will nest here
Because this is the closest thing
to a prairie that’s left
No houses
Cars, but at least they keep moving
And I have to ask
Meadowlark, what are you saying?
That you will nest here
And next year
Meadowlarks will sing in this grassy wedge again
Waiting for our highways to disappear?

—Jenny McBride
For your information, I'm a Philadelphia police officer. My name is Frank Scheff. You don't know what the fuck you are talking about. The man is a stone-ass killer. He's never, ever, killing Davey Faulkner. The witnesses that came to his behalf have all been examined and tested no less than seven different occasions. He was not railroaded by the Galveston police. I was convicted by a jury of his peers, including other black people. Fuck you!—FRANK SCHEFF

Dear Earth First Journal,

I was pleased to see the article by Gary McFarlane and Darryl Echt criticizing the cult of nonviolence within Earth First. This cult is very dominant in Northern California. I'm involved with Earth First activists in Southern California and I'm disturbed by Earth First's emphasis on nonviolence, as well as its emphasis on political activism and its neglect of the actual ecological impact of its activities.

The article on the Armed Ecological Front is particularly revealing. The AEF is a violent cult group, dedicated to the use of violence as a means of achieving its political goals. The AEF's activities are often characterized by acts of terrorism and intimidation, and its members have been involved in a number of violent incidents.

The emphases on nonviolence and political activism are at odds with each other. Nonviolence is a powerful tool for social and political change, but it is not a panacea. Political activism, on the other hand, is necessary for effecting change. The AEF's neglect of the ecological impact of its activities is particularly concerning, as it is often the case in violent or extremist groups.

I believe that Earth First should focus more on the ecological impact of its activities, and that it should be more proactive in addressing the ecological issues that it is concerned about.

Sincerely,

[Name]

Earth First Journal
Waste Found Near River After EF! Rendezvous?

Dear Earth First Journal,

Thanks for publishing the Nafta Roads Awareness Project announcement in the Jan-Feb issue. Since the issue has been in circulation, some folks have contacted us expressing confusion as to who we are. The Nafta Roads Awareness Project is coordinated by the National Network Against New Highways. We are not the Coalition Against Nafta Superhighways or the Alliance for a Living Moratorium. Our work is supported by member-group donation. We originally felt it best to work with APM out of Arcata, CA. After a couple of months in Arcata, we soon learned that coordinating a national effort from Cal. is not advantageous. Therefore, The Nafta Roads Awareness Project will be coordinated at our offices here in Roanoke, VA.

Thank you

-Mark Petersen, Nafta Roads Awareness Project Coordinator; Daves. McKay; Director; Randy Giebitz; Advisor; Toward Car Free Other National Network Against New Highways; POB 5272, ROMANOS, VA 24012; (540) 362-7141

Dear Earth First!

I am writing requesting that you publish my letter of request for environmental activists to send me audio and video cassette tapes of lectures etc.

---

The following article by Barry Clausen was printed in the Springboard. The Earth First! Journal’s contact info was sent to us anonymously with the note that read, “Shame on you!! What kind of example is this?”

“A stone’s throw from the banks of the pristine Wolf River in Wisconsin, the barrel refused to be a human waste product. It was an environmental act of pollution that simply refused to be a human waste product. It was an environmental act of pollution that simply refused to be a human waste product.

Phoographic evidence suggests that similar barrels were at the group’s campsite on McCarran Pine Road in northern Forest County. Some of the barrels had been tipped over and some of them opened with the mobile truck.”

The article failed to mention that the organization was Earth First!, a Eugene, Ore.-based organization. Earth First! held what they call “Earth First! Wolf River Round River Rendezvous” from June 30 to July 6, 1997, in the same location to protest a new mining site they claim would pollute the Wolf River.

It has now been substantiated that the barrels found were indeed the ones used at the Earth First gathering. The photographic evidence and one additional barrel was found at the Earth First campsite. When confronted with the evidence the Earth First members admitted responsibility, their excuse was that in time it would have turned to compost.

At a reception organized by North American Research the waste was dumped on private land belonging to persons connected to the gathering. Apparently the dumping was in or near a small tributary of the Wolf and during high water the waste had washed downstream.

What really happened with the Earth First! barrel situation in the North Woods?

This whole “ecological catastrophe” was ignored by most Earth Firsters because we had no idea that the media would have heard about it and that people would have been duped so totally by a few well paid Exxon people. I was called to the scene of the “dumping” as soon as it was discovered and this is what I found:

The “5000 pounds of waste in 15 full barrels” turned out to be a few hundred pounds in five barrels. There were 13 barrels on site, most of them sealed and empty; three had rinse water and one had vegetable compost.

“Right next to the Wolf River” turned out to be nearly 3/4 of a mile through dense forest part of it uphill.

“Smelled for miles around.” I got there and couldn’t smell a thing until about 10 feet away. After the ten minutes it took to clean up this “disaster area” I sat under a nearby tree and ate my lunch, whoever said that it was smelling for miles around is either delusional, lying or has a nose of a dog. The newscasts I saw showed the camera crew and speakers right next to the barrels and not seeming to have any problem.

“Horrible contamination risk” was two shovels full that actually hit the ground on the cement part of the partial overgrown abandoned road 3/4 of a mile from the Wolf. When I got there, it was mostly composted but still was recognizable as something unpleasant. The equivalent to a bear passing through the area. Of course the DNR would ticket them if they could.

“Dumped on public land,” not a chance. These were sealed plastic 45-gallon drums that were left standing and braced together on private property with permission from the owner’s son. Why was there any spillage? Either the snowmobilers that have been illegally trespassing for decades on that property, the trespassing bear hunters or someone else had broken the seals, smashed the lids and kicked the barrels around. This is a case of vandalism, pure and simple. Most of the waste was compostable and could have been contained nothing but soil by late spring.

This summer we have several hundred people camping out in the national forest and the waste had to go somewhere, and we disposed of it in a very safe and environmentally sound manner only to become the victims of vandalism and then blamed for being vandalized. The composted waste was going to be put in my garden, if you really want to know how safe the process is considered. I seriously cannot believe this is what people are choosing to talk about, the proposed mine will create a few dozen local short-term jobs and leave the area with a shuttered economy and the biggest waste pile in the state and we are discussing a few showy daces full of organic matter!!! Finally, over the summer we welcomed table was bombed by a 1/4 stick of dynamite, we were blackballed in with a dozen cat trees, disruptive infiltrators sent into our gatherings, harassed at all public events, by the local authorities and Forest Service, and there was no media blitz or public outcry. Why? There are a lot of great folks that I prefer not to mention who dropped the hammer on us. Everyone that sat down and talked or had a few beers with us, shook our hands and said we were all right. It’s the people of Wisconsin vs. this monster called Exxon, lets not let “it” divide us up and keep us from doing what is right.

It is either the people, the economy, the wildlife and the environment or short-term profit for a few already rich people.

Thank you for reading.

---

"POOH, WHO CARES"
McLibel Documentary

now available on video

McLibel: Two Worlds Collide is the inside story of how a single father and a part-time bar worker took on burger giants McDonald's. The documentary follows Dave Morris and Helen Steel as they transform from storyboards and transcripts, are available at: www.shundahai.org/HGW/index.html or http://www.scruz.net/~hgw/

THE DOCUMENTARY FOLLOWS DAVE MORRIS AND HELEN STEEL AS THEY TRANSFORM FROM STORYBOARDS AND TRANSCRIPTS, ARE AVAILABLE AT: WWW.SHUNDAHAI.ORG/HGW/INDEX.HTML OR HTTP://WWW.SCRUZ.NET/~HGW/

For more information about past Healing Global Wounds visits http://www.shundahai.org/HGW/index.html or http://www.scruz.net/~hgw/

TO RECEIVE A COMPLETE INFORMATION PACKET, CONTACT THE SHUNDAHAI NETWORK AT 5007 Elmhurst Ln., Las Vegas, NV 89108-1304; (702) 647-3195; fax 647-3985; e-mail: reinard@shundahai.org.

Earth First! Long-term Editor Wanted

Must have extensive movement, computer, and editing experience. Work long hours for little pay and love it. Send resume and writing sample to: Earth First! Editor Search, POB 1415, Eugene, OR 97440.

ANOTHER WEAVER WANTED

Weavers are needed for the Weavers of the American Southwest weaving school in Western NM. This is a 4-week summer school 7/1-7/28. For info contact Nancy Ladd, 415/334-8481 or nancy@comcast.net.

People’s Movements vs. “Free” Trade Worldwide Conference • February 23-25

On February 18-27, hundreds of movements from around the world will meet in Geneva to establish a platform for action against trade liberalization: the People’s Global Action. The first big-scale action will be a wave of decentralized mobilizations and protests against the world paraling the Second Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Geneva.

If you want more information about the conference, contact Play Fair Europe!, e.V., Turmstr. 3, 52072 Aachen, Germany; +49-241-803792; fax +49-241-88 88 394; e-mail: playfair@asta.rwth-aachen.de; http://www.agg.org.

Folksinger David Rovics

Spring ’98 Tour

The past lives in David Rovics’ songs and performances—so does the future. —Bob Reis, author of Striking at the Central

LEADERSHIP CAMP (age 4-14 camp) June 6-13 at Hidden Valley Camps, Rochester, NY. Free Sample: Write Box 444-EF, Lenox, MA 01240, or call (413) 466-6909. or browse http://www.concerneamericasingles.com

Earth First!

Live in Texas, the first 13 years

Spiral bound, 100s of pages, clippings, graphics, photos, cartoons. Send $10 to: Austin EFT, POB 7222, Austin, TX 78713

National Day of Action

Headswaters Ancient Redwood Forest SUNDAY • MARCH 15 ACTIONS AND RALLIES IN HUMBOLDT, SAN FRANCISCO, HOUSTON, AND WASHINGTON, DC. NEW YORK AND WHERE YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Think Big; these are BIG TREES contact: 707-425-8911

Make a stand to stop the nuclear waste dump and protect sacred Indian land, the desert tortoise and the Colorado River. Colorado River Native Nations Alliance and Save Ward Valley have issued a call to people to come and defend Ward Valley. They are asking people to come for sustained, nonviolent, mass action. All actions will be under the guidance and direction of the tribes and elders.

Check in at the Save Ward Valley office in Needles before heading to camp. Take Interstate 40 to Needles, California. Exit at J Street. Go right on Broadway, then left on F Street. The office address is 107 F Street. For more information, call (760) 326-6267 or (415) 655-3475.

Three Generations of Big Mountain Resisters on Midwest Tour

Kee Watchman, an elder who has been resisting forced relocation by the US government and Peabody Western Coal Co. Peabody has leases with both the Hopi and Navajo tribal governments, and through an expensive public relations campaign, has managed to convince the media that this is a simple “ethnic land dispute” between the Dineh (Navajo) and Hopi people. While the media and Congress buy into this misrepresentation of the facts, Peabody continues to operate its strip mines at Black Mesa to fuel large power plants in the four corners region. Seventy percent of the Navajo Nation has no electricity.

The majority of Americans know nothing of the largest forced relocation of Native Americans this century that is being financed by their tax dollars. Listen to the Dineh speak for themselves. They believe that if the majority of Americans knew what their tax dollars were financing, they would rise up and stop the destruction of the Sovereign Dineh Nation’s way of life.

Feb 18-19 - Oak Park, IL

10-11 - Chicago, IL

12-13- Twin Cities, MN

14-15 - Duluth, MN

16-17 - Ashland, WI, Northland College

17-18 - River Falls, WI, University of WI

18-19 - Stout, WI, University of WI

19-20 - Chicago, IL

20-21 - Lansing, MI

21-22 - Detroit, MI

22-23 - Cleveland, OH

23-24 - Pittsburgh, PA (Peabody’s home)

24-25 - Columbus, OH

25-26 - Cincinnati, OH

For more information, contact David Miller or Whitney Fink at (612) 362-5964.

McLibel Documentary

now available on video

McLibel: Two Worlds Collide is the inside story of how a single father and a part-time bar worker took on burger giant McDonald’s. The documentary follows Dave Morris and Helen Steel as they transform from anonymous campaigner into global heroes defending themselves in the longest trial in English history. Along the way, they faced infiltration, secret meetings with top executives, 60,000 pages of background reading and a visit from Ronald McDonald. The 52-minute documentary uses interviews with witnesses and reconstructions of key court moments to examine the main issues in the trial: nutrition, advertising, employment, animals, the environment and free speech.

Healing Global Wounds is an alliance and a gathering of organizations and individuals working to break the nuclear chain and restore sustainable living practices on the Earth. The gathering will be located on Western Shoshone lands at the gates of the Nevada Test Site.

You can experience the beautiful desert, join in an incredibly rich and culturally diverse community of people from all over the world, learn about nuclear and indigenous land rights issues, participate in traditional Native ceremonies from America, Australia, Taiwan and other regions, and if you choose, participate in nonviolent direct action to shutdown the Nevada Nuclear Test Site and reclaim Shoshone land.

The scheduled events at the gathering are:

- Friday, April 10—Communications skills training for multicultural work
- Saturday, April 11—Informational workshops about nuclear issues and indigenous rights, including delegations from Taiwan and Australia
- Sunday, April 12—Site specific, nonviolence training and action planning.
- Monday, April 13—Prayer circle at the Nevada Test Site. Reclaim Western Shoshone Lands from the Department of Energy and shut the Test Site down!

Multi-faith ceremonies will take place throughout the weekend. Cochran Harney, Western Shoshone spiritual leader, will lead daily sun ceremonies and sweat lodges. Nevada Desert Experience will hold a Good Friday service and participate in an Easter morning. Circle of Rebirth ceremony at the gates of the Test Site. Meals, local potable water and sanitation facilities will be provided.

A $25 donation is suggested ($20 if paid by March 1). Limited motel accommodations are available nearby for those unable to carry their gear.

For more information about past Healing Global Wounds visits to the Nevada Test Site, visit http://www.shundahai.org/HGW/index.html or http://www.scruz.net/~hgw/

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Fund for Wild Nature

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E-mail: info@wildnature.org

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Think Big; these are BIG TREES contact: 707-425-8911

Go get your copy now!
The Big Wild Roadshow exposes the US Forest Service’s policy of log­ging the last remaining roadless areas of the Northern Rockies. The Big Wild of Central Idaho, also known as the Greater Salmon-Selway Eco­system, is home to some of the most pristine and remote wildlands left in the lower 48 states. The US Forest Service has been rapidly destroying irreplaceable habitat, while costing taxpayers millions. At the heart of the Greater Salmon-Selway Ecosystem is Cote/Mallard in Central Idaho. A six-year campaign has been waged to defend the area, including one of the longest forest blockades in US history.

The Big Wild Roadshow—featuring live acoustic music, video and slides. This multimedia presentation runs approximately one and a half hours and is followed by an open discus­sion. Two activists from Idaho, Josh Burnim and Martin Stephan, will talk about the many ways to get involved and help stop the destruction of our public lands.

For more information or to book a show in your area, please contact Bob at Northern Rockies Preservation Project/roadshow, POB 625, Boise, ID 83701; (208) 384-5776; nrpp@lebois.com.

FEBRUARY
7 LaCrosse, WI, Purple Earth Event Center
10 Oshkosh, WI, UW Oshkosh
17 Ann Arbor, MI, Michigan Biodiversity Project
18 Chicago, IL, The Autonomous Union of the Northern Rockies
20 Portland, OR, Oregon College of Art
21 Indianapolis, IN, Butler University
22 Peoria, IL
23 Bloomington, IN, Heartwood
24 Cincinnati, OH, University of Cincinnati
25 Richmond, IN, Earlham College
26 Antioch, OH, Antioch College
3-4 Hamilton, NY, Colgate University
5 Syracuse, NY, Syracuse University
7 Bar Harbor, ME
10 Portland, ME, University of Southern Maine
11 Lewiston, ME, Bates College
12 Bennington, VT
13 Brattleboro, VT, Teen Center
22 North Hampton, MA, Fire & Water
24 New York, NY, Wetlands Preserve
APRIL-MAY
The tour plans to head to the DC area, then on to North Carolina, Ten­nese and Pennsylvania and finally back to Idaho by way of Utah and Oregon. Call if you would like to help set up a show.

The Great Plains Restoration Council
Up until now, talk of a Buffalo Commons has been just that: circles of academic talk. We can have wild, free-roaming bison, wolves and grizzlies; we can have justice and reparation for displaced Plains tribes; we can have clean, healthy and sustainable communities on the Great plains within our own lifetimes, but it will require a concerted, direct effort.

The Great Plains Restoration Council is dedicated to the practical implementa­tion of the Buffalo Commons beginning our focus on the Southern Plains, the Dust Bowl area of most neglect and abuse. We have opened a new office in Albuquerque and seek volunteers in all capacities nationwide.

Anyone interested in restoring the wildlands is encouraged to contact us. We need help with grant writing and fundraising (with salary potential), computers, regional and national outreach, graphic design, photography and writing, intercultural programs, and spearheading a Southern Plains and is followed by an open discus­sion. Two activists from Idaho, Josh Burnim and Martin Stephan, will talk about the many ways to get involved and help stop the destruction of our public lands.

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24 Cincinnati, OH, University of Cincinnati
25 Richmond, IN, Earlham College
26 Antioch, OH, Antioch College
3-4 Hamilton, NY, Colgate University
5 Syracuse, NY, Syracuse University
7 Bar Harbor, ME
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12 Bennington, VT
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I

Earth First! Stuff

Bumper-Stickers

All bumperstickers $1 unless otherwise indicated

- American Wilderness: Love it or leave it alone
- Another Mormon on Drugs
- Anti-Grazing Assortment
- (on non-removable paper @ $3.00 each)
- Copulate Don't Populate
- Darwin (words inside fish w/ legs)
- Developers Go Build in Hell
- Don't Like Environmentalists?
- Put them out of work
- Dream back the Bison, sing back the Swan
- Earth First!
- End corporate dominance
- Hayduke Lives!
- I'd rather be monkeywrenching
- If your pecker was as small as mine, you'd need a muscle wagon, too
- (on non-removable paper @ .50 ea)
- I'm polluting the planet
- Love your mother, don't become a father
- Love your mother, don't become one
- Monkeywrench the millennium
- Native (w/ blue and green earth graphic)
- Nature bats last
- Not politically correct
- Pay your rent, work for the earth
- Question technology
- Real men don't shoot wolves
- Real men get vasectomies
- Resist much, obey little
- Save the damned salmon
- Save the wild
- Stop clearcutting
- Stop Clearcutting
- (on non-removable paper @ .50 ea)
- Stop public lands ranching
- Stop the forest service
- Save our wild country
- Subvert the dominant paradigm
- Thank you for not breeding
- Think globally, act locally
- Visualize industrial collapse

Jewelry

Inch-long, highly detailed silver monkeywrenches made by a movement artist who dangles silverware from the CEOs of multinational corporations.

- Dangle earrings—$12 each
- Post earrings—$10 each
- Lapel pin/tie tack—$10
- Pendant on silver chain—$15

T-Shirts

(All t-shirts are 100% cotton and available in medium, large and extra large. For XXL, add an additional $1.)

- Arm & Wrench
  Multi-color on Yellow/Gold—$15
- Earth First! Fist
  Green on Unbleached—$12
  Black on Kelly Green—$12
- Multi-color on Black or Forest Green—$15
  Green with White on Black—$12
- Earth First! Tools
  Black on Unbleached—$12

- Sale!
  Black on Blue or Tan—small only $6!

No Fucking Compromise

- White on Black—$12
- Eagle
  Black on Unbleached—$12
- Visualize Direct Action
  Black and White on Unbleached—$12

More EF! Paraphernalia

Fist Patch
Quality 3-inch patches for your daypack, jacket or butt
Earth First! Fist—$3

Fist Caps
(100% cotton, adjustable)
Desert Camo—$12
Brown Forest Camo—$12

NEW! NEW! NEW! 100% Hemp Cap
Tan w/black & green embroidered fist—$14

Silent Agitators
Little 1.5-inch stickers good for your bike or your bulldozer
Earth First! Fist—$30/2
Earth First! Tools—$30/2
No Deal, Assholes—$30/2

Window Stickers
3-inch stickers for high visibility
EF! Fist-4/$1 • Anti-Grazing-4/$1

Books

Anarchist Farm
By Jane Doe. Fiction, 192 pages—$10

The Big Outside
A Descriptive Inventory of the Big Wilderness Areas of the United States
By Dave Foreman & Howie Wolke. Maps, list of areas by size and miles—450 pages—$17

Desert Solitaire
A Season in the Wilderness
By Edward Abbey. Non-fiction, 295 pages—$6

EF! Direct Action Manual
The antitope to despair. Over 150 pages on blocking tactics, techniques and devices to defend the earth. Diagrammatic forms, graphs—354 pages—$8

Earth First! Songbook
77 songs/33 artists/guitar chords/info—$10

Ecodefense:
A Field Guide to Monkeywrenching
By Dave Foreman and Bill Haywood. Extensively revised, expanded third edition, 550 pages—$18

Ecological Resistance Movements:
The Global Emergence of Radical and Popular Environmentalism
Edited by Nick Taylor. 422 pages—$20

The End of Nature
By Bill McKibben. 226 pages—$12

Green Rage
Radical Environmentalism and the Unmaking of Civilization
By Christopher Manes. 291 pages—$15

Grizzly Years
In Search of the American Wilderness
By Doug Peacock. Photos, 373 pages—$13

The Monkeywrench Gang
By Edward Abbey. Fiction, 388 pages—$7

Refuge
An Unnatural History of Family and Place
By Terry Tempest Williams. 304 pages—$12

A Sand County Almanac
With Essays on Conservation from Round River
By Aldo Leopold. Special edition, 295 pages—$10

Think Like a Mountain
Towards a Council of All Beings
By John Seed, Joanna Macy, Pat Fleming, Arne Naess. Illustrated by Dalilah Pugh. 128 pages—$10

Waste of the West
Public Lands Ranching
By Lynn Jacobs. Encyclopedic overview of grazing. Contact list, statistics, over 1,000 photos, cartoons, graphics, charts, maps. Large paperback, 602 pages—$28

Wilderness on the Rocks
By Howie Wolke. Ned Ludd Books, 240 pages—$15

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Didjerido, samples, electronic noise, shouts, sequencing, drums, flute, shanai, guitar, vocals, kora, vocals, drums, didgeridoo, electronic noise, drums, vocals, vocals, vocals, vocals, vocals, vocals, vocals, vocals, vocals.

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Djamiy, Crashing the System, Feral, Solidarity, Circus, Solidarity, Feral, Solidarity, Circus, Loopis.

**Jesus, We're All Dead Ducks**

A staple on the Northwest folk campfire favorite.

**Dijamy, Crashing the System**

"Who's that advocates Earth First!, Protests a Hope of Life, Environmental Lie, Disemboweling Party CD--$12

**EXIT 13**

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**Dana Lyons**

Dana is one of the most popular musicians in the movement. He has a virtuoso guitar playing and homegrown lyrics.

**Robert Hoyt**

Robert's constant touring schedule allows him to wow audiences across the country with his virtuosic guitar playing.

**Greg Keeler**

Goofy, intelligent, country-western parody, Keeler's song is poke fun at everything worth poking fun at.

**Alice Di Micele**

Alice is arguably the Northwest's most talented singer-songwriter. Her voice and lyrics cut straight to your heart. "Naked" Trouble in Mind, Make it Last, The TV Song, Out of Control, Pretty Blue

**Peg Millett**

Longtime EFL activist and convicted monkeywrencher, Peg has one of the most beautiful voices you'll ever hear. "Clear Horizon" Live in a Prayer, Living Planet, Testimony, Walk This Trail

**Ned Mudd and His Rustic Band**

Ned's music is neither technically nor politically correct. Many of the songs were recorded in a burned-out warehouse; but, hey, they sound great!

**Casey Neill**

With inspiring, earthy lyrics and Celtic/folk guitar, Casey Neill's music is neither technically nor politically correct. 

**Timothy Hull**

An uplifting travalog of environmental activism, Timothy's music invokes the spirit of the wild.

**Darryl Cherney**

No one can create a campaign song as fast as Darry. He's a campfire favorite.


**Walkin' Jim Stoltz**

Walkin' Jim's deep, powerful voice and wilderness-inspired lyrics will send shivers down your spine.

**Keep It Wild!**

14 songs from seven of our favorite EFL musicians: Darryl Cherney, Alice Di Micele, Robert Hoyt, Dana Lyons, Ned Mudd, and Joanne Rand. Mixed by Robert Hoyt, Dana Lyons and packaged in recycled pulp with vegetable ink. What more—could ya want?

"Keep It Wild!" The Beaver Song, Flaming Arrows, Live Like a Prayer, Remember Me, Earth First! Quitton Time, Turn of the Wrench, Radiations on My Windshield, Defend the Earth, TV God, Dancing on the Ruins

**Tree**

Throb and thrash to the passion of Tree. Their hard-core version of reality is sure to warp your soul.

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