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February-March, 2001



artwork by Peter Skowronski

There are about one million people in Maine, but there are eight lion houses. We don't need any more houses. You want to add a million ho new house? Burn an old one down. One for one. No more construction, no more noise, poisons, mindless progress (the caption that came with the artwork).

SUBURBIA BURNS! **ELF HITS LONG ISLAND**

BY CRAIG ROSEBRAUGH

The Earth Liberation Front (ELF) has been busy in Long Island, New York, over the past few months. Both urban sprawl and genetic engineering have been targeted. With nine acts of economic sabotage taken against luxury homes under construction, the ELF is sending a clear message to developers. "If you build it, we will burn it" was left on one of the Long Island homes during a December 2000 action.

The first action occurred on July 7. The group evaded security and destroyed two acres of genetically modified corn and several greenhouses worth of seedlings at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories. Several trucks were also monkeywrenched, and antigenetic messages were spray painted everywhere. It is estimated that two years worth of genetic experiments were destroyed with this action.

The ELF then focused on urban sprawl. The first action against over development occurred some-time prior to November 11, 2000, at construction sites along Whiskey Road in Coram, Long Island.

Urban sprawl has altered nearly 90 percent of

Long Island's habitats, either by physically removing them, paving them or polluting them with toxic human-made materials making them either undesirable or unsustainable for most species. Wildlife extinction rates are increasing exponentially as urban sprawl drives species from their homes. The Whiskey Road area, once state-protected land, has now fallen into the hands of money-driven developers. Roughly 500 acres have been clearcut.

The second and third actions against urban sprawl on Long Island occurred on September 26, 2000, and November 11, 2000. Both took place at construction sites along Whiskey Road and involved monkeywrenching vehicles, pulling up survey stakes, smashing windows and leaving spray painted messages.

The momentum continued as over 17 windows were smashed, slogans were left and bulldozers were decommissioned during the fourth action on November 24, 2000. This again took place at construction sites along Whiskey Road and in the Miller Place suburb.

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Privilege Is Invisible to Those Who Have It

BY BEANS AND RICE

Once upon a time as native forests were being destroyed, wild rivers dammed and polluted and corporations genetically mutated nature, an aware group of people gathered and rose up to confront the maddening onslaught. They lived together in the forests and worked together in towns. In the midst of all this one voice said, "A young woman told me that she was fondled in her sleep last night by a respected male activist in our community. What should we do about it?" And the response from this aware group of people was a mixture of silence and dismissal with retorts like, "We can deal with your petty little issues once the forests are saved and the dams are blown-up and the corporations are stopped. He has been vital to the campaign. You are just creating unnecessary drama, distracting us from the larger issues." Unfortunately, this is not simply a mythical tale of dysfunction, it is a living, breathing dragon lurking beneath the surface of many direct action campaigns and activist circles.

The amazing people in this movement have the ability to clearly see the oppression of the natural world. Yet many are so blinded by our privilege as activists that we don't see our contribution to the oppression of others. Despite our best intentions, we find frequently we duplicate the patterns of power we find so abhorrent in the dominant culture. This has led to the tokenization or alienation of activists who are not able-bodied, heterosexual whites.

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Temperatures Soar in the Hague

Twenty-thousand people die in Venezuelan landslides, cyclone Orissa kills 10,000 in India, devastating floods of Mozambique are followed by malaria outbreaks, the first ever reported thunderstorms in the arctic, polar bears starving, ice shelves rapidly cleaving into the sea, Shanhai is sinking. A mere coincidence that global environmental disasters are increasing in unprecedented frequency and severity? Hardly. They are man-made disasters. While US multinational corporate public relations firms were busy duping the public into believing global warming was a myth, the UN's own scientists were recommending a minimum 60-percent reduction in greenhouse gas-

ses to prevent global environmental catastrophe. So our global saviors began with the Rio Earth Summit in 1992 manifesting into the Kyoto Protocol in 1997. These empty agreements called for a measly 5.2 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from the 1990 level. These meetings—so-called Conference of the Parties (COP)—happen every year and this year's was in the Hague, the Netherlands, with thousands of corporate flacks and lobbyists, NGOs and UN officials, ministers and delegates from all over the world. Thousands of activists were ready to get in the way.

A better way to look at global warming is to think of it as climate destabilization. Though warming plays an important part, it is a small piece of the possible catastrophic results in more extreme weather events destroying habitats and climate norms worldwide. No, the sky is not falling, but it is filthy and 122 corporations account for 80 percent of the CO₂ emissions worldwide. You think they want to change?

The structure of the Kyoto Protocol reflects corporate interests, and industrialized nations pushing to continue their course to the planets extinction. The protocol proposed solutions for this grim state of affairs by harvesting the power of the market, the same capitalist mechanisms that caused the problem in the first place.

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Frank Loy, head of the US delegation to the COP6, gets his just desserts.

EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH

POB 1415 • EUGENE, OREGON 97440 • (541) 344-8004

Pondering the Path Ahead, with Tecaté and Lime

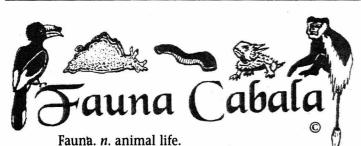
Here we sit, where the saguaro meets the gulf. The sun other struggles rooted in the same problem. Some think the rises and sets without the passing of a car, another human or electricity lines. Only time. Vultures dot the tips of cacti. Shellfish thrive in the gloppy tidal flats. Coyote sneaks around camp at night. The moon is nearly new. Billions of stars illuminate the otherwise black space. The Solstice has just passed. This is Baja California-damn near what is was like when European explorers first landed their sailing ships on these white sandy beaches hundreds of years ago. Probably not far from the time when bands of Natives worked the coastline for subsistence.

It's here on la playa, away from modems, deadlines and four-hour consensus meetings, that I get a chance to chew on where we're at and where we're heading. If you haven't heard yet, the big EF! Journal move is just around the corner. After we go to bed with this issue, we head off to the Organizer's Conference on a Florida island, scramble back home for the Eostar edition, catch a couple of panels at the annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference, mail the Journal out, load up some U-hauls and drive off to Tucson, just in time to make the May Day cover date for the

Beltane issue. The Tucson crew is actively learning all the skills necessary and the "institutional memory"-the ins and outs that have made this journalistic experiment work for the past 20 years. We will help with the transition, ensuring a smooth move and first issue.

It is an exciting time. It is also a time of reflection. Seven years of the EF! Journal in Eugene-about one-third of its short life. What a run it has been. All those late nights. The col' beer that fueled the fingers at all hours until the paper was finished. Broken collectives and functional ones. The shorttermers that brought us new perspectives and friendships from all across the land. Volunteers-proofreaders, dishwashers, errand runners, dumpster divers, tofu donators, authors-made this happen each issue. Why do we try to make ourselves go crazy for mere nickels and dimes? For the wild, plain and simple. For the whale, for the vole and for the pine. It's been well worth every penny.

With the move comes lots of discussion of where EF! is headed. (Actually it seems to be a question pondered often, creating many heated debates.) Some believe in a wilderness only approach, more like EF!'s former years. Others envision strengthening the movement by diversifying into



Cabala. n. an esoteric, secret matter or mysterious art.

Some coral reef fish pack a dress in their testes. Anemonefish of the genus Amphiprion, who inhabit the tropical and subtropical IndoPacific, live out their lives protected by the swaying tentacles of sea anemones. It's thought that the anemones don't harpoon them to death because the fish have somehow smeared themselves with their hosts' mucus so that they are recognized as just another appendage. Though their world is sheltered from the outside, inside it's a den of aggression. A large female and smaller male form a monogamous unit, the female being older and dominant. Also present are up to eight unrelated subadults and juveniles who are constantly attacked by the breeding pair. They are in such a highstress state from these attacks that their sexual organs remain tiny. The adult male is aggressive to other males because he doesn't want them to sneak a spawn. The EF! banner is washed up. Maybe it is. Maybe we have evolved beyond the original vision. EF! is only a name anyway. Let's get over it. We need to look at what is important-what is preserved, kept alive for its own sake. EF! is a philosophy in action. It will be around forever. EF! is the GE-crop pullers, the paper wrenchers, the classroom

teachers, the blockaders, the night elves, the tree-top dwellers. EF! pushes the envelope. EF! makes wild land spoilers think twice. But don't get hung up on names. Like the Earth, everything evolves.

Here we sit, watching the pelicans dive-bomb their underwater lunch and admiring the sea lions thrashing and chasing bait fish up onto the beach. Here I sit, squirting another plump limon into an icy bottle of Tecaté, wondering about the path ahead, the fate of the Earth, the life-giving system as we know it. Who the hell knows what is around the corner, especially not us as mere specks on this floating ball of land and water. We're just a blink in time. But while we're here, let's keep on fighting like hell to

keep the spoilers of the commons at bay. If we don't, who will? Let's begin the new year with hard-hitting action. Whatever we call ourselves, let's keep the fire alive. The Tucson folks will need some exciting news to report on.

-JOSH LAUGHLIN

A Few Notes From Inhouse

•Hey y'all. We're looking for some groovy cover art to add to our collection. We know you are out there. All you sketchers, crayonists, chalk freaks, watercolor types, oil painters, photographers or whatever you are, come out and share your talent. If you combine the arts and EF! philosophy, you're for us. Keep in mind the cover proportions and the masthead placement. Just think, you may become famous.

•If any contacts out there have any leftover EF!Js from last issue (Yule), please bring them to the Organizer's Conference or send them back. Somehow we ran out.

•You may have noticed that our cover price has gone up to \$4.00 (the first cost increase in over seven years). Subscription rates will soon go up. Now is the time to subscribe.

BY FAITH WALKER

female is aggressive to her mate and the other males in order to prevent them from becoming females. All males have this ability to change sex thanks to immature eggs hiding in their testes. If the female dies, her mate becomes female and the largest of the males becomes the new female's mate. It only takes a month for the male to lay an egg.

This pattern of sex change is unusual among fish. It likely evolved because the patchy and unpredictable distribution of the host anemone made it necessary to be monogamous and easier to change sex than to risk predation while searching for an anemone occupied by an unpaired member of the opposite sex. Most sex-changing fish follow the pattern of the polygynous bluehead wrasse, in which there is intense competition for access to females. Males get more matings, as many as 100 per day, as they get larger and more able to defend a territory. Because males have the potential of far greater reproductive success than females, the largest females turn into males when there are few large males and many small females around. The switch is rapid. Upon the death of a dominating male, a large female immediately begins courting smaller females, and in just over a week she sports superb sperm. Thus, though these two species differ in male-tofemaleness and female-to-maleness, their brand of sex change reflects their social system, not ambisexual chaos.



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Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or clearly printed. Send a SASE if you would like them returned. If you want confirmation of receipt of a submission, please request it. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via e-mail. Art or photographs are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. (Prints are best, negatives are good, slides are fair.) They will be returned if requested.

All submissions are edited for length and clarity. If an article is significantly edited, we will make a reasonable effort to contact the author prior to publication.

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SCHEDULE

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February 20

Reassessing "No Compromise" in the Movement

BY BONNIE AND CLYDE

Wow, what a year we've left behind! From Seattle right on through to the mobilization against the Trans-Atlantic Business Dialogue (TABD) meeting in Cincinnati in mid-November and even the mobilization during the presidential inauguration, a spark of inspiration has rekindled a flame that many of us in radical eco-movements had felt was becoming dim. It's true that once the State and its media figures out your tactics, the harder it is to repeat them over and over and still feel like you're saying something real. Last year saw logging road tactics in urban centers, as well as new, militant forms of resistance. The revival of the Europeanmodeled black block has continued throughout every single mass protest, and in the streets of Washington DC and Philadelphia, intricate lockdowns and blockades helped disrupt business as usual. Although it was the Ruckus Society that brought these tactics to multi-issue, street actions, they originated and developed in Earth First! campaigns. EFlers have been heavily involved in these mobilizations, from the most militant black block actions, to the most passive civil disobedience,

and in the kitchens, clinics and communications teams as well. No, mass protests are not revolutionary in themselves; and yes, there are serious limitations to mass mobilizations that are primarily organized by privileged activists, and that risk life and limb at the hands of a militarized police state. Though few exclusive EF! direct action campaigns appeared on the scene last year, the stamina of our movement has been put to the test in a new, more fundamental

cused uprising against these institutions has shown readers to write letters to Congress to demand new that we are all taking steps toward confronting the disease itself, not just the particular symptoms.

Despite the strong showing of anti-corporate activism in the streets last year; now is the time to evaluate the depth of our theory and to take more serious steps toward a revolutionary practice. Reading through some recent editorials in the Journal, we found an interesting and recurring theme. In Yule 1999, "Seattle was just an appetizer for what is around the corner." In Beltane 2000, "Too often I timber sale or that destructive practice. Instead, 14 think we should look deeper and focus on the root causes of our dire situation... We are part of this living planet and thus our fight is one of selfdefense.

A glance at the cover art on the past year of Journals reveals a similar theme as well. On the Samhain cover, a group of feral humans tends a saticles that are submitted and subsequently pubgarden as dinosaurs run by; in the backdrop, there is a ruined and gaseous city-skyline. On Eostar, a woman communes in the woods with wild ani- better future for the planet. Too many EF! actions, mals, just behind her people revel in a cave, cel- such as that against the two-party system at a ebrating the burning skyscrapers in the background. A man sits on a brick wall with his fist raised as he comprehends the fall of Babylon. In Litha, a silhouette of a person with a walking stick strolls away

from a degenerate street post and other ruinsincluding a human skeleton, monkeywrench in hand-being overgrown by prairie grass and tree roots. These pieces of art suggest more than treesits, banner hangs and the usual reformist demands many Earth First! campaigns make. They also depict a deeper change than is often demanded in the streets, such as more public input in the World Bank or WTO. It's obvious that the visions of many associated with the EF! movement are not reflected in the majority of EF! campaigns. This is partly due to a wide spectrum of radicalism among us, but when we are singing around the campfire or shootin' the shit, it's apparent that most of us truly believe in the vision of a bioregional, eco-anarchist future. So why are so many of us involved in campaigns

that reflect something different? How do we expect modern society to move toward that vision if we are only speaking about it among ourselves? To illustrate, study the

typical demands campaigns have made in past issues

way. The integration of diverse issues into a fo- of the Journal. One finds abundant requests for or reformed laws, demands to corporations to be. more eco-friendly, and to raise wages and lower quantities of pollution and destruction. Even amid our successes, it still seems that with every species that makes its way onto the ill-administered, government-sponsored endangered species list, many more species perish. Each time we save a stand of trees, many more acres of rainforest are cut down. No amount of laws that serve to protect the Earth have changed the reality that the climate is changsee that we are limiting ourselves by fighting this ing, corporations are patenting DNA sequences and selling them back to us as novel commodities, animal torture continues and everything wild lies on the verge of extinction. More people drive large, gas-hogging vehicles than ever before. The disconnect between people and the wild Earth has be-. come a vast chasm.

> We are now "around the corner." Too many lished in the Journal make demands of governments and corporations to promise everyone a recent Presidential debate in North Carolina, glorify the founding fathers of "real" democracy, begging for the appearance of more openness in electoral politics. It is the equivalent of begging a police

officer to enforce the fascist laws in a kinder, gentler fashion. The result is still the same: government/corporate hierarchical control over all life. Single-issue, liberal "activism" is reaching an apex where nearly every campaign comes complete with bylaws and moral/ethical behavior codes for all members to abide by. And the institutions that feel targeted are hard at work polishing their images and co-opting criticism. Even nonviolent direct action is becoming a sort of "loyal opposition" to the State. If this position isn't a compromise, we don't know what is!

Nightcrawler's call for self-defense (see EF!J May-June 2000) could not be more timely and pertinent than now, at a turning point in human history. More and more people are coming to the conclusion that civilization cannot be reformed. Life has become, for many, on par with an all encompassing concentration camp like the humans-as-batteries system suggested in the sci-fi movie, The Matrix. An environmental crisis does not loom in the distant future. It is happening now, in correlation with people rising up worldwide to fight against the future wasteland Earth is becoming. We can no longer beg for mercy at the hands of our oppressors. As the situationists of France wrote in 1968: "We will ask for nothing. We will demand nothing. We will take, occupy." The revolution is not one eventit is continuously happening, and the lines have been drawn for millennia now. Will we carry on the torch of resistance to the entire system, or will we join the ranks of compromised has-been groups recycling slogans and tactics?

If we are serious about ending capitalism and the industrialization of the planet and all its animals, minerals and plants, each of us must no longer make compromises in our campaigns. Perhaps some of us need to read more theory to understand how reformist campaigns can actually prevent the kind of questioning that much of our society needs. Perhaps some of us need to get more serious about creating alternative forms of existence that are outside the market economy, and can inspire people to take back their lives from the machinery of capitalism.

As was shown at the World Bank protests in DC and at the TABD in Cincinnati, an organized black block is still possible, and can be quite effective in adding to the mayhem and disruption during a trade meeting-but only if enough of us participate. Instead of always plotting out the usual choreographed lockdown, maybe consider assembling an affinity group for the black block, or training for a form of aggressive civil disobedience developed by the Italian movement, Ya Bastal, which is expected to hit these shores in the next six months. Better yet, consider committing yourself to underground direct action to hit the exploiters where it counts the most. When the Summit of the Americas commences in Quebec City next April, we will have the opportunity to join with thousands of anti-capitalist militants and demonstrate that we aren't asking for anything, we're taking back the future, for the sake of cultural autonomy and for the return of all things wild to their proper standing on the planet. 1, 1, 13

Letters to the Fditors TIMMID M UIU LAHUID

Dear Earth First! Journal,

You may want to know about something Dave Foreman told me and a few other people a few years back. He was reminiscing about the early days of Earth First! It was surprising. He told us that EF! was never meant to be taken seriously, that it was all a hyperbolic show designed to make the mainstream groups like the Wilderness Society and Sierra Club look moderate. He said that he didn't neces-

sarily believe some of the things he had advocated for in the past, but that that was OK because it was all part of a calculated strategy. Indeed, he said that EF! itself was only a strategic move and was never meant to be a real movement, but more of a front, or rather a side, for the mainstream. Feel free to use this information as you see fit. Signed,

Carl Contractor

Dear Shitheads for Brainstorms, Work for the Wyoming New Millennium Rendezvous has begun in earnest, and I want to throw out a suggestion: Let's have a bioregional homebrew contest! Beer, ale, wine-U get the idea. Start work now on your favorite potions, and let's see what all the bio-regions have to offer us next summer. In fact-with the ex-

-THE CHIRICAHUA KID ception of any donations solic-

ited from local microbreweries of mountains to accomplish this. and such—I suggest we (individually and collectively) purchase as little as possible in the way of libations. Let's see what our own talents can do for us. From the Inn at Bree.

-STRIDER LONGSHANKS $\gamma_{P} = 1$ TEEWINOT EARTH FIRST! Will March 18 March 19 19 Dear SFB,

You might be interested to learn that Texas billionaire Charles Hurwitz is behind the planned development of a golf course/ hotel/million dollar homes project in Rancho Mirage, California. He plans to level a couple A MARLAND AN AREA THAT

I'm not anti-development, but leveling a couple of mountains that have been there for tens of millions of years to make way for yet another golf course? This will wreck the mountain view for the rest of the citizens of Rancho Mirage to accommodate the building of homes for rich folk that will only live in them a couple of months a year.

—Dawn-Marie Leitch



February-March 2001 Earth First! Page 3

RUNNING FEET AND ROARING CHAINSAWS IN THE MATTOLE

BY DOCTOR ZAUS

Right now I'm sitting on a platform suspended 50 feet up with a noose around my neck in defense of the last of Northern California's coastal old-growth Douglas fir. This newly assumed position, part of a complex and unprecedented road blockade, allows me to piece together the crazed chapters of the Mattole struggle which have unfolded of late.

In the pre-blockade days we were camped on beautiful Long Ridge, a sacrifice zone from the Headwaters Deal where many of the "harvest areas" are located. This area was also the last stronghold of the Mattole Indians. They fought bravely here until their eventual slaughter by whites in the name of progress.

The sun was rising and the sky was red over the Pacific on November 10 when Pacific Lumber (PL)-contracted Columbia Helicopter falling crews arrived for the trees. Upon our initial contact, the Humboldt County Sheriffs Department was called. Comfortable in their role as PL's private security force, they arrived an hour later, in force.

Soon, down in "Unit 2": "Your under arrest!," a foolish rookie cried. "Now sit down!" This was too much for our crew who broke out with howls of laughter. I was glad he was able to provide comic relief to the increasingly serious situation developing. There were already eight sheriff suburbans and two paddy wagons in the

area, not to mention the Columbia crew. They were all closing in at that moment. The fact that our crew was only three was another sketchy factor, but backup was on the way. We cited OSHA regulation title 8 section 6280 (a): "Fallers shall give timely audible warning to buckers and other persons in the area of tree to be felled, indicating direction of fall, and taking notice that such persons not only hear the cry, and are out of reach of the tree, but also clear of logs, falling trees, snags, or other trees which may be struck by the falling tree. Fallers shall stop motors while giving this warning." It remained to be seen if they would comply with these guidelines. We soon found that they would not.

So we set about to wear out the sheriffs. They didn't look too healthy, and we figured we could wear them out early. There were only eight of them and two fallers. When the saws started we charged up the hill, past the police and straight to the tree. There we confronted the Columbia fallers face to face. For a moment we were free of cops. The falling team was clearly agitated and disturbed. They attempted to carry out their work, but we made it impossible. The blades stopped.

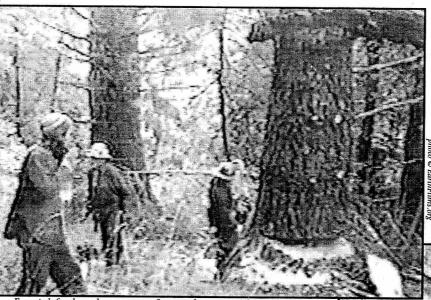
Then the sheriffs caught up again, this time wielding large pepper spray canisters. They were spraying 15-foot streams like madmen. It wasn't long before both my companions had been sprayed squarely in the face. The police thought the defenders would fall apart or something, but they were undaunted by the stuff. Like roaches who are used to Black Flag, no simple spray can stop us! Humboldt County Sheriffs publicly denied the use of pepper spray in the woods, although it is detailed in the police report.

Next, we were surrounded. A spineless cop lunged from behind and tackled me like a football star. I tried to dive downhill, and we both went tumbling head over heels in a reckless out of control struggle until finally he released his grip on me and got control of his footing. I kept falling and landed safely out of reach. One cop was yelling, "I saw him hit you, I saw him punch you right in the face." Typical protocol. Protect each other and serve the dollar. Moments later our re-enforcements busted onto the scene, totally overwhelming the sheriffs and the fallers, forcing them to leave. We were glad as hell to see our friends. Victory was ours that day. Only one ancient tree was laid down. Its loss is heavily felt.

It had been almost three weeks since the first tree was felled on Long Ridge. We spent the time constructing huge barricades of stone and bone. Early on the Page 4 Earth First! Brigid 2001

through them. It was followed by fat old Carl Anderson, head of PL security, an individual with an extremely stiff upper lip. Following Carl was twice as many sheriffs and twice the Columbia crew as last time. We quickly made for the units and stood in solidarity with the giant trees.

Soon a massive barrage of cops and fallers on ATVs was roaring into the forest. As we engaged them in dialogue, urging them to have some common sense and go home before someone got hurt, we were mobbed by rookie sheriffs. They had not yet earned the privilege of riding ATVs. They had to suffer the unthinkable task of actually walking, which they seemed to regret.



Forest defenders play a game of cat and mouse with nearby loggers.

We continued to follow the thuggish crew. It was bigger than ever and included special Columbia security, sheriffs galore and a few rather obvious undercovers dressed as fallers. (What gave them away was they had cop suits last time.) During the ensuing struggle I found myself high in a tree directly in the fall zone of a tree being cut. Cops and Columbia security were unwilling to inform the fallers of my presence, and they sawed away, noticing me at the last minute and shutting down the saw.

Meanwhile, the other Mattole crew

was trying to stop the other falling team. They hugged giant trees while chainsaw blades cut inches away from their bodies. Soon they secured strategic tree top positions and were able to shut down the crew. On this day eight ancient trees died, and the cops were again unsuccessful in apprehending us.

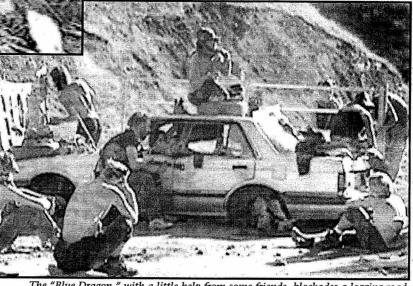
The next morning was cold and foggy as we prepared oats at "road camp." We had hardly said good morning when the massive grader arrived again. Soon our oats were part of the road, and 30 or more vehicles were driving over them. We were definitely concerned about the massive force assembled against us, but our crew feared not and was committed to defending this sacred land. We clashed with cops way down low on the ridge. They had a police line across a field, blocking us from the cutting area. Our crew decided to charge. One defender ran decoy, heroically sacrificing himself. He occupied enough cops so that everyone got through, and into the trees, but just barely. One Mattolian had a crazy rookie on his tail who lunged and cracked him in the face. Bleeding heavily, he made it up a Doug fir in the fall zone. Out of the frying pan and into the fire. The tree he was in the path of had already been backcut and wedged part way. It could have fallen at any moment. We quickly surrounded the area and rose up into the trees, causing the area to shut down completely. Cutting was stopped there. But we heard chainsaws in the other unit and had to split up.

Quietly four of us slid out of our trees and stealthed out of the cop-infested fall zone. We eluded them and ran long and hard back to the top of the ridge. All the way the sickening crash of falling trees fueled us up the hill. The plan was for two of us to create a distraction and two of us to take strategic positions. This was easier said than done as trees were falling everywhere! Columbia fallers literally ran around frantically dropping

morning of November 27, a giant grader smashed trees as fast as they could. Columbia (and PL) were in total non-compliance with California OSHA and forest practice regulations. The carelessness with which they were operating was sending trees crashing in all directions. Often trees would land so haphazardly they would splinter off and explode, sending huge wooden shrapnel all over. The fallers paid no attention to our presence. Harsh reality set in as a ridiculously large force closed in, popping out from behind trees. They were dressed in black and sported nunchaku (for pain compliance) in addition to their usual tools of the trade-guns and spray cans. These fiends were hellbent on catching us and were acting violently. They tried to mob us repeatedly and individually with as many as seven cops lunging for one person. We were totally out numbered. Our video camera was lost. Trees were felled left and right.

> At this point the situation reached critical. The three groups of humans involved—the cops, the fallers and us-were totally out of our skulls in an insane situation that was quickly getting worse. Anyone present that day could have been easily killed. The full story of events that transpired cannot be safely discussed at this time.

> When the day was over 36 ancient beings were dead (now 44, total), and a large scar was visible in the forest. We grieved for our fellow animals who had lived there. Three women and two men had been hauled the 14 miles to jail. We wondered how effective our smaller bruised and bloodied crew would be the next day. We were still in the fight.



The "Blue Dragon," with a little help from some friends, blockades a logging road.

For a few days the ridge was quiet. In that time, friends on the outside were scheming. That's when the "Blue Dragon" rolled into effect, and our present day auto blockade was created. We now control multiple ridges and logging has been halted for over a month now. These hills that once lent themselves to the strategic defense of the Mattole Indians, now lend us their strength. We will not be stopped. Our struggle has just begun, and these ancient groves are still in great danger. Please come to the Mattole and stand in its defense.

For more information, contact Mattole Forest Defenders, POB 28, Arcata, CA 95518; (707) 441-3828; www.mattoledefense.org.

A Not-So-Standard Disclaimer from the Mattole Forest Defenders

The free state and the Mattole Forest Derenders that are maintaining it are not the Northcoast Earth First! of the past. Some of the same people are involved, and some of the same problems exist, but there are real changes taking place in the internal structure of the group. And there are new tactics being employed. This is not the same old group of dogmaticians trying to run the show. There is fresh young blood in the forest and it is exciting. Please come out and help us. If you can't come send us outdoor gear or food. If you can't do that then start a free state wherever you are. Let's take it all back right now! In the spirit of resistance, love and community.

-MATTOLE FOREST DEFENDERS

Fur Flies When the FBI Visits Utah

by Sabrina Forsey

"Special interest or single issue extremists advocate violence and/or criminal activity with the goal of effecting change in policy vis-á-vis one specific aspect of society. The most recognizable single issue terrorists at the present time are those involved in the violent animal rights, anti-abortion and environmental protection movements. Each of these issues evoke strong emotions within society at large, and violent aberrants continue to tarnish the legitimate public debate on each issue.

"Animal rights extremists continue to pose significant challenges for law enforcement as well. Various arsons and other incidents of property destruction

have been claimed by the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) and the Earth Liberation Front (ELF). For example, on October 19, 1998, the Vail Ski Resort suffered a series of arson attacks that damaged or destroyed eight separate structures and resulted in approximately \$12 million in property damage. In communiqué issued to various news agencies Colorado, ELF in claimed responsibility for the arsons in retaliation for the resort's plans to expand its ski areas. The group

claimed that the proposed expansion would destroy the last remaining habitat in Colorado for the lynx."

—"The Threat to the United States Posed by Terrorists Both Abroad and at Home," FBI Director Louis J. Freeh

On November 24, animal liberationist Jeremy Parkin was arrested at his home in Riverton, Utah. In a surprising show of force, 14 agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and local law enforcement officials sealed off his residence to apprehend him, charging Jeremy with five felony counts relating to an unclaimed action at a fur farm in the area.

Jeremy has been charged with three counts of second degree felony theft for the liberation of approximately 30 mink, second degree felony criminal mischief for damaging fur farm property and third degree felony burglary.

These charges are related to an action at the Beckstead Mink Farm in November 1999, where protesters demonstrated at the gates of an animal concentration camp. As some activists held banners and chanted at passing motorists, others took initiative and freed some of the animal hostages and destroyed valuable breeding cards, costing the farm over \$5,000.

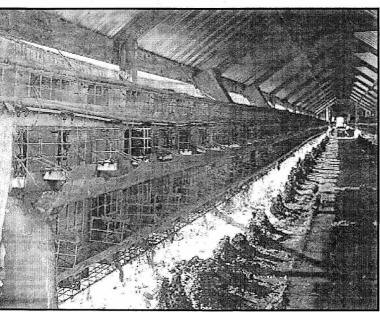
Jeremy was immediately denied his request for vegan meals inside jail and began a hunger strike that lasted 14 days. His bail, set at an extraordinary \$100,000, could not afford to be paid until a bail reduction hearing.

Now that Jeremy has been released from jail, under the advice of his lawyer, he has disassociated himself from the animal rights community as he prepares to face trial. After witnessing what can happen to even the best of people facing imprisonment for the mink (see *EF*!*J* December-January 2001) friends are hoping to see Jeremy back on the frontlines and among those who care about him.

In a separate incident, on December 4, Eric Ward was arrested on charges of disorderly conduct and criminal trespass, both third degree felonies and under new legislation—

hate crimes. These charges stem from Eric's participation in a lockdown at L'Ours Blanc Furs and a vigil at the home of the store's owners.

Also last November, a group demonstrated at the home of Mahjouba



Beckstead Mink Farm, shown here with a shit-covered floor, was the site of a 1999 protest.

and Charles Jeppson. The Jeppsons own the last fur store in downtown Salt Lake, and are known to verbally assault and stalk protesters with death threats and chilling drive-bys at a well-known activist crash pad.

Eric Ward's warrant relating to the vigil stated that "approximately 15 people, most wearing ski masks, gathered in the street, blocking traffic, and lit a fire [of fur coats] in the roadway... 'Wanted for Murder' posters were handed out to the Jeppson's neighbors."

The bogus hate crime charges on Eric's warrant may be a police tactic to encourage media slander, conjuring visions of cross-burnings and lynchings, the very sort of violence that Eric is vehemently opposed to. Although they were dropped at his initial appearance, the original two felonies remain.

During the confusion of Jeremy and Eric's arrest, the Utah Animal Rights Coalition (UARC) released information that group member Richard Stone was an FBI agent sent to disrupt the local animal rights movement and gather information for the conviction of promi-

Jeremy Parkin at a recent demo.

nent activists. UARC's proof was that "he was seen working on a computer terminal in a computer room at the FBI office. This room is behind a doubledoor, locked, entrance way into the FBI office area. Only an FBI employee or accomplice would have access to this area. The witnessing was attested to by



a long standing member of UARC, who has been with us since the beginning, and is implicitly trusted by the board of directors. This witness was being brought to an interview by the Olympic Joint Terrorism Task Force at the time."

> While initially this appears to be a simple case of exposing an infiltrator, the plot thickens as more facts are unearthed about the person who was in the federal building to allegedly see Richard Stone. Although UARC insists that the person is to be "implicitly trusted," I have been pressing this issue in an attempt to get to the real truth, as I can't help wonder who would be in the FBI building. When I asked who it was that went willingly with the FBI, I was told that it was "irrelevant."

We now know that the person visiting the FBI was John Ouimette, an activist who has been involved for several years. And this careless behavior is not new, perhaps it is evidence of a developing pattern. Last winter, the ALF redecorated two local businesses, Millie's Burgers and Diamond Lil's Steakhouse. When police asked John to come with them to answer a few questions, he went willingly, although he denies telling them anything. Regardless of his reasons, we cannot tolerate such irresponsible actions by those upon whom the lives of animals are supposedly riding.

In December, I sent a letter to John and other concerned parties asking for answers, but so far he and the rest of UARC have ignored my attempts to discuss this. It may be a while before we see any explanations.

According to a congressional statement, "Annual funding for the FBI's Counterterrorism program has grown from \$78.5 million in 1993 to \$301.2 million in 1999. The number of agents funded for counterterrorism investigations has grown from 550 in 1993 to

1,383 in 1999." As the date for the 2002 Winter Olympic in Salt Lake approaches, we will most likely see more attempts to disband local activist groups that might "make a fuss" during a time when the whole world is watching.

We can get through this as long as we sort out all the bad apples and stay strong. Although there are no conclusions, at least we have a solid starting point question everything.

Frontlines

Hardcore Fluff Closes Factory Farm

On November 17, English genetic activists shut down Exeters BOCM Pauls animal feed mill. Two women latched on to lorries at the main gate with D-locks round their necks and ceased vehicle movement. Meanwhile, five others got in the back unnoticed. Two locked on to a stationary lorry in a loading bay while three others got onto the roof forcing the manager to close the mill for the rest of the working day. Banners were hung from the front of the building, stating, "Take GM Out of Animal Feed!" while workers, passers-by and police were leafleted and talked to.

After an hour and a half the step was unbolted from the lorry that one of the women was locked to and vehicle access resumed. Confrontation from a couple of workers was fluffed out, and fortunately one driver was dissuaded from driving forward with a person still D-locked to the chassis. The people on the roof stayed for most of the day reading and chilling out. The police refused to remove them, and everyone had a happy day out.

A police helicopter turned up at about 3:30 searching for the protesters on the roof who had disappeared from sight. No one was nicked.

Viequenses Stop Navy Construction Project

On December 21 around 9:00 a.m. several members of the Peace and Justice Camp in Vieques stopped a US Navy construction project on civilian land adjacent to the Camp García military fence. Carlos Cruz, Nilda Medina and Robert Rabin placed themselves in front of the enormous Navy tractors and other heavy equipment to block an illegal movement of land from the property of the Puerto Rican people.

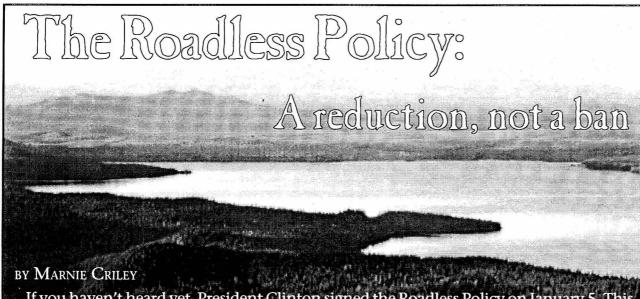
Over the past several weeks military personnel have been building a camp with permanent structures and several large trailer homes about half a mile south of the main entrance to the Navy base, Camp García. The Viequenses believe the Navy plans to make a new entrance to the base to avoid the constant protests and vigilance at the Peace and Justice Camp.

Riot police sent to the area attempted to intimidate the Viequenses and allow the Navy to continue its project. However, the protesters insisted the Navy produce necessary governmental agency permits and did not allow the Navy construction to continue since there were no permits.

With the arrival of more people from the community and confronted with the lack of permits, the military was forced to take its equipment and personnel back onto the Navy's side of the fence.

While Navy personnel looked for permits, activists set up a new camp named Camp Luisa Guadalupe in honor of the 83-year-old Viequense woman and well known anti-Navy activist who died last week. A 24-hour vigil was organized to keep an eye out and inform the community if the Navy attempted to resume the work.

In solidarity with the Viequense struggle members of Amig@s Del Mar and Amig@s De Vieques on November 5 entered the Statue of Liberty in New York City. They proceeded to climb to the top and unfurled the Vieques flag and a sign reading, "Peace for Vieques," across the face of the statue.



If you haven't heard yet, President Clinton signed the Roadless Policy on January 5. This is an historic occasion, and the environmental community should be proud of its hard work in influencing the protections it offers to 58.5 million acres of inventoried roadless lands. The policy is an improvement over the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) we saw back in May of last year. But now that we've had some time to celebrate, we need to take a closer look and see just how much protection it will give to roadless areas.

It was almost exactly three years ago that the Forest Service first mentioned a national policy for transportation. That policy, and the comment period surrounding it, brought some interesting things to light. Turns out the American people want roadless areas protected. So the Forest Service decided to begin a separate but concurrent roadless area protection initiative in addition to their long-term roads policy.

Almost two-million people submitted comments on the Forest Service Roadless Area Conservation Plan (Roadless Policy)—95 percent of them in support of full protection of roadless areas on national forest lands. The public indicated that the DEIS did not go far enough. They wanted immediate protection of all remaining unroaded areas, including those in Alaska's Tongass National Forest, from all resource extraction, including road construction, logging, mining, grazing and off-road vehicle use.

How well did the Forest Service listen to the owners of the national forests? How much protection will the Roadless Policy really provide? Can we really sit back now and say roadless areas are protected and no longer need our vigilance?

The answer to these questions is found in the exceptions. These include such actions as building a road to protect public health and safety in cases of catastrophic events or building a road pursuant to reserved or outstanding rights, or as provided by statute or treaty. The final policy includes the same four exceptions as were found in the FEIS, along with additional exceptions for road safety improvements and federal aid highway projects.

Under the nascent Roadless Policy, the Forest Service expects the cancellation of 867 miles of projected road construction and reconstruction, including temporary roads planned in inventoried roadless areas for the next four years. However, during this same time, approximately 293 miles of road construction or reconstruction would be allowed under the exceptions. To put it bluntly, 25 percent of planned road construction and reconstruction will still occur in roadless areas. This *is* a 75 percent reduction in road construction in inventoried roadless areas; this is *not* an immediate stop to road construction and reconstruction. If you carry this out over 40 years, as the roadless FEIS does, the significance of the policy is lessened. Within the next 40 years, the Forest Service will construct approximately 2,320 miles of new roads with the Roadless Policy in place. If it were not implemented the Forest Service would build 6,400 miles of new road.

Roadless lands near Waldo Lake from Mt. Fuji, Oregon Cascades

Gone from the FEIS is the term "stewardship logging," which favors restoration cutting of generally small diameter trees which maintains or . improves roadless characteristics, improves threatened, endangered, proposed or sensitive species habitat, and maintains or restores ecosystem composition and structure, such as reducing the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire effects. While the Forest Service's language is now a bit more specific, it's still unclear how this may or may not differ from stewardship logging. There is no definition of, or criteria listed for, restoration harvest (except the "generally small diameter" term), so salvage logging and the cutting of large diameter trees could still proceed under the guise of restoration.

Surprisingly, the Forest Service listened to its own scientists and the public and included the Tongass National Forest immediately. This was an about-face from their FEIS, which stated that the Tongass would be exempt until 2004. The one exception is for those timber sales that are already in the process of a DEIS as of January 5, 2001. Oddly, we can't seem to get an exact number for these sales. The FEIS states 77million-board feet (mmbf) of logs per year for the next four years; the long-term road policy states 102 mmbf over the next three-five years, while the recently signed Roadless Policy indicates 647 mmbf of logs over the next four years, plus all the roads that would go with these sales.

The Forest Service needs to provide interim protection for roadless areas down to 1,000 acres in size, pending local forest plan revision. However, it has instead chosen not to address uninventoried roadless areas at all, but to incorporate those requirements into the regular forest planning process through final regulations that were promulgated on November 9. The agency's 5,000-acre minimum has no basis in science, and in fact, there is strong consensus among land managers and within the independent scientific community that even small roadless areas serve as refugia for many species of fish and wildlife. Furthermore, they can act as biological corridors between larger pieces of undisturbed habitat.

The new policy still fails to address motorized recreation in roadless areas. Existing or future trails, including motorized routes, will still be allowed in inventoried roadless areas, and trail widths are not limited to 50 inches. So not only does it allow motorized use to continue in roadless areas, but new motorized routes can also be authorized and built into roadless areas under the new policy. The Forest Service puts off any real decision making about motorized recreation, leaving it to individual forest supervisors to determine how to deal with off-road vehicles.

It's certainly interesting that the agency explains that roads cause extreme ecological consequences, decides to prohibit new road construction in roadless areas, and then simultaneously changes the definition of a road so that "motorized trails" and "roads" can look and function exactly the same way, but one is prohibited and the other is allowed in roadless areas. It went so far as to change its road definition so that the only way you can now tell the difference between a road and a motorized trail is by looking at the travel plan and seeing how it's designated on the map. The Forest Service seems to have every intent of increasing motorized and industrial recreation both within and outside roadless areas. Increased regulation of ORVs on other federal lands will lead to an increase in demand on Forest Service land.

In summary, the Roadless Policy will prohibit approximately 75 percent of currently planned road construction/reconstruction, but over the course of 40 years, this gets diluted to a 64 percent reduction in road construction. A reduction, but not a ban. In terms of logging, the Forest Service has more clearly spelled out the parameters of restoration logging in roadless areas, but we'll have to wait and see how different this will be from "stewardship logging." The Roadless Policy is going to apply to the Tongass immediately, but timber sales that are already in a DEIS stage will go through. As currently written, it does not protect smaller unroaded areas, nor does it prohibit motorized recreation. Our hard work has improved roadless protection and given us a few more tools to work with, but there is still a lot of work to be done.

For more information, contact Wildlands CPR, POB 7516, Missoula, MT 59807; (406) 543-9551; WildlandsCPR@wildlandscpr.org; www.wildlandscpr.org.

Wolves and Poodles

An **apathetic**, **gas-guzzling poodle** to **98 percent of the American public** who, according to a recent study released by the American Public Transportation Association, support the use of mass transit *by others*. A **glow-in-the-dark**, **Chia-Frankenpoodle** to the **GE scientists** currently work-

A hallucinating, chemistry-majoring wolf to two Bay Area men who figured out a productive way to deal with a defunct Atlas missile silo in rural Kansas. The two were arrested for allegedly running a massive LSD lab inside the decommissioned nuclear facility. Authorities predict that "the operation could have been supplying a third of the LSD in the US and maybe the world." It is projected that local and national economies

as well as mentalities will suffer drastically.

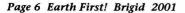
An untiring, doggy-loving wolf to the activist groups that fought and achieved an end to the annual Colorado black-tailed prairie dog hunt. Each year up to 250,000 of these critters were mercilessly killed as vermin in the state-sanctioned hunt.

A vengeful, ceremonial wolf to a tethered sheep who butted his master off the rooftop where it was being raised for sacrificial slaughter. The sheep was being fattened for the festival of Eid al-Adha, the Muslim feast of sacrifice. The Egyptian man fell to his death.

ing on designer lawns. The DNA tinkerers are planning to develop grass that will light up at night. According to UK-based *The Times,* "The grass, containing a gene possibly extracted from luminous marine animals, will emit a gentle glow, becoming brighter when stepped on. It could provide the perfect setting for barbecues on summer nights." What next, glowing burgers?

A soggy, waterlogged poodle to Santa Cruz-based Big Creek Redwood Lumber Company for bringing us the AquaLogTM. It is a concrete "log" disguised to look like a real piece of wood. According to the company, it will create fish habitat. It comes in four wood flavors: redwood, Monterey pine, Douglas fir and basic (don't ask). Apparently, the fake logs will allow the harvesting of creek wood for profit.

A two-faced, greenwashed poodle to the National Wildlife Federation for its partnership with BP Amoco which targets children at the gas pumps. For a limited time only, anyone who buys eight gallons of fuel at a BP Amoco station can purchase any of five "Endangered Wildlife Friend" toys for their children for only \$2.99, teaching them lessons about endangered species. Since 1993, NWF has partnered with dozens of megacompanies, such as WalMart, McDonald's, International Dairy Queen, Dole Foods, Busch Gardens and Sea World.



Wilderness Wades Offshore Justice Department Okays Undersea Designation

BY RON HUBER, TASK FORCE ATLANTIS

In an historic expansion of public wildlands protection, the US Justice Department has cleared the way to break the US Department of Commerce's bloodthirsty grip on wild Atlantis and establish actual undersea wilderness in the rugged two-billion-acre marine public land expanse we so blandly call the US Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

For the first time, the federal government can legally treat our cohabiting marine fishes, shellfishes, plankton, jellyfishes and other marine creatures as if they are wildlife, not merely salable commodities. It can start to treat some of the sunken canyons, sheer cliffs, submerged plateaus, broad basins and other spectacular underseascapes of wild Atlantis as if they are wilderness areas, not extraction zones.

Current protection is not very good. While Georges Bank and the Gulf of Maine are the most extensive public land areas on the eastern side of the United States, not one square foot of those two areas are permanently protected from extractive industries, whether commercial or recreational.

Industrial fishers, however make the remarkable claim that, because they themselves have so badly battered the ecology of the region, they need access to *all* the billions of acres of our marine public lands to capture enough wild fish and shellfish to make a living. Recreational fishing industry officials also express *shock* over the possibility of being denied access to even a small part of wild Atlantis.

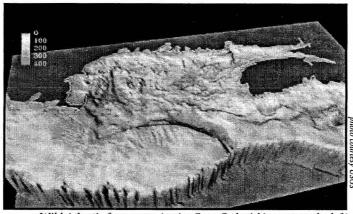
But whether or not "Dubya" likes the "W" word (wilderness), this won't happen in our lifetime if the corporate-trough-hugging eco-yuppie scum that have arrogantly anointed themselves leaders of the USA's "marine conservation community" have their way.

For just as the Justice Department finally heeds the roar of outraged marine biologists and directs an end to the savage destruction being wrought upon wild Atlantis under commerce's fish Freddies (aka National Marine Fisheries Service), along come marine eco-yuppie heavyweights—Center for Marine Conservation (CMC), Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) and Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), steaming to the fish Freddies' rescue.

This bold troika, committed to maximum sustained yield of fishery resources, proposes a 10-year moratorium on any marine wilderness designation. At the same time, they are midwifing global corporate efforts to privatize of as much of the sea and its life as possible.

Their weapons of choice: endless time-burning, "stakeholder" negotiations, sellable/tradeable killquotas for each species of marketable wild fish and shellfish, awarding long-term submerged land-andwater-column leases to the mining, drilling and corporate aquaculture communities, and, finally, limiting marine public land protection to the Commerce Department's National Marine Sanctuary program, which allows aquaculture, commercial fishing and sport fishing within nearly every acre of these "sanctuaries."

There is dissatisfaction with the toothless National Marine Sanctuary Program and interest in a proposal by Canadian ecologist Martin Willison which suggests that these two nations naturalize a 10-kilometer-wide natural zone along the entire length of the US-Canada marine border in the Gulf of Maine. Ron Huber of Task Force Atlantis leads the call for the president to break from tradition and use the national monument process *underwater* to designate the US



Wild Atlantis from space (notice Cape Cod sticking out on the left)

half of this Gulf of Maine natural borderland. Willison, like hundreds of other scientists, finds it difficult to the point of impossibility to locate natural "control areas" against which the effects of fishing industry management can be compared. "Without adequate control sites, such as would be provided by the proposed protected area we have no means to measure these effects," Dr. Willison wrote. "As a

result, there is sometimes more rhetoric than objectivity in marine environmental management." Under the Antiquities Act, a president can define and declare specific protected places in any lands owned or controlled by the federal government. With the US government "owning" federal marine lands and waters out to 12 miles offshore, and "controlling" what takes place within the USA's EEZ out to 200 miles offshore, the Antiquities Act can be applied

below the tideline just as it can be above the tideline. The marine national monument proposal was batted about in New England for several years, finally reaching inside-the-beltway marine activists at the American Oceans Campaign (AOC). Phil Kline of AOC ran the proposal past his Clinton administration contacts. Intrigued, the US Justice Department reviewed the question, issuing on September 15, a 28page report stating that: "We conclude that the President could use his authority under the Antiquities Act to establish a national monument in the territorial sea... We also believe the President could establish a national monument in the EEZ to protect marine resources."

That finding set off a roar of indignation from the fish Freddies and big industry, especially when noting that "regulations applicable to national monuments trump inconsistent fishery management plans."

This means that if a marine monument specified protecting natural biodiversity as its primary goal, then fish killing and aquaculture would join mining

and oil drilling as no-no's in the waters and submerged lands within its boundaries.

Thanks to CMC/CLF/ED relentlessly pushing the commerce *Uber Alles* line, the Clinton administration has so far choked on actually designating any marine national monuments. Disappointed scientists and fish huggers have been told to yet again circle up with big industry and other stakeholders.

Ah, stake-time, that lotus land where eco-yuppies sit down with their peers in the oil, gas, fishing, mining and aquaculture industries, and collectively comb ever-finer conceptual wool on the entirely fraudulent question of how to designate the *perfect* network of marine protected areas that will preserve all life in the sea while slaking big industry's thirst.

While the NGOs doze, big industry is plunging ahead full bore, scraping every bit of salable life or exlife from wild Atlantis, from diatom clouds to whale sharks. It is also pursuing an audacious public land lease-grab by the mega-fishpen corporadoes, whose at-sea plantations, spawn of the global flesh farm corporations, will be dotting the watery expanse like so many marine hog farms, where gene-tweaked hybrids of Atlantic salmon and slime eels batten upon the pelletized remains of their wild kin.

So go convince the Dubster to do the right thing. Tell George he can make the eggheads and the enviros happy by naturalizing a nice wide stripe along the offshore marine border between New England and Atlantic Canada as a marine national monument. Tell him he can name it after Reagan or himself, or anyone he wants! And that it won't cost the taxpayers a nickel. Write to the President, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington DC 20500; president@whitehouse.gov.

Learn more about Task Force Atlantis, www.atlantisforce.org.

by Mohave Moll and Nevada Nell

This article originally appeared in the January-February 1988 issue of the Earth First! Jounal.

It is a few days before Thanksgiving and already Winnegabos are pouring in. Their occupants set up camp in the desert, near the road, as they are not willing to walk anywhere. Smoke and the noise of generators, three wheelers, four wheelers and two wheelers fill the air. These people are here to tear up the desert. It is time for the annual Barstow to Las Vegas off-road motorcycle race—through more than 100 miles of what used to be pristine Mojave Desert in California and Nevada. In a few days, 1200 of these cretins will roar across the desert—unless...

Another band of social misfits is also in the desert. We arrive in vehicles markedly different from theirs covered with Earth First! bumperstickers. We gather to discuss last minute details. Some leave to do recon. Some stay to start press work.

We want to stop the race cold. To do this, we will construct a wooden plug, four feet thick, in the middle of a culvert under I-5 through which the racers must pass.

This year's Barstow-Vegas race will pass through



some of the most sublime portions of the Mojave Desert. Part of the course abuts the area proposed as the Mojave National Park. Destruction from previous races is apparent. Erosion, tracks and motorcycle parts mark the landscape. The racers have an eight-foot-wide corridor within which they are supposed to stay, but these people can barely read, let alone stay on the straight and narrow. This race is so environmentally destructive that only a small interest supports it, yet no one has taken action to stop it. Earth First! intends to remedy this situation.

Our band of EF!ers (yes Virginia, it was EF!) meets after dark in a city dump. Here we cut, drill, nail and preassemble as much of the railroad tie, 6x6 and plywood plug as we can. At one a.m., we load everything on a trailer. Some have already left for the culvert to be lookouts. The trailer heads onto I-5, and the interstate looks like rush hour. "How are we going to unload this stuff and not be noticed?"

"If anyone stops, we have a flat and need to unload the trailer to fix it." Our resourceful band waits for breaks in the traffic and then frantically carries the heavy timbers down the embankment. Finally the trailer is empty. It heads for the hills.

Imagine eight people, 25 railroad ties, rebar, tools, nails, plywood, torches and tempers all in a tunnel eight feet wide, six feet tall and 180 feet long. Imagine foostering railroad ties in place and nailing them together, and trying to do it silently. From inside the tunnel, it sounds like a war is happening. Outside, the lookouts hear nothing. Before dawn it is finished. Someone stretches a yellow tape across the race entry side of the tunnel. We want to stop the race, not bust heads.

After a mad scramble across several miles of desert, we reach the get-away vehicle and melt into the rising sun. Later, we drive back past the scene of the crime. There, beside the road, lies a pile of railroad ties and a very unhappy BLM cop. The race roars by...

To find out what happened, you can order the back issue for \$4 or an almost complete set for \$400 (that's all 20 years folks).



BY MICHAEL ROBINSON

Recovery of the most imperiled mammal in North America, the Mexican gray wolf, continues to be threatened by the guns and political clout of the public lands livestock industry. Three years ago, the first 11 Mexican wolves were released from a captive breeding program into the Apache National Forest of southeastern Arizona, part of the Gila Headwaters Ecosystem. Since then there have been dozens of additional releases, yet today the population stands at less than

30 animals in the wild. Mexican wolves are burdened by unprecedented political strictures built into the recovery program. Activists are familiar with the ubiquitous designation of reintroduced animals as "experimental non-essential," which allows them to be shot and precludes habitat protection on their behalf. In addition to this burden, however, Mexican wolves suffer the dubious distinction of being the only endangered animal confined to their official recovery area. When they set up shop outside the boundaries of the Apache and Gila National Forests, even on other public lands, they must be trapped and removed. Another Kafka-esque precedent in endangered species management is that the Mexican wolves from the captive population can only be released in the Apache National Forest, a small portion of their recovery area. To re-occupy the Gila National Forest they must migrate on their own, or be captured for management purposes and then re-released in the Gila. The Gila, in addition to comprising around 80 percent of the recovery area, includes around 700,000 acres with neither cattle nor roads.

Despite these capitulations, ranchers have been uncompromising in their opposition. Five wolves from the first group of animals released in 1998 were shot and another disappeared. The first

THE MYTH OF REINTRODUCTION EL LOBO STRUGGLES TO REPOPULATE A LAND PLAGUED BY WELFARE RANCHING

wild-born Mexican wolf pup in the US in over 70 years disappeared as well when its mother was shot. After the Center for Biological Diversity and other groups offered a substantial reward for information on the killings, James Michael Rogers, from a local public lands ranching family, was convicted of one shooting and was sentenced to four months in jail, six months house arrest and three years probation.

Additionally, three wolves were killed by hit and run drivers; two radio-collared wolves have disappeared despite intensive telemetry monitoring; and two wolves died in late 2000. Though necropsies have not been released, conservationists are suspicious that one or both of these latest mortalities could have been human-caused.

The livestock industry has been even more successful preventing growth of the wild wolf population through politics than through bullets. Four packs of Mexican wolves have been removed from the wild for political reasons. After the

shootings of so many of the first animals released on the heavily

roaded Mogollon Rim, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) placed the next group of wolves in the roadless lowlands closer to the Blue River. Unfortunately these areas are heavily grazed. The Pipestem Pack, which bore the first litter of surviving wild-born pups, scavenged cattle carcasses in the national forest and then killed a couple of cows. As a result, the pack was trapped and removed. In the course of that trapping, three Pipestem pups and two pups from another already captive pack died of parvo virus. A recovery team veterinarian who necropsied the Pipestem pups determined they had contracted and recovered from parvo while in the wild but that the disease's fatal recrudescence likely occurred as a result of the stress of capture.

The Gavilan Pack also scavenged dead livestock and then began killing cattle. In this case, however, the cattle they scavenged and the first ones they killed were illegally present. The area they were in was so severely grazed that the Forest Service had ordered the cattle removed. The rancher, asserting mythical property rights to the national forest, had refused to comply. (The Forest Service later backed down and allowed the cattle to stay.) Most of the Gavilan Pack was also trapped and removed, leaving one pup missing and presumed dead.

Although the Mule Pack didn't kill any livestock, they were trapped after scavenging a dead cow and horse because Fish and Wildlife biologists were afraid they would begin killing cattle. In the course of that trapping, the alpha female was left overnight

wild-born Mexican wolf pup in in a trap and suffered frostbite. Her the US in over 70 years disap- leg had to be amputated.

Finally, the Campbell Blue Pack was removed for leaving the national forest boundaries. They had had no interaction with livestock.

All of these packs except Gavilan have been re-released into the Gila National Forest. However, the trauma of capture, injuries (almost every wolf trapped suffers a paw injury) and prolonged confinement have handicapped the animals. Although both the Mule and Pipestem Pack females were pregnant on re-release, it appears no pups survived. The Mule Pack pair split up and the three-legged female is on her own, while her mate has joined with the Pipestem Pack's female-herself traumatized after her mate was re-captured again for killing a single sheep. (The sheep herd had been brought to the area immediately before the wolves' release by a ranching/outfitting family which has taken a leading role in fighting reintroduction of wolves.)

As of this writing, there are only five wolves in the Gila National Forest. Fifteen conservation groups and the

former Mexican wolf recovery pro- *f* gram coordinator—who lost his job

when he first attempted to re-release wolves into the Gila—have requested a series of reforms in the recovery program. Foremost is a change in the regulations to allow the direct release of wolves from the captive population into the Gila. You can help by urging USFWS Regional Director Nancy Kaufman, POB 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103, to take that step.

We are also anticipating that the newly appointed chair of the House Interior Appropriations subcommittee, Representative Joe Skeen, will attempt to sabotage the recovery program with riders. Skeen is a public lands rancher in southern New Mexico, an enemy of the wolves and a long time proponent and beneficiary of federal predator killing services. Should he attempt to close down or further handicap the program, it will be imperative to contact members of Congress in opposition. For computer users, please visit the Center's Mexican wolf web page for more detailed and current informaaction tion and alerts: www.biologicaldiversity.org/swcbd/ species/mexwolf/wolf.html.

Michael Robinson works for the Center for Biological Diversity in Pinos Altos, New Mexico.

Man Caught Red Handed After Using Snowmobile to Kill Wildlife

BY DANIEL PATTERSON

My family and I were enjoying the frozen Great Lakes north woods over the winter holidays. On December 24 we noticed, while looking through a spotting scope, a large canine out on the north end of frozen Burt Lake. The large, dark animal held its tail low, had a large head, and walked with a wild trot. It did not act or look like a dog or coyote. Knowing that gray wolves are on a slow recovery in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, we thought we were possibly seeing a wolf who had ventured south across the Straits of Macinaw to the suitable habitat of the northern Lower Peninsula.

The graceful creature reappeared at noon on Christmas, and we again watched her through the scope. She covered several miles across the bright ice, stopping periodically to look around and dig in the snow. Then a snowmobiler appeared moving at a high rate of speed. My mother watched in horror as the snowmachine driver deliberately ran down the animal. He then hauled the carcass to a nearby icefishing shanty for a quick stop and then revved his way toward the eastern shore of Burt Lake.

Outraged, we immediately took action. After calling a Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conservation officer, we set out on a mission for justice. We loaded up the camera and the rifle, grabbed the binoculars and cell phone and headed out across the ice in the 10-degree chill toward the shanty.

When we got there we saw a large amount of blood on the ice. A look inside the shanty revealed no animal. Stenciled on the outside of the camo shack was "D. Budzinski, Cheboygan." We called in this information to the Michigan DNR. Another call produced the address of this person: 2830 Topinabee Mail Route. We relayed this information to a DNR conservation officer.

Snowmobile and animal tracks laced the area. The freshest machine tracks headed southeast toward the reported address.

Around 4:30 p.m. we received word that DNR had caught the suspect literally red handed. He was cited and had his snowmobile confiscated on the spot. DNR also recovered the animal's skin and carcass. The killer will appear in court later this winter. DNR reported the animal to be a "large coyote," however the incident will be referred to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for investigation.

This type of senseless wildlife slaughter by motor vehicles happens everyday. It is rare that murdering motorheads are caught. But today, with the catalyst of direct citizen activism and a prompt agency response (thanks, DNR), the real eco-terrorist was found and lost his killing machine. The coyote sleeps tonight. And we sleep a little less disturbed that a man who has run down an amazing animal has been caught and lost his sled of two-stroke terror.

We must always walk with open eyes and demand action against the killers of our natural heritage. News of this death and prompt arrest will circulate through poaching circles. Let it be known to all who would run down wildlife and destroy biological diversity with their machines: We are watching. We are everywhere, fighting to defend nature. We will bring to justice those who disrespect the inspiring life of the natural world.

Buffalo Field Campaign Fights New Yellowstone Bison Plan

BY FESTUS AND FRIENDS

If the 10-year plan for bison management tasted anything like Seeds of Peace meals, bison would be fat and happy, grazing across all their former range. But with the Park Service, Forest Service, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the Montana Department of Livestock (DOL) cooking up the deal, the buffalo are gagging on bullets. After years of slaughter and harassment under the interim plan, which killed over 2,500 animals, the new Yellowstone Bison Management Plan offers the buffalo more of the same-and worse.

Not only will the agencies continue to haze, capture and slaughter America's last wild bison, they will use vaginal telemetry devices-tracking equipment installed in all captured females testing negative for brucellosis—on pregnant females, quarantine animals for up to four years, inoculate calves with cattle vaccines and haze bison inside Yellowstone National Park. Haze and capture operations, especially when helicopters are used, are highly disruptive, threatening all wildlife in the area, including wolves, elk, moose, bears, trumpeter swans, bald eagles, white pelicans and myriad waterfowl and birds of prey living along bison migration routes. Animals that elude hazing or capture will be shot on sight. The new plan, like the old, is based on a field test for brucellosis shown to have a 75 percent false positive rate. Rather than focusing on proactive strategies like negotiating conservation easements and buying grazing allotments (allaying the livestock industry's fears of brucellosis transmission), the new plan offers a modern-day version of the historical bison slaughter at \$40 million.

The new plan only strengthens the Buffalo Field Campaign's (BFC) commitment. On January 2, Montana's new governor, Judy Martz, was sworn in. Before handing over the reins, former governor Racicot told the crowd he was glad to see Montana with a governor who "happens to not be a man." Martz' own talk, easily mistaken for a junior high graduation speech, was interrupted as two BFC volunteers attempted to unfurl a banner reading, "Buffalo Roam Free!" from a balcony above the stage. Chrissy and Barton were arrested on charges of disturbing the peace before the banner could be fully deployed. A dozen activists in the crowd were escorted out while "hey, hey, ho, ho, the buffalo slaughter has got to go," resounded through the perfect acoustics of the Montana State Rotunda in Helena. Martz faced a protest in the first 15 minutes of her new term and showed that any constituents expressing opinions in public would face repression. Chrissy and Barton pled guilty to disturbing the peace, were fined \$130 and were released the following day.

Although BFC has conducted regular patrols since November and 15-20 bison have migrated into Montana, things did not heat up in the field until January 3. When the DOL began plowing snowdrifts and burning the slash along Forest Service Road 610, BFC swung into action. Road 610 leads to the site of the DOL's Horse Butte bison trap, and they were plowing to haul the facility in for assembly. DOL and USFS agents were surprised to discover a road blockade the following morning. Drazil was secured in a cozy tripod platform 30 feet above the road, while Jayna locked down to a dragon in the road below. Tree Frog's video camera in the pines at the side of the road recorded the action.

Even though temperatures the night before had dipped well below zero degrees

Fahrenheit, the agents must have felt that Jayna was too hot in her sleeping bag above the dragon. They took the bag off her and poured her thermos of hot tea in the snow inches from her face. All the while they threatened the blockaders with arrest and poked at Drazil's platform with a long pole. Law enforcement buzzed in on snowmobiles and in trucks. As the morning dragged on, Jayna felt the bite of the cold. After three and one-half hours of exposure, she started shaking uncontrollably, the first stage of hypothermia. The Law Enforcement Officers offered to let her go if she left voluntarily, and Jayna agreed. After unclipping, she lost consciousness for a few moments before being helped to a warm place.

It wasn't long before a cherry picker and Freddie special agent Steve Didier-who seems to be following people fighting the Otter-Wing Timber Salearrived on the scene. Didier and local Sheriff Rob Burns set their sights on Frog. They plucked him from his perch without his boots and lowered him to the ground to walk barefoot through the snow. He was charged with two counts of obstruction and one of resisting arrest.

Didier then turned his attention to the tripod. Drazil was now stretched over the top of two poles, his 🦼 hands clipped inside an angled lock box. The agents forced his legs into the cherry picker, cutting off his circulation. Cutting his harness and platform, they put a snowmobile helmet on him and tied the tripod to the cherry picker. Didier then cut the two poles Drazil was locked around with a chainsaw and pushed them to the ground. As the sunset burned red and pink over the Madison Range, Drazil was lowered and arrested. The two activists were transported to the Gallatin County Jail in Bozeman where they pled not guilty and refused bail.

BFC will stand strong with America's last wild buffalo until they have the protection they deserve. Under the nightmare of the new management plan, it will be a very long and busy winter in Montana. The nights are cold and crisp, and the days are filled with beauty and power. Volunteers are always welcome at our lodge on Hebgen Lake. We need large ski boots and warm pack boots. Of course, donations of cold, hard cash are greatly appreciated. and there is

For more information, contact BFC, POB 957, West Yellowstone, MT 59758; (406) 646-0070; buffalo@wildrockies.org; www.wildrockies.org/buffalo.



St'at'imc Build Resistance Community at Melvin Creek, BC

BY JONAH

Since May 2, St'at'imc people have reoccupied their traditional territory in the Melvin and Cayoosh Creek drainages north of Mt. Currie in British Columbia. They are blocking the development of a "Whistler-style" ski resort, which Canadian superstar Nancy Greene-Raine and her hubby, Al Raine, have been proposing since the early '90s. Despite Al Raine's promise that the project would not proceed without First Nations support, the proposal has been approved by the government, and just recently, surveyors snuck behind the blockade and flagged cutting boundaries.

The resistance camp is called Sutikalh, to honor the winter spirit which lives in the mountains around Melvin Creek. Over the past seven months, the camp has evolved from a blockade into a community which is breaking away from the government-controlled reserve system. Many St'at'imc people have come to the camp, relearning traditional ways of living, harvesting edible plants, picking mushrooms, fishing, gathering sacred medicine and building an ishka (pithouse) for a winter dwelling. Next spring, the St'at'imc will be building a longhouse at Sutikalh. The water flowing around the camp is some of the purest in the world, according to tests by hydrologists. Grizzly, lynx, mountain goats and wolverines are a few species living in this last pristine watershed in St'at'imc territory.

Initially, the camp was started without support from the band council. The council was attempting to put off discussion on the resort proposal until next year, saying that people were not concerned with the issue. Melvin Creek supporters and St'at'imc sovereigntists through community outreach, rallies and information handouts, forced the council to have a referendum. Two hundred forty territory by any means necessary. people stood against the resort and only 40 voted and As nearby Whistler has shown, capitalist ski rehave come to support the camp.



Tipis at the St'at'imc resistance community at Melvin Creek

On August 14, the government gave approval to the ski resort, so the St'at'imc blockaded the main highway for 18 hours just to show the government, Al Raine and the world what they were prepared and able to do. In 1990, the St'at'imc blockaded the same highway for over four months to assert their native title and to demand an end to logging on the land. There has always been a strong sovereigntist movement within the St'at'imc, as they have rejected the jurisdiction of the Canadian government over their traditional territories. Sta'at'imc territory, according to the 1911 Declaration of the Lilloet (St'at'imc) Tribe, "has been continually occupied by us from time out of mind." The St'at'imc people at Melvin Creek are prepared to defend their 868-8560 cell.

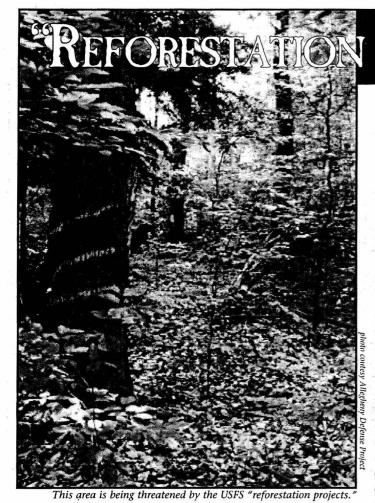
for it. Because of the continued resistance and the sorts do not create meaningful employment or a community support for Melvin Creek, many chiefs healthy community, but instead force wage slavery, fast food, snow shoveling and ski lift operator jobs on the community. Many of the original promises that were made when Whistler was first developed in the mid '70s, including a public transit system and plentiful employment, were never honored. But greedy ski developers are once again promising the same. Nancy Greene-Raine, the gold medal champion, even went to the schools to convince children that a ski resort would be good for them, and explained how fun skiing is, despite the fact that only five percent of Canadians ski and that most people can not afford the ridiculous prices that ski resorts charge.

> Nearby, outside of Kelowna, the Shushwap Nation has set up camp on the edge of Sun Peaks Resorts (another resort that Al Raine owns), to blockade development plans.

> On November 10, a group of about eight proresort men burned the information and welcome lean-to, along with pamphlets and banners. This is yet another mob attack in a long history of violence, abuse, theft and genocide. Melvin Creek defenders are not scared of these cowardly, racist tactics. They will stand and defend their territory to the death, so that it will remain wild for future generations.

> They have asked for support spreading the word, coming up to the camp or sending donations of food, money and gear.

> For more information, contact Rosalin (604) 894-2400; Ramona (604) 894-2462; Chief Garry John, St'at'imc Chief's Council (250) 256-7523; Lilloet Tribal Council (250) 259-8227 or (604)



BY RACHEL MARTIN

The Allegheny Plateau bioregion, stretching from the southern tier of New York through western Pennsylvania and into West Virginia, is unique by virtue of being a meeting-place for the mixed mesophytic forests of the south and the hardwood forests of the north. Nowhere is this transition so clear as in the Allegheny National Forest-513,000 acres of publiclyowned forest spanning the highest reaches of the plateau. Walking through this forest one can find tulip poplars, cucumber magnolias and rhododendrons intermingling with eastern hemlock, white pine, sugar maple and mountain laurel.

PROJECTS" IN THE ALLEGHENY

throughout the country, the US Forest Service (USFS) has chosen to ignore the natural splendor of these ridges, creeks and rivers in favor of commodities such as timber, oil and gas. In fact, the USFS has made a concerted and blatant effort to diminish the natural diversity of the forest in order to promote one speciesthe lucrative black cherry tree. The USFS has been very successful in its endeavor to convert our native Allegheny forests to black cherry tree farms. As a result of past

logging and Forest Service manipulation the overstory composition of the national forest has gone from an historical level of less than one percent black cherry to over 28 percent.

In order to produce as much black cherry as possible (much of it to be exported to Germany, Italy and Japan), the USFS uses "even-aged management," otherwise known as clearcutting and herbicide spraying. Approximately 70 percent of the Allegheny National Forest is managed under this clearcut regime. A mere seven percent of the forest is preserved from logging. In concert with the USFS's public relations shift from "commodity production" to "forest But here, as in other national forests health and restoration," the Forest

Service has recently approved two enormous timber sales on the Allegheny. The East Side Project (the timber sale formerly known as Mortality II) and the Duck/Sheriff Project are the first new timber sales to be approved on the Allegheny in over three years.

The USFS refers to both sales as "reforestation projects." Their argument is one we've been hearing a lot lately-the forest is dead and dying, and logging is essential to restore the forest. The alternative-not loggingthe USFS say, would surely lead to massive destruction of the forest. But a close reading of the Environmental Impact Statements for both timber sales shows clearly that the problem is not that the forest is not regenerating after natural disturbances such as insects, drought and windstorms-the "problem" is that the forest is not regenerating black cherry trees. The East Side Timber Sale, which is the largest timber sale in the East and one of the largest in the US, will cut 8,600 acres of the Allegheny (much of that clearcutting), spray 3,500 acres with a toxic cocktail of the herbicides Roundup (glyphosate) and Oust (sulfameturon methyl), build 15 miles of new road and "reconstruct" 109 miles of roads. Many of the roads designated for reconstruction are naturally restoring themselves and many are barely discernible as old roads. (The Allegheny is already one of the most heavily-roaded national forests in the country.)

This timber sale will cut 64 million board feet of timber. To put this in perspective, that's more than the annual timber cut from Washington's Gifford Pinchot National Forest. The Gifford Pinchot, however, is twice the

size of the Allegheny. The Forest Service, as part of this timber sale, will cut directly adjacent to a 4,000-acre tract of old growth, within a wilderness trout stream watershed, and will cut areas previously designated for old growth establishment.

Billed as a wildlife improvement and reforestation/regeneration project, the Duck/Sheriff sale is smaller, but potentially every bit as devastating. Under the Duck/Sheriff Timber Sale, the USFS proposes to cut 3,600 acres (17 million board feet), construct or reconstruct 35 miles of roads and spray 1,500 acres with toxic herbicides. Logging is planned in known habitat of the federally endangered Indiana bat, along the North Country National Scenic Trail and within a watershed which is home to numerous sensitive dragonfly species. The USFS has made great fanfare of its plan to improve habitat for the Indiana bat by creating several "drinking water ponds." Never mind that drinking water has never been considered a limiting factor for the endangered bat. The situation is fast becoming dire for the Allegheny. Over the next three years, the USFS plans to cut as much as 24,000 acres of this beautiful national forest.

For more information, contact the Allegheny Defense Project, (814) 223-4996; info@alleghenydefense.org; www.alleghenydefense.org. You can help by writing a letter to Mark Hampton, Acting Supervisor, Office of the Forest Supervisor, Allegheny National Forest, POB 847, Warren, PA 16365, asking him to withdraw these ecologically harmful timber sales. Tell him our public lands should not be treated as industrial cherry tree farms for private corporate interests!

5-Lane Highway Threatens the Smokies

BY CHRIS IRWIN

Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP) is one of the most ecologically diverse areas in the world. It is certainly the most visited park in the United States and, unfortunately, the most endangered. In one of the Smoky's biggest ecological and archeological disasters, bulldozers are slated to begin widening a rural mountain road into a five-lane highway.

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) announced its plans last year to widen State Highway 321 out of Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Phase one of the project is only 2.6 miles long but is expected to cost \$36 million—\$2,727 per foot! For comparison, Tennessee spent \$2,450 on each student in its schools in 1998-1999. Johnny can drive, but he gets lost 'cause he can't read the signs. TDOT projects historically go over budget by an average of eight percent; this means the Highway 321 widening could cost more than \$40 million.

Building this road will require cutting through the mountains, damaging the highland wetlands and re-routing streams within the GSMNP boundary. No studies have been done on the possible ecological effects. Plans call for 1.86 acres of national park to disappear underneath pavement. Four streams will be moved in more than six locations. A migration route for bears and other animals will be slashed with zero thought for genetic corridors, effectively leaving a kill zone for the park's historic inhabitants.

Photos gathered from the Park Service under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) show current

and proposed stream paths. The pictures indicate that first, trees will be cut, then bulldozers will cross the old stream and begin ripping out root bundles. A new channel will be dug until contractors find a substrate suitable to support the new streambed. If one isn't found, the old streambeds will be bulldozed then buried with fill dirt. This includes the only east Tennessee stream listed as pristine outside of the park. The affected streams are loaded with various salamander species.

No Environmental Impact Statement has been done on this project. The state chose to finance the widening with state funds instead of FHA funds. This means that all responsibility for the project and studies lies with the Gatlinburg City Commission. TDOT only considers a wetland "taken" when it is filled. No measure is taken of the effects on the rare highland wetlands. TDOT plans to mitigate the destroyed wetlands by replacing every acre destroyed on the border of the park with two that will be "built" as wetland banks near Johnson City, Tennessee.

In response to this situation, Katuáh Earth First! embarked on a month-long campaign of resistance. During the fall Equinox KEF! camped on a farm near the site and met with the locals to pick up trash. We gathered more than 80 bags of garbage, scouted the terrain for future actions, adopted this part of the road for cleanup and got a free sign (courtesy of TDOT) reading "adopted by Earth First!." We met at Al Gore's campaign headquarters once again. (They remembered us from the RRR!) Dressed in a bear suit and with signs we picketed and demanded an EIS. Wade Till, Democratic chair for the county, came out and accepted

our demands on Gore's behalf. We received excellent media coverage.

On the border of the Smoky's at a Cherokee village and burial site, KEF! and the Native American Indian Movement joined up. Carl Twofeathers conducted a ceremony with a medicine woman and a crowd, and we erected a tripod on the side of the road. As the media arrived, we practiced ascending and rappelling and told them, "This is a training exercise; we are preparing in case TDOT tries to go through with this stupidity." The county paper had a huge front page color photo of the ceremony. The caption in bold print on the top of the front page: "Earth First! Digs In!"

The last weekend we built a tree platform and set in up on the side of the road, 100 feet up a tree for more than six hours. This was during the height of the leaf season, when thousands of people come from all over the world to see the leaves turn bright red and orange. The tourists also saw our banner reading "SOS—Save Our Smokies" and the "adopted by Earth First!" sign. We passed out information and chanted.

Help us resist this project! We need you at demonstrations, meetings and on the phone. Send written comments to the Park Service Superintendent Michael J. Tollefson, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, 107 Park Headquarters Road, Gatlinburg, TN 37738.

For more information, contact Katuáh Earth First!, POB 16242, Knoxville, TN 37996; 321actionsubscribe@egroups.com. Please send us cash. We are fighting a \$40-million project with slingshots and need funds to continue.

FASTING FOR WATER, FASTING FOR LIFE

by Eloise Charet

In 1997, I spent 55 days fasting in jail trying to save my watershed in the Slocan Valley, British Columbia, from road building and logging. The next year, I walked across Canada listening to people's stories and collecting water samples from the communities I visited. As I listened to people's concerns, a frightening picture emerged of troubled waters:

"In countless kitchens, 'til all hours, tales were told about losing children or entire families to unusual cancers..."

whole town and village drinking sources contaminated and condemned; lakes and rivers unfit to swim or fish in.

In countless kitchens, 'til all hours, tales were told about losing children or entire families to unusual cancers; people crippled and/or blinded from mercury, some with lumps analyzed as arsenic working its way out through the skin; rashes that never healed. Their faces will haunt me forever. Their hopes and prayers, that I could get their message through to the politicians in our capital Ottawa, have never left me. On Parliament Hill, we were so intimidated by the police that my 13-year-old daughter said, "Mom, let's get out of here. I never want to come back again."

Water is part of a hydrological cycle—perspiration, evaporation, precipitation and back again. Anything we add to it will end up on our dinner table: chemical cocktails; biological and pharmaceutical agents; parasitescryptosporidium and giardia; nuclear waste; sludge and oil; e-coli from animal and human shit; mine tailings; water additives; cancer producing chlorine and fluoride (the toxic byproduct of aluminum production cunningly), sold to the public as a "health benefit" in the '50s by Alcan, a huge Canadian aluminum company.

Less than one percent of the Earth's water circulates unfrozen in streams, lakes and aquifers. This precious fraction, the support of life on land, is not being protected and each year 30,000 people are dying from tainted water. Global corporations are staking their claims to sources and distribution networks with the blessing of politicians, bureaucrats and nonelected trade negotiators.

A British Columbia judge has recently concluded that citizens have no legal right to clean water and that corporate interests take precedence. "Whether this is as it should be is not a legal question, but a question of social policy. Any change would be the province of legislators, not judges." Water that was once free has now become a commodity.

Four months after these reasons for judgment were stated and following similar judgments affecting valley watersheds, I began a fast on November 1, in front of the Nelson, BC, courthouse as a peaceful protest to help make visible the need for water protection in Canada and the fact that all life is dependent on clean water.

This is not a hunger strike where demands become very concrete. I take herbal teas and water—a gentle fast in which giving up food is a sacrifice to draw attention to the cause. This is more of a vigil, a persistent personal commitment to the people of WaterWalk, of my valley, to the children and grandchildren.

Five days a week I put up banners and my samples and speak with
people who agree that the crisis in the environment should be foremost on the political agenda.
Yet this is totally ignored by our press. I've been told that I have to get this message out beyond our country because we are con-

stantly being blacked-out in the news, as corporations with money dominate the media and advertising. Economics have become more important than humanity.

I took a break over Christmas then returned to my courthouse stand and have resumed my fast. A peaceful, jovial form of protest in which I sometimes feel like a fool with dirty water, but I just can't give up my hope, my prayer, my resolution for the new millennium—pure water, clean and simple, guaranteed for all Canadians.

For more information, contact Eloise Charet at waterwalk@watertalk.or; www.watertalk.org/waterwalk.



Earth Firstlers from around the state of Texas joined together in Houston on December 23 to drop a 20-foot banner from a 60-foot tree at I-610 and Woodway near the home of corporate raider Charles Hurwitz. It was the kick-off for a campaign to bring regional attention to the non-sustainable clearcutting practices of Hurwitz's Maxxam and its subsidiary Pacific Lumber (PL).

Traffic was brought to a stand still for about an hour during the holiday season. Many passing cars honked in support of the action and message.

PL has a long history of slash and burn tactics and was the subject of a 15-year campaign to save 1000-year-old Redwoods in Northern California.

In addition to what is happening in the Mattole (see page 4), the 11-year-old ban was lifted on clearcutting the last remaining old growth in east Texas on the Sam Houston National Forest. It is set to be cut very soon by Maxxam/PL. "What Hurwitz and Maxxam are doing to the planet is a continuing travesty to us and future generations," says Carol Mendoza of San Antonio EF!. She adds that, "unless Pacific Lumber stops, wé will continue to put pressure on them in the forests and in the courts across the country."

DONALD TRUMP CONTINUES PLAN TO BUILD GOLF COURSE

Previous articles in the *Journal* have reported on Donald Trump's plans to build a golf course on more than 200 acres of land within the Byram Lake watershed, thereby threatening the water supply for the village of Mt. Kisco, New York (see *EF!J* March-April 2000). Eugene Meyer, the original owner of these 200 acres, known as "Seven Springs Farm," left them behind in his Last Will and Testament of 1969.

His will reveals that he gave to the Village of Mt. Kisco the money necessary to purchase Byram Lake from the City of New York, provided that the lake be utilized in the interest of the public—for water supply, conservation or as a park. His will also reveals that he bequeathed his 200 acres of land within the Byram Lake watershed to the Eugene and Agnes Meyer Foundation, a non-profit corporation.

The land was used by the foundation and then by Yale and Rockefeller Universities for non-profit purposes—without endangering Byram Lake. It is reasonable to conclude that any rational individual who gives a village a lake as a water supply would not want his own land to endanger the water quality of that lake. Yet, Yale and Rockefeller Universities made a \$7-million profit by selling this Seven Springs property to Donald Trump, who has proposed to create a for-profit golf course, thereby endangering Byram Lake. Despite this travesty of justice, the towns of North Castle and Bedford, New York, spent five years reviewing Trump's application for the golf course, which is in a residentially zoned area (no golf courses allowed). The village of Mt. Kisco objected to the proposal, which would threaten its water supply, yet never mentioned that it would be illegal to make a profit off the land. Instead, it has only stated that it is concerned about development within the Byram Lake watershed, and it claims that it can't single out Trump's proposal because it doesn't want to antagonize him or get sued.

The environmental impacts of allowing this scientifically flawed and trumped-up situation to continue include: contamination of Byram Lake by pesticides, siltation of the lake from golf course construction, loss of critical wildlife habitat near New York City, disturbance of a fragile Nature Conservancy Preserve (Meyer), and the reduction in water quantity.

Directions to Seven Springs for a "hike in the woods": I-684, Exit 3 (Armonk, Route 22 east 1/4 mile, Cox Avenue North 1/4 mile, Byram Lake Road north 1.5 miles, Oregon Rd. west 500 feet. Enter Eugene and Agnes Meyer preserve on right—one mile hike north to Seven Springs.

Ed. Note: Signs have been posted all around the preserve stating: "It's time to spike tree's within this nature preserve."



EARTH NIGHT NEWS EARTH NIGHT NEWS EARTH NIGHT NEWS

ELF Burns Glendale, Oregon, Mill

The Earth Liberation Front (ELF) claimed responsibility for a New Year's Day fire that destroyed offices at the Superior Lumber Company mill in Glendale, Oregon.

The fire caused at least \$400,000 in damage to the mill, but estimates could rise as high as \$800,000 according to Superior Lumber Company president Steve Swanson.

Two fires started on opposite outside walls of the 2,000-square-foot building, raced up the walls and into the attic and quickly spread, engulfing about two-thirds of the roof and burning interior walls. "It's a tactic where you can have the entire roof burning, but the alarms in the rooms below haven't gone off," said Swanson.

An ELF communiqué stated, "We torched Superior Lumber in Glendale on January 1, 2001. Superior Lumber is a typical Earth raper contributing to the ecological destruction of the Northwest. What happened to them should shock no one. This year, 2001, we hope to see an escalation in tactics against capitalism and industry. While Superior Lumber says, 'Make a few items, and do it better than

anyone else,' we say, 'Choose an Earth raper and destroy them.'"

Luxury Homes Burn at Arizona Preserve

A Phoenix, Arizona, luxury home burned to the ground in mid-January, marking the tenth such blaze in the area in three years. Arson investigators suspect they are the work of someone "with environmental motives."

All the fires have occurred at the foot of a desert mountain preserve in north-central Phoenix, destroying large, half-completed luxury homes and causing an estimated \$5.5 million in damage. One house was burned twice.

Investigators have no suspects, and no one has glimpsed the apparent arsonist, though some communication has been left behind.

Scrawled across a sign in April was: "If you build it again, we will burn it again." A typed letter was left at the scene of an October fire with references to Bible scriptures and warnings against building in the desert. The perpetrator, who leaves behind the initials C.S.P., has also written a promise not to harm individuals or firefighters.

Phoenix EF! Issues Solidarity Statement

"Sentiment without action is the ruin of the soul." The words of Edward Abby. Sentiment is something that our movement (eco-anarchists, green radicals, mainstream environmentalists, ect.) has no lack of, but action is something that few seem to be willing to take. The arsonist(s) of the C.S.P. have grown weary of compromise and have decided to take action into their own hands; for this they must be commended.

The savage mutilation of our planet by timber companies, development and construction companies and industrial society as a whole falls nothing short of cold blooded murder and ecocidal insanity. The concrete scab that your capitalist system has condemned us all to live upon must be picked off if our future generations are to have a future at all.

We cannot sympathize with those few who have had their muti-million dollar luxury homes reduced to ash while thousands of men, wymyn and children go to sleep hungry under our cities' bridges and freeways (no doubt their fortunes were built on the backs of their overworked and underpaid workers!)

It makes you wonder who the real criminals are: those who rape and exploit our Earth and the working class or those willing to risk their lives and freedom to defend them.

Property is nothing more than a sword to be wielded against the lower classes: a tool to ensure the rich grow richer and the poor stay in line... nothing more, nothing less.

The actions of the C.S.P. and of any copy-cats their action may create have our total support (provided only property is destroyed, not life!) and we will remain in solidarity until the monster of urban sprawl can be slain and finally laid to rest. There will be no compromise in defense of our Earth! This is *not* a game but we are keeping score... Planet:10 Ruling Class:0

-PHOENIX EARTH FIRST!



A firefighter surveys damage to a luxury mansion in Boulder, Colorado.

Elves Strike Legend Ridge Development in Colorado

The ELF burned a \$2.5-million mansion in Boulder, Colorado, on November 27.

The fire occurred in the Legend Ridge development and completely destroyed the house, injuring no one. The monetary damages alone make this the second largest ELF action to date in the US—second only to the 1998 Vail Ski Resort fire.

The communiqué stated, "... The method used to burn down the Legend Ridge mansion included these steps: 1) We arrived at the Legend Ridge mansion undetected at approximately 2:50 a.m. 2) We placed several pages of the Denver Post on the wooden floor next to the south-side wall and doused the spot with nearly four gallons of unleaded gasoline. 3) We lit a newspaper torch with a lighter and threw it down on the gasolinesoaked spot... We know that the real 'eco-terrorists' are the rapists of Mother Earth. We know that the real 'eco-terrorists' are the white male industrial and corporate elite. They must be stopped. This Boulder ELF direct action attempted to financially disrupt the operations of Boulder's corporate developers. Join the resistance!"

ALF Attacks Rockville, New York, Dairy

The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) claimed responsibility December 30 for a massive early morning act of sabotage at a Rockville Center dairy distributor in Long Island, New York. The activists attacked vehicles associated with the distributor, claiming that "... over 32 tires were slashed, almost all side and front windows were smashed out, and the six trucks least visible to the adjacent road had their hoods opened and all coolant lines and electrical cables cut. In addition, the six monkeywrenched trucks had their distributor caps, and spark plugs and housings removed thus completely rendering the vehicles dead."

The activists stated their motivation for attacking the dairy distributor stems from its subsidiary relationship to Campbell's Soup Inc. "Campbell's Soup is the nation's largest consumer of battery chicken products," states the ALF communiqué. The facility was spray painted with an array of anti-dairy and factory farming slogans. The communiqué went on to say, "Factory farming not only serves to enslave and murder billions of our animal brethren each year, but also consumes nearly two thirds of our ground water, pollutes our environment with toxic chemicals and mutenogenic pollen and allocates resources that could otherwise feed this world's less fortunate and hungry."

The ALF statement ends with, "As greed and capitalism continue to foster pain and suffering, and continue to destroy our planet, we will be out there costing them money!"

ALF Claims Second Fire Attack Against British Columbia Meat Industry

Exactly two weeks after burning down a meat delivery truck in East Vancouver, British Columbia, ALF activists targeted Supreme Meat Distributors in Burnaby on Christmas morning with seven incendiary devices placed under seven trucks. The ALF Press Office has so far been unable to determine whether any of the Christmas Day devices ignited, or whether any damage was caused. In the earlier Vancouver attack, three incendiary devices were set under Ferry Meat Market trucks on East Hastings Street. One of the devices ignited, completely destroying a \$60,000 truck.

"There appears to be a resurgence of direct action in the Vancouver area against companies which profit from animal death and abuse," commented ALF spokesperson David Barbarash. "Meat companies and packing plants are frequent targets of animal liberation activists because of the inherent cruelty of raising an animal for slaughter. From the rearing of the animals, to their confinement and ultimate slaughter, it all involves cruelty, pain and suffering."

The Supreme Meat Distributor trucks were damaged as part of a continued campaign of economic sabotage. The ALF communiqué stated that the purpose of its action was to increase insurance premiums for "the scum who perpetuate the needless slaughter of innocent beings."

ALF Raids Duck Farm in New York

In the early morning hours of October 21, ALF activists descended upon Titmus Duck Farm on Barnes Road in Moriches, Long Island, New York. Compassionate individuals raided the premises and rescued 19 ducks. The remaining ducks were then given opportunities for escape when the activists cut the surrounding fences. A communiqué released by the group stated, "... It's a pity we couldn't have taken more, but we gave the remaining ducks the slim chance of escape by cutting the fences and ripping out the posts keeping them in. The 'farm' was spray painted all over with various slogans to let the owners know that we will not tolerate the continued murder of these living animals."

DBF Sabotage Two Dutch Meat Trucks

The Dutch Animal Liberation Front (DBF) claimed responsibility for the sabotage of two meat transport trucks belonging to Van Der Horst in Rosendaal, Holland, during the early hours of December 10. One truck was burned out completely and one suffered light damage. The DBF dedicated the sabotage to two Dutch activists currently imprisoned in Denmark. The activists entered the property of Van Der Horst by cutting through the fence. The owner said to the press, "They sprinkled petrol over four trucks. The trucks were tied together with a piece of cloth and the truck on the outside was set alight." The security services who were guarding the property alerted the police quickly but could not prevent one of the trucks being destroyed. The owner continued to say, "Unfortunately, they burned my oldest truck which means I won't get much back from the insurance, if only they had burned the new one."

Activists Raid Dutch Fur Farm for Third Time in Two Years

The Dutch Mink Liberation Front (NBF) claimed responsibility for a nighttime raid on a fur farmer in Nootdorp, Holland, on November 29.

This raid marked the third time in two years that this particular farmer was hit by the NBF. The first two raids released 6,000 mink, and the latest released several hundred.

According to the group, every year in November thousands of mink are gassed, electrocuted or have their necks broken, putting an end to a miserable life of over-crowding in wire mesh cages.

An NBF communiqué stated, "After we opened all the cages and took parts of the fences away, the disillusioned animals slowly realized their way to freedom was nearby. Everywhere you could see excited shiny eyes. Some of them jumped in the water straight away, others were sitting in the corner confused and scared, not understanding that some people want the best for them."

ELF Fights New York Sprawl

continued from page 1

The tactics were again stepped up as the ELF claimed responsibility for destroying 12 vehicles and over 200 windows at a construction site in Middle Island, Long Island. According to the communiqué issued by the ELF describing the action: "These luxury homes are being built precariously

close to the 320-acre Cathedral Pines County Park. Long Island has the second largest pine barren ecosystem in the world. Our greedy and corrupt politicians are more than willing to provide subsidies and allow construction in any area not under current protection by the Long Island Pine Barren Protection Plan. Our forests also lay on top of our aquifer which provides a large expanse of drinking water that is easily contaminated by pollutants and runoff. We will not stand by idly while our Earth is butchered for the monetary

gain and the luxury of the wealthy elite. As long as our planet continues to be raped, we will be out there. We are everywhere."

On December 7, the ELF and the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) claimed joint credit for sabotaging McDonald's corporate offices on Long Island. The communiqué sent by the ELF and ALF stated: "At roughly 1:30 a.m. Friday, December 7, members of the ALF and ELF descended upon McDonald's corporate offices in Haupauge. Here we smashed over 10 windows and spray-painted antimeat slogans against environmental destruction. We will not be stopped."

Two days later, on December 9, the ELF increased its pressure by burning one two-story condo and damaging three others at the Spring Lake housing development in Middle Island. This action caused over \$200,000 in damages. A communiqué issued by the ELF said: "The Earth Liberation Front claims responsibility for the fires that ravaged the Birchwood at Spring Lake housing development in Middle Island, Long Island. During the night of December 9, members of the ELF crept into the construction site and placed incendiaries in four

rows of condominiums. The structures were checked thoroughly for the presence of any occupants (human or animal) before being set. All of the incendiaries ignited successfully and the resulting fires gutted almost 16 nearly completed luxury homes, which were to be sold at several hundred thousand dollars each. Messages denouncing urban sprawl were scrawled on many of the remaining future dens of the wealthy elite. Survey stakes were also pulled up to prevent the planned expansion of the housing development along the border of a New York State

Conservation Area. The actions of those who orchestrated the construction are absolutely intolerable, so we are now declaring an unbounded war on urban sprawl. As the stakes of the struggle continue to expand so will our methods and tactics. Window breaking and disabling vehicles can only do so much, and in a battle with our Earth in the balance we cannot hold back or go soft on those pillaging the planet for profit. Hopefully, the several million dollars in destruction will provide an unmistakable message to developers that their land rape will now be more costly than ever before."



Long Island authorities and mainstream media claimed there were \$200,000 in damages compared to the several million suggested by the ELF. Authorities claim that some of the incendiaries failed, but there has been no confirmation of this by neutral interests.

The ELF struck again on December 19, torching a home under construction in Miller Place, Long Island. The communiqué from the ELF stated in part: "... accelerants were poured over the house and lighted. Let there be no mistake that this was a nonviolent action, and the house was searched for any living thing before being set alight. This is the latest in a string of actions in the war against urban sprawl.

"Forests, farms and wetlands are being replaced with a sea of houses, green chemical lawns, blacktop, and roadkill. Farmland is being bought out by land developers because of their inability to compete with cheap, corporate, genetically engineered, pesticide-saturated food. The time has come to decide what is more important: the planet and the health of its population or the profits of those who destroy it."



A worker removes another Long Island ELF calling card.

The ELF took more action on Long Island on December 29 by burning four new luxury homes under construction. A communiqué read as follows: "As an early New Year's gift to Long Island's environment destroyers, the Earth Liberation Front visited a construction site on December

29 and set fire to four unsold luxury houses nearly completed at Island Estates in Mount Sinai, Long Island. Hopefully, this caused nearly \$2 million in damage. This hopefully provided a firm message that we will not tolerate the destruction of our Island. Recently, hundreds of houses have been built over much of Mount Sinai's picturesque landscape, and developers now plan to build an additional 189 luxury houses over the farms and forests adjacent to Island Estates. This action was done in solidarity with Josh Harper, Craig Rosebraugh, Jeffrey "Free" Luers and Craig "Critter" Marshall, Andrew Stepanian, Jeremy Parkin and the countless other known and unknown activists who suffer persecution, interrogation, police brutality and crappy jail conditions, yet stand strong. Whether it's denying a prisoner vegetarian or vegan food or phone calls (which is a right), or inflicting even the terrorism of the grand jury, they stand strong. Oppression of our brothers and sisters will only make us uproot our tactics, by means, frequency and cost. The more brutality you give our brothers and sisters, the more money we cause the oppressors. Our hearts go out to all of them. Keep up the fight. Never give in."



Melo's Construction Corporation was targeted January 14.

The group left its mark on Long Island for the eleventh time in recent months on January 14, burning an articulated loader and a pickup truck at Melo's Construction Corporation in Miller Place. A communiqué stated in part: "...This action was done in solidarity with Long Island's Andrew Stepanian. Stepanian is a very prominent member of the Animal Defense League and is now serving jail time for a crime he did not commit. This is a pristine example of how law enforcement agents are unable to catch the real perpetrators and instead target vocal, above-ground activists."

It is clear that the ELF is growing not only on Long Island but in the United States as a whole, due in part to the realization that state-sanctioned means of protest on their own are not protecting life on this planet. We at the North American Earth Liberation Front Press Office congratulate the individuals involved in the ELF for their bravery, their increasing perseverance, and their efforts to protect all that is natural and real on this planet. You are an inspiration. Keep it up.

For more information, contact North American Earth Liberation Front Press Office, POB 4783, Portland, OR 97208; (503) 478-0902; elfpress@tao.ca.

A LONG ISLAND ELF CELL EXPLAINS ITS TACTICS

The following is excerpted from a Long Island ELF communiqué issued after the December 29 fire at Mt. Sinai's Island Estates:

Q: Aren't there environmental groups who are supposed to take care of these problems?

A: Yes, but obviously they're not getting the job done. Otherwise there wouldn't be houses for us to burn down! All successful movements in history have had a variety of methods, from education all the way to direct action. Q: Are you terrorists?

A: No, we condemn all forms of terrorism. A common definition of terrorism is "to reduce to a state of fear or terror." We are costing them money... We are non-violent. Houses were checked for all forms of life and we even moved a propane tank out of the house all the way across the street just in case, in a worst case scenario, the firefighters could get hurt...

Q: Don't companies have the right to property?

A: We are just trying to cost the rich sprawl corporations enough money so they stop destroying the planet, and thus the health, well-being and existence of humankind. Corporations do not have rights. Humans do. Corporations lost their "right" to property the second the Earth's inhabitants lost their freedom to life and happiness...

Q: Why don't you use legal methods?

A: They don't work as well. Mahatma Gandhi disobeyed the law to free his people. Harriet Tubman used illegal methods to free slaves on the underground railroad. Nelson Mandela even used violent methods to end Apartheid. John Brown killed slaveowners and raided a federal arsenal to try to start a slave revolt. How many successful movements in history can you think of off the top of your head that came about only by education? How do you "protest" against slavery? Holding signs and handing out flyers on southern plantations? Today, these "unlawful" people are all seen as martyrs, and someday we will be too. Try to realize this now. Not all laws are just. Malcolm X says "By Any Means Necessary" in order to obtain freedom. But, we do not hurt people, we never have in our long history, and we never will. We respect all life, even our worst enemies that give us cancerous drinking water. (If someone is going to shoot you in the back six times, do you nicely, kindly ask him to shoot you only three or four times? No, you freakin' turn around and punch them in the face, grab the gun from them, and shove it up their ass!) The Earth isn't dying, it's being killed, and those who are killing it have names and addresses. What are you doing for the Earth tonight? No Compromise In Defense of Our Earth! Stop Urban sprawl or we will.

Luddism in the New Millennium:

DK: Was there one event which brought about the perspective you have?

knowledge about the world around me. I started out some years ago with the sense that it was the American system that was wrong. Then I was led to a sense that it was the 20th century American system that was wrong, then that it was the capitalist arrangement that was wrong, then that it was industrialism that was wrong. Finally, broader than that, I came to see that it was the entire Western civilization that was wrong. But this didn't hit me in one day. This was a long process of understanding who the enemy is.

But at some point, I also got the beautiful sense of what to replace this with. That is when I came to fall in love with the mountain across from where I live on the Hudson River. I was observing it one day in kind of a detached way and it spoke to me. I felt this connection to it that I had never felt before with anything. And I understood that the feeling that I was feeling for that mountain was one of love, that it was a place that was special and holy and magical

and precious and alive. All this washed over me. What we need to put in place of all that we have around us now, this industrial civilization, is not just a smaller society or one of alternative technology, but one that takes all of its understanding from nature. As Herbert Read says, "only a people serving an apprenticeship with nature can be trusted with machine." The kind of life that we want to live can be taught to us by nature if we will undergo that apprenticeship.

DK: So at what point was your social consciousness born?

KS: It may have been the time in 1958 when I led a rebellion against the Cornell University administration and we began what was the student power movement, although we didn't

know to call it that at the time. Or was it a few years after that, in 1961, when we tried to sing folk songs in Washington Square and the police came and beat us up with their truncheons? Or was it the time in 1965, with the Vietnam War escalation, and the protests that followed and the failure of the country to respond? I don't know...

DK: Do you think the Luddites are misunderstood today?

KS: Of course. Everyone assumes they were bad people who were against all technology and were fools to resist it. I think in general the Luddite image is negative in most people's minds today-people who should know better. Today people will say "Well, you don't want to use a computer, then you must be a Luddite," meaning a social outcast. Or people will say, "Well, I am no Luddite, but I can't reset the clock on my VCR," meaning I don't want to be thought of against technology, mind you.

DK: The connotation is that Luddism is taking us back since it is human nature to progress, build on and go forth.

KS: If you have a view like that, and I think it is probably the view of our culture, then you are a perfect slave of the modern mindset and a great asset for industrialism. To believe that what has happened to humankind in the last 200 years is progress is to fall into the trap that industrialism has tried to lure you into which says that anything new is good and tomorrow is better than today because we have more material advantages and more ease and speed in our life and this is good. You buy into that and you've bought into their way of thinking. The Luddites did not want to turn the clock back. They wanted to stop the Industrial Revolution. They wanted to keep the ways of life they had enjoyed for centuries, based on the family and community, using some fairly com-

DK: Where do monkeywrenchers and ecosaboteurs fit in with your analysis of direct action?

KS: They are precisely Luddistic. What makes them different is they are operating on a wider scale and with isolated actions rather than having these compressed geographic outbursts that the Luddites did. But philosophically, they are right in the same line.

DK: In the context of today's direct action environmental movement, have you observed examples of radical actions similar to those that occurred in Nottingham, England, during the Luddite protests?

KS: No, that's why the Luddites are so firmly fixed in our minds as the anti-machine people, because there haven't been a lot of things like that.

BY DAVID KUPFER

Kirkpatrick Sale has quietly distinguished himself as the leading iconoclast writer in the movement to perpetuate the survival of humankind. The unstated goal of his 40-year activist-oriented writing career seems rather clear: influence people, public psychology and the sentiment of industrial society toward a saner, more sustaining future. His articles have appeared in the Nation, New York Times Magazine, Utne Reader, New Internationalist, Resurgence and the Ecologist.

On a personal level, I know him as an atypical cynical realist visionary, a Deep Ecology wise guy who never ceases to challenge my thinking. His landmark books include SDS (1973), Power Shift: The Rise of the Southern Rim and its Challenge to the Eastern Establishment (1975), Human Scale (1980), Dwellers in the Land: The Bioregional Vision (1985), The Conquest of Paradise: Christopher Columbus and the Columbian Legacy (1990), The Green Revolution: The American Environmental Movement (1992), Rebels Against the Future, the Luddites and Their War on the Industrial Revolution: Lessons for the Computer Age (1996). Sale's next book, The Fire of His Genius: Robert Fulton and the American Dream, explores the darker side of the American Dream and the inventor, who in the early 1800s was the first to successfully run steamboats up the Hudson. We sat down in New York City's Greenwich Village last September to discuss the current state of his views.

> DK: Can you project another similar such uprising? KS: Protests have always

gone on: Luddite-like violence in Europe in the 19th century, the burning of factories in America in the early years of the Industrial Revolution. Worldwide we see a lot of protests against biotechnology. The Cargill plant in India was burned down

several years ago. There are protests like that all the time. French farmers are up in arms because of the effort in that country to do away with small farms and install agribusiness—the anti-McDonald's sentiment. The uproar throughout Europe about biochemically altered, genetically engineered food, all that stuff going on. But I don't see an uprising on the scale of the Luddites. The property damage in Seattle, the burning of the ski resort in Vail, ecotage actions across the country, these are absolutely in the Luddite tradition and represent the best kind of response, but it is not an uprising-yet.

DK: How has EF! shaped the environmental movement over the past 20 years?

KS: It has been there at the forefront as a reminder to all the liberal legalistic elements of the environmental movement-the Washington do-good parts of the environmental movement-that they are making compromises, and EF! is not. They are playing legalistic games, but there's still somebody out there who is holding their toes to the fire and telling them that that's not good enough. To compromise is what Washington lobbyists and those liberal environmentalists do, and EF! is saying no! It is a badly needed message which must be repeated over and over, again and again. The whole world would be

An Interview with Kirkpatrick Sale have EF!, Sea Shepherd, and some other groups out

much poorer if we didn't

taking direct action is necessary.

DK: What are your thoughts about those working to bring back imperiled species through breeding programs and reintroduction?

KS: Restoration of species or the land is a useful, legitimate project. It is a science now, and a lot of quite ordinary people are engaged in it. There is a quarterly magazine, textbooks, college classes devoted to it. It is far from a radical enterprise, but nonetheless, it is a legitimate attempt to make up for the disasters of the past. My notion of an Ecostery is built upon the environmental notion of restoration. That's what a small community of people can do on a small plot of land to restore, repair and protect it so that it has some resemblance to what it once was and what it should be.

DK: You have predicted an eco-catastrophe striking the world around 2020. Why 2020 and what is your projection?

KS: 2020 because it sounds good, and it is a fair approximation of when I think this disaster will accumulate and probably destroy much of surface life. My view of it is that it will be a combination of eco-disasters which will include rising sea levels due to the melting of the ice caps, particularly the Antarctic ice cap, increasing ozone layer loss so that there is what I call the "zapping" of people on Earth. Australia will be the first continent to go, and the birds will go blind. There will be all kinds of environmental disruptions triggering a lot of disasters and diseases. Plus there's the social decay—armed uprisings everywhere. It all seems about to happen in the next 20 years or so, and there is no sign that the corporate global juggernaut is going to halt this impending disaster. It is moving full steam ahead and the scientists can warn them over and over again and the protesters can take to the streets, but there is no sign that

they are going to budge in any of their disastrous practices. That is why I think it will happen.

DK: What would you say to younger people to point them in a positive direction for their future? KS: Ecostery! Ecostery! I would particularly say for young people to immediately learn to live in the kind of community that devotes itself to nature. There are Indian communities of this kind. There are the Amish. There are some bioregional groups of this kind. There are intentional communities that follow this. None

of it is as perfect or persuasive as it ought to be. But they don't need that. For a young person, it's sufficient to have the analysis of the importance of community and the necessity of being nature-based. You don't have to have models. You don't have to have older people. All you need is to live that life.

DK: Finally, tell me of some positive signposts you've recently seen toward solving some of the problems we've been talking about.

KS: I don't see any solution to these problems. That's exactly the point. Because these problems are not going to be solved, they will go on to create this catastrophe that I suggest is going to happen to us. And the sensible response I am arguing is to turn our backs on this society and establish these small, nature-based communities which don't attempt to solve the problems, just ignore the problems and to create sustained communities in their own way wherever they are located. This is a basic principle of bioregionalism that people can learn, each in their own place, how to live in the right way. And that is a healthy thing to do, whereas believing you can solve these problems and change the system is not healthy. In the same way, this is the principle of the Ecostery-living the right way without regard to the governments and other institutions of the world.

Another Vieques in South Korea

Citizens Rise Up Against Lockheed-Martin and US Air Force for the Sake of the Land

One after another, US fighter planes roared directly over the treetops near where we were standing. It was like hell on Earth; definitely the most terrifying experience I'd ever had. Each time there were earsplitting, indescribable blasts of noise from the bombing and machine-gunning aimed at targets about one-half mile away. Those targets are just that, targets. They are not always, nor even usually, hit. Unbelievably, this has been going on the shooting. Bullets go through their windows. Cracks and pock marks are plainly visible in walls and roofs. When the flights finally stop for a while, villagers go to collect oysters. They frequently encounter unexploded bombs.

We visited one home in Maehyangri where a bomb landed on a home on May 8. An elderly resident of the house graciously agreed to let all of us traipse through her modest farm home, past

"Among other things, they would fly kites to distract low flying pilots, and when the range was being built they tried to stop construction by putting their bodies in front of the bulldozers."

every weekday for 50 years from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. Four hundred to 700 bombs are dropped each day by the A-10 and F-16 US fighter aircraft as they swoop over this deceptively serene and bountiful countryside. Nearby are 10 humble seaside farming villages, the closest one being Maehyang-ri, located barely one mile from the targets. The place is South Korea, about 50 miles south of Seoul on the west coast.

We were there last July 18-19, as part of a fact-finding delegation of the International Investigation Commission on US Military Massacres of Civilians and on the Maehyang-ri US Air Force Bombing Range, initiated by the Korea Truth Commission. One member of our delegation was Ishmael Guadeloupe, a leader of the Committee for the Rescue and Development of Vieques, the island in Puerto Rico which is also being used as a bombing range by the US Navy.

Here in South Korea the targets for the bombs are islands in the beautiful bay, from which people and wildlife derive their livelihoods by fishing. One island has been entirely obliterated. Another, which had been three kilometers long, has been reduced to two-thirds its original size. Unexploded ordnance, undoubtedly thousands of tons, has accumulated everywhere in the bay, on the beaches and in the fields. Workers at the range clear out as much as they can after each day's practice. Brian Willson, a member of a previous delegation and an Air Force veteran who became an outspoken critic of the Vietnam War, observed that A-10s are "tank-killers" which means they use depleted uranium (DU) shells. As a result of the uproar created by Willson, the military was compelled to admit they use DU at the Koon-ni Range at Maehyang-ri. This adds radioactive contamination to all the other toxic wastes and oil, including waste from napalm bombs accumulating in the environment. Through the years, at least 12 people have been killed and numerous others have been wounded by bombs that went astray.

Many bombs are found in the villages, and there are thousands on the hillsides surrounding the area. People's homes continue to be hit by drying herbs and farm animals, to see the hole in the roof of her garage and the bomb itself.

The constant bombardment, with its unbearable noise and pollution, has taken a great toll on villagers' health. One woman was hospitalized recently, just from the shock. The number of cancer cases in the nearby



Take that, riot cops—June 17 in Maehyang-ri

villages is disproportionately large and growing. Countless women experience miscarriages, and birth defects are on the increase. It also affects nonhuman animals. We were told by villagers about a dog who recently had a miscarriage and about a farmer who had lost 2,500 chickens. We also heard that 80 percent of those attending a regional school for children with learning disabilities come from Maehyang-ri.

The head of the village resistance movement, Chun Mankyu, told us his father had killed himself. He then unbuttoned his shirt revealing a large, long, scarlet scar on his chest. He too, had tried to commit suicide. But then for his children's sake, and for all the children of the community, he decided to fight back. He sold his modest home, moved into a smaller place, and quit his job so he could devote himself full-time to the movement to close down the bombing range.

Owned by Lockheed-Martin

Lockheed-Martin now owns the Koon-ni Range. Somehow this kind of military privatization comes as no surprise. Fifty years of dropping bombs and spraying bullets has to be incredibly lucrative for arms manufacturers, who not only use up all that ordnance but also glean information to help them build bigger and better weapons.

Looking out over the Koon-ni Range one is struck by the verdant landscape where fields of corn, rice and other crops grow exuberantly behind the barbed wire. The villagers explained that they have been forced to pay the military for use of these lands to grow crops and can only work them on the weekends when there is no bombing. This is on property, as with all 97 US bases in South Korea, which was taken over by the US military without payment.

Protests grow

For the better part of 50 years, because of repression, most Koreans knew nothing about Maehyang-ri. The people of these villages were isolated. Nevertheless, local residents did take action many times. Among other things, they would fly kites to distract low flying pilots, and when the range was being built they tried to stop construction by putting their bodies in front of the bulldozers.

On December 12, 1998, when a petition protesting the noise pollution from the firing range failed to

get response from the government, people went to the base saying, "bomb me." About 1,500 villagers occupied the bombing range.

Now, hundreds of thousands of students, farmers and workers are joining the protests. A huge demonstration on June 17 in Maehyang-ri drew a large contingent of auto workers from the Kia Motor Company.

(Kia had recently built a plant not far from Maehyang-ri.) They demanded the military close down the Koon-ni bombing range. About 500 demonstrators broke through the fence and entered to occupy the range. Some were injured by the police. Chun Mankyu ripped down the orange flag which is hoisted each morning to signal the start of the bombing. He and others were arrested and imprisoned. When we met Chun, he had

"Four hundred to 700 bombs are dropped each day by the A-10 and F-16 US fighter aircraft as they swoop over this deceptively serene and bountiful countryside."

just been released thanks to the burgeoning movement in South Korea which is demanding: "US military out of Korea!"

The powerful protests against the Navy's bombing range on the island of Vieques have captured worldwide attention and support as well. The bombing practice on Vieques has despoiled the environment of the region, devastated the livelihoods of the island's population who depend on fishing, and resulted in deaths and injuries to residents just as in Maehyang-ri. But the situation in Maehyang-ri is not yet as well-known internationally, despite the powerful movement in South Korea against the bombing range.

On the second day we were at the site, having been fed and taken care of by wonderful young activists working with the Maehyang-ri Task Force, we took part in a large rally of students. They had come by the hundreds despite unbearably hot, humid weather and having had their buses turned back by the police miles down the road. The rally was under way when the flights resumed not far above our heads. A member of our delegation, Elmar Schmaeling, a former admiral in the German Navy turned peace activist, observed that the planes were unloading their bombs and bullets too soon to hit the targets. Walter Black, a Korean War veteran, also now a peace activist and a member of the delegation, agreed with the admiral. They both expressed alarm that this was quite dangerous for all those taking part in the protest. It was viewed as an act of intimidation aimed at the students.

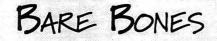
Hundreds of menacing South Korean soldiers and police arrived by the busloads and gathered inside the razor-wire fence or in the road and on the hills surrounding the protesters. South Korean forces, made up of young conscripts who have no choice but to be there, are always used to protect the US military.

While we were in Seoul, there was another large spirited rally and march confronting hundreds of helmeted police at the prison where the Maehyang-ri protesters were being held. Three had been released but three were still incarcerated. One of the slogans of the march was: "Repeal the Status of Forces Agreement," under which the United States virtually controls South Korea.

Rarely during my travels in South Korea did I see an American soldier, though there are 37,000 stationed on 97 bases in a country which is onefourth the size of California. There were two exceptions. As our group walked a mile down the road to the entrance of the Koon-ni bombing range, an American soldier waved at me as a military vehicle passed by.

Another time, because I am tall, I could peer over the heads of South Korean militia who were lined up 10 deep to guard the US Army base where protesters gathered. I could see two or three men in US military uniforms. I thought, "surely they must feel unwelcome."

For more information, contact Green Korea United, 605 The Korean Ecuminical Building, 136-561, Younji-Dong, Jongro-Gu, Seoul, South Korea; environ@chollian.net.



Logging Temporarily Halted The US Forest Service is temporarily prohibiting timber sales and logging on 11-million acres of national forests in California's Sierra Nevada Mountains. The three-month suspension includes an area equal to 17,200 square miles stretching from the Sequoia National

Forest north of Los Angeles, along the mountains past Yosemite National Park and Lake Tahoe, to the Modoc National Forest on the Oregon border. The suspension that went into effect December 11 was a response to an Octo-

ber 13 lawsuit by activists wanting to protect the habitat of several endangered species, including the northern spotted owl and the Pacific fisher.

Forestry officials reluctantly agreed to the suspension in part out of concern that the judge in the suit might repeat a 1991 federal ruling that stopped logging in the Pacific Northwest to protect the owl. The suspension is scheduled to last until March 1, or until a decision is announced on the Sierra Nevada Framework.

Plaintiffs in the lawsuit want the federal judge to prohibit logging until the framework is completed.

Dunes Off Limits

On November 2, in a partial settlement of a federal lawsuit brought on by activists, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) banned off-road vehicles in 49,000 acres of the 150,000-acre Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area east of Brawley, California. The Center for Biological Diversity (CBD), the Sierra Club and others sued the federal government for failing to protect the Peirson's milkvetch, an endangered plant endemic to the Imperial Valley desert.

Thanksgiving weekend brought an estimated 80,000 off-roaders to the area, keeping law enforcement officers and monitors busy. After last year's Thanksgiving weekend crowd grew surly, the BLM called in reinforcements with personnel from the National Park Service, Forest Service, Customs Service, Border Patrol and the Imperial County Sheriff's Department.

Daniel Patterson, a desert biologist with the CBD who headed a group monitoring the restricted areas, said he and other monitors were threatened by off-roaders who surrounded them with their vehicles.

"Too many off-roaders have an antienvironment viewpoint and complete contempt for this agreement," Patterson said. He added that his group will decide later whether to take further legal action. The restrictions are meant to be temporary until an overall environmental plan is developed, leading off-roaders to suspect that the final plan will include complete closure.

Interfor Attackers Get Off Easy

Five International Forest Products (Interfor) employees were sentenced January 4 in Squamish Provincial Court in British Columbia, Canada, for their involvement in a violent mob attack against forest defenders on September 15, 1999. Each defendant received a suspended sentence, one year probation, 40 hours comnunity service and was ordered to attend an anger management course and to write letters of apology; four were also ordered to each pay \$1,250 dollars restitution.

Justice Burdette also found that the attack was "premeditated and was vigilante violence." She found that Interfor "at the very least, gave tacit corporate approval" for its employees' actions.

Activists expressed outrage at the leniency of the sentences, contrasting them with those given to nonviolent protesters, such as 72-year-old great grandmother Betty Krawczyk. She has now been incarcerated for over 100 days of her one-year jail term for standing on a logging road.

The Free Trade Area of the Americas Hemispheric Forest Threat

BY STEVE HOLMER

The Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) is a free trade and investment agreement being negotiated amongst the governments of North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. It is modeled after the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) between North America, Canada and Mexico.

Negotiations are scheduled for completion in 2005. However, negotiators claim to be ahead of schedule and expect that a draft text will be completed by the end of this year. President-elect George W. Bush has expressed plans to push swiftly ahead with the FTAA.

The goal of the FTAA is to create a free trade and investment zone that extends from northern Canada to the southern tip of Chile. As with NAFTA, "free trade and investment" means reducing government regulations on corporations, opening markets to foreign competition and expanding trade in all products, including forest products. In fact, it appears that the FTAA will include a Global Free Logging Agreement (GFLA) like that proposed and thus far defeated at the World Trade Organization (WTO).

We can use NAFTA as a model to predict the impact of the FTAA on forests. After signing NAFTA, all three countries involved lowered protections for forests and biodiversity; 15 US forest product companies set up new operations in Mexico taking advantage of lower environmental and labor safeguards. One US corporation, Boise Cascade, has been linked to extreme human rights abuses against forest activists in Mexico. Boise Cascade has also been blocked in its plans to open the world's largest chip mill in the heart of Chile's endangered rainforests by Chilean and US citizen opposition. However, the FTAA could be the silver bullet the company needs to push its plans to completion.

The FTAA would promote unbridled hemisphere-wide consumption of forest products without a single biodiversity safeguard. US negotiators expect that the FTAA will also include investment liberalization initiatives like those included in NAFTA and the ill-fated Multilateral Agreement on Investment that allow corporations to sue governments if environmental laws cause their properties to lose economic value.

In fact, a member of the United States Trade Representative's office confirmed that the FTAA Market Access Negotiating Group is working on tariff elimination and non-tariff trade barrier (NTB) removal for forest products. NTBs are forest and species protections that are argued to interfere with free trade.

Tariff elimination could increase the consumption of forest products, while the elimination of NTBs could threaten existing and future forest protection laws and



Getting the message out during the protest against the FTAA last June initiatives. Current logging practices have decimated the world's forests. An increase in such unsustainable practices will hasten the destruction of the world's native forests.

With a GFLA, US laws designed to protect forests, the environment and small locally owned mills can be challenged under the FTAA as NTBs. If challenged and defeated, these laws would have to be eliminated or the US would face costly trade sanctions. The record of trade agreements vs. the environment thus far proves that when faced with a trade-off between free trade and environmental protection, the environment always loses.

Forest protections that could be threatened include a ban on the export of raw logs from federal and most state lands; federal and state green procurement laws such as those requiring the use of recycled paper; eco-labeling and certification laws used to identify environmentally friendly products; and laws to protect against invasive species.

For more information contact American Lands Alliance 726 7th Street SE, Washington, DC 20003; (202) 547-9105; www.americanlands.org.

Call To Action: Resist the FTAA April 20-22—Quebec City

honor of hosting the Summit of the Americas, which and Central America, as well as the Car-

ibbean (except Cuba). Besides the usual scare-mongering about security and terrorism, and empty rhetoric about democracy and human rights, the stated purpose of the Summit will be to put the final touches on the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) agreement. The Summit of the Americas meeting will be the largest police and security operation in Canadian history, all while the 34 leaders and an entourage of big business elites, technocrats and corporate media enjoy their cocktail parties, gala dinners and public relations spectacles.

In April, the Anti-Capitalist Convergence (La Convergence des luttes anticapitalistes, or CLAC, in French) will participate in a large-scale grassroots mobilization against the FTAA. The CLAC, which is based in Montreal, is organizing

April 20-22, 2001, Quebec City has the dubious a Carnival Against Capitalism (which will include teach-ins, conferences, workshops, concerts, cababrings together the 34 heads of state of North, South rets, street theatre, direct actions, protests and more)

as well as helping to convene a North American conference in conjunction with Peoples' Global Action against "Free" Trade. We are hoping to facilitate a convergence in Quebec City of a vast array of people who aim to create a world free of oppression.

The CLAC believes it is possible to radically and creatively oppose imperialism and the capitalist system while at the same time maintaining the spirit of openness that is necessary to develop a diverse and pluralistic resistance movement. The mobilization against the Summit of the Americas is being organized within the framework of a long-term struggle, in the North

and South, against capitalist globalization. For more information, contact CLAC, 2035 St. Laurent Blvd., 2nd Floor, Montreal, Canada H2X 2T3; (514) 526-8946; clac@tao.ca.



What exactly is Canopy Action Network? The vision behind CAN is that as a united front all of our actions will be more effective. This does not mean that all groups listed are using the same tactics or following the same ideology, but we do share a common purpose - we want to see native forests and wildlife left alone. In amerika, the majority of unprotected intact ancient forests primarily reside in the northwestern states. Originally, we were focusing on this area. We've now branched out to British Columbia and Australia. The hope is that when we speak of a specific action, we speak of it in the context of a larger, connected movement to protect forests. All of these affinity groups are autonomous self-organizing community groups that together can become more of a force to be reckoned with. This larger affinity doesn't allow for easy dismissal of what are perceived as isolated fringe groups.

An informal network of Forest Defenders has always existed. When composing the branches list in the centerfold, we were struck with the intensity of effort that has been put forth to protect native forests at the direct action level alone. Isolation and alienation are diseases of our modern life; at least knowing that there are others out there working on the same issue in another watershed can be a source of inspiration. This network is simple, composed of three elements that will allow

for people to get involved wherever they are:

- Canopy Action Network's toll-free hotline 1-888-pickAxe
- Canopy Action Network's website www.pickaxe.org/can/index.html

And this newsletter...The hope is that different campaigns will take turns at putting out a similar newsletter that connects and updates all the direct action forest campaigns and creates a forum for new ideas and campaign/strategy analysis. The concept of CAN can be as broad as people want to take it such as regional skillshares or treesitter exchanges. In this last year, CAN sponsored nationwide climbing trainings, hikes, in-town climbing events and a road show. People are needed to regularly update the website, hotline and to put out any future newsletters. Please contact us with your ideas and empower yourselves to start organizing around the Canopy Action Network concept and spread this newsletter around freely.

-Tooted The

The history of treesitting as a tactic has evolved tremendously since its birth fifteen years ago. The first treesit was in Millenium Grove outside of Sweet Home, OR in 1985. They set the first sit by spurring up the tree. Today treesitters girth trees, shoot fishing line or free climb to set the first line. Later that summer of 1985, sitters started to tie into other trees in the Millenium Grove, creating the first small village of about five to six treesitters, R. Dendron was the first female treesitter in 1986. In 1987, Randy Prince stayed in a seven and one-half foot pod for 42 days in Southern Oregon's North Kalmiopsis treesit. He only climbed down from his suspended pod and typewriter after a logger rendered the sit unstable by chainsawing into a third of the tree. During the summer of 1987, treesitters went south to help with the first redwood sits on so-called private lands. At 130 feet, these sits in the Headwaters groves in Northern California were much higher.

ROOTS

The roots of treesitting reach far into prehistory. The direct action tree villages of today share natural ties with some of the remaining dreaming tribes of New Guinea, Africa, and Indonesia wo have made their permanent homes in trees since memory. began. There are tree people called Mava and Muscona in New Guinea living in tree houses 75 feet up. They sleep in close quarters, shit from catwalks and have developed a sophisticated vodeling-like language to call from tree to tree. Treesitters today do much of the same except their language is not so sophisticated and their inherited disconnection from the earth necessitates the use of ropes, harnesses and knots learned from books rather than vines and ancient traditions. The Mava and Muscona people live in trees in rugged mountainous terrain because it is the most defensible position. Although law enforcement have been able to pull treesitters down from shorter treesits, they are still one of the more empowered actions to be a part of. The Efe, an African pygmy tribe, climb tall trees to gather fruit and walk fearlessly around on the branches. As many as 20 climbers may be in the crown of a tree at once. Some of the best Cascadian climbers are at home 150-200 feet up, half-naked, barefoot and without their safety clipped on. Using vines, the Efe construct bridges between trees. Similar techniques called traverses are used in modern day tree villages. They are a means not only to connect one sit to the next but to link as many trees together as possible, so they will be protected. The Efe are superb arboreal engineers and can tie vines into many different knots, each with a special function. One climbing technique they use with vines, seems like a combination of girthing with prussic-like vines for stirrups. The Dayak people of Malaysia are amazing tree climbers as well. They have been blockading development and deforestation of their native forests



CHOP DOWN THE TREE, THEY WOULD BE PELTED WITH STONES AND SPEARS FROM ABOVE"

for the last 15 years. Inherently, tree people are tree defenders. The practicalities of living in the upper canopy were gleaned by scientists studying rain forests from traditional peoples. In the 1920s, Max Nicholson, who would later be one of the founders of the World Wildlife Fund, was part of an English expedition to explore the forest canopy in what was then British Guyana. With the help of native climbers, they were able to string rope ladders from tree to tree. In the 1960s, an American researcher named Elliot Mc Clure built a treesit in Malaysia 120 feet off the ground. For over three years, he and other students of the canopy were witness to the glorious details of life in the rainforest. This is similar to the magical visits with wildlife that only treesitters today are privy to. Mc Clure last climbed this treesit at the age of 65; by 1977, it and the surrounding forest had been cut down to make way for the Trans-peninsular Highway

BRANCHES

The evolution of the tree villages of today came out of the Road Wars in England which began in 1994. The Whitecroft woods hosted the first modern day tree village 60 feet up in beech trees. This was where there were at least 45 treehouses and a total of four and half miles of walkways. Another creation of this time period was internets or webs composed of nylon webbing cargo nets, trawler fishing nets or circus nets connecting tree to tree. Activists also used carabiner clips taped onto their wrists to prevent law enforcement from using their harnesses to pull them from the trees. Law enforcement further developed violent, dehumanizing techniques like cutting off every branch below protesters that refused to come down. Another sit to note was the Mother Ship at Kennet Camp, Newbury, which was built between eight slender trees and could hold up to 30 people complete with kitchen. The three-story sit in The Beech at Fairmile took tree squatting to a new level. In 1996, using the arboreal technology developed in the Road Wars in England, the Owl Creek tree village at Headwaters in Northern California was the first US manifestation of the long term upper canopy encampments that we see today. In 1997, the Love Pod was another highlight in treesitters' history. It was the first wrap-around treesit, roomy enough for six or perhaps more.

Today you'll find variations of this original design, now called donuts, in most sit scenarios. In addition, the rocket stove has revolutionized some sits. It is energy efficient, made out of recycled tin cans and ash and can boil a pot of water using about twelve sticks

The Luna treesit may be the originator of the first rain water collection system. While Fall Creek in the Willamette National Forest hosted an exercise bike 200 feet up, platforms made with recycled innertubes and sticks are an innovation of the Winberry treesit also in the Willamette. The Eagle Creek sit in the Mt. Hood NF in Oregon hosts a pod that one can actually walk upright around a 500-year-old tree named Truth. It is complete with propane heating, cooking and lighting.

There have been many other treesits in the past 15 years each with their own unique story. One of the most successful treesit campaigns occurred recently at Watch Mountain, near a timber town called Randle in Lewis County,, Washington. It was an ideal example of a community organizing around a treesit.

LEAVES AND BUDS

The occupations of threatened forests are stretching from months to years. The most publicized and well-known treesit campaign was the Luna treesit sat by Julia Butterfly. It was built on her connection to Luna and her personal dedication, but like life, it had a bittersweet ending. Many treesitters continue to sit despite the losses and small successes because treesitting is more than a tactic. It has become a way of life. The life of the tree and the life of the treesitter become intertwined. One also lives a more simple life out in the forest free from most of Babylon. Treesitting can actually heal and sustain people living in our disconnected reality. Spring, who treesat at several Oregon treesits expressed it like this: "Living closer and ever looking to nature, breakthroughs are made, deep personal issues are brought to light, and a new level of trust is necessitated by the willingness to live in the elements for a purpose higher than narrow, self-centered aims. Personal vision, communicated and shared through simple means, weaves the colorful fabric of the community. We eat and sing together, ramble at dawn and rant at the coming of night. Everyday is an exercise in nonhierarchical organization and the irrepressible quest for freedom.

SEEDLINGS AND SAPLINGS

At one point, in fall 1999, there were 11 treesits. Presently in 2001, there are five active ones in Cascadia: Eagle Creek, Winberry, Fall Creek, Snog, and Ramsey Gulch. Around each tree sit or village is a community of dedicated forest activists willing to do whatever is needed to defend the last remaining ancient forests, from sitting in trees to organizing public events, to midnight escapades. In towns, on the ground, and in the trees, these communities are working together to create a new history of living forests.

The future of forest defense may or may not lie in treesitting. Although one of the original intentions of Canopy Action Network was to highlight the impact of treesits, we have learned that this perspective is too limited. The act of treesitting has been a rewarding experience for treesitters. Forest occupations provide an amazing opportunity for people to connect radically with the earth, to create community and break out of the conditioning of consumer "culture". These positive aspects are not normally present in other actions or tactics. For a time, people get a glimpse into what might be possible. Treesitting does have the potential to capture the imagination of the public as a spectacle and

In some ways, however, treesitting has become fetishized as an "end all, be all" tactic. provides some defense of the forest that the sits are tied into. However, logging compaespecially in treesits on public lands, the tactic has proved to be surprisingly effective opments where large urban greenways are threatened.

Key factors seems to include timing, active community outreach, and avenues have failed, right before logging is about to start, can be a fulcrum areas where forest service and lumber companies are still put off guard and Knots, nets and carabiners Treesits, particularly tree villages, can be an intense drain on campaign

periods, maintaining a treesit village can be even more difficult. Practically, al-

nies have taken to cutting around tree villages, diminishing the treesit's effectiveness. Still, tactic. In Oregon and California, treesits have also been used in potential housing devel-

a strategical analysis of treesits

point in which to push the sale to be cancelled. This can be especially true in daunted by this tactic. This success is also dependent on a forest monitoring resources. Climbing gear is very expensive. In times of flux and over winter

support, particularly in the local area. A well-timed treesit placed when all other

though sometimes it is not realistic, you want to maintain a treesit for the shortest time possible. Also, one of the hard won lessons of early years was to never come out of the treesit until you have been replaced. It is important to really think about whether it is strategic to put up a treesit and whether you have the time and resources available to see it through to the end. A treesit is not an action to be taken lightly or put together without some long-term thought. Also, risk to treesitters escalates the longer the treesit stays up, requiring safety checks of gear and retensioning of ropes and platforms due to overuse. It is also crucial for skills to be passed on or a treesit can become a life-threatening situation. In private timber sales where hired climbers have been sent to physically evict the treesit, safety and defense are particularly an issue.

As seen with the cancellations of timber sales like Watch Mountain, Harry Thomas, Kaisen Gulch, Freshwater and portions of Snog, a well timed, thoughtful strategic treesit with strong community support can change the fate of a forest. However, treesitting is just one of many tactics. Let's not limit ourselves. We should never forget the beauty of imagination, the wisdom of strategy and the bite of surprise. The sky's the limit!

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BRITISH COLUMBIA

are resisting explotation of their traditional territories and wildands. The temperate rainforest that are left in amerika. Many First Nation peoples resistance is growing but help is needed. They are looking for people with fresh ideas or experience in forest campaigns, direct action camps witherness inhabited by creatures that are rare in the fragments of In British Columbia, Canada, 97% of the land is unceded sovereign native lands. Within these areas are vast expanses of and thee wilages

Elaho

Elahois campaign with violence at the hands of loggers and the Royal Canadian gasa pristine widemess on the mainland. It has been an interse and difficult 2001. has massive clearcut operations in the heart of the remaining pristine component, has been waged to stop Interfor from destroying the last Creek Valley are unceded Squamish Territory, but despite this Interfor southernmost habitat for Grizzly Bears. The Elaho and nearby Sims The Elaho Valley is just 3 hours north of Vancouver, ye contains some of the oldest Douglas fir trees on the planet. The widemess. Since 1997, a direct action campaign, with treesitin Mounted Police. A spring action camp is being planned for May a southern frontier of the Great Bear Rainforest, providing the

- 1895 Commercial Drive, #17 Vancouver, BCV5N 4A6 Friends of the Elaho (604) 255-4145
 - staho@tao.ca

www.monkeywrenchcafe.org/elahoef earth first@zplip.com Elaho Earth First

Grandmother serving one year for blocking a Burnaby Correctional Facility for Women road to stop logging in the Eaho. Burnaby BCV5I 5HI Canada 7900 Fraser Park Dr Betty Krawcyzk

The Great Bear Rainforest

Action Network has been working with the Nuxalk to stop the destruction extends Great Bear Rainforest is the largest contiguous tract of intact responsible for the devastation. FAN has a house in Bella Coola and is which have never been ceded to the government. Since 1995, Forest ands, of their territory and habitat for the rare Kermode (Spirit) Bear, Orca from the Elaho Valley in the South to Alaska in the North. The G Mhales, Timber Wolves and others. Interfor and Weyerhauser are temperate rainforest on the mid-coast of BC. The GB Rainforest Rainforest encompasses many coastal First Nation's traditional ooking for new people to get involved.

Forest Action Network Nuxalk Territory bc BellaCoola Box 625

Cove/Mallard Coalition

bluffs, eighteen km of undeveloped coastine and the largest expanse of Salt Spring Island worked together to resist the destruction of the island appeal for funding to buy back the land and protect it. People have been by this greedy mainland company. Salt Spring residents have made an environment with rare endangered Gary oak meadows, rocky Arbutus Douglas fir forest in the Southern Gulf islands. This year residents of doing direct action to stop logging trucks from leaving the island.

www.savesaltspring.com (250) 537-2616 5793 Old West Sanich Rd. Victoria BCV9E 2H2 LandConservancy (250) 479-8053 A land as wild and diverse as whole continents, a place where

ALASKA

natural resource with limitless potential. Among it all, people are resisting population of 600,000 in a state more than twice the size of Texas, multinational corporations see this remote country as an exploitable European conquest is still raw, is under renewed siege. With a and need your help

Anchorage, AK 99523-0916 alaction@alaska.com Alaska Action Center (907) 56-EARTH POB 230916

WASHINGTON

increased threat to public forests this spring. Organizing is starting now Washington State is home to one of last year's most successful treest campaigns. There has been a long legacy of resistance to the destruction of Washington last wild places. They are expecting an

Get involved.

Seattle, WA 98145 (206) 632-1656 sea-ef@son.org POB 95113 Seattle EF! Olympia, WA 98508 Olympia EF! POB 12391 shuksandired@hotmail.com Bellingham, WA 98227 Shuksan Direct Action P08 1327

Otter Wing/Mackey Day IDAHO

The Otter Wing and Mackey Day sales are within the Wing Creek roadless area encompassing twenty miles or 52,000 acres. Twelve miles have been logged by winter 2000. They want to log another 614 acres. was done by present day standards it would not be up for sale, because many species living in this area are now on the endangered species list environmental impact statement for this forest was done in 1989. If it The Cove/Mallard Coalition shares a long history of direct action in the of new road have been built for the Otter Wing sale and eighty acres This sale would have qualified for protection under the roadless area plan if not for being sold to Shearer Lumber in 1996. The outdated

salvage rider sale that under current laws would have never been sold. Eagle has been strong, even the timber company wants to cancel and let again the forest service will not budge. This is another gruesome pristine roadless area near a municipal watershed. The support for are orgoing. This timber sale proposes to log over 700 acres in a

Office: 1540 SE Clinton St, Portland, OR www.cascadiationestalfiance.org pseudotsuga@earthlinknet Cascadia Forest Aliance Portland, OR 97208 (503) 241-4879 POBox 4946

Hundreds of individuals over the last three years have sat high Fall Creek

be protected as red tree vole habitat, but dearoutting will happen around these nest areas further fragmenting these islands of old growth. This is like the red tree vole and spotted owl. Portions of the forest are likely to brest service cancels this sale. Help is needed with treesitting as well as in the carropy of the Clark timber sale, probably the world's oldest direct protected these ninety-six acres of old growth forest for canopy species not acceptable and tree sitters will continue their occupation until the action tree whage. A tree sit whage composed of seven sits has upper canopy red tree vole research.

Celebrating its second birthday in January 2001, the Winberry

Winberry

tree village is composed of two treesits and one suspended sit. Trees in also home to the red tree vole. Surveys for sensitive species that should have been completed four years ago are now being completed after the the wilage average around five hundred years old. This sale composed endangered marbled murrelet habitat on the Oregon coast. Winberry is of remnants of ancient forest totaling around 300 acres was traded as a replacement volume sale for one hundred year old trees in

fact. Treesitters await the results and demand the concellation of this

Huffman and Wright Logging Co. will actually lose money on this sale and want to sell it back to the forest service. Fifty acres were cut in the fall of old growth forest in Southern Oregon's Umpqua National Forest. Four Natiensheds. The Snog timber sale is composed of over 180 acres of of the units are within the Garwood Butte 3,000 acre roadless area. cancelled due to the Critterville treesit and the efforts of Umpqua As we go to print, about one-third of this sale has been Snog Sale.

he Snoq, sold under its shadow continue to this day to wreak havoc on native forests. The Umpqua will be one of the hardest hit areas in Corestd@efft.org (541) 684-8977 Cascadia Forest Defenders Oregon this spring. POBox 11122

only 13% of Oregon's human population. Forest defenders are a rare fled that may halt logging till April 2001. This is an area desperately in In eastern Oregon, you will find 63% of Oregon's forests, yet area, providing important connectivity between the two. Thinning cuts between the Black Canyon Wilderness and the Cottonwood Roadless need of people. Don't worry about living arrangements, they will be Logging started last year despite a lawsuit. An injunction has been species. The Black Bear timber sale is located on a high ridgeline destroying canopy cover and habitat for many sensitive species. have been prescribed in 2,000 acres of this old growth forest Black Bear

Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project Fossil, OR 97830 (541) 468-8028 HRC82

CALIFORNIA

communities. The direct action scene on so-called private property is California has less national forests, but in turn is affected by large corrupt private corporations logging around wild and human much different, but very necessary

Mattole

elevation old-growth Douglas fir in California. Mattole Forest Defenders growth coastal forest and prairie in the headwaters of the Mattole River community members are working on raising funds to purchase these lands from Maxxam/PL and turn them over to a community land trust valley of Northern California. This is the second largest stand of low-Maxxam/Pacific Lumber is actively logging a mosaic of oldare using a variety of tactics to slow down logging since a case was lost in the California Supreme Court. Mattole Free State, a blockade enforcement to quell the occupation. While direct action continues, started in Winter 2000, is going strong despite attempts by law for long-term protection and stewardship

Mattole Forest Defenders www.mattoledefense.org www.asis.com/~coho Petrolia, CA 95558 (707) 441-3828 POB117

traverses has protected two acres of coastal redwood forest. Redwood A treesit vilage of five platforms located along a network of thirty Empire has logged the rest of the forest illegally; still treesitters continue to work to permanently preserve Ramsey Gulch Ramsey Gulch

seventy-five unprotected acres. Logging has stopped for the winter. Fish

2000. The forest service is forcing their contract to cut the remaining

biologists for the Forest service have warned that this sale will threaten

ish and does not comply with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy The

Salvage rider of the 1990's suspended all environmental laws. Sales,

Santa Cruz Earth First Santa Cruz, CA 95061 nzel@orizio.com (831) 425-3025 P08344

ancient redwoods and influenced treesits that are presently underway in Oregon. Although a portion has been protected, the struggle to save For over twelve years, people have been working to protect Headwatters. Treesitting has evolved under the auspices of these 60.000 acres of ancient redwood forest commonly known as Headwaters continues. A blockade is forming now Hole in Headwaters

ncef@humboldt1.com Arcata, CA 95518 (707) 825-6598 North Coast EFI. P0828

provided. Just bring skills and a willingness to work toward the

cancellation of this sale and others nearby

www.headwatersforest.org/ef Kaisen Guldh

and other dothing stores thriving off of sweatshop labor, set their sights treesit vilage occupied the forest in the spring and summer of 2000. As we went to print we found that a deal with the company has been made The Fisher family owners of Gap, Banana Republic, Old Navy remaining Steelhead Salmon in the Albion drainage, was threatened. A on the remaining ancient redwood forests of California last summer. Deep in the Albion Nation, Mendooino Co., CA, a three hundred and twenty acre stand of residual old growth, home of some of the last The Kaisen Gulch THP will now be sustainably harvested and the residual old growth stands will be preserved through carbon sequestration. For more detailed information contact:

www.humboldt1.com/~ncef/tree sit mendocina.html Mendocina, CA95460 (707) 937-5703 Albion Nation POB 702

Marsh Mill THP being logged by Sierra Pacific Industries. Logging begins In September of 2000, the first treesit in the High Sierras was summer in the Wall THP and elsewhere. SPI owns one and half militon again in the spring. Other actions against SPI have occurred this past acres in California where it plans to log a large percentage of it in the days. This is just one of the tactics being used by Yuba Nation in the suspended between two old-growth sugar pines. It lasted for seven Sierra Nevada sales next few years.

228 Commercial St, Suite 174 Nevada City 95959 (530) 445-0406 Sierra Earth First Yuba Nation

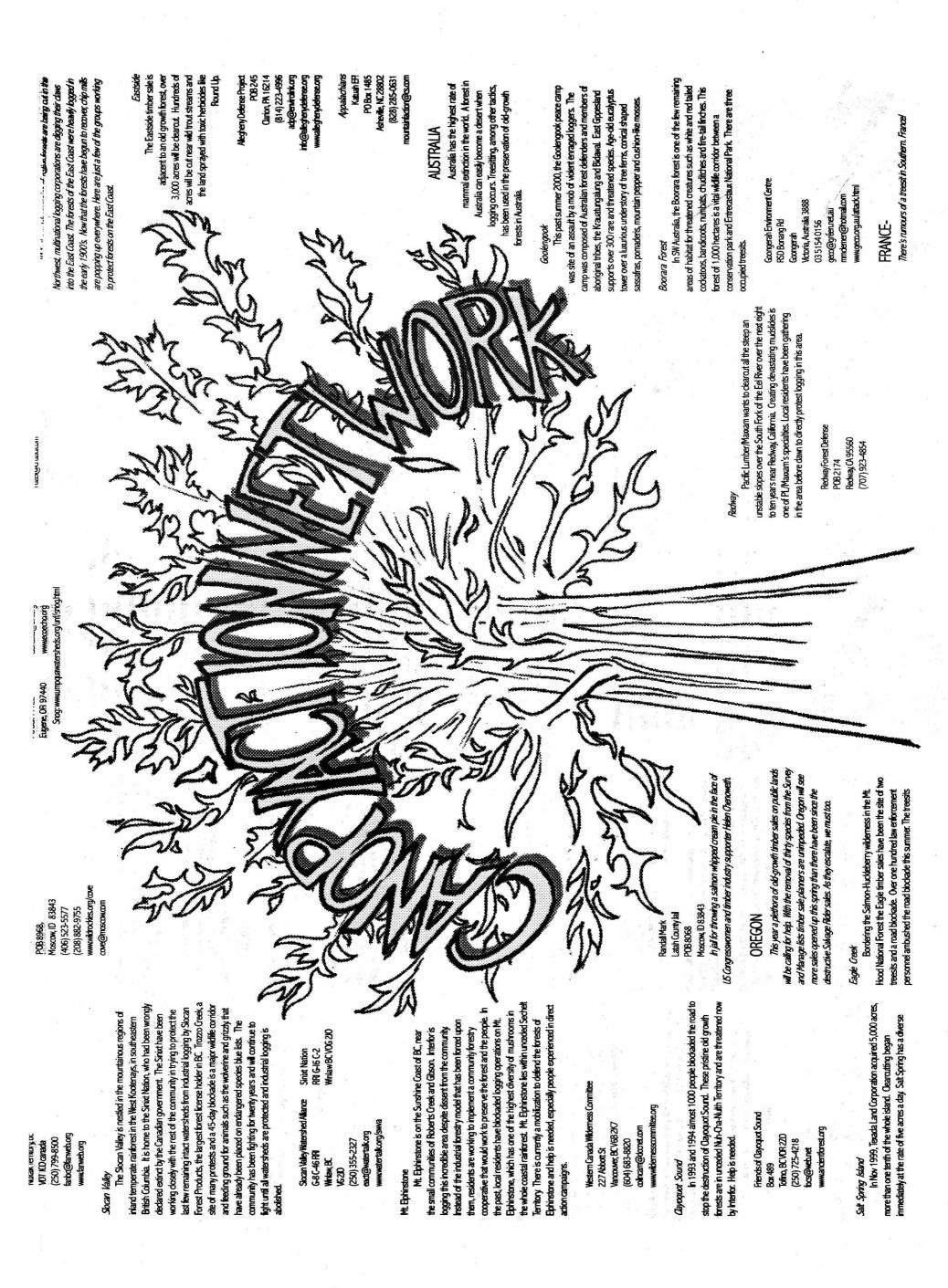
sierraef@hotmail.com Three Rivers Tribe

threenverstribe@hotmail.com (209) 795-7729

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EAST COAST



A spirit of solidarity for all earth defenders is needed from all whether part of the mainstream, liberal or radical thinking. Those working in the public eye need to realize that despite their personal actions, we all implicate each other in the gaze of government repression. Law enforcement puts us all together despite declared disassociations. For example, just because one is working on labor issues and the environment in above ground fashion does not mean that one is free from federal investigation, backlash or physical attack, (Judi

Disclaimer: The views represented in this article are not necessarily the views of any one person working on this tabloid or of any group mentioned in these four pages.



Bari). Nor are those working on environmental legislative issues and public outreach free from approach from law enforcement when sabotage happens in their area, (Vail, Colorado). Compliance with local police and federal agents only serves to weaken solidarity within the greater movement. Having not committed the act in question, mainstream groups have nothing to fear, except the questioning and harassment from the government. Most environmental activists in other countries don't have the opportunity to

choose whether or not to hide behind their privilege. Individuals may be asked for seemingly insignificant information that may in turn incriminate those around you, despite their anonymity at that moment. It is not necessary to disavow yourself from said act. Say nothing except for insisting on your lawyer being present. This is your right. Don't give away your fingerprints, computer files or anything to these law enforcement agencies. Even the most casual conversation can be misrepresented against you or some acquaintance or friend. Law enforcement, government and corporations are not your true allies, so why come to their aid? Since we are conveniently placed in boxes of mainstream, left and radical, the mainstream can point fingers away from its self. In general, the more radical the act the more the mainstream benefits from being the perceived group of reason on the issue. Those working under Earth Liberation Front guidelines maintain a code of nonviolence that is compatible with most forest protection groups, an agreement to protect all humyn and non-humyn life and a love for the wild. Where most groups part ideological ways is in the destruction of property. This tactic is used as a way to cause economic damage to earth destroying corporations or agencies in a way they can understand. Since many are blind or refuse to acknowledge their negative impact on our planet and only focus on their bottom line, economic sabotage sends a

message that they cannot help but hear. This message comes from wildlands destroyed, species endangered, and human communities polluted. Reform has small successes but long-term change will only happen, if we not limit ourselves to homogenized thinking and tactics. Allowing for a diversity in actions and tactics is like opening a window and letting in fresh air. Continue using tactics like postcard mailings, lobbying, road shows and treesits while the elves do their nightwork, secure in our greater alliance. Let silence and non-compliance with federal investigations be your truest act of civil disobedience, which I suspect you are already no stranger to.

Treesitters Journal Entry

E.L.F.?

... As I sit basking in the rare November sunshine, two hundred feet up a tree, some may wonder why I am thinking and writing about privilege and oppression, instead of the forest. The way we treat each other, the conditioning we have all inherited and choose to accept or challenge, the underlying systems of oppression at hand and the destruction of the last remaining forests, are all deeply connected, some might say - one in the same. In communities of resistance dedicated to defending the forest our lives deeply interact as we often spend 24/7 with each other living in base camps and in treevillages. Intentionally or unintentionally, we are confronted by these issues of privilege and oppression on a daily basis. As time goes on, I realize most of us are in desperate need of some tools to navigate through this ever-unfolding process. And from this view, all of this seems vitally important to me. My time in the trees at Fall Creek has given me plenty of perspective from both my interactions with the human community and the native forest community. I see clearly that the forest will never be truly protected until this entire system of oppression is brought to a grinding halt.

dynamics of privilege and oppresapply that understanding to any for example, in a vacuum but all the

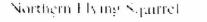
From what I have gathered from books I have read, people I have been lucky to meet or that I have sought out for their experience with these issues - the first step in unlearn-learn to understand our own privi- -- I see clearly that the forest will never be ing our conditioning is to lege. Understanding the dynamics of privilege and oppres-first step. Once we have a grasp truly protected until this entire system of apply that understanding to any up. From this angle, we are not oppression is brought to a grinding balt.--

sion is important base, a on these concepts, we can issue or "ism" that comes just talking about sexism, systems of oppression in our

society: racism, classism, homophobia, ageism, abilism, ecocide, genocide and the list goes on

In every direct action campaign I have been involved in there's been an underlying debate. Sometimes this debate was spoken and sometimes hidden, because the folks involved were experienced enough to know that if they just said the right thing the business of patriarchy could keep going along for all practical purposes. I've been trying not to simply focus on gender since that is the issue that directly affects me the most. I see this happen a lot. However, in our predominantly white, straight forest defense campaigns the debate usually runs along gender lines. A very simplified version is that when an issue comes up some folks can't seem to spare the time and energy to deal with gender issues because of the "need" to focus on the bigger picture of why we are here. The general comments continue in the line of, "We are here for the forest and if we stop and deal with every "minor" issue, we'll never save the forest". Another voice, often a minority voice points out, "Ultimately we will never save the forest until the bigger picture of oppression is addressed. As long the rape and oppression of women continues so will the rape and oppression of the earth. It is one and the same."

As I sit up here writing this, I'm left wondering how long this debate will continue. How long I will speak and write the same words and have them fall upon deaf ears and blind eyes. Ears that are deafened and eyes that are blinded by our own privilege and our unwillingness to leave the security of our comfort zones....



Ultimately, treesitting aims to

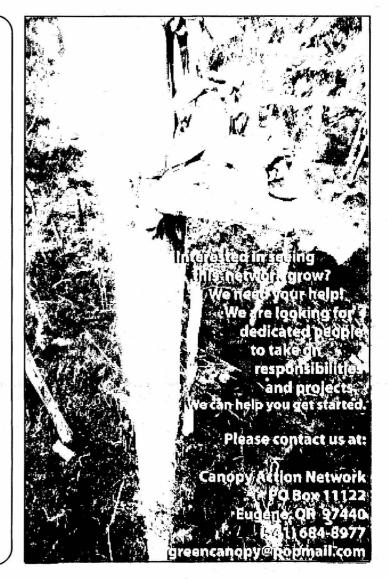
protect forests. Along the way though, humans living in the treetops and on the ground in basecamps, can have their impacts on the forest. The Forest Service uses this, as rhetoric, to invalidate our forest campaigns. Of course, we know our impacts will never add up to the devastation of clearcutting. Nonetheless, we can always work to minimize our impacts. One main way is to be conscious of the wildlife we co-exist with in the upper canopy:

tops on water jugs, no matter how small the opening is. Make sure to always have

Always put lids on compost buckets. An animal can drown, get stuck or get smothered in a compost bucket with no lid and no way out.

•Don't feed wildlife. Furry creatures like flying squirrels can be very charming and it is tempting to feed them, especially since human food makes normally shy creatures chummier.

The introduction of human food can throw off the natural balance of an entire area in ways we can't even imagine. Not only is it a good idea to not feed wildlife, we have to "squirrel" proof all food buckets and quickly clean up food scraps and crumbs immediately after eating and cooking. Being clean has a new meaning in treesits. Not only do most people want to be neat in such a small space, but what is simply a chaotic room in town can be a death trap in a treesit. Wildlife attracted by a sweet smell can get stuck in a small container with no lid buried under a pile of papers, extra clothes and scattered recycling, that you didn't even realize was there. All of this may seem obvious, but many people have had to learn the hard way.



To the Treesitters #6

The trees don't try to get out of growing They dig in their roots and reach for a piece of the sky

The trees don't run away when they see people coming

They've been growing longer than we have and have grown more generous Than we have had time to

Early humans spent a lot of time in trees listening *lo ineir secreis* Now the trees are calling us back Maybe we are ready to hear more

Water doesn't worry about drowning Fire has no fear of burning up The soil hasn't given up sprouting The wind isn't afraid of being blown away And you don't lose any sleep over becoming lost in the wild

Steve Toth Hawthome, CA

DANCING WITH INFILTRATORS: A CLOSE ENCOUNTER WITH BARRY CLAUSEN

BY WHIRLWIND

When you first hook up with EF! you learn some basic truths: Cops lie. No deals, assholes. No compromise in defense of Ma Earth. But some of us have held onto the basic notion that all the people we're dealing with out there in the world have a conscience underneath it all. Most of them, push comes to shove, don't really want to see us dead. That's why we can put U-locks around our necks after dumpstering the food we plan to eat when we get out of the pokey.

Sometimes, though, that comforting line of thought turns out to be just plain wrong. That is what my buddy Asanté Riverwind learned when he tried to prick the conscience of an infiltrator named Barry Clausen. You might have heard of Clausen. He wrote a book with a bunch of lies in it about us and our friends. No one on either side of a Forest Service gate really trusts the man, including the feds (who won't work with him) and the industry (which pays him every now and then to feed its conspiracy theories with his mad imaginings).

As Asanté tells it, in 1990 he was working in Seattle with a bunch of activists, having a howling good time harassing the Freddies, sitting in trees and generally kicking ass. There was a lot of monkeywrenching going on around there in those days, equipment getting sabotaged. People were doing more than talking.

The Seattle EF!ers had just been helping out the folks down Portland way, where chainsaws threatened Bull Run, the city's municipal watershed. When they came home to Seattle from Stumptown they asked

around and discovered that 17,000 acres of federal forest around Seattle's drinking source were also at risk. It was too late for appeals, too late for lawsuits and the conventional wisdom said it was too late to save the trees, the river and the critters. So the Cedar River Action Group was born. One day Asanté gets a call from the rowdies in Missoula saying there was an agent heading to Washington, where all this kick-ass work was going down. "Is he working for the feds?" Asanté wanted to know.

"Nah," said the folks in Missoula, "he's not that smart." The guy's name was Barry Clausen, he was in his 40s or 50s and acted like a good old boy. And he was really friendly. Too friendly. Ears to the ground, brother.

Sure enough, Clausen showed up at a demo-planning meeting within a couple of weeks and gave CRAG a \$100 donation, some of its first money.

There was a big debate about what to do with the guy. They figured there was a two percent chance that wrong about Clausen.

They asked him questions about his background, and got shaky answers. When he said that he'd been a railroad engineer they asked him some technical questions and investigated what he said; he'd been winging it. Clausen showed up raging against Plum Creek in Montana, saying he wanted to learn from the folks in Washington and take their skills back to Missoula, even though there were plenty of folks in Montana he could have apprenticed with.

So the debate raged. Boot the guy or toy with him?

"I had this crazy idea that maybe infiltrators have a conscience," Asanté told me. "What if we toy with him, use him where we can, don't give him information that would be harmful, and see if we can crack his conscience and get him to spill. I think the only reason we decided to toy with this one was that we figured he was working for industry. He didn't fit the federal agent bill. The

main thing was he was just so clutzy and unsavvy."

So toying was the ticket, in part because of the money Clausen fed them and in part because he had the best truck for transporting gear to actions. The group protected itself by keeping Clausen at a distance. When they took over the Forest Service office in Seattle and fired all the Freddies (they're incompetent at best, after all) Clausen was out on the street with a picket sign. When they planned treesits, they held double meetings so Clausen didn't know the details. When they went off to the woods, Clausen never

"Well Barry, I don't know if you're an infiltrator or not. If you are, I wonder Missoula had been how you live with your conscience..."

> knew in advance where they were going, or that his truck would be carrying gear. While folks got up into trees, Clausen was out by the Forest Service gate with another sign.

And they always kept someone with Clausen, wherever he went. If he needed to use the phone, gee, so did someone else. If he needed to go to the bathroom, well, the tribe that pees together... On the way to a treesit right after they fired the Freddies, Clausen sure enough said he needed to make a call. When his shadow came with him to the phone booth, he suddenly decided his call wasn't that urgent after all.

Clausen hinted about night work and was ignored. He started to notice. This is Asanté's version of the conversation:

Clausen: Asanté, am I being disruptive? A lot of people seem to think I'm an infiltrator. What do you think?

Asanté: Well Barry, I don't know if you're an infiltrator or not. If you are, I wonder how you live with your conscience, and maybe someday you're going to be haunted by a lot of what you've done. If you aren't, keep strong, keep working at what you're doing. Who knows who's an infiltrator in this world? We all just have to be strong and true to ourselves and do what we have to do. I'm not going to spend my time worrying about it.

Clausen, of course, tells the story a little differently. He says Asanté replied, "Oh no, Barry, you've proven yourself." Asanté thinks that version is pretty funny.

Well, there are a couple more stories about Barry's time in Washington, like the one about the other infiltrator who almost entrapped him on a mission to sab some helicopters that were logging up in the Skagit area. The only person who showed up for the non-event was Clausen.

Eventually, Clausen moved on to California, and the Seattle folks passed along the word about him just as the Missoula folks had done before them.

When he left, there was still no evidence of Clausen's conscience, or that toying with him had made a bit of difference. But there also wasn't any evidence that they hadn't planted a seed that would someday sprout, so Asanté's theory about infiltrators' consciences was technically still viable. Until a couple of years later.

"I guess our mistake was that we didn't know he would write a book," Asanté says now. It kind of stretched

the imagination of those who knew Clausen at the time, since he couldn't even write the text for fliers without sounding like a bad version of See Spot Run.

Turns out Clausen was working for the Washington Contract Loggers Association and some other industry folks in Montana, assigned to infiltrate EF! and catch us monkeywrenching. He

kept trying to get immunity from the FBI to set folks up, but the feds weren't biting. Asanté thinks the feds knew that the EF!ers were onto

Clausen-who was therefore useless to any federal entrapment effort-since all the activists' phones were tapped and a lot of the debate about him occurred over those lines.

The problem with the book is that it was filled with lies and mad imaginings that feed the fears of the industry folks who still occasionally pay him for his misread rewrites of the EF! Journal. The problem is that to some folks his stories-that Asanté didn't see through Clausen or that folks offered public tree spiking workshops—seem plausible. The problem is that it makes Clausen into some kind of celebrity, who even today gets really long stories written about him (illustrated with fuzzy photos) in glossy magazines like Outside.

"At this point I've decided that infiltrators don't have much of a conscience," Asanté says. "I guess if you're going to use an infiltrator, be careful they don't write books. If I had it to do over again, we would have just booted him, because he's tried to use that legitimacy or pretense of legitimacy that he actually infiltrated anything ... It was fun, but this guy's still around and maybe he wouldn't be."

There was some debate over whether to even write y'all this story about dancing with infiltrators, much less immortalize one wingnut in the pages of the Journal. But it seems that the moral of the story is one to remember.

Asanté has pretty much written off Clausen and his ilk as lost causes. But sometimes even feds break down in their later years and repent in anguish their professional lives. "It would be nice to see [Clausen] get honest and climb a tree or block a bulldozer and put his life on the line to protect this Earth that has given him his life," Asanté says. "That could actually be the first step he needs to take to reclaim his lost and impoverished integrity. I still wonder [about the experiment with Clausen's conscience], because it's not done. [I'm] curious to see if the seeds some day will take root. It could be pretty interesting."

PS. This is a story about playing with infiltrators, but just so you know, the Cedar River Action Group succeeded in stopping the "done deal" sales. They even got the Freddies to transfer the 17,000 acres to the city of Seattle with conditions that theoretically mean it can never be logged. To hell with being reasonable, cutting deals or cutting losses. Long live Earth First!!

February-March 2001 Earth First! Page 21

lacked-Out Enviro News of the Weird

Wonder if He Made it into "Boone and Crockett" Hunting Club?

•A wild elephant in Guwahati, India, on December 31 pulled a man down from a tree and trampled him to death. The mm. mmm. sood elephant then refused to part with the corpse, carrying the dead man with it for the first two weeks of 2001.

This stuesome, deep field chicken head was found in a minimum minimum minimum minimum minimum minimum minimum measures from McDonalds minimum minimum minimum measures from McDonalds minimum minimum measures from McDonalds minimum measures from McDonalds minimum minimum minimum minimum measures from McDonalds minimum minimum minimum measures from McDonalds minimum minimum minimum minimum measures from McDonalds minimum minimum minimum minimum minimum minimum minimum measures from McDonalds minimum measures from McDonalds minimum mini minimum min I Know GW is Going to be Fun, but I'll Miss Bill.

• President Clinton received a report that there are more than 100,000 cattle guards in Colorado. Because Colorado ranchers protested his proposed changes on grazing policies, he ordered Secretary of Interior Bruce Babbitt to fire half of the guards immediately. Before Babbitt could respond and presumably straighten him out, Colorado's ex-congresswoman Pat Schroeder intervened with a request that before any were fired, they be given six months of retraining.

We Couldn't Make This Stuff Up.

•Coors put its slogan, "Turn It Loose," into Spanish where it translates to, "Suffer From Diarrhea."

•When Gerber started peddling baby food in Africa, it used the same packaging as in the US, with the smiling baby on the label. Later it learned that due to the large array of languages and significant illiteracy, companies in Africa routinely put pictures of what's inside on container labels.

•In China, Pepsi's "Come alive with the Pepsi generation," translated into, "Pepsi brings your ancestors back from the grave."

•The Dairy Association's huge success with the "Got Milk?" campaign prompted them to export the slogan to Mexico, where it translated into, "Are You Lactating?"

•Frank Perdue's chicken slogan, "It takes a strong man to make a tender chicken," was translated into Spanish as, "It takes an aroused man to make a chicken affectionate." We could have told them that.

Brought to You by the Same Deity that Drops Twisters on FBI Offices.

•Paul Westwood, managing director of Oxfordshire-based Household Pest Services, was found dead in mid-August at the wheel of a company van, gassed by cymag, a cyanide gas used to kill rabbits. It was found leaking from the back of the vehicle.

Weird Weather

•Fish in the North Sea are suffering from sunburn caused by the thinning ozone layer. Young fish, which breath through their skin until their gills develop, are the most affected because they have no scales to help deflect the increasingly harmful rays of the sun. Thinning of the ozone layer above Britain increases by about 10 percent in the spring, when newly spawned fish are the most vulnerable.

•The Native people of the Canadian Arctic say they are now experiencing natural events previously unknown in their oral history-thunder and lightning. Electrical storms in the high Arctic are among the evidence of climate change. "When I was a child, I never heard thunder or saw lightning," said Rosemarie Kuptana of Sachs Harbour, Northwest Territories. "The animals really don't know what to do because they've never experienced this kind of phenomenon."

Nukes Don't Kill; People Do!

•Chernobyl, the scene of the world's worst nuclear accident yet, has defied the gloomiest of prophecies by becoming one of the USSR's richest wildlife habitats.

The evacuation of tens of thousands of residents living in the 19-mile exclusion zone around the Ukrainian reactor has resulted in a flourishing community of plants and animals whose diversity is stunning. Arable farmland and pasture has slowly been replaced by weeds and meadows as the land returns to its original, albeit radioactive, state. Large European mammals, such as moose, wild boar, roe and red deer, beaver, wolves, badger, otter and lynx have become well established in the area. Forty-eight endangered species are now thriving in the Chernobyl zone.

According to the Russian Institution of Agricultural Radiology, although some radiation deformities have appeared, most are not passed on to future generations of wildlife. One report states that: "Some natural populations have thrived as a result of the lack of human interference. No evidence has been found that any plant or animal species have been eliminated from contaminated areas, except where clean-up activities involving soil removal have drastically altered the ecosystem."

More Monkeyshine

•Scientists at Oregon Health Sciences University proudly announced in early January that they have cloned a glow-in-the-dark monkey, presumably easier to find in a lab that has had its power system destroyed. Reaction from the Venezuelan capuchin community to the monkeyshine in Oregon was derisive, "Been there, done that. Hey, you wanna see the human we developed that we can grow assholes on?"



WHAT? GENETICALLY ENGINEER HUMANS?

BY SARAH MACKEN

Back on Him.

The debate into the sweeping implications of the Human Genome Project has hardly even begun. Yet amazingly, in the rush before Christmas, secondary legislation was quietly passed by the House of Commons permitting human cloning research and virtually unlimited genetic experimentation on human embryos.

heard, if it weren't for your wacky

buds at the Earth First! Journal.

But Have They Filed for

Intellectual Property Rights?

•A group of wedge-capped capuchin

monkeys in the tropical forests of Ven-

ezuela have been seen making their

own mosquito repellent. The mon-

keys, plagued each season by hordes of

hungry, buzzing bugs, poke around in

tree bark and termite mounds to ex-

tract wriggling specimens of Orthoporus

dorsovittatus-millipedes chock full of

powerful defensive chemicals called

benzoquinones. The monkeys then

massages the millipede into their fur,

covering themselves from head to foot.

Sure, He Says He's Your Best

Friend, but Don't Turn Your

•It was pig huntin' season in New

Zealand, when, upon cornering a pig,

a hunter set down his loaded shotgun.

His zealous dog, in a subsequent mo-

ment of tail wagging excitement,

caused the gun to discharge, shooting

the fellow in the foot. Unable to hoof

it to the car, the man endured a five-

hour wait before help happened by.

He says his enthusiasm remains un-

dimmed, although he will take along a

non-dog friend next time.

In the wake of the huge controversy surrounding genetically modified foods, the British government appears desperate to suppress debate and avoid similar disputes about human genetic engineering. The public at large is certainly completely unaware that this legislation has even been discussed, let alone approved. The speed at which it was pushed through Parliament exemplifies government fears of controversy.

The legislation permitting this new line of research was put forward in the form of an addition to the Human Fertilization and Embryology (HFE) Act of 1990, which was introduced Page 22 Earth First! Brigid 2001

primarily to govern infertility treatment. It was never intended to govern human cloning and human genetic manipulation, and is inadequate to deal with such a colossal task. It should most definitely be the focus of new primary, not secondary, legislation.

Some biotech companies and research institutions already hold cloning patents, yet this was not even mentioned in the House of Commons debate, clearly demonstrating the limited scope of the HFE Act. Nowhere does it deal with the important issues of patenting human life, ownership of genes and similar vital concerns

One biotech global conglomerate, Geron Corporation, has bought into the most significant research institutions worldwide dealing with cloning research and embryonic stem cells, including part of the UK Roslin Institute, which produced Dolly, the cloned sheep. As a result of a multitude of takeovers and links, Geron now has the franchise for all cloning patents that have been issued.

Another German lobbying group-

and one of the most vociferously opposed to cloning—is a feminist group against the exploitation of women's reproductive capacities. A fundamental requirement of this research is the human egg, and incalculable thousands would be required. Egg-donation is a very invasive and high-risk procedure that can have long term health effects for women. Because of such risks, there is always a shortage of eggs for infertility treatment, and it is therefore envisioned that aggressive biotech companies will with completely new reas of research. women to donate precious eggs. Again this issue was not even mentioned in the totally inadequate debate in the House of Commons. The health interests of women did not even warrant a passing thought or consideration.

The legislation now moves to the House of Lords. If you have any way of influencing members of the Lords urge them to reject this inadequate legislation arriving from the Commons. should be considered when dealing dignity of mankind.

resort to coercive methods to entice We need lengthy informed discussion and completely new laws.

Genetic engineering in humans, like its counterpart in the animal and plant world, could bring about irrevocable changes in the world as we know it and be passed on forever to subsequent generations. The underlying quasi eugenics underpinning some of our quest to eliminate disease and create perfect long-living human life needs particularly careful thought. We have a responsibility not Nothing less than primary legislation only to the present but also to the future

THE GREAT GRAY GOO IS COMING FOR YOU A GAUTIONARY TALE OF MANOTECHNOLOGY AND OUR WORLD

BY KALARI SPIDER

In the battles to defend what remains of our natural world-and of our ability to live in harmony with itcertain fundamental rules have always applied. We can count on working shit jobs and using the meager proceeds to fund our daily struggles. We can count on some solidarity from the working masses who battle the exploiters on other fronts. We can be confident to some degree of anonymity and privacy as we organize to implement our strategies in the forests, mountains or streets of our communities around the planet. We can actually envision strategies which might force those in control to take our demands seriously.

Well, wake up and smell the future. Arrogant technocapitalists, well connected and organizing across international borders, are moving aggressively to deploy their vision of a glorious new tomorrow-an unprecedented epoch of human control over nature.

Information from such fields as robotics, genetics, artificial intelligence and molecular nanotechnology (MNT or nanotech) is publicly available to paint a picture of possible future scenarios for the planet. Crucially, opposition to and details about the direction of research is coming from high up within the scientific community itself, though accompanying social and political analysis is often simplistic and inadequate.

The reason for such squabbling among otherwise mutually congratulatory teams of researchers appears to be a sort of convergence in previously divergent areas of science such as biology, chemistry and computer technology called "singularity." Constant whittling away at scientific mysteries has nearly eliminated the gaps between these fields, and various forces are vying for control over the massive profits and power that will come from commercialization or perhaps private use of advanced technologies.

Genetic engineering is the reconfiguration of genetic coding between and within species for desired effects (e.g. fish genes that allow survival in cold waters being spliced into tomatoes to prevent frostbite). Robotics deals with automation of artificial structures-increas-

ingly on very small scales (e.g. in electronics assembly)—and is connected to the drive for artificial intelligence, which seeks to create machines capable of reasoning, learning and self-improvement independent of human programming. Nanotechnology is an entirely different approach to engineering, not seen in previous human history. Instead of mining the earth for bulk raw material and then refining it into shape-which is how humans have always built things, from the Taj Mahal to silicon chipsnanotechnologists aim at "mining" specific molecules out of the sea, atmosphere or Earth and build-

ing objects "from the ground up." This allows for atomic precision and/or miniaturization in the finished product.

By themselves, these ideas may not seem so threatening. But let's take a look at an extraordinary paper published in April 2000 by Robert Freitas of Zyvex Corporation, a private nanotech firm in Texas. In "Some Limits To Global Ecophagy by Biovorous Nanoreplicators, With Public Policy Recommendations," he begins by saying that "[n]o systematic assessment of the risks and limitations of MNT-based technologies has yet been attempted." He goes on to describe global ecophagy, or "the gray goo problem," in which "self-replicating nanorobots capable of functioning au-

quickly convert that natural environment (e.g., biomass) into replicas of themselves (e.g., nanomass) on a global basis... Such biovores can emerge only after a lengthy period of purposeful focused effort, or as a result of deliberate experiments aimed at creating general-purpose artificial life, perhaps by employing genetic algorithms ... "

Consider how minute flying cameras or tracking devices that could be inhaled might affect our lives and work. Consider soldiers or even our neighbors with accessories they could attach to their bodies giving them far greater physical or mental abilities than home-grown humans. Picture nanoweapons used to

grab resources necessary for sustaining nanotech economies and the inability of conventionally-armed governments to prevent this. Imagine a world in which just about anything could be assembled out of thin air, from food to diamonds. How would people be paid for work? Would people even need to work? What happens when labor becomes an obsolete factor in markets? Why would capitalists need to placate expensive workers when they could have cheap and obedient robots do the same work faster?

Now imagine this future controlled by venture capitalists, bureaucrats, generals, "terrorists" or even

bumbling scientists feeding their egos without concern for the ethical or potentially catastrophic consequences of their research. With the exception of (non-governmental) terrorists, this is exactly who owns the technology today. Headed by Eric Drexler, author of three seminal books on MNT, the Foresight Institute in Palo Alto, California, is leading the charge, along with a closeknit group of scientists at universities and firms. These are mostly in the US and Europe, though the Japanese government has identified MNT as the defining technology of the new century, and nano programs exist in China, India, Australia and elsewhere. In recent years, the US government has begun investing heavily in nanotech. The Naval Research Lab and other military centers

tonomously in the natural environment could now host some of the best MNT programs, and former President Bill Clinton recently signed a \$500 million National Nanotechnology Initiative. But many scientists are generally suspicious of the federal government, which is not surprising when one realizes that private (encrypted) currencies, unregulated markets, radical change in intellectual property law and skepticism of military intent are all on the table in the long run. The nation-state system and capitalism as we know it are already teetering, especially outside the US, thanks to people power. Nanotech advocates and their hi-tech, new economy allies aim to fill the vacuum.

If this work seems insulated from the real world, the industry has made a big deal of being "open" about it. Most of the facts in this article are available online, and Foresight allows you to join (for \$250) as a "senior associate" and participate with top scientists and other experts in regular conferences and online discussion. But it is clear these people have learned much from the mistakes of the biotech industry's introduction to society and

> have sworn to avoid such errors. Foresight's mission statement says it exists to "help prepare society for anticipated advanced technologies." This is much more a public relations mission than a democracy-fostering one. The industry is terrified—especially since Bill Joy, top scientist at Sun Microsystems, went public in Wired magazine's April 2000 issue with an exposé and scathing criticism-of possible public outrage. But they are much better prepared this time. They are busy networking with politicians and media, and setting up public policy think tanks like Foresight's **Center for Constitutional Issues** in Technology. Their propaganda is designed specifically to appeal to unsuspecting folks, including activists, as the answer to ev-

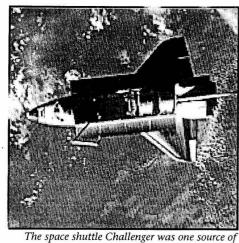
erything from aging and space conquest to the environmental horrors of the 20th century. They work with the Global Business Network, the Cato Institute and the Pentagon.

It's hard for people not to be intrigued by such dramatic revolutions in human existence, but we cannot be afraid to fight the advances. We must start now, first with educating ourselves, then with challenging their arrogance. We must include our voices, and all voices, in a much broader debate while we still can. The ideological battle will be easier to win now than any physical one will be once they get their paws on this stuff. Primitive nanotech is just around the corner, and the consensus among scientists is that it will be 10-15 years before we see full-blown nanotech and artificial intelligence, both of which are likely to grow quickly beyond human control or understanding.

Our response will evolve and our voices will be heard. The industry often refers to a "second industrial revolution," and has long anticipated a backlash from "neo-Luddites" seeking to preserve a noble but doomed past. Their response to public deliberation is that the public is ignorant and not qualified to make decisions on these subjects. And if they, the good guys, don't get to it first, then surely someone like Hitler will. But these are decisions that, perhaps even more than capitalism or state authority, will affect life on Earth, and cannot be made by a tiny group of power-drunk elitists in isolation from reality. The future of the human race and all life on our fragile planet swings in the balance against the goo.

Read more about this in The Age of Spiritual Machines by Ray Kurweil or any of Eric Drexler's books. For more information, check out; www.foresight.org/SrAssoc/ spring2000/topics.html; www.foresight.org/NanoRev/ Ecophagy.html; www.extropy.org; www.wired.com/ wired/archive/8.04/joy.html.





the 110,000 pieces of "space junk" currently orbiting the Earth. Ironically its windshield cracked after being struck by a tiny speck of paint.

BY BRUCE GAGNON

What is our vision for the heavens? On a beautiful starry night do you look up to the moon and the stars and feel connected to the ages?

Can you imagine military bases on the moon or constellations of space-based lasers orbiting our planet? Can you envision a new military space plane, successor to the shuttle, dropping off new space-based weapons systems and then returning to Earth?

We are at a defining moment in history as the US leads the rest of the world into this new space age full of technological advances, challenging the peace and environmental movements to update our thinking and organizing.

In 1989, I organized a demonstration at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. The keynote speaker at the rally was an Apollo astronaut, Edgar Mitchell, the sixth man to walk on the moon. Mitchell spoke out against Star Wars and told us that if the Pentagon puts weapons into space, or even tests them against old satellites, we will create so much space junk we will not be able to get a rocket off this planet. Mitchell tingthe US, while we have 3,500 to strike

SPACE IS WHERE SPIRITS SOAR ... AND WHERE SPACE JUNK ACCUMULATES

said we would be "entombed on Earth."

Currently 110,000 pieces of "space junk" larger than a half-inch orbit the Earth at 18,000 mph. They are tracked on radar screens inside a lab at Cheyenne Mountain in Colorado. Recently, the International Space Station had to be moved to a higher orbit because space junk was moving dangerously close to it. On the mission prior to its fatal launch demise, the shuttle Challenger's windshield was cracked by a tiny speck of paint that hit it while orbiting Earth.

We once viewed the oceans, lakes and rivers as vast and limitless. Raw sewage and industrial pollution were legally poured into these bodies because no one imagined that any harm could come from doing so. Dilution was the solution to pollution.

Today, some view space the same way. The heavens are vast and limitless, and it is assumed it won't matter what we throw up there in the name of national security. NASA, the Department of Energy and the Pentagon do not worry about the consequences of dramatically increasing deployments of nuclear materials to power space probes and space-based weapons into space.

The ballistic missile defense system is sold to the American people as a way to protect us from attack by rogue states, or as they are now called, "states of concern." National missile defense is a \$60billion program to protect the continental US from attack. North Korea, one socalled possible enemy, has suspended its missile-testing program and is now negotiating reunification with South Korea. China, another state of concern, has only 20 nuclear missiles capable of hit-

back. Chinese officials have repeatedly asked the US to join them in signing a global ban on weapons in space. The US refuses to discuss such a ban, saying that there is no problem.

Another program, called theater missile defense (TMD), would further deploy these systems into the Middle East and Asia to protect US interests and outposts. TMD would place weapons on ground launchers, ships and airborne lasers so that the US could hit offending ballistic missiles in their boost phase, right after launch.

The US Space Command, with its logo "Master of Space," is also working hard to develop the space-based laser (SBL) program, the follow-on technology to missile defense. Its expressed intention is to protect corporate interests and investments around the globe as the gap widens between the "haves" and the "have-nots." The Space Command will become the military instrument by which corporations maintain global control.

The \$30-billion SBL program will soon begin construction of a test facility at either Cape Canaveral in Florida, Redstone Army Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama, or at the Stennis Missile Testing Center in Mississippi. The SBL, the real Reagan-era Star Wars program, would deploy a constellation of 20-30 lasers orbiting the Earth with the goal of knocking out competitors' satellites and hitting targets on Earth. These lasers could very possibly be powered by nuclear reactors. Imagine what would happen if they tumbled back to Earth. We now stand on the edge of history, poised to move the bad seed of war, greed and environmental degradation into space.

We should approach space exploration with a sense of awe and mystery. We should approach this final frontier with a reverence for what the heavens will reveal to us, rather than the arrogance of exploitation.

Space is not a junkyard, bombing range or playground for high-tech boys with new expensive toys. The United Nations recognized this and created the 1967 Outer Space Treaty that says no weapons of mass destruction can be put into space. The treaty says that the heavenly bodies are the province of all human kind. We must call for the strengthening of this treaty, not its nullification!

The Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space has worked since 1992 to create a new consciousness about space. When we look up at that beautiful moon we must remember that everyone on the entire planet has the same experience. It is a unifying symbol for all people. We cannot allow the Pentagon to think it can put military bases on the moon or weapons into orbit around Earth.

For once, we have a chance to stop something truly horrific before it actually happens. We can stop an arms race before it begins, if we act now. We must keep space for peace.

For more information, contact Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space, POB 90083, Gainesville, Fl 32607; (352) 337-9274; globalnet@mindspring.com; www.space4peace.org.

Bruce Gagnon is the coordinator of the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space. He has been organizing for 15 years to prevent the nuclearization and militarization of space. He was the organizer of the Cancel Cassini Campaign and fought against the NASA project that carried 72 pounds of plutonium into space.

The Empire Bytes Back: New UK Bill **Opens Web Traffic to Increased Government Scrutiny**

Following closely in the giant state footprints of the UK's Terrorism Act comes the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIP). On July 21 the RIP Bill was signed by royal assent. It became law in October-another futurist slice of Halloween horror from the Home Office. Under the new powers of the RIP Act we will be slammed by a triple whammy. First, UK-based internet service providers (ISP) will be legally obliged to give police, customs and security services open access to monitor all web traffic running through their networks. Second, the act targets computer encryption users with prison sentences of two years, if you refuse to hand over your encryption keys to the police, and five years, if you tell anyone you are being monitored. Finally, the act includes extra wide-ranging powers to plant Big Brother bugs and parabolic microphones wherever the sun might not shine, in the name of national security and combating organized crime.

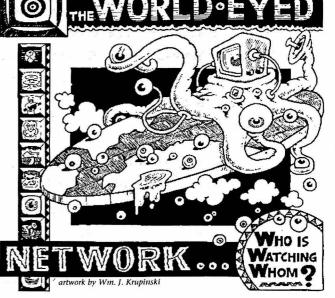
Rushed through the back door of the House of Lord's for a royal stamp, the RIP Act was spearheaded by Jack Straw and dreamt up by shady New Labour think tanks well over a year ago. With Cabinet sights on fixing a large nail in the coffin of digital democracy, the bill was hammered out by the Home Office's Encryption Coordination Unit (ECU). The ECU was established last year to look at ways of expanding traditional state monitoring of phone networks into the world of Internet communications. The Home Office confirmed, in a Performance and Innovations Unit report from May 1999, that UK police, MI5, Special Branch and Customs should have real-time access to web traffic, and recommended the establishment of a Government Technical Assistance Centre (GTAC) operating on a 24-hour basis, to do just that.

Each UK ISP will be forced to install black interceptor boxes on the backbone of their networks for redirecting Internet traffic directly to the GTAC for monitoring. This GTAC facility will be handily housed in MI5 headquarters in London. Under the Internet provisions of the RIP, the authorities will have an open pass to log into web sites, chat rooms and e-mail boxes at their leisure. The last recorded number of phone tap warrants issued by the Home Office under the Interception of Communication Act in 1996-97 was 2,700, which was a massive increase over prior official figures. But under the RIP, to monitor one person's web communications you have to plug into and filter all web traffic running through that individual's ISP. So virtually anyone's e-mail is available to be monitored.

With ISPs forced to stick expensive black box Internet flight recorders on the back of their communication servers, many companies are now looking at uprooting their business and moving overseas. The British Chamber of Commerce estimates enforcement of the law could cost businesses over £60 million.

The wider impact of the RIP in other areas is clear. Take the recent David Shayler (ex MI5 whistle blower) case in early July. The High Court rejected MI5 efforts to prosecute a *Guardian* journalist under the Official Secrets Act and forced the newspaper to disclose emails sent between the journalist and Shayler. But under the RIP this case may have played out differently, since police and security services will be able to apply for Home Office warrants behind the scenes. As journalist Roy Greenslade commented, "From this day on, without our knowledge, the authorities can intercept our messages. They will know who said what to whom about what well before the information can be published. Indeed, by having that knowledge in advance they may well be able to take measures to prevent its publication."

On the brighter side, here are a few ideas on ways to rip up the RIP for solid on-line privacy and security. Be careful when choosing your ISP and e-mail



account. The big corporate sites like Microsoft (Hotmail), Freeserve (Fsnet) and Yahoo UK (Yahoo Mail) are already in the process of opening their networks for police real-time surfing. Tracking should be avoided. Instead, look into ISPs that base their operations overseas, or smaller UK web server companies. They are more likely to slip through the government fish net. Make sure they are not part of the multinational Internet oligarchy. Use encryption and anonymous web súrfing software like Freedom or Pretty Good Privacy. Use free encrypted e-mail accounts like Hushmail, Messager and Mail2Web. Rather than storing data on your hard drive (which under the RIP can be accessed under warrant by MI5 or police) stash your private bits and pieces on the Net. There are companies like Freedrive where you can store info on their sites for download at a later date.

For more information, contact the Foundation for Information Policy Research, www.fipr.org/rip/ or Green Net, www.gn.apc.org.

LONGING

l cut my wrist on barbwire yesterday. There must have been something there the breath of a deer, longing of an antelope, a snatch of coyote song hung up on the wire.

I slept a fevered sleep a herd of buffalo so big it filled the valley, a cloud of dust that darkened the noon. Thunder under a clear sky.

This morning the cut was red and tender. Later, I found myself licking the woundtaste of earth and damp fur, a memory of sun beating down from a hard blue sky.

A dream of running endlessly across a high unpeopled plain. -Michael Adams

Clear as cut glass & just as dangerous

ON THE SHORE OF THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY

To the east, Florida and the sun. To the west Dark Gray clouds and rain, Louisiana Beyond, Mexico. In the air, Pelicans struggling in the gulf wind.

We watch the olive brown white turned waves In an endless sortie of erosion and deposition. Beyond the breakers—human extraction. Oilrigs plunder the gulfbed.

As rain meets wave in the Intracoastal Waterway, Vacation houses mute witnesses on poles, We watch the olive brown white turning waves The wide windows wet with rain. —Tom Pynn, 10-9-99

THE RIFT

On the way home from Lincoln, I heard scientists predict another rift in the ozone layer. Pollution control plans enacted, etc., it is unexpected, nonetheless projected, four-o'clock news hour, heavy traffic.

There was a house in Lincoln with a stand of trees, garden space, and lawn in the back, lots of wood inside, floors, door casings: I want to move there, but there is this threat of a tear in the ozone layer and me in the car alone and the kids still so young.

There is so much rain today, on the way home, intermittently, for a time, hail. How does one prepare for the future? How does one prepare the children for the tear? One can hug trees, but in the night, when the windshield wipers beat louder than one can bear, is it enough? —Mary K. Stillwell

Armed with Visions

THE OTHER SIDE

Take my soul, but the struggle continues—Ken Saro Wiwa

In right hand lane

Heading South on Route 64 Saw late model blue Mitsubishi truck swerve to shoulder around what thought was wheel.

I also swerved but saw it was large tortoise trying to get across 6 lanes of interstate.

I saw the neck stretch out walking then stopping and going in shell as my truck approached

My prayers, my fears, my uncertainties, and my admiration symbol of longevity & this land going headlong towards danger technology rampant death, destruction will we make it. —Turtle, Alexandria, VA 5/28/97

LIVE WILD, OR DIE

We are wild, wild, wild Even the Earth Last!ers are wild The walls of their insulated, oh-so-tame lives Penetrated by addictions By wildness they cannot control Orceping into their cages at night, in twisted, distorted forms And pretending to set them free

But wildness domesticated into a pill

Live wild, or die

Winston the Pooh

Or a bottle or a binge or a bad, bad habit Is a sad substitute for freedom Poor replacement for life in the flow Ever-predictable because it alone Makes the cage half-tolerable And like the cage, it becomes boring beyond comprehension Listen to your wildness calling you Calling you home Calling your cage an illusion See beyond the disguise your wildness wears Listen to its call Undomesticate it, free it And it will free you It says: Howl, don't moan Dance, don't stagger Love, don't fear Live life, not a lie

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Send poems to Warrior Poets Society, PMB 361, 108 MLK Jr. Student Union #4510, Berkeley, CA 94720-4510

One Man's View on Sexism

BY DUSTIN MAGNUSON

"The life story of anyone for whom power counts more than love takes place in a family, organization or nation, that is within the patriarchy, the culture that emphasizes dominance of individuals or classes or nations over other individuals, classes or nations, of ideological supremacy decided by might, and religions that support the divine right of some men to subjugate others and of mankind to subdue nature."

– JEAN SHINODA BOLEN, FROM RING OF FIRE: THE ABANDONED CHILD, THE AUTHORITARIAN FATHER, AND THE DISEMPOWERED FEMININE

I think it's safe to say that most of us within the eco-activist movement operate from a place of love-love toward wilderness, biodiversity and the ecosystems that operate for their own reasons, separate from whatever humans may or may not get from them. I can only speak from my own perspective, of course, but what motivates me to be critical of my role in harming these ecosystems is a love for their mystery, beauty and intrinsic right to not be slashed, burned and poisoned by this culture I was born into. Simply put, the love I feel operates out of a sense of rage toward a culture bent on power. Because the inevitable effect of this power fails to recognize nature as a system not inclined to domination, it misses what seems the most important lesson-nature does not seek power over its love for the balance of its systems. It thrives on vibrant diversity, not monocultures.

Just as a tree plantation is not a healthy forest, one gender having power over

the other is not a healthy culture.

A number of questions come up in my own head when I read over a statement like that. For instance, which gender is "over" the other? What sort of power is implied? What defines "healthy?"

Who am I to make such a statement? Well, for one, I'm a man. Furthermore, the more I examine such a statement and the more I learn from individuals to whom I have chosen to listen—the more I realize that it is my

own gender that has the power over the other, all the women in my life, in my community and in this world. What sort of power is implied? I have to admit that I struggle with this question. It seems natural, of course, because I wasn't ever taught how

to examine my own power over other individuals. I didn't even realize I held such power until recently, and the only reason why it came about was because I finally made the choice to listen to those who are affected by this power! So, now that I've listened, asked questions and weighed the answers, I have a better sense of what power is implied. It's the power to reduce a concern for safety to an annoying complaint. It's the power to punish for having another bring out one's own insecurities. It's the power to make someone fear for their life and have the approval of society on your side, while they have nothing but their own strength. It's the power to discount any strive toward justice as a separate

issue from your struggle.

What defines healthy? That's easy. It's the power to validate a concern for safety. It's the power to appreciate other individuals when they have brought your insecurities to your attention. It's the power to have the trust of a stranger. It's the power to see how all issues relate to one another, how all the struggles are really one struggle.

As silly as we've been taught to hear how it sounds, it's the power of love. It's the negation of a power based on domination and fear. It's a balance

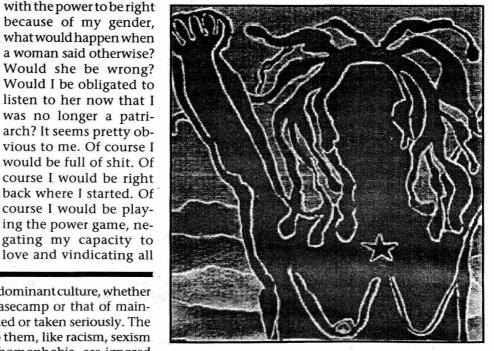
longer a man content

between two genders that share qualities and have much to offer one another.

I'm still learning, of course. I will always be learning. Why wouldn't I be? If one day I decided that I had finally come to a point where I was no longer a patriarch, no the fucking abusers in my life—everyone from my father, to my uncles, from the bullies in the locker room to the cops and loggers. To every man content with his privilege as an abuser.

I have grown tired of the dynamic between myself and the women in my life. Not because it's inappropriate for them to distrust based on gender, but because I am not content with my privilege as a benefactor of patriarchy. I have no illusions that this dynamic will be destroyed within hours, days, weeks or even years, but it must be challenged. Men must hold themselves accountable for any actions that they've taken in the name of power. It follows that growth will occur only when this has begun. It takes more than words, and it takes more than apologies-although that's a good first step.

The forests are falling too fast for men to be angry at women for bringing up the real reasons as to why they're falling at all.



throughout its history this has been disrupted by many abusive individuals who have also called Fall Creek home. One reason is that there has not been consistent internal dialogue. We are not alone. Individuals eventually asked to leave because of their abusive behaviors make their ways to other campaigns where they continue the same behavior and are again tolerated.

This tolerating or enabling is more insidious than the behavior itself because it takes more individuals to make it happen. Enabling takes on many forms, including wholesale dismissal, denial, reactionary blame and attempts to defame the individual bringing the issue to light. In the Fall Creek campaign, we find ourselves on the precipice in our beginner's examination of this unruly and destructive internal dynamic. A campaign where woman treesitters wonder if they have any true allies in the forest. One of our first actions has been to start talking openly about it. Simultaneously, we are addressing certain racist, sexist, violent, etc. behaviors as they happen. We believe if a collective atmosphere of open assessment and accountability is created there will be less and less room for those who are unwilling to leave their privileged comfort zones and address their oppressive behaviors. Those who had been pushed to the fringes will start to risk putting their own experience in the center and start to acknowledge their own power.

More and more activists are seeing that the lines between issues are blurring and are practically nonexistent. Along with this realization comes the responsibility to illuminate the lines of privilege that keep us separate and to honestly acknowledge the ways we oppress others. We are planning an open forum discussion on privilege and the enabling of oppressive behaviors within the context of forest activism. In addition, we are also collaborating on literature that addresses these issues. We encourage other groups and campaigns to incorporate this into their work, especially at the beginning. We refuse to be complicit any longer. How about you?

in the second manual power over any s

PRIVILEGE CONTINUES

continued from page 1 Some people have a hard time understanding their own privilege when they themselves feel oppressed. Privilege is an advantage or immunity given to a certain group of people and withheld from others. Oppression is the use of privilege to disempower individuals or groups physically, mentally, spiritually, etc. One can be both simultaneously oppressed and privileged. Privilege is invisible to those that have it, and those with privilege have never needed to understand the experience of others. Experiences such as a women's physical vulnerability at a predominantly male basecamp or the specific targeting of an African-American male by the police at a protest are not usually addressed. Around campfires, homophobic comments often go unchecked. And action camps and conferences are often planned with no thought for the needs of alter-abled people.

It is in understanding our own oppression and privilege that we can begin to break down individual and systemic oppression, as both the oppressor and the oppressed. Once we have a grasp on privilege and oppression, we can then apply that understanding to any issue or "ism" that comes up. We are not just talking about sexism in a vacuum, but all the systems of oppression in our society: racism, classism, homophobia, ageism, abilism, ecocide, genocide, etc. We have noticed that as we become more empowered as women activists, we start to imitate some of the pat terns of dominance that we ourselves are disempowered by. It has been a real effort to learn how to take on the function of leadership and not act as authoritarians. The distinction is that leadership empowers others by consciously sharing skills and encouraging them to take on the tasks at hand, thereby gaining confidence and self-reliance. They in turn pass on these skills to others in the spirit of mutual aid. On the other hand, authoritarians paternalize, mimicking the establishment. In the worst-case scenario, authoritarians use their privilege to silence those less privileged.

People from oppressed groups don't have the choice of ignoring their oppression. They are forced to confront it daily. When issues of privilege and oppression are simplified or not addressed, often times those *Page 26 Earth First! Brigid 2001*

people not belonging to the dominant culture, whether it be a white-dominated basecamp or that of mainstream society, are not valued or taken seriously. The issues that are important to them, like racism, sexism and domestic violence or homophobia, are ignored and not seen as important. Usually with the excuse is not having enough time because of the need to focus on "the cause" or "the real work at hand." Sometimes when these issues are raised they are labeled by the dominant culture as petty squabbles or gossip, not as real issues of importance. Quite often those not able or willing to conform and enable the imbalance of power leave the group, leaving behind a monoculture. We believe that monoculture tree farms are not useful in nature. Why would they be useful in our human communities of resistance?

"The forests are falling

too fast for men to be

angry at women for

bringing up the real

reasons as to why

they're falling at all."

The mindset of the individual who can destroy the forest is the same as the domestic abuser, the homophobe, the racist and the sexist. Individuals who perpetrate these actions against nature and humanity basically see themselves as separate from that which they dominate. And those of us who actively tolerate these behaviors are colluding with our own destruction. Once we truly realize that the root of these issues directly affects all that we hold sacred in this world, then we can't consciously continue within the patterns of our inherited conditioning. The dynamics of these issues are complex. It does not mean we give up on the work we do for the natural world. e are actually making our activism more productive in the long run by addressing the root of all the issues. This is the origin of the word radical-"getting to the root." Within our activism, as we attempt to put out the brush fires burning all around us, we can still look to our day-to-day interactions where there are a million opportunities for change. Humans perpetrate the travesties of this world. If we cannot look to ourselves to change this dynamic, we might as well let the brush fires burn because we are only stealing time.

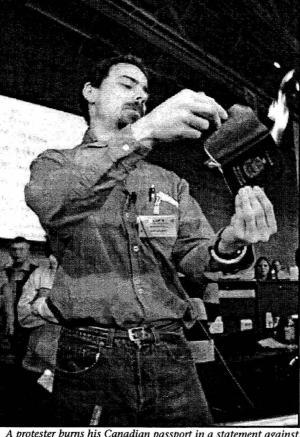
Collectively for the last three years, we have been working on the Fall Creek treesit campaign in the foothills of western Oregon's Willamette National Forest. The forest still stands, and it has been a place of inspiration and beauty for most of us. At times the community has been strong and functioning. But

Brutal Weather, Emissions Trading, Exploitative Development, Climate Destabilization The Climate Conference in the Hague Continues

continued from page 1 They called these "flexibility mechanisms" (read: loopholes) to ensure that business as usual continues polluting while the world sinks in its own over consumption. One mechanism is emissions trading, a terrifying notion that a country/corporation (what is the difference these days?) could trade its ability to pollute to another that would prefer to buy its way out of reductions. Of course the industrialized nations have a greater right to pollute because the Pro-

tocol sets its targets at the 1990 level of emissions, with the good old US at the very top of the spewing pyramid. Another lovely outcome of emissions trading is the creation of a new market—a "carbon credit" that, if all goes according to plan, will be another commodity on tradings exchange and shithead brokers will be able to make big bucks off of global catastrophe (pretty sick, huh?). A new marketplace! The other mechanisms are joint implementation, where a country can subsidize a project in another co-signing country, and clean development mechanisms, which can be developed anywhere (target: global South) that will "reduce" emissions there. What's proposed for development? You guessed it, huge dams, nuclear power plants and tree plantations. Since when is nuclear power clean? With uranium mining, transport, extraction, transport, enrichment, transport, fabrication of fuel rods, transport, power from the plant,

and waste storage the nuclear chain is not quite free from fossil fuel abuse. Dams devastate ecosystems and mean dislocation for whole populations and genocide for wildlife. They have this idea that the creation of new forests and grasslands/agribusiness will act as a "sink" for carbon to be captured from the air. This is not so far off, but while in the Hague, the US was lobbying to include forests and grasslands that already exist. Canada even went so far as to say it should be able to include the carbon trapped in furniture made from its timber. Besides, carbon sequestered in this way is highly unstable, especially in the likely climate chaos future when the ultimate fate of all timber and its products (and its industry lobbyists) is combustion or decomposition. This plan also encourages clearcutting old-growth forests to plant carbon-sucking baby tree plantations, increasing the likelihood of landslides the protocol supposedly wanted to address. Of course these monoculture tracks damage habitat, biodiversity, leech soil nutrients and disrupt water cycles. Also these carbon plantations often end up in place of sustainable food grow-



A protester burns his Canadian passport in a statement against his country's performance at the Climate Conference.

waste transport, reprocessing, transport ing in the global South where the greatest source of carbon emissions comes from deforestation.

> The inner workings of the Hague conference were repulsive to behold, slipping through with a fake press pass. Ministers scurrying off to closeddoor meetings and dozens of tables full of corporate greenwash propaganda piled up all day and dropped in the bin at night. "Coal... fuel with a future;" "Dow products are part of the solution;" "Louisiana Pacific: We wanted a healthier world. We ended up with a healthier company."

COP 6, in the Hague, was a disaster before it began. It was shaped by the lobbyists representing the most destructive industries using their muscle to help stonewall the entire negotiation until the talks completely fell apart. Some NGOs were still hopeful that some treaty may be better than none at all and will give them some bargaining power for the future, but the pro-corporate agendas of the US, Japan, Canada and Australia would have shaped a treaty that could easily allow countries to increase their emissions and be well within Kyoto's fine print. Right now they are planning for a COP 6 1/2 in Bonn, Germany, in May 2001

to try again with less interference from nagging NGOs and meddlesome activists. Behind closed doors talks took place in Ottawa in December where the US further entrenched its stonewall against continuing the talks, claiming European Union inflexibility. But things are going as planned for the industrialized nations. No treaty means business as usual.

The Rising Tide collective organized a Climate Justice Summit on November 19 and 20 to counter the impending doom of the talks across town and to create real strategies for communities to combat the corporate criminals responsible. They brought together indigenous voices with folks from inner cities fighting the same petroleum barons and the same pollution and the same devastation on their communities.

Corporate-controlled governments are accepting the bizarre notion that this brand of exploitative development will save the world. It is a new eco-capitalism dominating the dis-

course-one that has an implicit faith in technological solutions for technologically created problems. It drives ever increasing globalization into new "free" markets as if development was charitable and not a new brand of colonialism. It is quite simple. They want to privatize the air we breath and trade it on the market. It is obvious that the UN, world leaders and multinational corporations are not willing to enact any meaningful change playing their word games regarding climate destabilization. The average US citizen uses 22 times the resources of the average citizen from India. It is time for people to take on the burden of their own part in the global warming equationto take action before it is too late.



Japanese Fisherman **Slaughter Dolphins**

In October, Japanese fishermen resumed the commercial slaughter of dolphins for human and domestic animal consumption.

The crossbow and hand harpoon fishery kills 10,000-15,000 dolphins and porpoises annually. The drive fisheries, killing 1,000-2,000 dolphins, continue because the dolphin captivity industry pays fishermen up to \$30,000 each for a few live dolphins, with the rest of the captured pod consigned to slaughter. The hunts take place every year between October and April. A recent Environmental Investigation Agency report revealed that Japanese fishermen have killed more than 400,000 dolphins and small cetaceans over the last 20 years.

When shown a tape of a daylight dolphin drive at the annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission in Adelaide, Australia, last June, the Japanese delegation walked out.

"Japan's dolphin hunt kicked into high gear in 1986, the year the ban on commercial whaling went into effect," said Paul Watson, president of Sea Shepherd International. "Japan is steadily hunting its coastal cetacean populations to extinction. By 1995, a single species-Dall's porpoise-was being taken at a rate of 17,000 per year. Hundreds of boats are licensed to kill, and they have severely depleted, in sequence, populations of striped dolphins, pilot whales, beaked whales and Dall's porpoise."

Another Company Quits Maheshwar Dam

Citing "growing concerns on project economics," New York-based Ogden Corporation has ended its involvement in the controversial Maheshwar Dam on India's Narmada River (see EF!J February-March 2000).

"Ogden's prudent decision should serve as yet another warning to Indian and foreign investors to stay away from this economically unviable and destructive project," said Save the Narmada Movement activist Chittaroopa Palit.

Ogden signed a Memorandum of Intent to take a 49 percent equity share in the Maheshwar dam in March 2000. Since then, human rights and environmental organizations have repeatedly drawn Ogden's attention to the poor economics and disastrous human rights and environmental impacts of the project.

Ogden is the latest in a series of multinational corporations to drop out of Maheshwar.

The Maheshwar Dam, located in Madhya Pradesh state in central India, would affect around 40,000 farmers, wage laborers, fisherfolk and crafts people in 61 villages and submerge about 1,100 hectares of land. Many of these people would lose part or all of their lands, while others would lose their source of livelihood. Local people have campaigned for more than a decade to stop dams and are fiercely opposed to the project and determined that it will never be completed.

A BRIEF REPORT ON A FEW OF THE ACTIONS IN THE HAGUE

Change in the Hague, the Netherlands, turned out to be another festival of resistance. The weeks leading up to the conference held many small-scale actions like the Walk of Life memorializing the fifth anniversary of Ken Saro Wiwa's execution. The march began at the place most responsible for his death-Shell headquarters-and traveled to the conference center where talks later took place. A March for the Uwa of Columbia was held as well.

Many autonomous, late-night actions occurred, leaving a McDonald's, two Aamaco gas stations and two Shell gas stations smashed, as well as, a paint bomb attack on the Shell headquarters.

On the second-to-last day of the conference, a banner was hung in the middle of the conference center stairway. The banner read, "Corporate Lobbyists and the Governments that do your bidding... How will our

It seems that this year's UN Conference on Climate grandchildren forgive you?" Activists maintained this perch on a beam, watching the talks fall into ruin. Strangely, toilets were blocked up and pipes exploded while several laptops disappeared. Some conference computers were superglued. Very late one night, the second floor of the Bel Air Hotel, where the American delegation was staying, was flooded after a smoke grenade set off the sprinkler system.

Finally, the talks ended in disgrace with business as usual and no treaty. The banner hangers came down to a press conference after a 20-hour sit. Mourners, dressed in black, parade to the meeting center carrying the corpse of the conference wrapped in a UN COP 6 flag with a banner reading, "The talks are dead, time to take action." The body was doused in fuel and set alight, a funeral pyre for all the delegates to see as they fled from their involvement in the mess we are in.

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SHIT FOR BRAINS, UNDER 300 WORDS ...

Dear SFB,

In your last issue you printed a very reactionary and inaccurate letter from the "Bring on the Repression Society," so we thought it was necessary to respond. Sure. there has been a lot of shit-talking, but most of it started when the so-called "values of non-hierarchy and autonomy" of protest "experts" like the Direct Action Network, the Ruckus Society, and more mainstream groups not only shut out more radical views and publicly denounced them in mainstream media, but even went as far as to play cops in the streets (like physically intervening and in some cases pepper spraying those engaged in property destruction). Let's not confuse shit-talking with expressing our frustration with the current situation. From the previous letter one might think that critiques of the left and of the dominant so-called "direct action" movement is the extent or focus of our activity. This could not be further from the truth.

Yes, the anarchist movement has much room for improvement, but there are more "grassroots projects" going on with little or no money and with a much wider scope than has been seen from many self-proclaimed "activist" groups. From building strong mutual-aid communities, to the creation of many forms of alternative media and outreach (journals, zines, pirate radio, video, public access TV, etc.), to posing at least somewhat of an ongoing threat to the state and all other forms of domination, the anarchist movement is transcending the "expert" mentality and the desire to direct and control resistance so rampant within the "activist scene." Add to this, the much needed escalation of tactics and you have what has been lacking in our movement for 30 years a revolutionary agenda.

According to the previous letter, "we used to hang banners and use lockboxes... but then everyone started doing it ... (So) we had to become even bigger bad-asses. Now we fuck shit up." This is such a shallow analysis of why more militant tactics are being used. Many of us have realized the futile nature of some of our old ways and have decided to try to become more effective. Yes, repression will increase in proportion to the escalation of tactics, but we need to accept and prepare for that and not run away blaming those willing to take more extreme actions. Most people of the world don't have the privilege to avoid oppression, so we should not discount more aggressive tactics in order to preserve our own safety.

Let's get real, there ain't much time left! We can spend all of our energy embracing and sucking up to those with much different goals so we can have a potentially broader movement, but more likely, a weaker and reformist agenda; or we could be honest about our intentions and act on them. We should not isolate ourselves and we do need to build stronger alliances, but not at the expense of compromising our actions or our analysis. Also, the alliances we should be building are not necessarily with other activists, but with those who have the most to gain from the system falling. Sorry if this messes up any of the paid or career "activist's" plans for a Page 28 Earth First! Brigid 2001

continued from page 3 smooth transition of power, things may have to get a little issue you printed a ary and inaccurate Fuck the civil, let's get disobedient!

Revoltingly yours, —THE "BRING ON THE RUCKUS" SOCIETY

Dear Dead Fish for Brains,

Awk! What was with that horrible poem on the Armed with Visions page in last issue? "Consider the Salmon: on Eating" has the most pathetic message I have seen on the poetry page ever. Admittedly, it flows freely to its hideous conclusion which advises the reader to "Eat so the elaborate mess of nature Makes elaborate sense." It would have been more realistic if the poem had concluded "Eat—so the last endangered species Festers in your belly."

The only respectable line in the entire poem, "Eat—and you are eating the wild," goes on to say that the only way to feel the strength of the salmon is to eat it. Come on people, let's get real. Salmon are endangered. Oh sure, there are farm raised salmon, but you can't make me believe that eating them is OK either.

The gathering of stamina and knowledge from a dead chunk-oflesh is ridiculous and harkens back to the legends of glorious cannibalism in order to gain

your enemies prowess-ick. "Eat-the voice of God absorbed through the skin in the deepening thunder of swimming... without this food we know nothing smoked to a toasted bagel with sweet red onions eat the knowledge of piloting with one purpose," reads like a commercial for meat consumption and does nothing to help the fish. What a load of crap, do people truly believe it's important to save salmon so that we can eat them and be wise; for wiseness will ooze forth from the fetid flesh and enter our soul through the taste buds in our mouths. I don't think so.

5 6³ 2 8 3.

Hello,

I am trying to enlist help with a cause very dear to my heart. Panda Energy International, a large Texas based corporation has proposed the building of a new 30 acre, 1000 megawatt, gas powered facility in our township-an area known for it's beautiful land, lakes and homes. The pollution generated from this plant would wraek havoc on our area and our lives and we are ready to do battle with this company. We have formed a grassroots community organization, NOPE (NOP and Energy) and we are growing in numbers-but we would like to have, and need, support from a larger, established environmental group. Would you be able to help us out in ANY way? If only posting a blurb/ link on your website? I would be happy to inform you further on this, and please check out our web site: www.usol.com/~nope/.

—Susan Schouwenaar Susan.Schouwenaar@midataebs.com

Dear EF!.

I was talking to a person at the billiards about anarchy. Then, we got on the subject of logging. I was bitching/preaching about how PL should stop logging the old growth trees. We both agreed it was wrong. After that, he told me you can grow pressurized pine trees. All I know is that the tree gets injected with a' chemical (which can be used for good? Do you think it is?). This chemical hardens the wood to the pressure of an oak tree. They take 20 years to grow, so if people start growing them soon we won't have to sacrifice all the old-growth trees.

Personally I feel you can let this chemical agent slide by since it helps preserve the old-growth trees. If people start cultivating this soon the more time to get the supply out, practice, to get genetic freaks' minds off GMO's cross breeding salmon. It can be a hybrid tree like hybrid marijuana plants. Thanx.

-D.

Editor's note: Instead of modifying the forest to produce more wood for us, why not modify ourselves so we don't "need" as much of the forest? Trees—old and young, pine and redwood—have evolved over millennia to fit perfectly into delicately balanced ecosystems. Manipulation can only upset that balance. Attempts to engineer the natural world are arrogant, misguided, morally bankrupt and inevitably doomed to failure. cerning horticultural techniques and nurseries. As we have the intention of setting up a library, please send us a copy of your *Journal*. We thank you in advance for

your friendliness. —George "Point E." 62,

rue Georges Clémenceau, 11000 Carcasonne, France

Dear Gore for brains,

How on earth did your collective come to the conclusion to solicit or print the pro-Gore article in the Mabon issue? Is the author's viewpoint popular or common in Earth First ?? It wouldn't surprise me to see that type of sentiment coming from the mainstream enviro movement, but I expect a truly "No Compromise!" take on things coming from EF!. The Green Anarchists I heard speak at an anarchist conference in LA recently painted a very different picture of radical environmentalism. Are Green Anarchy and EF! really that different?

As a biocentric anarchist I have always valued the fight against ecodevastation, but this disturbing current in the radical eco movement shows that at least some EF!ers are either completely igno-



rant of the racist brutality and social control exercised by elites in a "democracy" such as this one, or they just don't care-perhaps because they themselves are racist, or think the ongoing genocide of Indians and the urban poor is less important than the perseverance of wolves. Neither is more important than the other, and if you think that legitimizing the democratic system. (rule by the many, not rule by "the people" as Naderites and prodemocracy activists like to claim) is going to solve the crisis of extinction, you have a lot of studying up of history to do. It's good to see that some EF!ers, such as Un-Voter, are actively disassociating themselves with electoral politics.

I suggest EF!ers clarify the contradictions in your alliances with opinions such as these.

For the abolition of the ecocidal Nation-State,

—Sierra Sanchez

Dear SFB,

I recently read a very good article in *Earth First! Journal* about the US fumigation program in Colombia. I found this article very good because it is usual that the media only publish the rubbish and lies of Clinton and all the corrupt presidents that follow him because Clinton is the mother of hypocrisy, lies and corruption. I'm not Colombian, but I've lived in Colombia for many years and I know the horrible situation there very well, because I know the *campesinos* (peasants) and the real situation of discrimination, oppression and crime.

I have seen many plantations of sweet corn, bananas, yuca etc. completely dry as a result of the fumigation.

The Colombian government sometimes uses pilots from the USA and these men are prepared with anger and hate towards the Colombian *campesinos*, and for this reason the gringos carry out the fumigation in the food crops of the poor campesinos, the cows, chickens, pastures and sometimes the people, babies and children. This brings the Colombian military pleasure because for them it is like an experiment with the vegetable, human and animal life.

Sometimes in the Bota Caucano area the US armies and paramilitaries of Colombia make military practices with innocent people. In one incident paramilitaries stopped a bus (called a *mixto*) full of *campesinos* and began to attack the people. At this moment the FARC guerrillas appeared and defended the innocent campesinos.

The paramilitaries radioed for the help of the military because the paramilitaries are very cowardly as are the police and military of Colombia. After 10 minutes, seven US Army helicopters arrived and began firing in all directions killing some people and wounding many more. From the helicopters descended

US military on special ropes with machineguns and continued attacking the people from the bus and

the guerrillas. After this they left and Colombian military arrived to remove the dead bodies so that they could say to the nation that there were only guerrillas and so it was not a problem to kill them.

It is possible to say many things about the horrible behavior of the USA-Colombian military and the government with the innocent people, women and children, but the journalists do not want to speak the truth because they want to serve the Beast, no. 666, USA.

Regarding your article "Politics and Poison" by Chris Pothecary (see *EF! Journal* August-September 2000), I think it is a very excellent piece of writing, but I would like to mention the editors note at the foot of the article that read, "On July 16, the Colombian government announced that it had no intentions of testing or using genetically altered fungus in its aggressive campaign against coca."

Clarification: It is possible that the government of Pastrana made this statement, but it is a false promise to the minister of environment and the environmental organizations of Colombia, etc. who know the real situation of the country and the negative actions of the USA's solution.

Pastrana is a hypocrite; he agreed with the wishes of the environment minister but only

intelligence, humor, ingenuity, courage and devotion that comes through these pages makes it the most inspiring thing I've ever read. These are the real American and global heroes-the ones who really know what's going on, and are really fighting to defend our country and our planet. Everything you do is great. A peaceful demo? Great! Setting lab animals free? Great! Tearing up GE crops? Great! A blockade, a pie in the face, it's all cool. "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good people to do nothing." A raging, foaming at the mouth wolf to all you good people who refuse to bury your heads in the sand.

I love the Journal. The honesty,

—LOIS LATMAN

Monsieur,

Dear SFB,

-LADYBUG

We are a group of friends in a precarious situation, who, for the love of nature, which is related to a desire for self-sufficiency, have founded an association called *"Guerilla Verte"* (Green Guerrilla), the main goal of which is the creation of community gardens open to everybody!

We would like you to publish an announcement in your publication expressing our needs for tools, soil and various gardening materials—as well as books con-

MAS CACA PARA TU CEREBRO

to make a good impression. However, now in Putumayo, experimentation with this fungus has begun in secret but the *campesinos* obviously know the situation very well because they live in this area. For this reason the USA and Colombian military need to kill campesinos because they do not want witnesses to their criminal actions.

I hope it is possible to diffuse this clarification because it is not possible to completely know the dimension of the problem without the voices of the poor *campesino* people, the people that are more affected by this discrimination and criminal solution of Clinton and his partner. —ENRIQUE PIZARRO

Dear Earth First!,

From your front page stories... "...geneticists, global capitalism, Nigeria, Adnyamathanha..."

In Los Angeles beautiful old trees are being cut down for development every day.

Four towering trees, valued at \$35,000 at Kelton and Missouri streets, are about to go on the Westside for a building.

What about a notice and giving notice for organizing to save the urban forest—getting back to the local... Sincerely,

-ANDREW KAY LIBERMAN

Dear shit for brains,

Wow, Earth First! and the *EF*! Journal sure seem to be having an identity crisis! After reading the last couple of Journals and attending some of the recent gatherings, its become obvious that *EF*? has no clear idea of where they are going and have been hijacked by non-violence dogmatists.

For instance, does any EF! group actually focus on biodiversity issues or have a deep ecological outlook? Is the *EF! Journal* the mouthpiece for social justice issues? While I value the efforts of people in inner cities fighting industry, I think the *EF*! movement needs to focus on saving the wild by any means.

Another example: a group called the Monkeywrench Gang recently sabotaged an electrical generator owned by Interfor in the Elaho Valley in BC. Elaho EF! sends out a press release reprinting the communiqué and quite obviously supporting the action. They should be commended for this. Then a few days later, the ELF burns down a luxury mansion in Colorado inflicting \$2.7 million in damage to the developers. You would think that local groups would be happy to see aggressive courageous actions. Nope! Some pacifist from Boulder EF! happily gives a statement to the corporate media condemning arson as a legitimate tool of ecodefense.

Really people. You need to get your act together. The EF! movement is dying. Whereas the EF! movement and the *Journal* used to be concerned with results, they are now more concerned with publicity, fund raising and generally being as acceptable and mainstream as possible at the expense of saving wild land.

PS: It would have been better if the 20th anniversary edition analyzed the movement as op-

posed to being nostalgic about

Warner Creek, Bald Mountain...

Dear Earth First! Journal, I have a big gripe with your last edition of the Journal. When awarding wolves and poodles, please look a little more in depth to who and what you are awarding these esteemed prizes to. I started working at Fish Brewing Company in Olympia in December of 1993 and left as lead assistant brewer in July of 1998 and the only "wolf" that should have been awarded was when the brewers fought with management and went IWW (Industrial Workers of the World). Aside from the 2 1/2 years the brewery was Wobbly, there was rarely a single wolf in the lot. Although I would never bash the quality of the ales brewed there, as an institution, they are of the typical liberal variety. Aside from dealing with threats of termination, pay cuts, unpaid work and numerous other unfair labor practices that we endured, never did we ever see anyone other than the Wobblies at job actions, organizational meetings or tree sits. Tonight I sat with EF! and IWW

friends at a yule fest when your column wasbrought to my attention. I can tell you that the mood of several at the gathering was drastically changed. In years past the management of Fish has rarely if ever earned the respect of the radical community, though not an evil corporation in and of itself, it certainly does not warrant praise. If you look deeper into the environmental issue, beer brewing, even their very tasty "Organic Amber" is a resource. heavy industry. While the ingredients in their organic ale are truly organic, the cleaning and sanitizing of such a large operation can hardly be considered environmentally friendly, i.e. acids and caustics by the gallons not to mention thousands of gallons of water used for mass production.

Furthermore, to distinguish Fish Brewing Company above other because of its marketing ploy makes me want to puke up all the porter I ever brewed in that place. Though I like Fish Tale Ales, it is all green marketing, taking radical environmental jingoism (Brewed in the Republic of Cascadia, Let the Rivers Run Free...) to sell their products in local co-ops and those not clued into the advertising practice. My views on this will only change when I see the office. staff of Fish Brewing Company encouraging union organizing instead of bashing it, locking down to a bulldozer or packing explosives to the Grand Coulee or Glen Canyon,

An Injury to One is an Injury to All, —Eric Chase

Editor's note: You are right, I feel the last legitimate wolf we handed out went to the dozen-odd Aggies that left the gene pool before adding to it. I just couldn't resist the dambusting art theme and the "Detonator" name; add my weakness for the Cascadian thing and I was helpless. Anyway, I'm a saw-running, Hamm's-swilling heretic and for all the evil shit DuPont has spewed out, I've considered handing them a mongrel wolf just for long-standing quality in dynamite.

No Fuckin' Compromise! (My favorite bit of radical enviro-jingoism designed to sell products.) —MICK

Dear SFB,

I am sorry it has taken so long for me to walk the walk instead of just talking the talk. I am now getting your journal and plan to act ASAP. Don't thank me for finally acting, thank that jack-ass America that gave the keys to the White House to. G.W. Bush. He has me writhing in agony for the environmental future of the world. I have spent the better part of two and one half years traveling abroad. I have seen the States from the outside looking in and didn't always like what I saw. Given we have the right to at least protest freely, others are not where our government

wreaks havoc in their backyard. I want to know what to do and how to do it concerning the fight versus Bush's ignorance in environmentalism. I hope the Journal, this web site, and updates will do the job. I would like the Journal to hit up the importance of the need for immediate action to halt any drilling Bush plans to open in Alaska. I am sure there are many more problems in the world, but this will be in the PR spotlight. Thank you and I hope at the end of the day you know you have one more believer, one more to fight the good fight, and one more Earth Firstler. -MARTY OCHS

Dear Shit for Brains.

It's hard to find an EF!er who doesn't agree that actions speak louder than words. So it's ironic when there's conflict between the two in the pages of the Journal. The 20th anniversary (Samhain) issue was fucking excellent-but the faces you profile on the cover, representing the movement's 20 year history, reveal our true colors-white. 21 Photos, 20 apparently of white people, 1 non-white. (also, 18men: 3 women!) Ironically, in the previous issue (Lughnasadh), Yael's page 2 editorial asserts that EF! is much less white than it looks ("a rich diversity exists in the movement already," "the keepers of the wilderness are not as homogenous

as some people think," etc.) Now, while the *Journal* isn't responsible for the content of a short-termer's offensive page 2 editorial, y'all are responsible for decisions regarding this historical cover. This 20:1 ratio sends out a clear message far louder than all these all-too-common, defensive words about being an inclusive movement.

White activists must take all responsibility for why this movement remains such a white monoculture, and it is day to day decisions such as this one that help keep it that way. As Leonard Peltier points out in the Yule issue, "all of these things, the degradation of the earth ... < and > racism are intimately connected. We cannot win one struggle without understanding the others." It's not a "nice bonus" (Yael again) to include non-white people and their perspectives in the movement. It's both a strategic necessity, and a moral fucking imperative. The time has come for those who are "here for the earth" to awaken and take responsibility for our movement's actions. Respect,

-GIRL MARK

Dear SFB,

You should pratice what you preach Go live in the the woods & live off the land eat only plants oh you dont hurt plants so I guess you would starve to death, since you dont cut down trees you will have to find abrown bear to sleep next to so you wont freeze to death.Think you can find a friendly one?? Maybe the wolves you want to save will share some caribue with you or they will have you for a snack. Well have a nice day in your wood house that I cut down the trees for or the cement one that my brother blew up the rock so that you can live in warmth and dry.

If you "wood" like to reply you can reach me at yellow_duck_dog@hotmail.com —JEFF FRIZZELL

Dear Earth First!

A word for those who are imprisoned after releasing mink from fur farms. Rod Coronado states that it is the obligation for everyone to accept the consequences of their actions. There is immense international support for these victims. Removing mink from fur farms appears to be illegal.

However, one should realize that killing an animal and using its fur for woman's clothes is inhumane, immoral and totally unaccepted in a humane world. Man must be aware of his actions when he allows this monstrous thing to happen. God did not make animals to be skinned and used for human clothing.

Man must realize this sinful act and amend his ways. This is not impossible. It is just a way of changing economic pursuits and man has to find other ways of earning money. It is true mink is a costly product but also a costly sin. I would like to know how any human could remain unaffected when he sees a living animal as someone's fur coat.

To all the individuals who will not wear fur coats, you are the salt of the earth and the noble of society. Your concern for animals in a manoriented society makes you merciful and kind. Unfortunately, you are scarce as you commit yourselves

to uphold the lives of animals. Therefore, freeing mink should not be illegal. It's time the Morals were taken into consideration before applying the whip to saviors of our animal kingdom. Sincerely, —FLO LEVINE

Dear SFB,

The November-December (Samhain) issue was the best yet and helped shed light on what this movement really is. Peggy McRae done good on the front cover collage too. I'm wondering if the dude wearing the green shirt next to the fiddle player is me. It could have been taken when I lived with a free lance photographei/student activist in Eugene between 90 and 91. I used to attend the animal abuse meeting at U of O Student Survival Center.

At those meetings, there was a lot of attention given to monkey experiments the psych department wanted to do. Since I had experience doing legal research, I offered to look at the legality of the situation. I found this kind of research was only allowed if it broke new ground, something the

research protocol claimed to do. I spent a lot of additional time in the science library back then looked for abstracts to show that the experiment protocol replicated prior research, which made the protocol (and grants using similar language) fraudulent.

I shared this information with the student group but don't know if it proved helpful. Not long after that, I was incarcerated in Texas where I've been ever since. If anyone reading this remembers what happened with that, please write and let me know.

—Mike West c/o Kenneth W. Smith Attorney at Law 1917 North Main, Houston, TX 77009

Editor's Note: The guy in the green shirt is Mike Roselle.

Dear SFB,

I think you should take action again the Methanex Corporation in Vancouver, BC, which is suing the US under NAFTA because California has banned the carcinogenic and water-contaminating gasoline additive MBTE. As you know, a lot of ground water in California has been poisoned and MBTE is showing up in Oregon wells.

MBTE is killing people and damaging the environment, but the company wants to force people to use it to preserve their profits.

Action against Methanex and against large mutual funds that invest in its stock is in order!

-STARCAT WATERWARRIOR

Dear Earth First! Journal,

I am writing this letter because I'm very irritated over the blatant misuse of the word "rape" in environmentalist circles. Often times ecological destruction is compared with that horrible act of sexual oppression and dominance, and I'm sorry to say to the "eco-warriors" out there, ecological destruction and rape are not the same thing. There is no such thing as "the rape of mother earth."

Rape is an act of sex that is forced or coerced upon another human being. Rape is also an act of dominance, onto a person who is weaker. Ecological destruction, deforestation, pollution, etc., are not sexual acts that involve force or coercion. "Ecocide" is carried out for profit, not sexual gratification and dominance. No businessman sets up shop to "dominate the earth," but to make a profit. No businessman sticks his penis into the earth, against her will, while she screams for him to stop.

and helped shed light on what this movement really is. Peggy McRae done good on the front cover collage too. I'm wondering if the dude wearing the green

> And please don't take this as an antienvironmentalist stance, I just wish my fellow "tree huggers" would stop taking a horrible thing like rape and using it to make power slogans like "Stop the rape of Mother Earth" and such, not to mention that it makes us look stupid to the mainstream, further marginalizing us, and is offensive to most women who have actually gone through it. For any questions or comments, feel free to mail.

–Lucas Szabo POB 618 Donald, OR 97020

February-March 2001 Earth First! Page 29

Political Prisoner Listings

Eco-Defense

- •Ted Kaczynski, #04475-046, POB 8500, Florence, CO 81226-8500.
- •Wiebo A. Ludwig, Grand Cache Institution, Bag 4000, Grand Cache, Alberta, T0E 0Y0, Canada.
- •Jeffrey Luers (Free) #1306729, 101 W 5th Street, Eugene, OR 97401. Awaiting trial on arson charges.
- •Craig Marshall (Critter), POB 50263, Eugene, OR 97405. Took a deal and is serving 66 months for attempted arson and other charges.
- •Helen Woodson, 03231-045 FMC Carswell, POB 27137 Admin Max Unit, Fort Worth, TX 76127. Serving 27 years for taking \$26,000 from a bank and setting the money on fire while reading a statement denouncing greed, capitalism and the destruction of the environment. Also, serving time for mailing warning letters containing bullets to six corporate officials and sabbing a nucler missile silo with a jack hammer. Due out in 2005
- •Betty Krawcyzk, Burnaby Correctional Facility for Women, 7900 Fraser Park Dr., Burnaby, BC V5J 5H1 Canada. Serving one year for blocking a road whilst trying to stop logging in the Elaho.
- •Nikos Maziotis, c/o Dafni Vaganou, Ozortz 3, 10689 Athens, Greece. Serving 15 years for bombing the Greek Ministry of Industry in protest of an attempt by TVX-Gold to build a factory in Strymonikos Bay.
- •Silvano Pellissero, Com. Mastrolierto, Via Ferrerinoli no2, Sanponso, 10080 Torino, Italy. Serving 6 years 8 months for allegedly sabotaging of a rail line construction site in the Northern Italian Alps. He understands French, Spanish and Italian but not English.

June 18/May Day/ N30

- •Robert Lee Thaxton, #12112716, 777 Stanton Street, Ontario, OR 97914. Serving seven years for throwing a rock at a policeman in self-defense.
- Jonathan Elliot, FT10TT, HMP Petonville, Caledonian Road, London, N7 8TT. Sentenced to six months for affray during the 1999 N30 demonstration.
 Michael Collins, FR6303, H.M. Prison, POB 757, Heathfield Road, London,
- •Nikki Koole, FB6530, HMYOI Feltham, Middx, TW13 4ND, England (9 months).
- •Angel Makoly FB4689 HMYOI Onley, Rugby CV23 8AP England (24 months).
- Angel Makoly FB4689 HMYOLOMEY, Rugby CV23 8AP England (24 months).
 Paul Revell, FR5599, H.M.Prison, PO Box 757, Heathfield Road, London, SW18 3HS, England (18 months).
- •Simone Sabeddu, FB2520, HMYOI Feltham, Bedfont Road, Feltham, Middx TW13 4ND, England (14 months).
- Darren Sole, DN9381, HMP Highpoint, Suffolk, CB8 9YG England (12 months).
 Kevin Townsend, FR6275, H.M.Prison, PO Box 757, Heathfield Road, London, SW18 3HS, England (9 months).
- Darryl Walker, FR5483, H.M.Prison, PO Box 757, Heathfield Road, London, SW18 3HS, England (15 months).
- •Gareth Williams, FT7291, HMP Pentonville London, N7 8TT, England (6 months).

New: ELP North America, POB 11331, Eugene, OR 97440; naelpsn@yahoo.com; www.spiritoffreedom.org.uk

- •Rae Newlands, HMP Holloway, Parkhurst Road, London, N7 ONU, England. Sentenced to 60 days in connection with a visit to Shamrock Farm workers on Halloween 1999.
- Barry Horne, VC2141, HMP Belmarsh, Western Way, Thamesmead, London, SE28 0EB, England. Serving 18 years for various anti-vivisection arsons and attempted arsons.
 Mel Broughton, DJ8216, HMP The Mount, Molyneaux Ave, Bovingdon, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP3 0NZ, England. Sentenced to four years imprisonment for
- conspiracy to cause explosions. •David Elliot, HMP Chelmsford, Springfield Rd., Chelmsfield CM2 6LQ, England.
- Serving two months for an alleged assault on a police officer during a hunt sabotage. •Mark Kulsdom, Blegdamfejens Faengsel, Blegdamsvej 6, 2200 Copenhagen N, Denmark. Dutch ALF activist serving 10 months for releasing 8,000 mink from a fur
- farm in Denmark. •Robert Molenaar, Vestre Faengsel, cel 408, Vigerslev Alle 1, 2450 Copenhagen SV, Denmark. Serving same sentence as above.

Indigenous Land Rights

•Leonard Peltier #89637-132, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048 •Robert Wilson (Staffding Deep) #640289, Pack Unit 1, 2400 Wallace Pa

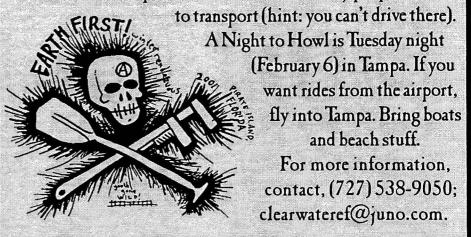
•Robert Wilson (Standing Deer) #640289, Pack Unit 1, 2400 Wallace Pack Rd. Navasota, TX 77869. While in jail, he exposed government plot to kill Peltier.



بجدين والمحادث

EF! ORGANIZER'S CONFERENCE February 7-9 (Winter Rendezvous Feb. 10-11) PIRATE ISLAND, TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA

Meetings, boating, camping, swimming, more meeting Please RSVP (required) so we know how many people we have



pickAxe Video Showing

Tim Ream, co-producer of the movie *pickAxe*, will be premiering the film and speaking in 40 cities across the US throughout March and April 2001. *pickAxe* is a feature-length film chronicling the year-long blockade to protect Warner Creek in the Oregon Cascades. This area was off-limits to logging until arsonists burned 9,000 acres, and the Forest Service announced salvage logging plans. The 95-minute documentary includes scenes from the fire, the building of the blockade, Tim's 75-day hunger strike, the police raid on the camp, the amazing final jailhouse scene and ultimately the victory of a people's movement over corporate and political interests.

We are looking for local coordinators to schedule and promote a screening in each city. All proceeds will go to the local sponsoring group or groups. But we are expecting much more involvement. *pickAxe* is an inspiring movie and Tim an inspiring speaker. Following the screening we will be seeking to involve members of the audience in the full range of forest activism from donations to direct action. In addition Tim will be available for press, editorial board and social club visits and presentations.

A tentative schedule follows. Dates and locations have been chosen to work with school schedules, Earth Week, Senate targets to prevent filibuster cloture, salvage logging target areas and existing activist hotbeds. There is some flexibility. While we cannot accommodate all areas of the nation in a twomonth period, please let us know if you are interested in coordinating a screening in your area.

March: 9-11 WA; 12-14 OR; 15-22 CA; 23-24 AZ; 25-26 NM; 27-28 TX; 29 LA; 30 AL; 31 GA

April: 1 NC; 2 VA; 3-4 PA; 5-6 NYC; 7 RI; 8 MA; 9-10 VT; 11-12 NY; 13 PA; 14 OH; 15 IN; 16-18 IL; 19-21 WI; 22 MN; 23-24 SD; 25-27 MT; 28 WA

The website for up to date information about the speaking tour is www.forestdefense.org. To set a date in your town, leave your information at (888) pickAxe.

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A Southeast roadshow on corporate globalization, its discontents and alternative visions

This is about sharing information and inspiration across the Southeast region regarding globalization, its negative impacts and new visions.

This is about progressive people in your town joining together to become stronger advocates for your collective beliefs. We are encouraging groups to come together to host these events. No group loses its autonomy by participating.

We will offer a comprehensive analysis of corporate globalization as it affects the Southeastern US and the world. We will explore impacts on workers, rights, the environment, sovereignty, gender and racial equality, health issues and more. We will discuss tangible solutions and realistic goals for a society that places compassionate values over corporate profits. We will also explore simple ways of working cooperatively with others to create positive change.

This roadshow will also allow you to network with the people in your town and region that are concerned about these important issues and how they affect our world.

For more information, contact Leigh Scherberger, squashflower2@aol.com; check out David Rovics website, www.davidrovics.com. Or to book a roadshow stop in your community contact john johnson, (423) 949-5922; johnjef@bledsoe.net.

Wanted: Forest Watch Director

Friends of the Clearwater (FOC), a grassroots environmental organization devoted to the protection and restoration of Idaho's Wild Clearwater country, is searching for a Forest Watch Director. FOC defends this area through an aggressive Forest Watch program. Duties of the Forest Watch Director include coordinating forest watch activities with other groups, volunteers, board members, and the public. This entails a working knowledge of agency processes and laws including the National Environmental Policy Act, National Forest Management Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the Wilderness Act. In addition to the above, applicants must have excellent writing, organizational and communication skills, a love of the Wild and a sense of humor.

FOC is based in Moscow, Idaho, a university town (University of Idaho) of approximately 20,000 people in the north-central part of the state. Salary is approximately \$19,000 per year, DOE. Applicants should send a letter of application, a résumé and three references to Friends of the Clearwater, POB 9241, Moscow, ID 83843; (208) 882-9755; foc@wildrockies.org; www.wildrockies.org/ foc. Closing date is January 31, 2001, or until position is filled.

ISBENP TRUMA

URGENT! Prevent the destruction of Eastern Oregon's, eastern Washington's, Idaho's, and western Montana's forests and natural ecosystems. BLM & USFS are planning on adopting the "co-option 9" of the Interior Columbia Basin: ICBEMP FEIS "alternative" S-2. This ecosystemdestroying "trojan horse" must be stopped. Write: Director, BLM and Chief, USFS, ICBEMP Protests, POB 65480, Washington DC, 20035, and insist this FEIS be scrapped. If you don't write call Dombeck (202) 205-1055. Demand protection for these essential ecosystem! Contact LOWD-BMBP, HCR 82, Fossil, OR 97830 for more information. For the Wild! Thanks!

call to action CALL TO ACTION SPRING TOUR 2001 call to action call to action

Call To Action (CtA) is now booking stops for our national Spring 2001 tour. We are offering quality skill and issue workshops focusing on the FTAA, and its poster-child: Citigroup.

If your group is interested in tackling the prison industrial complex, Third World debt, forest destruction, predatory lending and redlining as well as expanding your organizing skills, then bring us to your town.

CtA's mission is to build a new generation of environmental and social justice activists with the skills and vision necessary to create fundamental social change. This spring we are traveling with a crew of six to eight trainers selected from a pool of nationally experienced organizers. We travel in a huge Greyhound bus, and

bring the skills, knowledge and experience to you and your regional event!

We are available for three-to four-day-long action camps, two-day regional events, and one-night speaking engagements. We're looking for hosts across the US, we start February 16, in Portland, Oregon, and end in Quebec City at the FTAA protests! Our trainers have worked with Rainforest Action Network, the Ruckus Society, Earth First!, STARC and many community groups.

We are committed to mutual education. CtA will bring the trainers, to help you create and run your action camp/regional event, and heighten your skills.

For more information, contact Call to Action, (503) 804-9378; campaigns@calltoaction.org; www.calltoaction.org.

INTERNS WANTED

Set within 300 acres in an Appalachian valley, Moonshadow lies on the side of a forested mountain. Using clearings and south-facing slopes, we have created a small ecovillage where we explore the realities of sustainable agriculture. With permaculture design as our guide, we offer an example of how humans can live lightly on the Earth, supporting biodiversity and practicing deep ecology.

We are looking for interns (two intern positions that include room and board—head gardener and office manager) at the Sequatchie Valley Institute at Moonshadow in rural Tennessee.

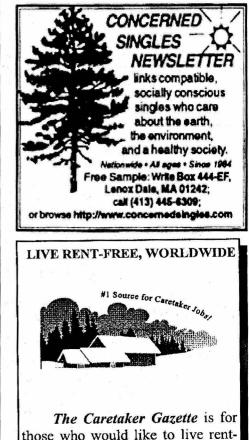
We need hard workers willing to live with rustic conditions to join us from March through September. Interns are welcome through Spring, Summer and early Fall each year. Interests may vary from gardening and construction, video and media work, social and environmental activism, to office organization and non-profit development. Many projects can be tailored to fit the needs of the intern and in some cases college credit may be arranged. It is important to understand that every internship will be different - a lot depends on the projects that are in progress as well as SVI's schedule of events, conferences and workshops (when interns will be expected to help).

Educational opportunities include workshops on sustainable living, natural building, Appalachian culture and video activism. Vegetarian meals are made and shared as a community, and housing is in summer shelters. We ask that you contribute \$5/day while staying with us. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis for our regular internships. The head gardener and office manager positions application deadline is January 31, 2000.

The mission of the Sequatchie Valley Institute is to offer society an opportunity to experience and learn about living in harmony with nature by providing: education, art and research opportunities, land conservation and restoration, a dynamic model residence and learning center and, a vision for attaining a sustainable future

Our five main programs are: Landscape and Architecture (permaculture, edible landscaping, natural building, and alternative energy), Outreach, Education and Research (off-site presentations and counseling, tours, teacher enrichment and academic research), Moonshadow Programs (workshops, conferences and events), MEDIA RIGHTS (a media production company encompassing the goals of SVI, producing newsletters, video, audio, public art projects and the SVI website) and Land Conservation.

To apply for one of these positions, please email Ashley Ironwood at mediarights@bledsoe.net or contact Moonshadow, Route One, Box 304, Whitwell, TN 37397; (423) 949-5922.



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BARE BONES Administration Weakens Northwest Forest Plan

The US Forest Service has released the Final Survey and Manage Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in response to a court decision that halted much old-growth logging in the Northwest US for the past year. Activists say the move is likely to weaken wildlife protection in the Pacific Northwest and increase old-growth logging.

In the final EIS, the Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service are dropping 63 species from the Survey and Manage program, including 20 from the list of species that need surveys "prior to ground disturbing activities." This opens up at least 400,000 acres of older forests to logging and will boost timber harvest up to roughly 740-million-board feet a year in the western Cascades.

GE Nightmare in Russia

A report released on November 29, 2000, by the European organization Socio-Ecological Union (SEU) reveals that field trials of genetically engineered (GE) crops are taking place throughout Russia, and GE foods are being approved for human consumption, in the absence of formal procedures. Although an Inter-Agency Commission on Genetic Engineering Activities was established in 1997 to issue permits for releases of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), it operates under a cloak of secrecy and some of its members are the same scientists that are undertaking GE experiments.

The report reveals that at least 18 notifications for deliberate release of GMOs, including field trials and processing/consumption, have been granted. Monsanto leads with eight notifications for field trials of potatoes resistant to the Colorado beetie—currently being tested in 18 regions of Russia—as well as herbicide tolerant soybeans, maize and sugar beets.

"Field trials of GE apple trees and strawberries in Orel were taking place right next to gardens growing apple trees and strawberries. Cross-pollination could result in these home-grown fruit becoming genetically engineered," explained Dan Swartz, the author of the report.

The report reveals that the Ministry of Health has approved two varieties of Monsanto's GE potatoes and Monsanto's Roundup Ready (herbicide-tolerant) soybeans for human consumption.

"It is highly likely that GE soybeans, maize and potatoes are already on the Russian market. The soybeans and maize are coming into the country via commercial imports and food aid from the US," explained Victoria Kolesnikova from SEU. "Despite a new law requiring labelling of GE products and a Federal Register of GMO products, we have seen none of the products listed on the register and available on Russian supermarket shelves labeled."

New Anti-Terrorism Force in Oregon

A new potential threat to activists in the Northwest was approved by the Portland, Oregon, City Council on November 22. The Portland Joint Terrorism Task Force, made up of eight Portland criminal intelligence officers, 12 federal agents and three state law enforcement officers, was formed to investigate "criminal extremist activity." A memorandum of understanding between the FBI and the Portland police states that the task force will "identify and target for prosecution those individuals or groups who are responsible for Right Wing and/or Left Wing movements, as well as acts of the anti-abortion movement and the Animal Liberation Front/Earth Liberation Front."

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Dave Foreman Does Fiction

by Josh Laughlin

The recently published Lobo Outback Funeral Home is worthy of a read. For one, it is written by EF!'s co-founder, Dave Foreman. Secondly, Dave does fiction. This is no Ecodefense, The Big Outside or "Around the Campfire" column. This is a novel, his first.

It's a story about wilderness preservation in the Southwest and the side stories of the characters involved. Leading the way is Jack Hunter, a chilly-dog chompin', burly, burnt-out DC environmental lobbyist, who heads back to New Mexico's Diablo to return to the life of a horseshoer, woman chaser, beer drinker and backcountry enthusiast. The story gets spicy and trashy when he catches back up with MaryAnne McClellan, daughter of Hunter's early mentor. Ten years younger than horny old Jack and a leading Mexican wolf biologist, she makes his perfect match.

Now fitting shoes again and living back in his rural abode, Hunter can't seem to keep his pants on through most of the book. In the first chapter, way before he flirts his way into a relationship with sexy, young MaryAnne, he finds luck with Jodi Clayton, wife of wise-use hack, Buck Clayton. While shoeing her prized horses in the heat of the day, she, shirt unbuttoned and curves showing, seduces Hunter. He doesn't mind, at all. The moment then heads indoors to the closest bedroom. "'Pretty good,' Hunter said aloud to himself. 'Two horses and one filly done, and its barely afternoon. I should have time to get into Platoro and pack up some grub for the trip and get back in time to soak my poor ol' stiff body in the hot springs tonight.'" This is a common tone throughout the book.

Otherwise, the plot is very simple. It reads not uncommon of the life of a Southwestern wilderness activist—one working for additional wilderness designation, against declassification of preserved land, scuffling with the local bad boys, drinking regularly and baiting and catching bar room cuties.

Throughout the book Foreman toes classic EF! rhetoric: Direct quotes from the EF! introductory primer are used, industry trucks are torched, agencies are paperwrenched. Though simply written, the book takes a few twists and turns. The Mexican wolf plays a key role.

Foreman's best writing, though, is his character descriptions. The local sheriff's "dispatcher-receptionist-secretaryfile clerk was a lumbering dreadnought, built of Rainbo bread and lunch meat, a granddaughter of the female aurochs described by H.L. Menken in his dispatch from the Scopes Monkey Trial. She had a row of chins like a long line of pelican bill-pouches strung down her throat. Her hair was a frizzy bleached-yellow helmet. Marlene Dietrich's eyebrows were painted on her forehead... MaryAnne's name came out of her long fat pharynx like a phlegm ball."

Or try big Bill Crawford, Hunter's long-time wilderness and drinking buddy. "The shirt was unbuttoned halfway to his navel. Drops of sweat decorated the black mat of chest hair like ornaments on a Christmas tree. Bill Crawford was not a naked ape. The rank pelt of his chest grew up his throat and over his face to the top of his head and down his neck to his back,

leaving only his cheekbones, eyes and low forehead bare." Aside from the knee-slapping personal descriptions, the book offers some appreciated historical perspectives on the Southwest—the flora, fauna, reintroduced species and their behavior patterns. It goes into RARE II and the lands that the ensuing wilderness bills failed to preserve.

But there were a few things that hit me as a bit odd. Mostly, Foreman seems to have this attachment to Patagonia in a few sections, almost like the clothing company took out ad space to be spliced into the story line. "Listen buster, not only are they the best, but Patagonia gives the Diablo Wilderness Committee grants. If it wasn't for them, we wouldn't be in business," MaryAnne snaps back at Hunter after he accuses her of looking like a picture in a Patagonia catalog. Awkwardly, it happens a few other times.

And Foreman continues on with the cheesy sex scenes and dialog that don't add anything to the book except a corny snicker here and there. "When a mountain lion comes into heat, she and her consort may mate fifty to seventy times every twenty-four hours for seven or eight days. They can't be torn apart. Humans don't have estrus. But they do have pair bonding. New lovers of the twolegged kind can't hope to match how many times the big tan cats do it. But MaryAnne McClellan and Jack Hunter gave it their best shot. If they couldn't match cougars in quantity, they planned to beat them in quality..."

I usually judge a book by whether it keeps me reading or not. This did. But not because it is necessarily sophisticated or complex. Its simplicity, witty dialog and romance descriptions (the two lovebugs even mate in a tree!) offer the most.

Check it out for yourself. You can get a copy, autographed by Dave himself, by sending \$29 to Wild Earth, POB 455 Richmond, VT 05477; (802) 434-4077.



A BOOK REVIEW BY MICHAEL DONNELLY

Bid-rigged government timber sales, toxic waste, crooked pols, black helicopters, Christians (Pantheist and Baptist), militia, nude dancer/artists, a Rush Limbaugh clone, a 15-foot alligator spirit guide, shady corporations and their slickster lawyers and good guy gonzo lawyers all converge for one rollicking, sweltering, summer month of intrigue in the delta and bay around Mobile, Alabama.

The First Amendment, the first novel by environmental attorney Ray Vaughan of LA (Lower Alabama), explodes into the cannon of Earth Warriors Against the Machine novels, taking its place right up there with the best of Ed Abbey, Carl Hiaasen and John D. MacDonald.

There's something in the water. Cancerous oysters, dead birds and fish spread along the death zone coming from the river delta as a witch's brew of toxic waters mix with the bay. Residents of a small community near the big Chemox plant fall victim to a laundry list of diseases. Yet the powers that be ignore it all and press forward with diversionary moral charges against a dancer/ artist who happens to paint highly coveted masterpieces by rolling her naked, paint smeared-body on canvas.

Enter Mark Rant and Coz Stone,

attorneys at law. The low-key Rant is the uncle of Bessaya Alpina Carter, the beleaguered artist. His partner Stone is a big, loud, long-haired, irreverent soul who takes the Constitution and individual freedom as seriously as he does his "sacrament" (virtually any form of alcohol) and his right to bear arms (a .45 and an array of pepper sprays).

In short order, they find the rightwing DA, even further right US Senator and a pack of Evangelical ministers inflaming the public and screaming for Bess Carter to be burned at the stake. But before they can even mount a defense, Stone takes Angie, Bess' roommate and fellow dancer at Chester's Club, out to his favorite trusting place in the Tensaw National Forest for some good, clean fun. Lo and behold, his forested paradise has been reduced to a stump-strewn wasteland. Upon regaining his composure, Stone wanders through the clearcut and finds a smelly black goo spread all over the boggy landscape.

What follows is a wild, month-long ride through the Delta region with goons in black sedans and black helicopters trying to head them off as they search for the source of the black goo. At every turn, the mysterious Havana Man, so named because of his penchant for illegal Cuban cigars, checks them. Along the way, Stone and Rant team up with an odd assortment of allies—from the minister of the Pantheist Christian Church, the disillusioned aide of the senator, John Muir Sierrans and the National Forest Protection Alliance to Bubba and his buddies in the militia and an honest judge.

Damn, it's good to read about the bad guys being on the receiving end of pepper spray for once. The great thing about this book is that it is a primer on national forest management practices, for Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Environmental Quality chicanery and, like a John Grisham novel, an excellent explanation of the laws governing natural resources and public lands. For that, and the details of the shady legal maneuvering corporate America uses to get around these laws, the book should be a must read at law schools everywhere.

If you appreciate seeing human rights and nature besting corporate greed, get a hold of Ray Vaughan right now and buy this book: Ray Vaughan, 300-B Water Street, Suite 214, Montgomery, AL 36104; www.earth7press.com. You'll end up with an enjoyable read and you'll be supporting one of our best, kick-ass grassroots environmental attorney/authors.

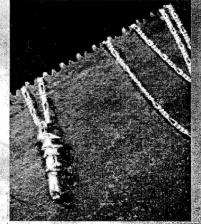


Monkeywrench the Millennum

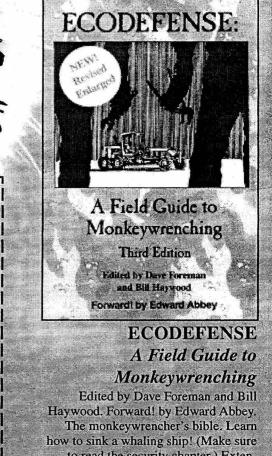
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to read the security chapter.) Extensively revised, expanded third edition. Illustrated, 352 pages, \$18.

-Edward Abbey

Earth First! Direct Action Manual Second Edition Uncompromising Nonviolent Resistance in Defense of Mother Earth! Earth First! Direct **Action Manual** The antidote to despair. Everything you need to know about blockading tactics, techniques and devices to defend the Earth, from monkeywrenching to civil

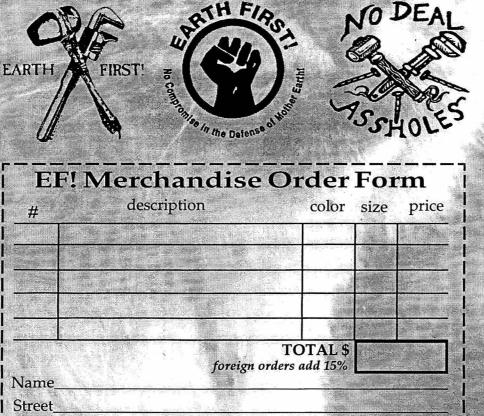
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Silent Agitators

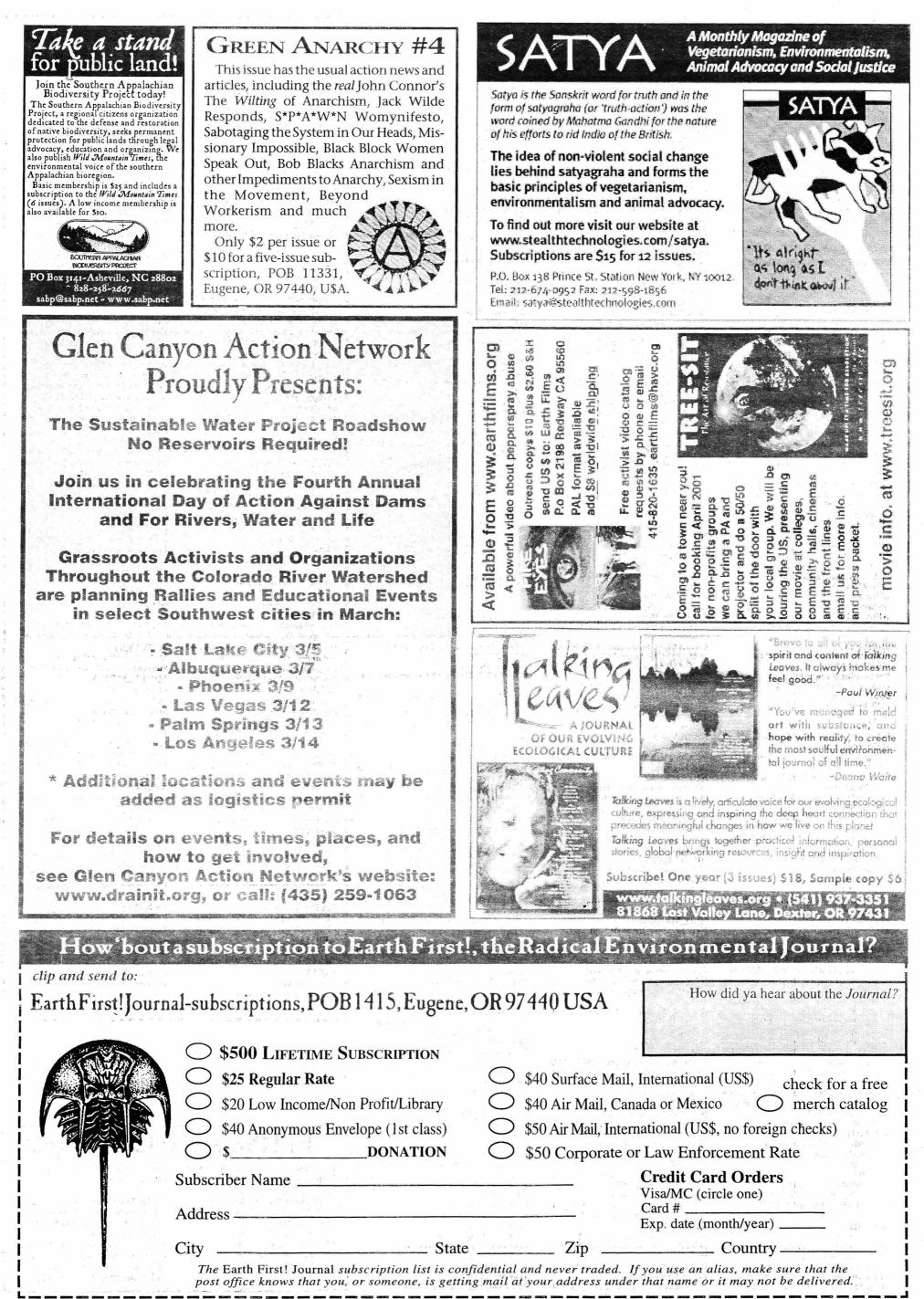
Small 1.5-inch stickers good for bikes or bulldozers. Earth First! "Tools," "Fist" or "No Deal, Assholes." 30 stickers for \$2



Zip

State/Country City. -Make checks payable to the Earth First! Journal, POB 1415, Eugene, OR 97440. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. Questions? Call (541) 344-8004, Mondays 9-11 a.m. (PST).

Sentiment without action is the ruin of the soul" -



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