



Suggested citation: Josh, Lisa, Nell (Gryffindor), Oskar, and Sophia, eds., *Earth First!* 27, no. 1 (1 November 2006).
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Earth First!

The Radical Environmental Journal
Samhain/Yule November-December 2006

\$4.50 US \$7 Canada · Volume 27 #1



0 7447 0 83085 6



Taking on Drax the Destroyer

This is not an environmental present that anyone should have to endure, and it is not an environmental future that we can allow to pass.

Earth First!

The Radical Environmental Journal

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Front Cover

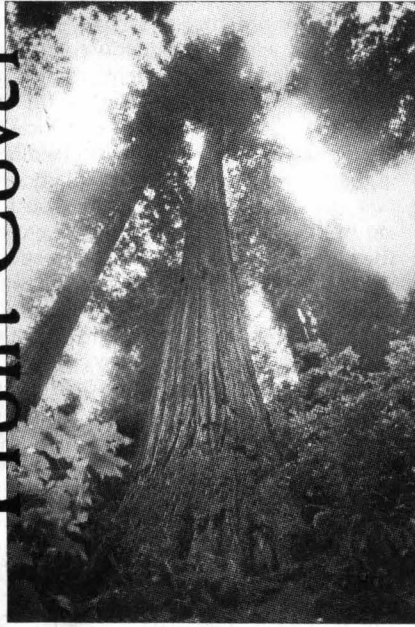


photo by www.insurgentphoto.com

This tree stands in the Nanning Creek watershed (near Scotia, California) which Pacific Lumber Co. has been logging since late 2005. In response, North Coast Earth First! started the Spooner treesit. For more information, visit www.spoonerdirect.org.



photo by Micah

Asheville Critical Mass takes over Interstate 26 to highlight climate change on the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

FEATURES

- 3 **KING COAL LOSES HIS HEAD**
THE BANGLADESH UPRISING
- 5 **FOR THE LOVE OF A DOG**
- 6 **THINGS ARE HOTTING UP!**
REPORT BACK FROM THE UK CAMP FOR CLIMATE ACTION
- 9 **BIKING FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE**
KATRINA CRITICAL MASS
- 10 **KATÚAH EARTH FIRST! ROUNDUP**
- 11 **NUCLEAR WASTE PLAN DUMPED**
SKULL VALLEY GOSHUTES RESERVATION
- 12 **BIOTECH BREEZE**
CROP EXPERIMENTS CONTAMINATE FOOD SUPPLY
- 14 **ALASKA'S ROAD TO NOWHERE**
- 16 **DEAR NED LUDD**
- 18 **ROADLESS RULE REINSTATED**
- 19 **ANTI-HUNT-SAB BILL**
- 19 **HUNTER GUILTY OF ATTACK**
- 22 **22 YEARS FOR FREE-SPEECH ADVOCATES**
SHAC7 SENTENCED
- 23 **POM TARGETS ACTIVISTS**
- 24 **THE POLITICAL BECOMES PERSONAL**
- 26 **ILLEGAL WIRETAPS IN GREEN SCARE CASE**
- 27 **EF!'S COW IS BORN**
CHALLENGING OPPRESSION WITHIN EF!
- 28 **RACIAL TENSIONS INTENSIFY ON SIX NATIONS LAND**
- 30 **SOLIDARITY WITH SIX NATIONS**
CALEDONIA'S FIFTH COLUMN
- 40 **FOOD: BEFORE AND AFTER THE REVOLUTION**

SECTIONS

- 4 DEAR SFB: LETTERS TO THE EDITORS
- 13 BARE BONES
- 16 FRONTLINES
- 20 ARMED WITH VISIONS
- 32 WOLVES AND POODLES
- 33 BLAST FROM THE PAST
- 34 PRISONERS IN THE STRUGGLE
- 36 ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 38 EF! DIRECTORY

Earth First! Samhain/Yule

November 1, 2006

Vol. 27, No. 1

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Earth First! is a forum for the no-compromise environmental movement. Responsibility rests with the individual authors and correspondents. The contents do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of this magazine, the Earth First! movement, local Earth First! groups or individual Earth First!ers.

We welcome submissions of articles, letters, poetry and art that put the Earth first, aid in healthy debate shaping the growth of the movement and advance the creation of a world free of speciesism, classism, racism, sexism, violence, exploitation and oppression.

Submission deadlines are the first of every odd-numbered month in the calendar year. Articles should be typed or clearly printed. We encourage submissions via email. Art or photographs are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. Send a SASE if you would like submissions returned. If you want confirmation of receipt of a submission, please request it.

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.

ISSN 1055-8411 *Earth First!* is indexed in the Alternative Press Index. *Earth First!* is recorded on microfilm by ProQuest, Inc.

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Earth First! (ISSN 1055-8411) November-December 2006, Volume 27, Issue 1, is published bimonthly by Daily Planet Publishing, 831 East 47th Street, Tucson, AZ 85713. US Subscriptions are \$25. Outside the US, surface delivery is \$40 and airmail is \$50. Send subscriptions to PO Box 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. Periodicals Postage Paid at Tucson, Arizona. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Earth First!*, PO Box 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702-3023.



Ink on Your Fingers

I'm sitting on the porch of the *Journal* house. Old-timey music is streaming from inside where two short termers are reading layed-out pages and another is taking a nap. Last night we ate dinner together with pumpkin pie for dessert. Sure there were some pages we were reading on the table, but we were mostly just enjoying our time together. After all, we aren't about to trade friendship and good communication for efficiency.

The daily life at our little magazine. Little magazine? Sure the *Journal* has been honored by Project Censored in its *Top 25 Censored Stories of the Year* numerous times. The *Journal* is also carried in mainstream bookstores. But we're still just a bunch of folks working together, eating together and sharing good times together.

The biggest thing that threatens our happiness is a force from the outside; the biggest stress for any independently-published magazine: finances.

You see it in most publications these days. Pleas for donations, fundraising drives, editorials about the hardships of being an independently-published... you get the idea. Often people try to find quick explanations for this problem. The most usual answer is the rise of the Internet.

I'm not sure what to tell you about this problem. I can tell you that in my heart a printed publication still holds weight over a website. I can put magazines in my pack, take off hiking, and share it with people I may meet. I can even part with my copy of the *Journal*, and give someone else reading material for their long bus ride home.

And come on, after the collapse, (I know some of you will like this one) we'll have *Earth First! Journals* as a reminder of which corporations screwed us over (make sure not to give that Hurwitz guy any venison around the fire).

When it all boils down, my favorite reason for supporting the *Journal* is because of what we publish. Few other magazines (with our size or longevity) look at actions for the Earth in a positive light. What other magazine describes the reasons why an individual would take such risks to protect life? Be them campesin@s from the mountains of southern Mexico, climate campaigners in the UK, or hillbillies in Katúah.

We're typing away here at the office (when not making *Harry Potter* jokes) supporting you while you're scouting out that proposed logging road. And even if you aren't out there sneaking around in the forest, and even if you tell all your friends you think what the elves do at night doesn't help, we know that deep down in your heart you cheer every time you see a logging truck on fire.

In short, we, just like many other independent publications, are in constant need of your support. We want you to support us because you feel we are supporting you: a symbiotic relationship. As a trade for your support (be it financial or other) we'll try to give you a good mix of news, perspective, humor and networking.

Finally, as I transition away from long-terming and toward super volunteerism at the *Journal*, I want to thank all of you who have made my time here valuable and enjoyable. I've appreciated your calls of support, pats on the back at gatherings and constructive criticism. Thank you.

—OSKAR PAWPAW

King Coal Loses His Head

The Bangladesh Uprising

BY WEDNESDAY

The situation in the coal-rich Dinajpur district of northern Bangladesh has changed from tragedy to exuberant victory.

On August 26, 70,000 people marched through the streets of the small mining town of Phulbari in protest of the nation's first proposed open-pit coal mine. The mine would displace up to 40,000 people and destroy a 3,200-acre forest. Opponents of the project claim that it would also pollute rivers, destroy biodiversity on farmlands and ruin historic and religious archaeological sites.

The target of the popular rage was the headquarters of Asia Energy Corporation (AEC), a British firm that is spearheading the mining project. As the crowd rushed the energy company's offices, riot police opened fire with live ammunition and tear gas. Police sources claim that demonstrators were armed with rocks, sticks and even bows and arrows. By the time security forces cleared the streets, they had shot hundreds of live rounds and 50 tear gas canisters. "It was a hell of a scene, with hundreds of gun-shooting police confronting nearly 20,000 protesters in the hours of battle," one witness told Reuters. Local hospitals reported that six people were killed by the police and more than 100 were injured.

In response to the repression, a coalition of groups supporting the families fighting the mine declared a general strike in the northern districts of Dinajpur, Thakurgaon and Panchagarh. Authorities announced a ban on all protests or gatherings at the mine site. For his part, AEC's CEO Gary Lye issued a statement denying that the Phulbari project would harm the environment and saying it would benefit local people.

The first day of the strike saw clashes in every participating district, where all business was halted and violence peaked again in Phulbari. Thousands of angry protesters burned six homes

belonging to officials of AEC, gathering around a flaming effigy of the Bangladeshi Energy Advisor Mahmudur Rahman.

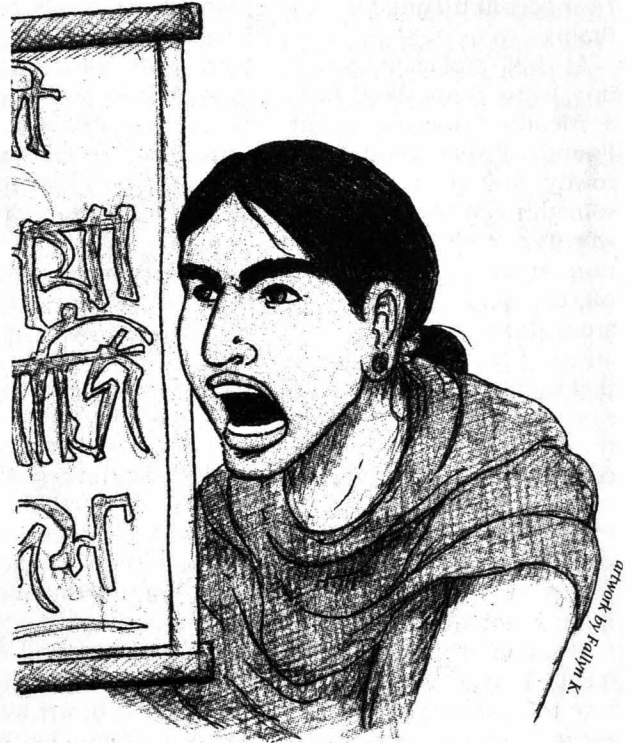
The following day, the opposition party in Parliament, a major union and the nation's largest student organization called for a national general strike, bringing Bangladesh to a total standstill. Schools were paralyzed, stores and offices closed, and the ports were shut down.

That same day, rioters finally reached AEC's headquarters in Phulbari and ransacked and looted the building. Protesters also cut off all road and railway access to and from Dinajpur with piles of burning tires and fallen trees.

By the end of the day, the police had lost all control of the town and demonstrators armed with sticks patrolled the roads, making sure no one got in or out. A policeman was mortally wounded during clashes on August 30.

The rebels announced that they would end the strike once the government agreed to a five-point list of demands: the closing of Asia Energy's offices; a government declaration banning all coal mining in the district; monetary compensation for the families of the slain protesters and free medical assistance to those injured; an end to any prosecution of those detained during the riots; and finally, the arrest and imprisonment of the officers responsible for the deaths.

Officials pleaded with the people, asking them to hand Phulbari over to the police and give the government time to meet the five demands, but the demonstrators responded by cutting telephone lines and burning a rice mill that had been donated to the town by AEC as a good-will gesture.



The government finally gave in, announcing that it would cancel AEC's contract and declaring a moratorium on all coal mining in the nation. The government also agreed to compensate the families of the dead.

"No coal mine or other project will be allowed at Phulbari against the interests of local people," promised Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, minister of local government and rural development and secretary-general of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

Residents of Phulbari celebrated the victory, while a second general strike was called for September 10 in solidarity with the families of those killed by police. During the strike, activists in Dhaka, the capital, clashed with police, torching a police van and several other cars to show the government that they had not forgotten its brutality.

AEC's stocks took a plunge in the London stock exchange, decreasing by 59 percent and losing about \$150 million.

Wednesday lives in southern Appalachia and hopes that Massey Energy Company meets a fate similar to AEC.

Dear SFB

Dear Beer Butt Bong for Brains,

As fun and bonding as it was to drink beer from a friend's ass crack at the Round River Rendezvous rowdy fire, there was also something in the experience worthy of critique and reflection. At first thought, I wrote off the small conflict that arose from our frat-house antics. But in reflecting on that night around the fire, as someone who participated in the activity, I can see how we contributed to yet another male-dominated fire circle. I think it can be said that naked rowdiness has long been a part of the EF! culture's fireside entertainment, and I hope that it stays a part of it. But I also want to recognize the folks with the courage to voice their frustrations with the male-domination that has often accompanied it. Although defensiveness is often my first response to criticism, I've learned that I grow with every challenge. And I think the movement does too. I also want to send a message out to other people with dicks. It's a simple and fairly obvious message, but one that can be hard to hear for some of us: We need to be more conscious of how much the presence of male energy perpetuates the patriarchy that EF! has quite a reputation of harboring. Nothing against beer, dicks or butt cracks; I happen to be a fan of all three. I'm just saying that we need to be more sensitive to the inner dynamics of our gatherings.

Sincerely,

—A FLORIDIAN

Dear Editor Friends,

I noticed on your subscription page that you claim not to be "entirely luddites," but I am entirely Luddite and I believe it is a good thing.

I would like to say to Earth First! readers: When somebody calls you a Luddite, intending to put you down as an ignorant and obtuse detractor of progress and the common good, do not crumble and back down! Wear the label proudly.

Luddites were early 19th century English men and women, displaced from the land to the factories by the enclosure movement, and then displaced from the factories into abject poverty because of new machinery. Scorned when they begged for mercy and food, Luddites finally attacked the factory machinery itself, symbol and source of their dehumanization. Their brave attack on the capitalists' industrial revolution was brutally put down by death and deportment, but we may remember them as fellow activists, murdered for their desperate bid to return to a land-based life.

The Luddites, named for their leader Ned Ludd, were not "against progress." Technology, machinery, efficiency, ownership and the plunder of resources are not the hallmarks of progress. Health, joy, kindness and survival are the hallmarks of progress. We who value people above profit, and our garden Earth above even our individual selves, must be vigilant not to accept the hidden messages of the dominant and dominating culture. Hold fast to the values of Luddism and do not be swayed by name-calling or the perversion of human ideals.

Best wishes,

—LILLY

Dear Editors,

So in Mingo County, West Virginia, we had a house and seven organizers this Mountain Justice Summer (MJS).

We spent the first week introducing the organizers to the local leaders (this whole thing was officially an Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition (OVEC) project by the way, though it's MJS as well). The goals of the projects were to expand the local base of resistance, engage local folks in a radical assessment of the situation and develop young folks as community organizers.

The second week, we did intensive listening projects and talked to approximately 100 people, and of these we got a handful of good folks. We followed up with 30 or 40 percent, and from that it boiled down to just the 10 or so who are now active, a big success in my book.

In one holler we found people with extremely poisonous water. It smelled and looked like the water in Rawl, where the folks have dealt with sludge injection ruining their water for a while. These folks wanted to meet with the folks in Rawl to learn about how they had organized and initiated a lawsuit.

We later discovered that the Department of Environmental Protection keeps a list of everyone who's ever called in a complaint, so instead of just going door to door, we got that list and called those folks, making our outreach altogether more efficient.

We also did some research into mapping the sludge injections and trained a local person or two on how to do this.

So here's a measurable victory that's more to the credit of OVEC's previous organizing than MJS necessarily—in August, the judge ordered that Massey Energy Co. has to provide bottled water to everyone in the three communities that are engaged in the lawsuit over their poisonous water.

Also, at one point, the last day before I left, actually, an old preacher man who gave us office space in his church was showing me the EF! power-plant blockade on the Internet and saying, "This is what we gotta do! These people are serious! Like the union used to be!" and so on. Also people really revere Ed Wiley out there. At one point a woman told me, "I'm going to be the next Ed Wiley."

I want the broader EF! community to understand the importance and effectiveness of slow-moving community organizing work.

Peace,

—WILLIE

Hello,

I am not sure if this email address is the correct forum for me to write this, but I'm here in the coffee shop typing, so why the hell not. I am reading a book called *Coyotes and Town Dogs*. It is about Earth First!. I wanted to read it after visiting trees-its in Humboldt county, and the book eventually led me to your website. Along with other disturbing trends, I noticed one of your back issues covered community action against building a new airport runway at London's Heathrow airport. I agree that air travel and airports are an environmental travesty but what I find particularly depressing is that there appears to be no alternative in sight. How do I go places without airports? In this short life, I can go to India if I want to, I can go to Spain, I can go to Australia, because of airports. I would not give up my travels for anything, yet I also don't want to be a part of the human disease, you know? Airplanes have allowed me an intimacy with parts of the planet far from where I was born and have made me a

much more conscious person and in some ways, more of an environmentalist. What's a person to do?

Sincerely looking for an answer,

—LINDSEY

Dear shit fer brains,

So let me get this straight. Y'all will send a free subscription to prisoners, including white supremacists, child molesters, rapists or murderers... but you won't send a free subscription to any of the cooperating defendants who have been rounded up in "Operation Backfire?" What the fuck? Whether or not you agree with the choices that these folks made when faced with life sentences, you do seem to cheer for the actions they have admitted to

participating in. I think it's fucked that you won't even send them a copy of the *Journal*, but you'll send one to a child molester.

—STARFISH

Editors's Note: The Journal only gives away free subscriptions to prisoners on our prisoner page. Any other prisoner, including those who cooperate with the government, are welcome to subscribe.

Dear SFB,

I'm compelled to write with congratulations on your recent Mabon issue. The "Evolving Earth First!" and the "Remembering Murray Bookchin" articles are profound statements of a real understanding of today's revolutionary dynamic.

Of course the ecological issues of the day are important,

but as you seem to recognize, ecology is inexorably intertwined with social relations. A shit-hole society with old-growth trees is just that, a shit-hole society. Add capitalism/consumerism to the shit-hole society and the shining old-growth trees are only so many board-feet dollars on the hoof. Welcome to America, "Duh!"

It's OK to concentrate on Earth first *if* the efforts are within a greater common strategy to choke the life out of capital/consumerism. Yuppies and the upwardly mobile are antithetical to the real revolution, the only revolution, of which ecology must be a driving force but not the only driving force. If you're not willing to fight capital you're not willing to stop ecological disaster.

On an unrelated note, I see that my good friend Jeff Luers is struggling with compassion and informants. There can be no condescension towards informants; this is an age-old tenet of the revolutionary (see above dynamic analysis), harsh but both strategically and tactically necessary.

—BRIAN MCCARVILL

Dear Earth First,

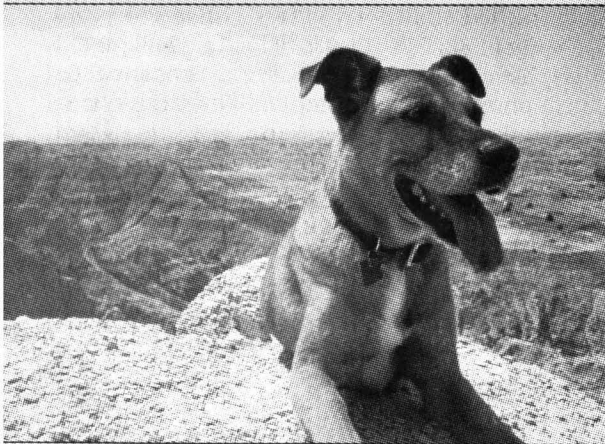
In my city, NYC, in some areas, one third of all children have asthma; I beg you, please put photos of bikes on the cover of your great magazine. Give us cycling issues. Bikes, bikes and more bikes.

—EUGENE

BROOKLYN, NY

FRIEND OF TIME'S UP!

FOR THE LOVE OF A DOG



BY TURTLE

Soon after I started working at the *Earth First! Journal*, I almost quit. My being hired as an editor meant that my best friend, Ellen, would be tagging along, and not everyone was happy about that prospect. I told my co-workers it was both of us or neither and that they'd just have to adjust if their lunch mysteriously disappeared (and that I'd replace it). You see, Ellen in her younger years was part canine and part monster. For those not used to being around a dog with so much spunk, and with a mischievous streak, it took a little time for everyone to

come to understand one another. But with time, we all became friends, Ellen and I stayed, and she would warm herself around everyone's heart.

I can't count how many times future long-term editors, short termers and volunteers would pronounce their fear of dogs when they first saw Ellen at the front door. Yet once she came to know them—either by hanging

out with them on the couch or by luring them away from their desks to play with her—there was a mutual pledge of devotion. Ellen just wanted affection and to have fun. And with these simple desires, she helped keep things in perspective for anyone who forgot what's really important in our lives.

For as much time as Ellen spent in the office, she also loved the desert, mountains, and just about any place with water. I would watch her come alive as we explored wild places together. We taught each other how to

be in nature. And we came to appreciate beauty through our shared experiences, be it traipsing around southern Arizona's sky islands, spending weeks camped out at the ocean, or in doing crazy things like biking across the country.

A year and a half ago, Ellen was diagnosed with osteosarcoma—an aggressive form of bone cancer which no one survives. It was only ever a question of how long she would have left.

Yet Ellen continued to have much energy and vitality, a display of what an amazing individual she was. After she got sick, Ellen never once complained. Meanwhile, I decreased my hours at the *Journal* and eventually did quit so that she and I could make the most of every moment we had left together.

Those moments are gone now; Ellen died in September, just after her ninth birthday. Reminders of her remain everywhere, and her spirit stays with all of those who loved her.

Turtle misses the enjoyable quirks of Ellen's personality and enthusiasm most of all, and she is truly grateful for the adventures they had together.

Things Are

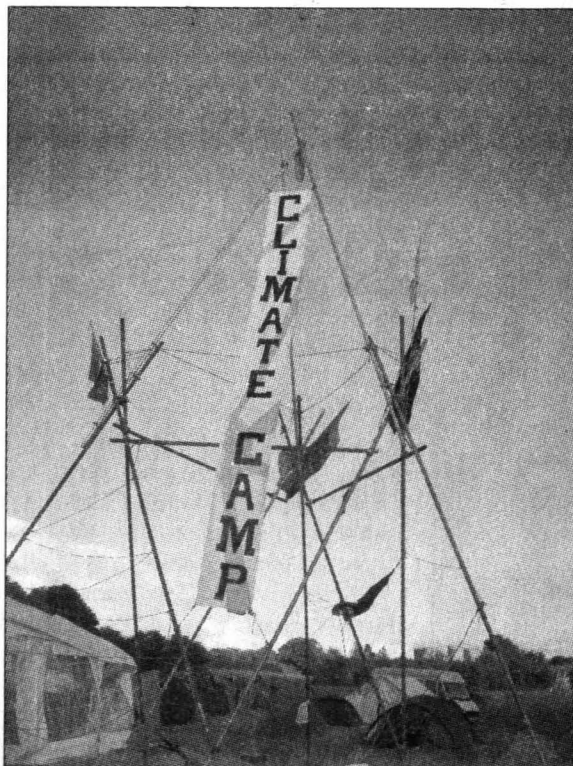
BY ABIGAIL AND JULIAN

In late August, two of us from Rising Tide North America (RTNA) traveled to the UK to attend the Camp for Climate Action, meet our British comrades face to face and, under the looming shadow of the Drax power station, collectively plot our strategy for manifesting an international uprising against the fossil-fuel industry. There were loads of amazing people, fun British words to be learned, an impressive array of sustainable infrastructure and more than 130 workshops covering everything from climate justice solidarity work to building your own wind turbine.

The Climate Camp

The site for the camp was a squatted field in Megawatt Valley near Leeds, England. This valley is home to three large power plants, the biggest being "Drax the Destroyer"—the largest power plant in the UK, responsible for producing seven to 10 percent of the grid's energy. The location was kept secret until it was occupied a couple of days before the camp started. For months, the Climate Camp had been publicly declaring its intention to shut down the coal-fired Drax power station, and the camp was set up just a couple of miles from Drax's 12 massive cooling towers. Taking the field was a substantial action in itself, involving a good mass of people and a two-tiered tripod. The farmer who owned the land was apparently a bit bewildered when an eco-village suddenly sprang up in his usually quiet field, but he wasn't too upset about it—and due to the Brits' squatting

laws, the squat was actually declared legal and the police weren't allowed in (though that didn't stop them from trying)!



The two-tiered tripod used to help secure the camp.

The camp's structure was loosely modeled after the protest camp at last year's G8 summit in Gleneagles, Scotland: People camped in several "neighborhoods" around the center of the camp, each one representing a different geographical location (London, Nottingham, Scotland, etc). Each neighborhood ran its own communal kitchen and sent two representatives to a spokescouncil every morning to make decisions affecting the whole camp (most meetings were dominated by the ever-present issue of how to deal with the police and their constant stop-and-searches

of anyone walking outside the camp boundary). The communal space in the center of camp was comprised of workshop spaces, a kids' space, a bar, an Indymedia tent and a bike tent. There were also spaces for well-being, legal help and general information. The setup seemed to work well in fostering community amongst neighborhoods while enabling a democratic and participatory decision-making process. Alcohol was plentiful and allowed everywhere on site; there was a bar open each night selling organic beer, cider and liquor. Infrastructure included composting toilets, hay-bale pissers, graywater systems connected to an impressive water system of pipes, hoses and spigots running throughout the camp, and wind and solar powered sound systems and computers.

Propaganda Battles

The camp generated loads of national media coverage over the course of the week. One of the more bizarre examples was when the front page of *The Independent* featured a photo from the mass action at Drax alongside one of Arnold Schwarzenegger, with the headline "The Green Revolution." It was refreshing to be in a country where the media and the general public agree that climate change is a huge problem and that things need to change.

The ideological battle that UK activists face is more against rampant greenwashing—the notion that green capitalism, carbon trading and other market-based carbon-offset schemes will save us from global warming. But micro-reductions are not only insignificant—considering that numerous

photos by Abigail

Hotting Up

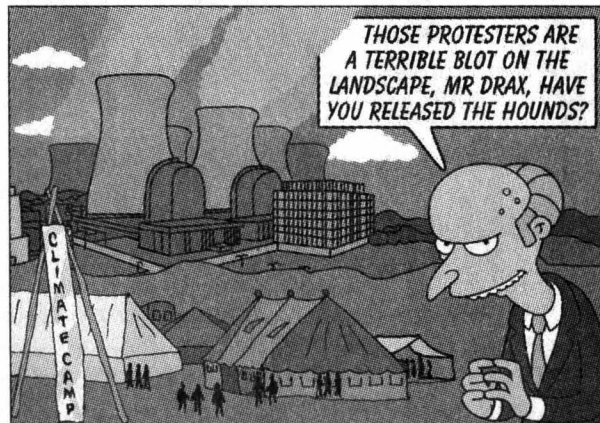
feedback loops (trapped methane in the Siberian permafrost and shrinking Arctic ice to name just two) are causing climate change to occur much faster than expected—they are actually quite damaging, because they reassure the public that everything is under control when, in fact, we all need to be making drastic lifestyle changes. One London-based activist emphasized that we only have about 10 years to cut our global emissions by 75 percent if we are to avert catastrophic climate change, and that business-friendly “solutions” like carbon offsets are really the equivalent of bailing out the Titanic with a thimble.

Resistance Rising

UK activists have also been tackling the specific causes of climate change. A major focus right now is the aviation industry, the fastest growing source of carbon emissions. Jet fuel is not taxed in the UK, so airlines offer super cheap flights around Europe. Non-governmental organizations are working to establish stricter aviation emissions regulations (not just capping them at Kyoto levels) and are encouraging people to fly less. Meanwhile, autonomous direct-action groups throughout the UK are setting their sights on airport expansion as a long-term project. One of these groups, Plane Stupid, occupied a Nottingham East Midlands taxiway a week after the climate camp. This is an area that hasn't been explored much in the US but is worth pursuing; one-fifth of all flying in the world is on domestic US flights.

Rising Tide UK has also been organizing a series of actions on other climate related issues, often incorporating street theater and huge, glossy

banners targeting oil companies' greenwashing (specifically BP and Shell). A lot of their “fluffy” actions (as opposed to “spiky”) are about celebrating life and having fun while taking action against the death machine. Also, focusing on environmental justice, they try to show the destruction that First World countries export to the Global South—and bring home the struggles for social justice that imperialistic resource barons (and carbon offset companies) have sparked all over the world. Part of this work involves avoiding the pitfall of allowing climate change to be framed as an “environmental” issue, which automatically limits how it is discussed.



London Rising Tide has also been sponsoring an art installation called Art Not Oil, a three-year-old exhibition that started in a squatted space and now travels the country. They're also planning to establish urban permaculture gardens called (com)mutiny gardens.

Aside from doing amazing work, the UK Rising Tide folks are also downright lovely people. It was great getting to know them over the course of the camp, strategizing over tea and cider, and working with them during the action.

We did a workshop on RTNA, which was quite well-received. We talked about the origins, strategy and projects of the group, as well as mountaintop removal and the Green Scare. Everyone we spoke with was eager to hear about how we organize in the US and about the political climate here. Folks had heard about the Green Scare, but it didn't seem like its full implications for the movement had percolated across the ocean.

The Battle of Drax

It had been announced in the media, on posters, in people's email, and by word of mouth: We were going to shut down Drax on August 31. When the day rolled around, we were about 500-strong—not quite the thousands that camp organizers had hoped for, but still a good, determined bunch. There was a Clandestine Insurgent Rebel Clown Army, a samba band, a kids' bloc, the Bicycology bike tour, a giant ostrich puppet (a theme for the camp), a block of people in white hazard suits and self-motivated affinity groups from all over the UK. There had been a blockade at a nuclear plant a couple days before the mass action, and when the camp awoke on

that morning, we were greeted with news that there had already been an early-morning blockade at one of the other two power plants in Megawatt Valley.

We broke into different groups, some going with the kids' bloc down the road, some going with the hazard suits through the fields, others blazing their own trail. Between us and Drax were a number of fields, some with livestock, some with horses, some with greenhouses and some unattended. Next to the camp was a

nature preserve, where a temporary cop shop had been set up for police forces from as far away as London. The police tried to contain the crowd, but people slipped by in small groups, running through fields, jumping over ditches, climbing through brambles and barbed wire, and playing cat-and-mouse with cops in neon yellow vests and funny hats. Finally, a critical mass of people made it to Drax's perimeter fence and proceeded to mull around for a bit, listening to the samba band and contemplating the long line of police between us and the fence.

There was not much advanced coordination among affinity groups, but people self-organized and took initiative. Before this mass of people had arrived, a few groups made it through the fence and onto the sprawling power plant site to climb towers and equipment. Someone locked down to a fire escape; another locked onto the coal

conveyor belt for four hours. Other affinity groups made it through the fence, only to be beaten, gassed, pepper sprayed and nicked (arrested).

Meanwhile, Bicycology was biking around, blasting tunes from pedal-powered speakers. The kids' bloc made it to the main intersection in the nearest town and was detained by police, with the prized ostrich puppet being arrested for suspicious behavior. Rebel clowns roamed the streets, passing information along and playing mysterious games with groups of police. There were two instances of angry farmers using tractors to try to run over protesters (they were not successful) but in general, locals were supportive and no complaints were filed.

The day of action succeeded in striking fear into the heart of Drax, with employees using secret, pre-arranged knocking codes before entering each others' offices. No trains were running in the days leading up to the action (the plant gets all of its coal by rail), and for six hours, no coal got into the

plant due to safety regulations. The action at Drax also put coal on the radar in the UK in a way that it hadn't been before. While Drax is the largest plant in the UK, it also has modern scrubbers and is the most efficient; consequently, the plant had previously enjoyed a fairly greenwashed image. The climate camp action helped debunk the logic that equates efficient coal burning with sustainability, and brought the focus back to carbon dioxide as the major cause of global climate change.



The kids' bloc starting off towards Drax on the main day of action.

As a con, the action might have been more successful if there had been more planning. The widely publicized call to shut down the plant attracted a massive amount of press, but also massive numbers of police and high expectations. Having the action on Thursday in the middle of the camp also may have cut down on numbers, and took energy away from the workshops happening on Friday and Saturday, when everyone was recovering.

The Future is Unwritten— Inaction is the Tragedy

All in all, the Climate Camp was a huge success. It drew a wide variety of people (or at least wider than the young, white, anarcho-punk inclined crowd that dominates EF! gatherings in the US), leading to a healthy debate on various issues, strategies and tactics.

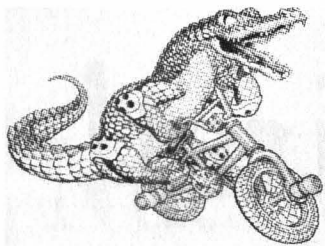
We came away from the camp feeling part of a truly global movement, as well as feeling the urgency of this overwhelming issue of climate

change. We all understand how the extraction and burning of fossil fuels has made possible the rapid growth of consumer capitalism (and all the genocide and ecocide that has come with it). Now, as colonialism spins on, there are new displacements of communities, new disruptions of bioregions and new assaults on indigenous sovereignty being undertaken in the name of stopping climate change. Genetically modified tree plantations, claiming to "offset carbon emissions," produce more perfect trees for the chip mills. Monoculture soy plantations, promising that we can use biofuels to keep all our machines running even in the age of ecological collapse, are displacing indigenous communities and wreaking havoc on local ecosystems.

There is a growing, multi-billion-dollar market in carbon offset schemes, helping people, businesses and governments appease their First World guilt while not for a moment interfering with the machinery that is destroying the Earth. If the regular people of the First World put their faith in these market-based "solutions" to climate change, it may well be too late by the time they realize what a scam they've bought into.

As EF!ers and other radicals, we must make it clear that the system that has created this shit is *not* going to fix it. The struggle for social justice, for sustainability, for equality, must be a struggle against capitalism. Those of us living in the US have more opportunities than anyone else in the world to hit the Earth-destroying machine where it's most vulnerable—from inside the belly of the beast. These opportunities abound; they're all around us everyday. The key is to not get overwhelmed by the enormity of it all; choose your battles and go forth. The time to act is now.

For more information about Rising Tide North America, visit www.risingtidenorthamerica.org.



Biking for Climate Justice

CYCLISTS REMEMBER HURRICANE KATRINA

artwork by the Beehive Collective

BY RISING TIDE NORTH AMERICA

On August 25, cyclists in 32 cities in the US and Canada marked the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. From Los Angeles to Toronto, an estimated 2,500 riders hit the streets to remind the public about the plight of Katrina survivors while fundraising for advocacy groups. The ride drew attention to the links between fossil fuels, car culture, climate change and destructive hurricanes.

In San Francisco, hundreds of riders staged a "follow the flood line" route, placing stickers around the city to mark the anticipated 15-foot increase in sea levels from the melting of the ice caps. Although the subject matter was serious, rides across the continent featured riders in Mardi Gras costumes, signs depicting crayfish and alligators on bikes, and zydeco and brass-band music.

"We aren't here to just remind people about the ongoing suffering in the Gulf Coast," said Anna Sloan, a Critical Mass rider in Chicago. "We are riding also to promote something positive: bikes as a sustainable alternative to oil."

Virtually all of the rides went off without problems or conflicts with police, although in Portland, Oregon, police dispersed the parade of cyclists into many small groups. In Asheville, North Carolina, more than 100 riders participated and brought traffic to a standstill as they rode onto US Interstate 26. "Some might say what we did today was drastic," said one cyclist, who was arrested at the end of the ride. "What could be more drastic than the potential deaths of tens of thousands of people and massive extinction due to fossil-fueled climate change? We need to be taking extreme actions every day in order to preserve our planet."

Juggling signs reading "More Cars = More Climate Change = More Hurricanes" and "No More Katrinas!" riders spoke with drivers and pedestrians about the intersection of race, class and environmental issues. Sporting "gas-free" bicycles, the riders highlighted the need to hold the oil industry accountable for the ongoing hardship in the Gulf Coast.

When Katrina hit, disregard for safety and an overgrown industry prompted a simultaneous oil and petrochemical spill of epic proportions. More than eight million gallons of crude oil poured into dozens of areas around southern Louisiana, including one million gallons in a residential neighborhood in St. Bernard Parish (see *EFJ* March-April 2006). Massive quantities of neurotoxins, corrosives and carcinogenic chemicals such as ammonia, formaldehyde and cyanide were spilled from petrochemical plants.

Some of those same plants have been exposing people to toxic waste for years, leading to the creation of the infamous "Cancer Alley" in southeastern Louisiana. The human population in the area—predominately people of color—suffers the highest cancer rates in the US from the petrochemical industry's terrible pollution of the land, air, and water.

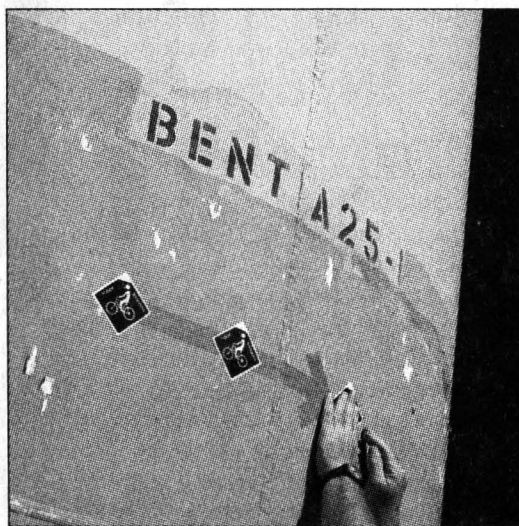
The August 25 ride was organized as a collaborative effort between the national climate

change action group Rising Tide North America and the Critical Mass cyclist movement. The demand of the ride was for "climate justice"—that society's poor and vulnerable should not disproportionately suffer the consequences of climate change.

Activists chose August 25, the anniversary of when Katrina reached hurricane strength, in order to draw attention to recent studies linking global warming to increased hurricane intensity. A recent study by the National Center of Atmospheric Research found that global warming accounted for half of the extra hurricane-fueling warmth in the waters of the tropical North Atlantic in 2005. Natural cycles were found to be only a minor factor.

The ride served as a reminder that the 2005 hurricane season made the effects of climate change real. We must take action now to address this problem or Katrina will be just the beginning.

For more information, write contact@risingtidenorthamerica.org; www.risingtidenorthamerica.org.



Stickers following the future floodline in San Francisco.

photo by Adam Aufdercamp

Katúah Earth First! regional roundup

Katúah Earth First! (KEF!) has been busy since y'all left our bioregion after the Round River Rendezvous. We've been keeping up the heat on King Coal, bike riding for climate justice, and raising hell over logging in our national forests.

Fighting King Coal

At the beginning of August, we headed down to the National Governors' Association meeting in Charleston, South Carolina, where governors from across the nation gathered to wine and dine. Well, we had a different plan for them: We would expose the southern Appalachian governors for their criminal complicity in the destruction of our mountains through mountaintop removal (MTR) coal mining.

For the first action, our friends at Coal River Mountain Watch did a little activist outsourcing and hired a plane to fly an enormous banner reading, "Joe Manchin, Stop Destroying My Mountains —God" over the governors' exclusive golf outing on a private island. Manchin is the governor of West Virginia, where MTR mining has already flattened more than 500 square miles of mountains.

Later that evening, as the governors came to Charleston's historic district for a night of refreshments and entertainment, KEF! and Mountain Justice Summer activists showed up to greet them with a large banner reading, "End the Destruction of Appalachia, Stop Mountaintop Removal."

The following day, folks got up bright and early to join in on the governors' 5K fun-run, sporting spiffy "Stop Mountaintop Removal" shirts. Well, it turned out to be more of a fun-run-with-the-cops for our team, but the message still got across.

In the afternoon, demonstrators rallied outside the governors' opening press conference at the Charleston County Courthouse. Activists shouted "Hey Joe, kids first" to remind Manchin of his responsibility to the health and safety of the students at Marsh Fork Elementary School in Sundial, West Virginia. The school building sits just 225 feet from a coal silo and 400 yards downhill from a 2.8-billion-gallon toxic coal sludge dam.

The weekend in Charleston was rounded off with a street theater performance, in which the Appalachian governors were "married" to King Coal. A banner listing the governors' names under the phrase "We Won't Stop Until You Do!" was deployed off a building adjacent to the conference.

About a month later, we were back at it in Kingsport, Tennessee, for the Eastern Coal Conference, to keep the

pressure on the people destroying our mountains. Turn-out for the protest wasn't so great, but an anonymous individual apparently decided to make up for the lack of numbers with covert disruption, pulling the fire alarm at the conference center. Needless to say, the conference was disrupted, but the tighter security prevented any further action.



photo courtesy Mountain Justice Media

A good old Earth First! style wedding.

Case Camp Timber Sale

KEF! is also currently fighting the Case Camp Timber Sale in the Pisgah National Forest just south of Asheville, North Carolina. The proposed project area covers 1,200 acres and sits adjacent to the Shining Rock wilderness area. The area is rich with waterfalls and diverse plant life, as well as countless trout streams that still run crystal clear.

If the Freddie's get their way, that will no longer be so. The Forest Service is proposing to log 275 acres, "treat" 797 acres with toxic herbicide and rebuild nine miles of road. They are using the asinine excuse of creating wildlife habitat and controlling invasive species, as if new logging roads and clearcuts aren't the perfect vectors for introducing non-Native plants.

We recently had a very well-attended Fall Equinox campout at the site of the timber sale to introduce folks to the forests that the US Forest Service seeks to destroy. There is significant opposition in the area to the sale and we are dedicated to fighting it to the end.

For more information, visit www.katuahearthfirst.org.

Nuclear Waste Plan

DUMPED

BY LISA Z

For nine years, Private Fuel Storage (PFS), composed of the eight largest electric utilities in the country, has tried to forward a plan to “temporarily” store 40,000 tons of high-level nuclear waste on the Skull Valley Goshute Reservation in Utah. PFS’s evil plans were thwarted on September 7, when the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issued a “No Action” decision on the proposal.

The agencies’ reasons for rejecting the lease were mostly for bureaucratic oversights—such as the regional BIA not having the authority to issue a conditional lease—and enforcement and security concerns. For example, law enforcement agencies either lacked jurisdiction in the area or were based too far away. The BLM was also concerned that the Environmental Impact Statement for the project didn’t explain the hazards of transporting the waste to Skull Valley and then again to Yucca Mountain, where it would be permanently stored.

While the glow of victory is fresh, protectors of the valley are still wary. Many of the official reasons for rejecting the project could potentially be addressed and a new proposal issued. Shundahai Network, a national anti-nuke organization that fights to keep nuclear waste off indigenous lands and one of the groups that organized against PFS, suspects that Skull Valley could be selected for nuclear fuel reprocessing—a process used to extract plutonium and uranium from spent nuclear reactor fuels—which is potentially worse than storage because high doses of radiation are released into the surrounding environment.

There are also worries that PFS could try to exploit divisions in the tribe.



The chief of the Goshutes, Leon Bear, has said that the US government’s rejection of the project is on par with breaches of past treaties. Apparently, Bear sees the loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars as worse than losing the health of his land and people.

While some tribal members saw the temporary waste storage as a lucrative way to make money, many others—like Margene Bullcreek, founder of the local anti-nuclear waste group Ohngo Gaudadeh Devia Awareness (OGDA)—understood the PFS project was a predator of indigenous rights, wellbeing and sovereignty. “We were told how safe [the PFS project] was and how it would bring prosperity to our lives,” said Bullcreek. “It would have been easy to lose oneself in the vulnerability of the band members who were groping for wealth as a way out of despair and reservation poverty. For those of us who respect our *Devia*, our homeland, wealth at the expense of our cultural traditions was never an option.”

Over the course of nine years, OGDA was supported by a national coalition of indigenous and environmental groups including the Shundahai Network, the Indigenous Environmental Network and the indigenous-led Environmental Justice Foundation in Utah. Members of OGDA and their

lawyer, Mark EchoHawk, frequently met with state and federal officials and joined in legal action with the State of Utah against the project.

Many mainstream media stories have heaped praise upon federal agencies, which finally agreed to points OGDA had been arguing for years. But “it is somewhat disappointing that it took the BIA so long to reach this decision,” said EchoHawk. “In December 2002, we asked the BIA to withdraw its conditional approval... based on many of the points the BIA now relies on in its decision. The BIA has been aware of the

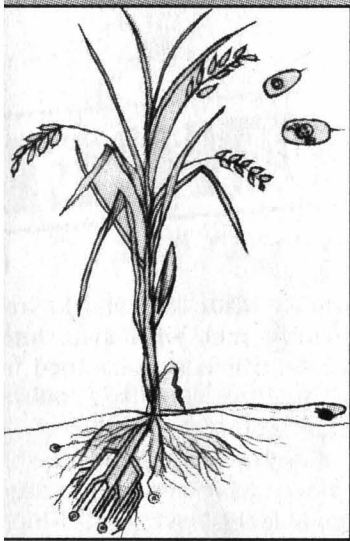
reasons that justify disapproval of the PFS lease for years now, but failed to act.”

Perhaps in the future, nuclear predators will not pursue projects in Skull Valley—but they will probably seek out locations on other indigenous lands, true to their environmentally racist ways.

“We were almost destroyed by this poisonous, high-level nuclear waste that no one wants or knows what to do with, other than to store on indigenous land. Corporate greed is causing the destruction of our indigenous lands to promote American life and feed America’s lust for power,” said Bullcreek. “It gives me a great sense of being an indigenous woman to speak against nuclear power. We not only spoke out, we stood up for our cultural and traditional values and the protection of animal life, air, water, people and Mother Earth.”

Bullcreek speaks for grassroots organizations who have worked to keep nuclear waste out of Skull Valley for the noble motives of sustainability and the protection of native heritage. They will continue their fight.

Lisa Z loves living in the West, riding bicycles and standing up for and with others. She believes nuclear waste storage sites should be set up in wealthy neighborhoods.



A Biotech Breeze

BY SOPHIA

Ahh, inhale that breeze—is it Autumn, or is it the sweet scent of drifting, genetically engineered pollen? Recently, it has come to light that various genetically modified organisms (GMOs) have been escaping their test sites and insinuating themselves in the wild and among “natural” crop fields, where they then get into the food supply. GMO seeds and pollen are being carried away by the wind, insects, birds and transportation vehicles from corporations’ insecure outdoor growing labs.

In early August, a variety of genetically engineered (GE) golf-course grass, still unapproved for use, was found growing in the wild in central Oregon. Monsanto and the Scotts Miracle-Gro Company had altered this creeping bentgrass variety to be resistant to Monsanto’s herbicide, Roundup (see *EFJ* July-August 2004). That this grass escaped a testing site and successfully established itself in the wild only proves that other resistant plants could spread as well, becoming what are known as “superweeds.”

After scientists working for the Environmental Protection Agency discovered the grass, a spokesman for Monsanto explained that the renegade grass couldn’t become a pesky weed, because herbicides other than Roundup could still be used to control it. A representative of Scotts further claimed that if the grass was used on golf courses, it would be kept short, so it wouldn’t be able to spread its seed into the wild. He said that the company was already working to eradicate other escaped, unapproved grasses that it had discovered outside test sites.

But enough about superweeds... what about illegal GMOs in the Food and Drug Administration-approved food we eat? Well, here in the US, there are few of the restrictions and labeling requirements that other countries have for GE food products. GE and non-GE ingredients are allowed to be mixed together at manufacturing plants, leaving us with at least some GE ingredients in a wide range of products. As a result, more than 70 percent of processed foods on the shelves of US grocery stores contain at least some GE ingredients. In the US, 61 percent of corn, 89 percent of soybeans, 80 percent of rapeseed (Canola) and 83 percent of cotton plants (used for cottonseed oil) are genetically modified. In addition, GE bacteria and fungi are regularly used to make many processed foods.

Thousands of miles away, in the European Union (EU), all GE food is illegal. In January, however, recent shipments of rice from the US were found to be contaminated with Bayer CropScience’s GE Liberty Link Rice 601 (LL601). This herbicide-resistant variety of rice has been approved for cultivation—but not human consumption—in the US and Canada. It is illegal everywhere else in the world.

LL601 somehow spread from field-test sites to other commercially grown, non-GMO rice crops. This probably happened around 2001, when Bayer was doing most of its tests on the rice, but it is unknown exactly how long LL601 has been in the food supply. In August, tests discovered the LL601 gene in rice products in grocery stores across Germany, France, Sweden, Switzerland and the Netherlands, and it is likely to be discovered elsewhere as well.

In the UK, people are outraged because the British Food Safety Agency told the public that the rice shouldn’t be commercially sold, while assuring major supermarket chains that they would not be required to withdraw contaminated rice products. In response to the uproar, a former GE advisor to the US Food and Drug Administration, Doug Gurian-Sherman, stated, “Risks should not be taken with public health for the convenience of companies or of government.” He went on to say, “I wouldn’t eat it myself.”

Japan immediately banned all US rice imports, and while there has been a push for the European Commission to approve a similar ban, it has decided instead to require testing and certification for all imports of US long-grain rice. However, Ebro Puleva, the world’s largest rice company, which controls 30 percent of all rice imports to the EU, said in September that it will not allow any more rice from the US into the EU—and it may sue Bayer as well.

This isn’t the first time that Bayer, the major agro-chemical corporation formerly known as Aventis, has been responsible for renegade GE crops. Aventis’ StarLink Corn, which is known to contain allergens and toxins, escaped from field-test sites several years ago, and was found in the general corn supply in 2000. Countries were outraged when corn imports from the US turned out to be contaminated with StarLink even after the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) claimed that they were clean. Doing cleanups after a GMO has escaped a supposedly contained site is extremely difficult, and it’s hard to know if the modified genes can even be completely eradicated. In

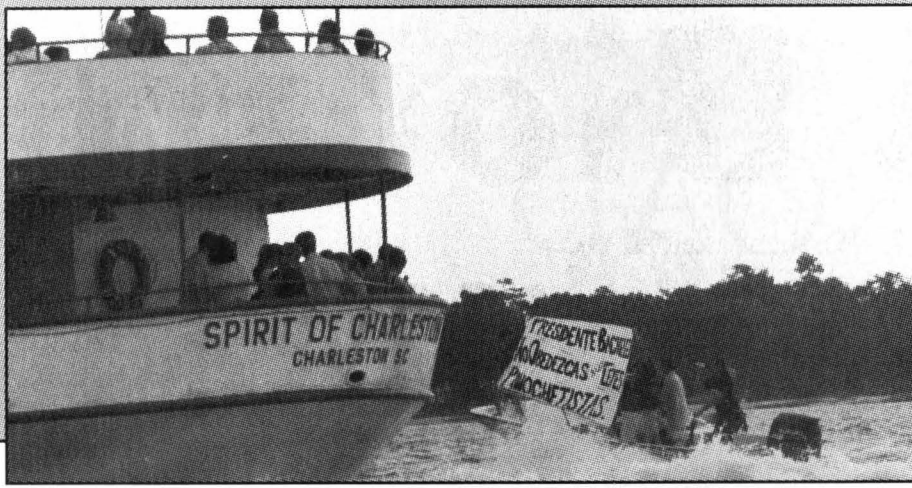


photo by Mountain Justice Media

Katiah EF! sent a clear message in October to a ship full of people attending a GE tree conference.

both the StarLink Corn and the Liberty Link Rice cases, leaks took several years to be discovered.

About a week after the LL601 gene was discovered in US natural rice exports, another form of GE rice, still in its testing phases, was found to be contaminating exports from China that were being sold all across Europe. The rice is known as Bt rice because it can internally produce its own *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) insecticide. It is known to contain allergens and toxins not found in natural rice, and has never been approved for human consumption. It is unknown whether this rice actually escaped from testing sites or was sold illegally to farmers.

Resistance to GMOs is growing as people become more aware of their dangerously irreversible implications. For example, the Davis Anti-Biotech Coalition called for a demonstration at the USDA and Monsanto buildings in Davis, California, last July. The protest was part of the 2006 mobilization against the G8 meetings and was held to oppose the so-called "Monsanto Bill," which would have taken away the right of local California communities to ban the testing and growing of GMOs in their jurisdiction. If the bill had passed, California would probably have followed up with more laws favoring GE corporations—but thanks to the resistance of farmers, activists, and the public, it was defeated in September.

Other US-based movements against GE include Topless Humans Organized for Natural Genetics (THONG), which stages topless protests and shows, the Stop GE Trees campaign, which helps set up roadshows against genetic modification of trees, and other local grassroots resistance like GE-Free Maine and GE-Free California.

Around the world, public outcry against GMOs has taken many forms. Vast numbers of farmers have put their voices together to protest the importation of GE technology in India, Asia, Latin America, and elsewhere. "Desperate" developing countries have turned down donations of GE food, as when Zambia refused GE food aid during a food crisis, and worked its own way out of the crisis GE-free (see *EF!* July-August 2004).

People have taken action at supermarkets and fast-food joints using picket lines or, more creatively, with activists dressed up in contamination gear handing out informational flyers to shoppers. Some have approached the problem even more directly, burning test fields of GMO crops or otherwise destroying biotech research organisms—which, as we can see, pose a problem not just once they are legalized but also well before.

There are billions of potential GMOs, but there are also billions of ways to fight them. One is at an upcoming convergence to counter the Biotechnology Industry Organization's (BIO) conference in Boston in May 2007. The BIO conferences, which migrate to a different city each year, have been faced with demonstrations at every turn. This year, the BIO is scheduled to discuss GMOs, bioweapons and bioengineered pharmaceuticals in the shadow of Boston's popular movement against a level-four bioweapons lab, and New England's history of struggle against the destructive properties of GMOs. They're not wanted, and we'll remind them!

For more information, contact reclaimthecommons@gmail.com; www.rtc.revolt.org.

BARE BONES

Opposition Dooms Sale of Forest Land

A Bush administration proposal to sell 300,000 acres of national forest to raise money for rural schools and roads was shelved in early October because of widespread opposition. In addition to environmental groups, many primarily Republican counties throughout the nation and even right-wing groups like the National Rifle Association vehemently opposed the legislation.

Also shelved was an administration proposal that would have required the US Bureau of Land Management, the federal government's largest landowner, to dramatically boost its land sales to raise \$350 million over the next decade.

Boeing to Install "Virtual Fence" on Arizona Border

Boeing, the world's largest aerospace company, won a \$67 million federal contract on September 21 to install a high-tech "virtual fence" along the Mexican border in Arizona. The contract calls for 1,800 high-tech towers complete with cameras and sensors to be placed on a 28-mile stretch of border near Tucson that cuts through the Tohono O'odham Nation.

Boeing and its partners, Lucent Technologies and DRS Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group, are scheduled to begin installation immediately after the contract is finalized. The towers, to be operated by Border Patrol agents, will be completed by next Spring.

Boeing and government officials said the project, the so-called Secure Border Initiative, was the first part of what could be a multibillion-dollar plan to reduce illegal entry along the borders with Canada and Mexico over the next six years.

ALASKA'S ROAD TO NOWHERE

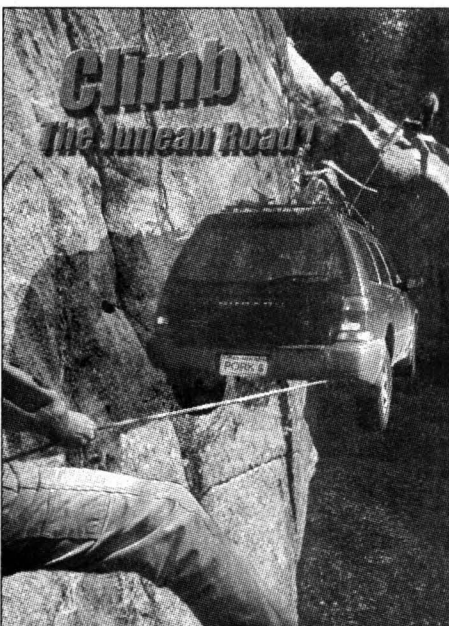
BY PIPPI THE RAT

All hail Ted Stevens, king of pork, the man who brings the bacon home to the state of Alaska. US Senator Stevens has managed to secure \$365 million of federal money, earmarked to bring a road to the deprived citizens of Juneau, who currently rely on one of the most stunning and dependable ferry systems on the planet for their transportation needs. We're talking about fucking with an award-winning public transportation system and replacing it with a dangerous, environmentally destructive conduit for private automobiles. All this in a time when the US's resources are stretched to the limit by our fanatical quest to import free-market capitalism to the few remaining countries that have not yet embraced our economic colonialism. Is America great or what?

At first, the Juneau road plan just seemed stupendously dangerous and environmentally devastating. The proposed thoroughfare would follow the east side of the Lynn Canal—the nation's longest, deepest fjord—across approximately 40 avalanche chutes. Any third grader can tell you the effects of punching a road through untrammelled wilderness, carving a shelf for cars along dramatic rock faces under which Stellar sea lions, humpback whales and five different species of salmon frolic. In a word: catastrophic.

Now that all the details are in, the plan reads like a twisted joke. Here's the punch line: after crossing all those avalanche chutes, traversing sheer cliffs and destroying the mouth of a pristine, wild and scenic river, the road will arrive at... a new ferry terminal. Where citizens of Juneau will once again have to arrange their lives around a boat schedule—the very pre-

dicament this road was supposed to ameliorate in the first place. Stevens' plan involves laying 70 miles of new road and also building a new ferry terminal—maybe two—plus a new ferry to shuttle people three miles across the canal to the fishing village of Haines (where residents are vehemently opposed to this whole road business anyway).



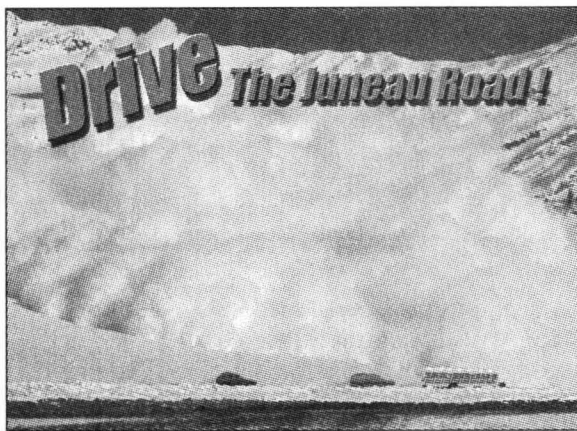
A dangerous, expensive plan, plus an ugly road, and add to that angry residents: what gives? Sure, Stevens has road-building, ferry-constructing friends who stand to rake in fistfuls of cash, but the plot is thicker and more diabolical than naked profit. Take a spin through the Juneau International Airport and rest your eyes on a glass-encased display called "Mineral Resources of Southeast Alaska." The largest band of known mineral deposits is north of Juneau at the Kensington mine, just out of reach of the current road system. There are also

significant deposits on the east side of the Lynn Canal, exactly at the terminus of the proposed road.

In other words, Stevens and his cronies want to federally subsidize mining roads. Cynical optimists forecast the project will mysteriously run out of money once it reaches Kensington. Beyond Kensington, who can calculate exactly what wealth is imprisoned in the rocks beneath the east side of the Lynn Canal, tantalizingly out of reach unless a road is completed?

Southeast Alaska—a thin curve of rain soaked islands, massive ice fields and mountain-lined fjords bristling with western hemlock and Sitka spruce—is a road-builders' nightmare. Craggy mountains, many of which have never felt hiking boots on their flanks, rise to 6,500 feet. Glaciers calve into the still waters and extend for miles inland. Frequent avalanches, heavy Winter snows and months of dreary, icy rain close existing roads for extended periods every year.

Of the 15 major communities in the entire 600-mile stretch, only three—Hyder, Haines and Skagway—have road access to the rest of the world. To give you a sense of the utility of the road system in this part of the world: Haines is only 15 miles south of Skagway; by ferry, the journey takes just under an hour. By car, the journey is 365 miles and takes you around an enormous field of ice and through northern British Columbia and the sub-arctic desert of the Yukon Territories before curving back around to the coastal tourist playground of Skagway. This winding, beautiful trip is referred to as the Golden Circle and makes for an excellent weekend drive, but is not a practical way of getting from one place to another.



The harsh topography of the region means that most of its 70,000 residents rely on the state's ferry service for their transportation needs. But it's not just residents; each year, thousands of people travel from all over the world to ride the Alaska Marine Highway System, one of the last viable and convenient public transport systems in our country. It's kind of like a public cruise ship, minus the rich people and shuffleboard. The scar of a 70-mile ribbon of asphalt would seriously mar this designated scenic byway.

The road would only affect the roughly 33,000 residents of Juneau, Haines and Skagway, the three towns along the Lynn Canal. Slightly more than half the residents of Juneau are in favor of the road, but many don't know that the road won't reach all the way to Skagway. The residents of Haines and Skagway overwhelmingly oppose the ridiculous project. Folks from Skagway are particularly incensed, as they were originally promised a road that would allow them to drive to the state's capital. The current plan would mean that instead of getting on a ferry and arriving in Juneau five hours later, they would have to get on a ferry, unload, transfer to another ferry and then drive a dangerous mountain road to get to the state capital.

Road builders, former miners and environmentalists all predict the road will cost at least three times the \$365 million Stevens has managed to secure. Which of our current meager social services will be cut in order to fund this preposterous plan?

If the road does get built, the state of Alaska will be left with the task of maintaining the 70 miles of asphalt. Roads out of Haines and Skagway are regularly closed during late Winter

and early Spring, and desperate attempts to lure bidders to the thankless task of plowing existing streets in southeast Alaska towns attest to the difficulty of maintaining the current road system. Despite a glut of oil money, roads in southeast Alaska are notoriously poorly maintained. This one will be no different.

Locals have held a plethora of community meetings to counteract the government-sponsored road propaganda. This Summer saw the establishment of a short-lived base camp at the location of the proposed new ferry terminal. Three stalwart lunatics braved 27-foot tides to hang a banner reading "No Road! Keep it Wild!" Survey stakes, flags and markers have been meticulously removed and disposed of.

But knowledge of the plan—let alone organized resistance—has been severely lacking south of the 49th parallel. Mainstream environmental groups, like the Lynn Canal and Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC) are fighting the plan locally and could use your assistance. But surely a reader like you can do better than that.

The rainy, icy Autumn and Winter months severely limit road construction, as well as radical resistance. But this is a perfect time for strategizing and planning Spring and Summer actions to halt further progress on the silly scheme. Next Summer, hard-core residents will be mounting ever more serious campaigns to shut down further construction. Will you join them?

For more information, contact SEACC, 419 6th St., #200, Juneau, AK 99801; emily@aktransportation.org; www.juneauroad.com.

Pippi the Rat lived for two Winters in Southeast Alaska, where this long-time vegan learned to love salmon and moose meat.

BARE BONES

"You Win"—UCLA Vivisector Quits

On August 6, the North American Animal Liberation Press Office received an email with the subject heading, "You win" from Dario Ringach, stating that he will no longer experiment on non-human primates.

According to UCLAPrimate-Freedom.com, a website featuring the vivisector's work, Ringach "has been approved to kill 30 macaque monkeys for vision experiments. Each monkey is first paralyzed, then has coils glued to its eyes during a single session that lasts up to 120 hours, and is finally killed."

Ringach's home had been the subject of numerous demonstrations, his neighbors had been provided with leaflets detailing his unscientific and unnecessary violence and his name had been listed on numerous websites to expose his atrocities.

Wolves Return to Germany as People Leave

A century after they were wiped out, wolves have returned to eastern Germany as factories close down, businesses fail and people move out. The wolves have arrived following ancient migration routes from Poland and other neighboring countries, and currently live in a largely vacant area of abandoned strip mines and vacated troop-training grounds southeast of Berlin.

Matthias Freude, head of the Brandenburg state environmental office, estimates there are now about 20 wolves in two packs in Germany. People are excited that the shy creatures that have inspired so much folklore are returning. It is illegal to hunt the wolves, and many predict their population will continue to grow.

Wolves have also been returning to other European countries, including Italy, Austria and France.

Dear Ned Ludd

"Dear Ned Ludd" has been an irregular column in the Journal since the early '80s, and a compilation of entries became the notorious book Ecodefense. It serves as a forum for the discussion of creative and diverse means to effectively defend the Earth. Neither the EF! movement nor the Journal, nor any of our friends, family, neighbors, lovers or pets necessarily encourage anyone to do the things discussed on this page, and the contents should not be legally construed as anything other than mindless entertainment. Please write to Ned via the Journal with your top tips on ecodefense.

Dear Ned Ludd,

Have you ever wondered how trains make those stop arms come down when they are passing through an intersection, so that cars don't run into the train? Well, it's quite simple: There is an electric current running through the train tracks, and when

the train approaches a road crossing, the wheels complete the circuit between the two rails, allowing electricity to flow to the mechanism that lowers the arms.

Now the real question is: Have you ever wondered how you could make those arms lower on your own, thus blockading a road? If you've given up on using the Force or pulling them down with a lasso, I suggest this easy trick. Walk down the tracks a few hundred feet from the road crossing that you want to block. Get yourself some good electrical wire, such as an old extension cord or the shit you use for wiring a building—just as long as it's thicker than, say, speaker wire. Strip a few inches off the plastic housing on both ends so that you have bare wire. Touch one side to the left track and the other side to the right (or vice versa), and you should very quickly hear the sweet song of the railroad

crossing alarm and see lights flashing as the arms swing down to block the road.

Now ideally, you want these to stay in place for as long as possible while you make your run to safety and maybe see your shenanigans on the evening news. To do this, simply bury the wire under the gravel and use some duct tape to attach the bare ends to the *underside* of the tracks, thus concealing your wire from any casual inspection. The beauty of this method is that your average pig is not going to know the first thing about railroad equipment. So even if the cops respond immediately, it still may take a few hours for them to get a railroad worker out there to figure out what's wrong.

Troubleshooting: If you put the wire in place and the arms don't drop, that might mean a few things. You might need to move closer to the

Frontlines

Yes Men Strike Again

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), ExxonMobil and Shell were forced to bluntly state their soulless intentions regarding New Orleans when taking back claims that the Yes Men made to more than 1,000 developers at The Gulf Coast Reconstruction and Hurricane Preparedness Summit on August 28.

Posing as Renee Oswin, assistant to HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson, Yes Man Andy Bichlbaum told attendees that HUD would reopen all public housing in New Orleans. HUD quickly announced that it "will not refrain from demolishing 5,000 units of undamaged public housing simply because they are undamaged."

Bichlbaum also claimed that ExxonMobil would donate \$8.6 billion to restore coastal wetlands. It was no surprise when the company said it would not use any of its \$60 billion in annual profits to restore natural barriers protecting New Orleans, which the oil industry has destroyed.

Mine Site Turned Neighborhood

After opposing the reopening of a nickel mine for more than a year, 2,000 indigenous Mayan people moved onto land bought by the Canadian firm, Skye Resources Inc. and began building homes on September 16 near Lake Izabal, Guatemala. The Mayan families are refusing to negotiate and are demanding the company cede land for subsistence farming.

Rabbits Freed in Honor of SHAC Prisoners

On September 19, an unnamed group of activists liberated 23 laboratory rabbits in Hardwick, Massachusetts, in honor of six animal rights activists who were recently sentenced to prison for operating a website opposed to the animal testing laboratory Huntington Life Sciences (see page 22 and *EF!J* May-June 2006).

The rabbits were being bled to death and fed to coyotes after scientists were done experimenting on them.

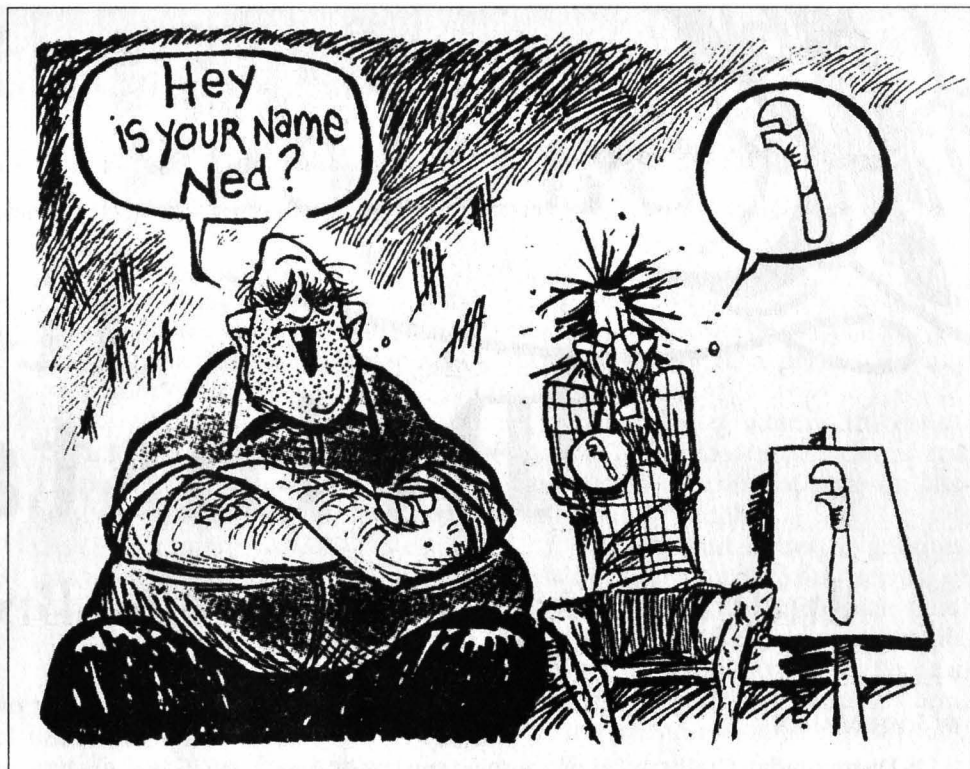
intersection; it seems that different tracks have varying distances within which the stop arms can be triggered. You might be using wire with a gauge that is too small to carry the current, so try thicker wire. If there are multiple tracks crossing the road, you might be on the wrong side of the intersection—you need to be on the side from which the train will approach the road.

If at all possible, you should try out the railroad crossing the night before and note how far away you can be from the road while still completing the circuit.

Yours truly,
Rode Bloque

Dear Rode Bloque,

Thanks for the advice! Whenever you attempt this remember to wear rubber-soled shoes and rubber insulating gloves for protection—and under no circumstances touch the bare wire or metal track while they are connected to each other! It might be best to do this in pairs so that one person can keep a lookout for trains, especially since the barricades can't warn you. And it's always



good to keep a lookout for cops, too. Also, remember to watch your step—I wouldn't want you to get caught in the tracks!

Attempt this only on freight lines. Subway and commuter lines often

run on electricity and receive power from a third rail. Touching this will not only kill you, it won't accomplish anything anyway.

Have fun!
—Ned Ludd

Greenpeace Locks Down, Dumps Coal

Greenpeace delivered a message to Thailand in September with two actions confronting the destructive coal industry:

First, activists locked down to a dock and a crane at the port of a BSCP coal plant to prevent coal from being unloaded. The next day, activists dumped coal on the Ministry of Energy's doorstep and unfurled a banner to rename the department, the "Ministry of Climate Change."

Rather than focusing on renewable energy, the Thai government has been expanding the use of coal, the dirtiest of fossil fuels. The BSCP plant was set to open in October and, according to Greenpeace, will raise Thailand's annual carbon emissions by six percent.

Mink Returned to the Wild

The Animal Liberation Front released 30,000 mink from their cages at the Pioneer fur farm in northwestern Russia on September 2.

Many of the mink were considered rare because of the unique color of their coats, the result of a three-year selection and breeding process. The farm estimates a loss of more than \$370,000 for the unique animals.

New Zealand Tribe Blocks Logging

The indigenous Tuhoe tribe has set up a road blockade to keep loggers out of New Zealand's Matahi Forest where the Florida-based Rayonier company has bought 233,000 acres of land. The Tuhoe say they have the sole right to the land and that the \$435-million purchase by Rayonier was illegal.

Local police have said they will not disturb the blockade.

Logging Company Racks Up Half-Million in Repair Bills

In Siskiyou County, California, Earth Liberation Front saboteurs caused \$500,000 in damage to logging machinery owned by Hilltop Logging Inc., forcing operations to temporarily shut down. Ten machines were ruined by dirt and debris poured into gas tanks, cut hoses and belts and ripped-out computer components.

According to police, the people responsible for the damage had master keys to the equipment and knew how to disable the machines. Investigators believe the saboteurs must have been watching the logging operation for some time.

Roadless Rule Reinstated

Judge Says Forest Service Broke the Law

BY JOSH MAHAN

US District Judge Elizabeth Laporte upheld the law on September 20. After reviewing a lawsuit filed by 20 environmental groups and four western states, she fully reinstated the popular and critical 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule.

Laporte ruled that proper environmental analysis was missing on roadless areas managed under the Bush administration's state petition process, and that Bush's rule would have led to environmental harm.

The US Forest Service (USFS) has yet to comment on exactly how the ruling will affect the 58 million acres in question, which make up two percent of the US land base and 31 percent of national forest lands.

The ruling came on the same day that Idaho Governor Jim Risch was expected to release a petition under the Bush rule that, if accepted, would open the majority of Idaho's pristine roadless areas to logging, mining and drilling. Risch would have been the first governor in the country to press for less protection of roadless areas. In contrast, both North and South Carolina's governors have petitioned for full roadless protection, because it draws people to those states for their exceptional quality of life. It turns out that large, undisturbed tracts of trees and clean water do make good economic sense.

The Roadless Rule was finalized in January 2001 after years of scientific study, 600 local hearings and meetings, and a record number of public comments—1.5 million of them in favor of the rule. It protects millions of acres of national forest nationwide, while allowing temporary road construction in order to fight wildfires, protect public safety and promote forest health. The rule ensures that roadless forests will provide habitat for fish and wildlife, clean drinking water for millions of Americans and endless opportunities for recreation.

In May 2005, the Bush administration repealed the 2001 rule in its entirety and substituted it with a state petition process that eliminated federal protections from millions of acres of national forests. This latest ruling still leaves 9.3 million acres of Alaska's Tongass National Forest—more than half—at risk for road building.

US Department of Agriculture Undersecretary Mark Rey and George Bush have attacked the Roadless Rule with such zeal and spite that it leaves one to question their patriotism. These wildlands are our home. This is where we fish. This is where we hunt. This is where we hike. This is where we live, how our grandmothers lived, and why our kids deserve a chance to live. When Bush brings a bulldozer into the Biscuit Roadless Area in Oregon, he brings that bulldozer into my living room. And that's not cool! In fact, it makes me pretty pissed off.

The days are numbered for Bush's reign of terror on US environmental laws and wildlands. When the time comes, and he faces trial for the atrocities he's committed during his presidency, add the illegal destruction of the remaining roadless land to the list.

Josh Mahan is an editor at www.lowbagger.org, where this piece originally appeared.



A Trip to the Taxidermist

Arizona's New Anti-Hunt-Sab Bill

BY SANDIE H. KRANE

Earth First! has been documenting absurd hunting practices for years, and has used the documentation to raise awareness of widespread contempt for hunting regulations and the inherent cruelty of trophy hunting in general.

Here in Arizona, Arizona EF! has been working to expose the truth behind the sandhill crane, bighorn sheep, mountain lion and prairie dog hunts (see *EF!* January-February 2006). However, the Arizona Legislature recently passed House Bill 2130 (HB2130) a new, beefed-up law protecting hunting "rights." The bill makes it a Class Two misdemeanor harassment charge to so much as quietly videotape a hunt, even if the hunter is unaware of the filming. In addition to this attempt to prevent dissemination of information, the hunters seem to be getting an unusual handicap: anyone, including hikers, campers, rock climbers or even bird-watchers, can be considered trespassers if they are in the hunt area and their presence could disturb the animals.

Nonviolent tactics that are sometimes used as a direct action to stop the hunts have also been targeted. Under the new bill, those who put

themselves in the hunter's line of fire, make a loud noise near a hunter or "harass" the wildlife can receive misdemeanor charges.

HB2130 comes in response to years of successful Arizona EF! hunt-sab campaigns and the growing popularity of challenging the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD), the main force pushing for this bill. With it, the AZGFD will be able to handpick, using its biased law-enforcement staff, who will be considered a trespasser and who will not. AZGFD law enforcement can arrest and detain anyone in the hunting area on suspicion alone.

The purpose of HB2130, which went into effect on September 21, is obviously to shield the hunting of these wild animals from any criticism. You can judge the bill for yourself. Here's a rundown of the main points.

1. Expands the list of actions that constitute a Class Two misdemeanor for intentional interference, prevention or disruption of a legal hunt to include:

a) harassing, driving away or disturbing any wildlife.

b) blocking, obstructing, impeding or attempting to block a person lawfully taking wildlife.

c) attempting or making physical contact with a person lawfully taking wildlife.

d) the act or attempt of theft, vandalism or destruction of real or personal property of a person lawfully taking wildlife.

e) disturbing or altering the condition or authorized placement of real or personal property of a person lawfully taking wildlife.

f) making loud noises or gestures, setting out animal baits, scents or lures, using or making visual, aural or similar activity in order to disturb, alarm, drive away, attract or affect the behavior of wildlife or disturb, alarm, disrupt or annoy a person lawfully taking wildlife.

g) interjecting oneself into the line of fire of a person engaged in a lawful hunt.

h) erecting a barrier with intent to deny passage in or out of areas where wildlife may be taken.

2. Includes public or private lands or waters as areas in which it is a Class Three misdemeanor for a person to enter or remain with intent to interfere with, prevent or disrupt a legal hunt.

But hunt saboteurs will not be intimidated. They are crafty, creative folk who will always find ways to save the animals. Game on!

Sandie loves Arizona sunsets and munching on roots, grains, insects and even snakes. She doesn't like the echo of gunshots or the droning of lawmakers.

Hunter Guilty of Monitor Attack

Christopher Marles, 44, was recently found guilty of attacking Kevin Hill, 56, a hunt monitor with the International Fund for Animal Welfare. In October 2005, Hill was filming a Devon and Somerset Staghounds hunt at Exmoor in southern England to ensure compliance with a February 2005 law against hunting with hounds.

As Marles tried to take Hill's camera, Hill crouched to protect it. Marles then repeatedly punched Hill, who suffered a bleeding face as well as a black eye. The jury saw 17 minutes of video footage, which showed Marles confronting Hill and then someone trying to take the camera from him, although at this stage the lens was pointing to the road and did not show the attacker. "I was very frightened," said Hill.

Tom Yandle, chairman of the Devon and Somerset Staghounds, said after the case that the hunt did not condone any violence against hunt monitors. He claimed, "It is unbelievable that anyone could behave like that. We get a fair amount of provocation from some campaigners, but our people have got quite used to it and laugh it off." He added that Marles was not a member of the hunt and no one knew him.

After the case, Hill, who has been attacked before, said, "They believe they can do what they do to animals and try to chase us away. We will not go away, we will not be driven away. We will always be there for the hunted animal."

Armed With Visions

Keep It Wild

What are we thinkin
Where are we bound
Dreamin and schemin
As the Earth spins round
Makin big plans
For the last wild lands
Why can't we just leave 'em
Alone

Where the antelope roams
And the grizzly prowls
Otter swims
And the grey wolf howls
Wild places
Are what they need
Why can't we just leave 'em
Alone

Keep it wild
Keep it roadless
Keep it green
Keep it free
Leave the land intact
The way it's supposed to be

Your ATV
Is buggin me
It's smelly and it's loud
Ride it in
Your own back yard
And invite your
Fat-ass crowd

Hey friend get real
Get off your snowmobile
Strap on a pair of skis
Open your eyes
Get some exercise
Avoid getting heart disease

Keep it wild
Keep it roadless
Keep it green
Keep it free
Leave the land intact
The way it's supposed to be

Why do we need
These roads everywhere
What ever happened to walkin
We hear promises of
Land restoration
But so far it's nothin
But talkin

Fire up your bulldozer
Send it over the cliff
Let it return to the Earth
It's tearing up places
We cannot replace
And we don't even know what they're worth

Keep it wild
Keep it roadless
Keep it green
Keep it free
Leave the land intact
The way it's supposed to be

Are we human beings
Or fossil fools
Looks like it's time to choose
We may not have
A whole lot to gain
But we sure got a lot to lose

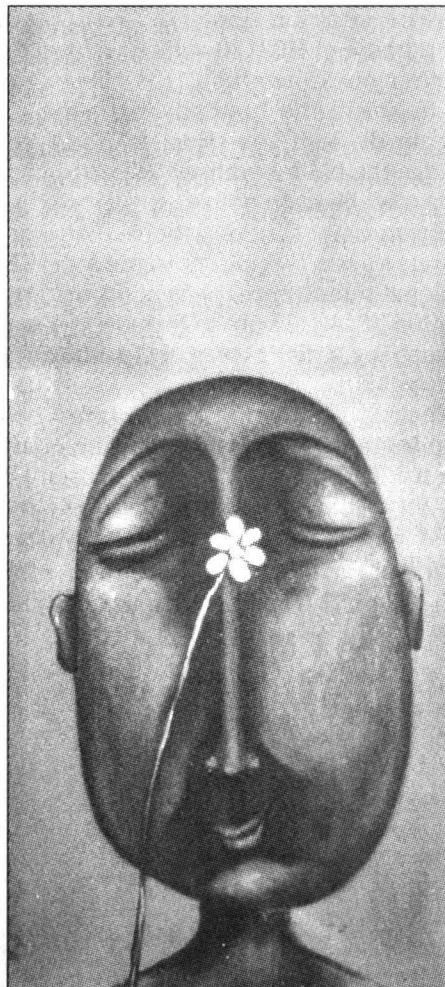
They're not making any more
Wilderness
As far as I can tell
That makes it more valuable
Every second
Though it's nothing that we
should sell

Keep it wild
Keep it roadless
Keep it green
Keep it free
Leave the land intact
The way it's supposed to be

That land out there
Ain't just land
It's the Earth we are talking
about
If you like it to look
The way it always has
Stand up and give us a shout

The last wild lands
Are truly the last...
Why can't we just leave them
Alone?

—Phil Knight



artwork by Gayatri Gannuz, www.gayatriart.com

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Send poems to: **Warrior Poets Society** **POB 14501** **Berkeley, CA 94712-5501**

Clear as cut glass & just as dangerous

Wild Medicine

You don't need a shaman
to tell you, everything
you'll ever need is in the trees.

sore throat—honeysuckle, marshmallow, slippery elm

You know by walking, over and under,
shadow on one side, dapple, the other, an occasional
flood of sunlight.

cut—Solomon's seal, comfrey, chamomile

It's as easy to poison our bodies
as to nourish them.
But that has always been true.

diarrhea—thimbleweed, windflower, wild mint

Something fills the faint impressions my feet
leave with a lighter step, takes them,
orders them, pulls them into line.

headache—feverfew, prickly poppy, primrose

I need wild medicine, the wind calling,
Come here, come away, come here, come away. Wherever I am
accompanied by leaves, there is

earache—garlic, purslane, plantain

clear music overhead, turning
and whispering beneath, the light
percussion of every footfall.

sedative—Indian pipe, lady slipper, passionflower

Sun guide, wind guide, who knows
who leads and who follows behind,
picking up the broken sticks of our ignorance.

—Susan Edwards Richmond

Wild Encounter

Walking at high tide by the mouth
where Elk Creek empties
into the Pacific Ocean
I see something round
& furry brown go plunk
disappearing into the water
or did I?

I'm no longer sure
But no there it is popping up a ways down
only this time it has an otter's face
Then we watch it speed
along where the creek's
bank is at low tide
It raises a cloud of mud behind
like smoke trailing a rocket

Then on the shore we missed it
standing so still
a great blue heron is
also on the hunt
What a contrast of styles
The otter zipping around in bursts of speed
& the heron standing so still
it could pass
as a dead branch
The otter catches something from behind
& lifts its head
flashing sharp teeth
eating so quickly
we can't make it out

Then the otter celebrates
zig zagging in the water
head popping up all over
It pops up in front of the heron
which doesn't move
"If you could swim like I do
you wouldn't have to
stand so still for so long"
"I like standing still
it relaxes me
& keeps me ready"

—Steve Toth



22 Years for Free-Speech Advocates

Six Animal Rights Activists Given Lengthy Prison Sentences for Running Website

BY BUDGERIGAR

Some have called it a travesty of justice. Others have remarked that it reflects a colder, gloomier, post-9/11 US. But standing in New Jersey's Trenton Federal Courthouse on September 12, with more than 200 supporters beside me and the six defendants in front of me, the message could not be more clear: run an effective activist campaign, and you will be vilified, criminalized and imprisoned.

The sentences handed down to six animal rights activists—Jake Conroy, four years; Darius Fulmer, one year; Lauren Gazzola, four years and four months; Josh Harper, three years; Kevin Kjonaas, six years; and Andy Stepanian, three years—mirrored the absurdity of the entire criminal proceeding. Three of the defendants—Kevin, Lauren, and Jake—were charged with conspiracy to commit interstate stalking and with three counts each of interstate stalking. The charges came from the defendants allegedly organizing demonstrations in residential areas and maintaining a website (hence the “interstate” part) that published the names and addresses of those involved in the vivisection industry.

Each of the defendants was convicted of violating a law enacted in 1992, strengthened in 2002 and not used until now—the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act. This controversial and open-ended piece of legislation criminalizes any individual who exposes acts of cruelty, causes more than \$10,000 in lost revenue due to protesting or otherwise disrupts the regular business of an “animal enterprise.” Aside from the draconian nature of the law, it also has chilling implications for freedom of speech. Hypothetically, it could be used to

imprison a protester who prevents the sale of a single \$10,000 fur coat.

Furthermore, the legislation states that anyone who “causes the loss of any property (including animals or records) used by the animal enterprise, and thereby causes economic damage exceeding \$10,000 to that enterprise, or conspires to do so” has committed an “animal enterprise terrorism offense.”



The SHAC 7 need your support.

The inversion and perversion of logic that allows one to label the liberation of animals an act of “terrorism” is so apparent that it does not warrant discussion. However, the clause “or conspires to do so” leads to the question of what is a conspiracy? In an intentionally vague view of the law, a conspiracy is defined as “a combination for an unlawful purpose.” Orwell could not have phrased it better. The supreme irony of this case rests in the fact that these activists were convicted of *conspiracy* to damage the profits of an animal enterprise, but not of actually damaging it. Even so, the ever-so-honorable judge ordered the defendants to pay a total of \$1,000,001 in restitution fees.

In this case, the animal enterprise was Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS),

an animal testing company with locations in New Jersey and England that kills 500 animals each day. In a series of six different undercover investigations, HLS has been caught punching beagle puppies in the face, cutting up primates without anesthetics, leaving test subjects to wallow in pools of their own blood and feces, and numerous other abuses that violate even the most basic protections afforded to the animals under the Animal Welfare Act.

This compromises not only animal life, but the data that is supposed to save human life as well. It should come as no surprise that the companies who hire HLS, such as Eli Lilly, Novartis, and GlaxoSmithKline, produce drugs that have been linked to suicide, heart failure, asthma attacks and death. HLS effectively sells results to the highest bidder, with no regard for life, human or non-human. They are dealing with faulty science, and they know it—80 percent of drugs tested on animals fail the first time

that humans are exposed to them.

Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC) was formed in 2001 with one simple goal in mind: to shut down HLS. SHAC's strategy has been simple yet effective: target those who do business with the company and its investors, shareholders, suppliers, customers and market makers. Convince them that it's a bad idea to do business with HLS. Provide activists with resources that allow them to empower themselves and to organize locally against HLS. Provide an electronic forum for information about the lab, its history and the campaign against it. With these goals in mind, SHAC has conducted a broad-based grassroots campaign in opposition to the lab.

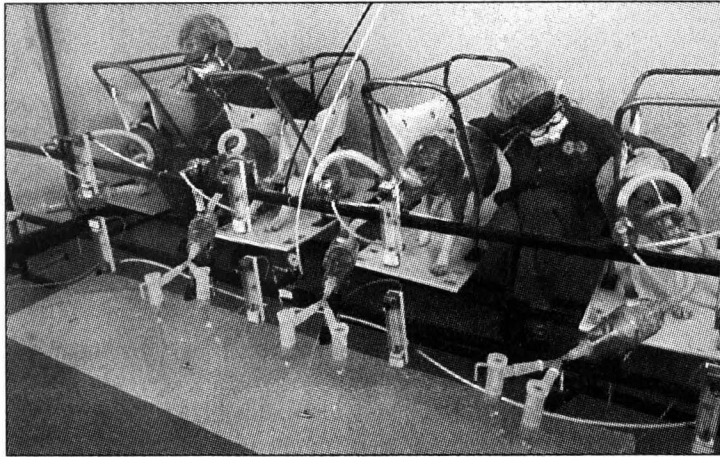


photo courtesy: Win Animal Rights

Testing on beagles at HLS laboratories.

And it has worked like a charm. HLS has been de-listed from the London Stock Exchange, the New York Stock Exchange and even the Over The Counter Bulletin Board—mockingly called the “penny stocks.” In 2004 alone, more than 100 suppliers to the laboratory canceled their contracts. These included imperative services such as gas, security, animal waste disposal and courier services. Is it any wonder HLS would want to get rid of these pesky activists? With results like these, it was only a matter of time before HLS called in its government cronies.

One would be hard-pressed to find another case quite like this one. From the very beginning, the cards were stacked in favor of the prosecution. During jury selection, potential jurors were asked about their jobs and if they had ever attended a protest to weed out jurors who might in any way be sympathetic to the struggle against animal abuse. Judge Thompson also limited the defendants’ preemptory challenges during jury selection to seven and failed to dismiss jurors who worked for companies that had been the subject of the campaign to close HLS. The federal government also had the advantage of endless people power to work on the case, as well as months of wiretaps, emails, and Internet postings, which could easily be misconstrued.

The defense was impaired from the beginning because the judge ruled that the defendants could not introduce their own computer expert (but the government could introduce its computer expert) and that there could be no anti-vivisection expert (but that government witnesses could carry on

about the benefits of animal research). Judge Thompson routinely dismissed the defendants’ motions, while approving every flimsy piece of evidence presented by the prosecution.

Every action against HLS was pounded as proof of the defendants’ guilt, even when the defendants themselves were not involved at all. HLS director Brian Cass even testified about the campaign in England! The SHAC website was repeatedly cited as evidence against the defendants because it publicized information about HLS and its affiliates. After three days of deliberation, the jury came back with guilty verdicts on all counts.

The defendants will soon begin long prison sentences, but the fight is not over. Their lawyers have filed a motion to appeal. The appeal process is a lengthy operation that will likely cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, which means that Jake, Darius, Lauren, Josh, Kevin and Andy need assistance from the community to pay for their legal fees. Additionally, they will need your letters of support.

On October 3, Andy was the first defendant to turn himself in to the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn. He will remain there for up to 120 days awaiting a long term prison assignment. You can write to him at Andrew Lloyd Stepanian #26399-050, MDC Brooklyn, Metropolitan Detention Center, POB 329002, Brooklyn, NY 11232, USA. His support group asks that you stick to simple cards and letters without stickers, gel-pens, or a lot of decoration.

For more information about the case, and to find out how you can help, visit www.shac7.com.

POM Targets Activists

Actions taken against individuals protesting a juice company in Southern California illustrate the repressive environment for animal rights activists in the wake of the SHAC 7 case.

Activists have been targeting POM Wonderful, the world’s largest distributor of pomegranate juice, because the company has funded experiments on mice and rabbits. Tests include lowering the brain oxygen levels in newborn mice to cause them brain injuries and forcing their mothers to drink water mixed with pomegranate concentrate. POM President Matthew Tupper said his company has been involved with “a limited amount of animal testing” to prove its assertions that the fruit juice is an elixir of health.

But in a reverse of “justice,” the company filed a lawsuit in late September in Los Angeles County Superior Court, claiming that their employees have been harassed by protesters at their homes and offices. POM is asking a judge to fine activists \$1,000 if they post personal information about their employees on websites. Company officials also want a judge to order activists not to picket or demonstrate outside the homes of employees.

This clear breach of activists’ right to free speech only makes sense following the SHAC case. The environment for animal rights activism has now changed; posting information about individuals involved with animal enterprises may be punishable under federal law. Furthermore, in its court papers, POM has claimed that the activists are affiliated with the Animal Liberation Front, a “domestic terror threat.” POM may be only the first of many animal testing companies to file for injunctions against animal rights activists.

the politica

BY GREAT GREY OWL

As part of the Earth First! movement since 1984, I know some of the Green Scare defendants from long ago—my familiarity runs from those who are still refusing to cooperate with the feds to those who started ratting on their friends almost immediately, and includes one who now has made a plea agreement within jail after months of confinement. This has been a hard time for me.

I try to limit my moral judgments about defendants until I know what has been done. It breaks my heart, having known some of those defendants and witnesses who have evidently betrayed their friends. It becomes a moral dilemma whether to continue writing to those I once knew. Why do I say “knew” and not “know”? As a movement friend who also “knew” one of them told me, “She’s dead to us; the credits are rolling—I like to remember her as she was when she was one of us—when she was brave and fiery and dedicated....”

I guess this is the only way to honor the activists that these people used to be and come to terms with having known them, never doubting their trustworthiness. I was afraid I’d have to see them in the court hearing—didn’t know how I would react—with tears or boiling anger. But now I know; informers either never face prison at all, or get a deal for greatly reduced sentences, while those strong enough to not cooperate with the state, those brave enough to resist, are still facing life terms or absurd, 1,000-year sentences—and for what? Nothing more than crimes against property.

It’s important to remember what this is all about and to stay focused on that. This has nothing to do with “correcting” a wrong done to society, as the euphemism “correctional institute” would suggest. Laws are often wrong and need to be rejected as errors—witness the laws that upheld slavery, women’s inferior (non-voting)

status to men, and laws that now enable corporations to pollute, to drive animals to extinction, to decimate forests, to abuse animals and to run amok with genetic engineering and nanotechnology.

What is the basis for these laws? It usually comes down to the unquestioned sanctity of private property under capitalism—the right to make profits by exploiting Nature past the point of no return. This justifies the operation of the bulldozer, contributing to global warming and species extinction by leveling the forests at a rate far surpassing their ability to regenerate. This rationalizes the torture of animals with vivisection, electric shock, poisons, leghold traps, veal crates and beak amputations. And it’s all in the name of human progress. It’s just now becoming a public focus that maybe lesbian, gay and queer folks should have the right to marry—when will it come to light that all species should have rights, and when will those rights be respected? When will the Earth be seen as more than a recreational Disneyland or something to experiment on with no thought for the consequences?

We, as a society, have to get over the idea that private prop-

erty rights equate to individual liberty and should never be impeded. Until we get over that myth, we will never stop the war machine that is wreaking genocide across the world to suck up resources for “our” interests and “our” sick consumptive dependencies; nor will we stop the mad scientists from bringing about what we long thought were only science fiction horrors—out-of-control robots, genetically engineered monsters, people turned into cyborgs....

Why am I going on about all this? Because if any of the Green Scare defendants did what they are alleged to have done, they hurt no one; they simply challenged the property interests of the out-of-control corporate capitalists of this country who are systematically destroying the Earth—legally, with the law backing the destruction.





becomes personal

It doesn't matter if I agree with every action that the defendants are accused of—the specifics of what was done or who did what are really of very little interest to the state, and should be of little interest to us as well. What's significant is the intimidation tactics now being employed to crush ecological activism, animal rights and people's civil rights. Anyone who significantly defies absolute private property rights or who radically upholds the rights of other species to flourish is a threat to the state. Why else was so much law enforcement time and funding spent to prosecute these defendants when thousands of suspected rapists, child abusers, murderers and harmful drug pushers are not prosecuted in Multnomah County, Oregon, alone? Why else would the Green Scare defendants be threatened with 30 to 1,000 years in prison for mere property destruction when murderers and rapists face average sentences of only eight to 20 years? It helps to keep the real meaning of the Green Scare always clearly in view—for those activists on the outside, for friends and family of the defendants and for the defendants themselves.

A new Audioslave song says, "The original fire is dead and gone but the riot inside goes on."

We need to remember that our actions—from civil disobedience or legal actions to ecological sabotage—are not over when the "fire" goes out, whether the fire is figurative or real. We have to maintain our inner resistance to the coercive force of the Earth-destroying state.

This is where solidarity comes in. I'll never forget the first time I joined workers at a picket line and the scabs showed up. The striking workers pounded on the windshields and doors of the scabs' cars, with the terrified picket-line crossers inside. The striking workers yelled, cursed and threatened the scabs, because solidarity is the only weapon they had to beat back the greedy bosses and win rights for the common people—just as the eight-hour day, the weekend and an end to child labor were won. Our movements for ecological and social justice will all splinter and die without internal and cross-movement solidarity.

As the labor song "Solidarity Forever" states: "In our hands is placed a power greater than their hoarded gold/ Greater than the might of armies magnified a hundred

fold/We can bring to birth a new world from the ashes of the old/For the union makes us strong."

As a teenager, I was powerfully influenced by the scenes in George Orwell's *1984* where the main character sells out his lover and best friend to the Big Brother fascist state. I memorized the final words of the book: "Under the spreading chestnut tree, I sold you and you sold me." Selling out your activist friends is essentially a commercial transaction, respecting the societal myth that this behavior can be made somehow acceptable because society revolves around individual, not social rights: everyone for themselves.

I can't imagine being able to live with myself if I sold out my friends or betrayed the movement. And the kind of cooperation we are seeing is a betrayal of everything these people believed when they became activists. Every bit of cooperation makes the feds' jobs easier. Every bit of cooperation makes it harder for the whole movement to succeed in saving the Earth and protect ourselves while doing so. Whether you cooperate to increase your own time outside of jail or to "be there" for your kid, it's important to realize that it's not just a personal decision—though it may seem so while you're isolated behind bars. Instead, building the

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non-cooperating defendants

Although some prisoners are listed together, they must be written to separately. See page 34 for additional guidelines.

•Nathan Block, #1663667, and Joyanna Zacher, #1662550, Lane County Jail, 101 W 5th Ave, Eugene, OR 97401; supportersofnathanandjoyanna@gmail.com.

•Jeff Hogg, 1901 NE F St, Grants Pass, OR 97526. Jailed for refusing to testify to a Grand Jury investigating a series of direct actions in Oregon.

•Daniel McGowan has been released from house arrest. For more information, visit www.supportdaniel.org.

•Jonathan Paul, released on bail; www.ecoprisoners.org.

•Briana Waters, released on bail; www.supportbriana.org.

For more information and updates about the Green Scare, visit www.greenscare.org, www.ecoprisoners.org or www.cldc.org.

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feds' case affects the rights and boldness of all your fellow activists outside and the fate of our wild plant and animal relations in a tremendous historical ripple effect.

There can be cognitive dissonance between our self-identity as activists and what we do when we're ruled by fear, but we must be sure to choose the right path. Rule by fear is the Bush, Inc. government's agenda—capitalizing on the public's fear of terrorists to encourage the voluntary sacrifice of civil rights and the support of endless wars. But we need to ground ourselves in our love for the Earth and each other, rather than focusing on personal fears and FBI threats. As Audre Lorde said, "When I dare to be powerful—to use my strength in the service of my vision, then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid." Everyone has fears; it's how we deal with them that is crucial.

I wrote to a convict who has been in for about 30 years, who keeps getting thrown into isolation cells for months because he dares to take a stand on behalf of fellow prisoners and to expose corrupt prison guards. Some guards have spread rumors about him being a snitch, apparently to try to get other prisoners to attack or kill him, yet he likes to say, "I didn't check in my life at the door," and he does his best to defend himself.

It is notable, however, that at least half of the non-cooperating defendants were able to keep themselves out of prison (through large amounts of bail money) during their time of non-cooperation. Being inside prison makes resistance more difficult, with possible repeated interrogations, sleep deprivation and threats made with no way to check the reality of the threat or to seek counsel from friends or family.

Another ecological activist in prison writes: "I liked the quotes [in the Rolling Stone article]



from the Humboldt State University professor and activist describing our movement as privileged and generally soft. That's true. But even the Panthers and the American Indian Movement were rife with infiltrators and traitors. I think what's important to recognize is that betrayal is inevitable in movements, that in fact it is part of human nature, and it should be expected. This is not pessimism or disillusionment; this is reality. We as a movement, indeed as human animals, have this behavior for self-preservation as instinct. It takes more than one can imagine to override this instinct while you're held captive unless you've been in that situation.... Those who stay strong, sacrificing themselves, are undoubtedly heroes." The writer is himself doing excessive time for his charge due to his refusal to inform on others.

So what can we do? Stay focused on the real motivations behind the Green Scare, stay on issue with our messaging, treat it as another campaign to be waged (action helps overcome depression), get involved and exercise your rights or they'll go away. Steel yourself and others to keep the inner resistance going and to maintain solidarity if you're framed or caught. Support political prisoners, don't convict defendants with your words, demand that they have a

fair hearing (assume innocence until proven guilty but don't focus on "guilt" or "innocence"), *continue to do the conservation work that was the real untold story behind these actions: stopping global warming, deforestation, animal abuse, etc.* And don't forget to take breaks to rejuvenate your spirit in the natural world, experience and strengthen bonding between yourself and activist friends and Nature while you still can, to keep you solid in your commitment in future times.

Great Grey Owl has been an activist for ecological and social justice through many different campaigns for more than 25 years.

illegal wiretaps and the green scare case

On November 9, a hearing will be held to determine whether prosecutors used illegal National Security Agency (NSA) wiretaps in gathering evidence against the Green Scare defendants.

The legality of NSA wiretaps were called into question last Spring after George W. Bush gave the NSA permission to spy on US residents at whim, without needing to show a court any evidence of a person's participation in illegal activities. The Green Scare defendants may have been illegally spied on because they were thought to be associated with the Earth and Animal Liberation Fronts, which are considered by counterterrorism officials to be domestic terrorist threats. However, while indicted on several serious-sentence-carrying charges, they have not been charged with terrorism.

One reason for the feds to label the Green Scare victims "terrorists" may have been to justify the use of NSA wiretaps. Another is because of the wildly lengthened sentences that are given to those labeled as terrorists, and finally so the feds will be able to show off to the public that they're catching all the bad guys now that our rights have been stripped away.

If NSA wiretaps were used in a way found unconstitutional by the court, it would show that the defendants' Fourth Amendment rights had been violated—their freedom from unreasonable searches or seizures. The entire 13-defendant Green Scare case could be thrown out.

It was Green-Scare-defendant Daniel McGowan's lawyer, Seattle-based

Amanda Lee, who requested information about the possible use of wiretaps back in March. While one of the prosecutors, Assistant US Attorney Stephen Peifer, asserted that the wiretaps had not been used, he claimed that none of the prosecutors had clearance to give a definitive detailed answer or provide the top-secret evidence about the use of wiretaps without proper authorization. US District Judge Ann Aiken demanded a more solid response.

It is now up to the prosecutors to prove that they didn't use the warrantless wiretaps. Deadlines for the presentation of evidence have continually been pushed back as, eight months after Lee's discovery request, nothing has been brought before Judge Aiken.

COFF!'S is Born

BY NELL

Over the past couple months, I have become increasingly aware of the patriarchy that exists within the radical movement and so, as an individual who identifies as a womyn, I have felt increasingly oppressed. Thus, I was not too surprised when I saw and felt many instances of gender oppression at this Summer's Round River Rendezvous. Yet I was surprised at the lack of acknowledgement and unwillingness to challenge these issues at our supposedly radical camp.

It was pretty clear that the number of male-bodied individuals was greater than that of female-bodied individuals (which is also telling about who feels comfortable within the radical environmental movement). More male-bodied individuals at the rendezvous did not have to translate into a male-dominated environment but, unfortunately, many individuals, including myself, feel that it did.

More male voices were heard in the workshops, informal debates and discussions that occurred throughout the week. There were a few instances when, as I was having a discussion with male-bodied individuals, other men would jump in, try to back me up and "help" me debate. I felt that my voice, as a womyn, was not given equal credibility or space.

This leads to another problem. I felt that there was no space to express this discomfort with a group at the rondy until the wommin's circle I attended on Wednesday evening. The uneasy feelings about gender hierarchy that many individuals had felt and discussed within smaller groups were never effectively communicated to the entire rondy, because discussions of patriarchy and



oppression were relegated to smaller circles: the queer/trans circle, the wommin's circle, the patriarchy-in-the-movement workshop and the challenging oppression working group meeting.

If we all have the same concerns about the current state of the Earth and want to collaborate in actions together to defend the land, we must be willing to listen to and address every individual's concerns about their space within the movement. I think it is important to remember that oppression can come in much more subtle forms than violence perpetrated by a male-

bodied individual on a female-bodied individual.

Once we are more aware of interpersonal expressions of domination, the inequalities that pattern our interactions become more obvious. We must be willing to work on rooting them out. If we are to create a safer space within the radical environmental movement for a diversity of gender, race and class, we each must be open and willing to discuss and confront issues of hierarchy as they manifest themselves in our everyday relationships.

EF! gatherings represent relatively isolated radical communities. They provide an alternative to the more mainstream environments that our communities are usually surrounded by and that we interact with daily. Our gatherings can be great spaces for working with other individuals who are also aware of and focus on anti-oppression issues, and it is essential to focus on eradicating discrimination from our movement. How can we be effective in our many campaigns if we can't work comfortably with one another?

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Racial Tensions Intensify on Six Nations Land

BY CINDER

The Six Nations confederacy—composed of the Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida, Mohawk and Tuscarora nations—has steadfastly continued its reclamation of ancestral land in Caledonia, Ontario, in the occupied territories currently known as Canada (see *EF!* July-August 2006). The reclamation began February 28, as members of the Six Nations occupied land wrongfully taken from them by the Canadian government and sold to Henco Industries Ltd., a housing developer. The indigenous protesters have stated that they will remain “at Kanenhsatón until the land comes back into the Six Nations name, according to original title.”

The Six Nations are currently preparing to sustain their presence on the land through the Winter and are asking for supplies and donations. Janie Jamieson, spokesperson for the protesters, said that they plan to finish the construction of 11 partially built homes if they get the building supplies donated. No one wants to see the houses “rotting away” when they could be used for shelter during the Winter, she said.

In June, the province bought out Henco, which had been planning a 600-home complex called Douglas Creek Estates. Henco received \$15.8 million, including compensation for legal and accounting fees. The province is now holding the land in trust but has so far refused to recognize the indigenous title.

The reclamation has been characterized by rising racial tensions between the Six Nations community and the current residents of Caledonia, and the thought of the reclamation continuing through the Winter is horrifying to some non-indigenous residents. One member of the Caledonia Citizens' Alliance reported that some residents have turned to anxiety medication and many are worried about the decreasing property value of their homes. AnneMarie VanSickle, a Caledonia resident who moved into her “dream home” six days before the occupation began, said that her six-year-old son is too scared to be in a room by himself.

Mayor Marie Trainer said that residents are infuriated because

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Combating oppression needs to be done on many levels. Yet we cannot continue to ignore interpersonal and individual forms of oppression simply because we are caught up with organizing against the larger institutional and ideological forms of hierarchy that characterize our industrial, capitalist society. It is important to narrow the scope of what we can change to ourselves; to critically look at how we interact with others and observe how privilege and institutional evils like sexism, racism and classism manifest themselves in our interactions.

Our lives are composed of our relationships with others, and if these relationships are unequal because of gender, race or class, then we live in an oppressive environment. I believe that we, as Earth First!ers, strive to define our communities as different than mainstream society. Yet this rendezvous led me to ask: How different are we really, if the same oppression that our destructive society perpetuates on the Earth is so palpable in our interactions at our annual gathering?

So some concerned EF!ers, always committed to taking action, initiated the Challenging Oppression Within (COW) campaign. EF! COW is committed to working on anti-oppression issues throughout the year, not just at gatherings, and wants to connect the various anti-oppression efforts of autonomous EF! groups. Our vision is a long-term process: we want to keep the energy flowing from one rendezvous to the next and one action to the

next while bringing privilege and oppression to the forefront. We want to ensure that challenging oppression will remain a consistent effort within EF!; COW will be a group that other concerned individuals can easily plug into.

We formed an email list to continue ideas that came out of a brainstorm at the first COW meeting at the rendezvous. Our first idea was to write this article, to get out perspectives that are not generally heard and to express our anger and sadness at things that happened at the rendezvous. We will be reporting back about the COW campaign in future issues of the *Journal*.

Some other ideas we have so far include: having a Trans and Wommin Action Camp (TWAC), attending and holding anti-oppression trainings, starting a website to share stories, resources and ideas, working with rendezvous organizers to help proactively make gatherings a safe space for minority people, creating a kit for challenging oppression and combating our own privilege for EF! actions, campaigns, and gatherings, and developing a system through which to dialogue about oppression within the EF! movement.

If you would like to help with any of these ideas, have some of your own, or if you have any feedback about the EF! COW campaign, please email earthfirstcow@yahoo.com.

Nell is super excited to be a part of a community filled with strong, amazing wommin who are up front about discussing gender issues, who empower themselves through solidarity with one another's concerns and who are creating projects like a reproductive health collective.

"aboriginals" are on provincial land but aren't being required to follow Ontario law. "It's not proper that they just go forward and do whatever they want without following standards that everyone in Ontario has to follow," Trainer said. "It's not right."

Sometimes residents and Natives have poured onto the streets, throwing rocks or shouting racial slurs at each other. Jan Watson, a resident who started Community Friends for Peace and Understanding with Six Nations, has been subject to threats from other Caledonia residents. Her house has been egged, and she was swarmed by an angry mob over Labor Day weekend.

Most recently, controversy has arisen over the close proximity of Notre Dame, a Catholic K-8 school, to the reclamation site. Responding to demands from parents, the school board has reaffirmed a plan to build an eight-foot high privacy fence behind the school to shield students from the reclamation site. A half-dozen additional surveillance cameras will also be installed, bringing the total to nine. A provincial police liaison officer will be on site during school hours, along with at least 10 officers outside the school. The estimated \$30,000 cost for the fence and \$5,000 for the new cameras will be covered by the Ontario government. Jamieson compared the fence to the Berlin Wall. "If they want to teach fear and hostility in their children, I have no control over it."

Talks have commenced between Six Nations representatives and the Canadian government. But Hazel Hill, clan mother and Six Nations spokesperson, stated, "the land is *not* negotiable." She also made it clear that "nothing that is decided at the main table talks is legal until it goes back to the people and the men and women's council fire for ratification

and consensus. That has been understood from the beginning of our reclamation."

But many Caledonia residents, frustrated with the slow pace of negotiations, have threatened to take up arms. Steve Tong, the spokesperson

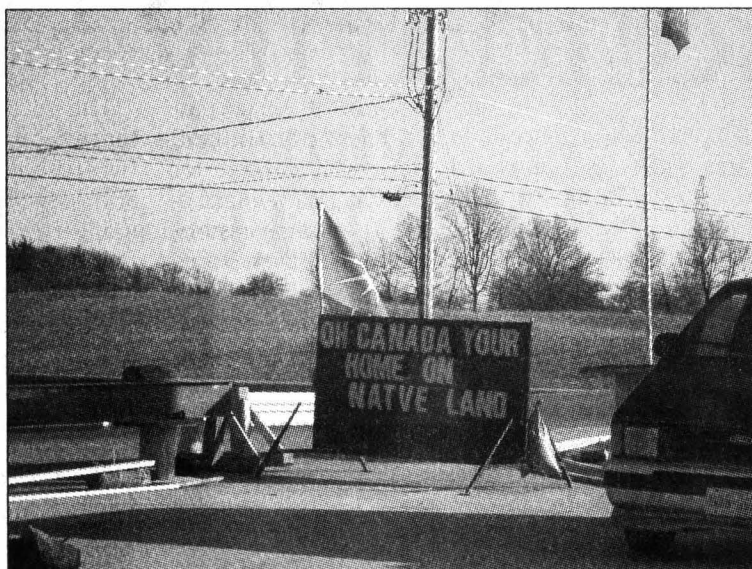


photo courtesy settlers in support of Indigenous Sovereignty

for a local residents' group that calls itself Caledonia Resistance, said that many residents are hunting enthusiasts who have considered turning their guns on the Six Nations community during tense situations. He hinted there might be a rally in the works, but did not provide any details. "We're making plans and things are going to happen soon," he said. "Something is going to be done."

The indigenous protesters are actively maintaining a peaceful reclamation. They have reduced security patrols, asked individuals who have threatened the peace to leave the site and respected their neighbors with diligence.

"The threat of violence is real, but it is not coming from the people on the site" said Hill. She argues that the indigenous protesters are actively maintaining a peaceful reclamation. They have reduced security patrols, asked individuals who have threatened the peace to leave the site and respected their neighbors with diligence, addressing every concern brought to

them by the Ontario Provincial Police and provincial and federal representatives. The Six Nations have seen Caledonia residents, including Parliament member Toby Barrett, threaten violence, while other government officials, like Trainer, accept these threats, perpetuate them throughout the media and remain inactive.

But the Six Nations community has vowed to remain unarmed and on the site at any cost. "Even if [residents arm themselves], that doesn't mean we're going to leave. It just takes it to another level," said one Six Nations warrior. Another Caledonia resident said that "the events have created a large division. I don't know how many generations that will take to heal."

Clyde Powless, a native spokesperson who has been in Caledonia since the beginning of the land dispute, said, "I don't see myself here forever, but I see some of our people here. We've been here a long time. We're not going anywhere." According to Powless, there can only be one outcome: justice. He says that the dispute in Caledonia is about more than land; the Six Nations are

standing up to the Canadian government and its policy of forced assimilation. "A lot of people on our reserve don't know our own ways or traditional values," he said. "It was dying out and now I see it resurging."

Six Nations is asking for donations of non-perishable food, warm clothing, building supplies and money, which can be deposited into a Bank of Montreal account.

For more information, visit www.sisis.nativeweb.org.

Cinder was inspired by a member of the Six Nations who spoke on the Tohono O'odham reservation in southern Arizona. She looks up to their example of strong and unending resistance.

white anti-racism and solidarity with six nations

- CALEDONIA'S FIFTH COLUMN -

BY TOM KEEFER

On February 28, members of the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy reclaimed a suburban construction site on lands belonging to them and initiated one of the most significant anti-colonial struggles in North America in recent years (see *EFJ* July-August 2006). With the people of Six Nations fighting to regain ownership of the 950,000 acres of the Haldimand tract originally granted to them by the British crown in 1784, the outcome of the struggle at Douglas Creek Estates has major implications for white settlers, the Canadian state, the Iroquois Confederacy, and indigenous peoples throughout North America.

White residents from the nearby town of Caledonia have regularly protested the indigenous blockades, and on numerous occasions have attempted to break past police lines in order to take back the disputed land. But many other white people, supportive of the reclamation, have been active in and around Six Nations and Caledonia. This article analyzes the four kinds of solidarity actions that have been organized by these supporters of the reclamation. By thinking strategically about our work, white anti-racist activists can more effectively contribute to a victory for the people of Six Nations, and, more ambitiously, can work toward a transformation of the colonial dynamics of Canadian settler society.

Physical Presence

Dozens of activists have visited the reclamation site to volunteer on a semi-permanent basis, offering their labor and physical presence in order to bolster and help sustain the reclamation, and to hopefully help serve as a deterrent to further state violence. The most tangible contribution made by white activists along these lines has been to help with the preparation of food for the camp. Along with helping to prepare mass meals, they have produced a daily series of food boxes for the half-dozen or so checkpoints around the perimeter that secures the site.

Coalition Building

Palestine solidarity activists, immigrant and refugee activists, members of the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty, and a range of different trade unions have all sent delegations and members to the reclamation site (often carrying donations of food, supplies and cash) to express their solidarity. Others have organized speaking events with representatives of Six Nations in non-Native communities and constituencies, giving Six Nations representatives a chance to talk about their struggle and discuss opportunities for support.

Solidarity Demonstrations

A number of demonstrations have been organized in solidarity with Six Nations, most of which have specifically protested the policies of the federal and provincial government and demanded that they negotiate in good faith. These protests can be divided into two categories: legal protests petitioning the Canadian government and direct action protests by indigenous peoples aimed at disrupting the functioning of the Canadian economy.

Anti-Racist Activism within Caledonia

In Caledonia itself, a group of local residents, trade union activists and members of Six Nations have been meeting on a weekly basis for the past two months in order to try to undercut racism against Six Nations. They hope to do so by building support within progressive elements of the Caledonian community and by developing a rank-and-file network of trade union activists who support Six Nations.

The coalition has involved activists from a wide variety of different labor and community organizations. It has distributed hundreds of leaflets and flyers within Caledonia, established a website and placed ads in local newspapers to identify supportive Caledonians. The group has also begun the process of meeting with local church groups and high school students and teachers in order to combat

The most important contribution that white activists can make is to organize within their own communities to address the conditions that allowed racism and state repression to be directed against anti-racist and anti-colonialist movements.

the racism and bigotry that has flared up within the Caledonian community.

The coalition's plan of action has had three parts. First, it has sought to identify the hard-core elements in opposition to Six Nations and to understand their political and economic interests. This has meant keeping an eye out for the small number of neo-Nazi types at anti-Native protests as well as keeping track of those elements of the Caledonian population that are actively engaged in provocations against Six Nations.

Second, it has sought to identify the progressive forces that exist within Caledonia and the surrounding community and to bring them together to articulate a political alternative to the anti-native and pro-development program advocated by the Caledonian Citizens' Alliance (CCA). The CCA was formed by locals with an interest in economic development on Six Nations land and has been claiming to speak for all Caledonians inconvenienced by the standoff.

Third, the coalition has been reaching out to the undecided Caledonians who have tended to respond to the situation as spectators. These citizens, while conscious of the fact that they are at the center of an issue of national concern, may still be swayed by either side of the argument.

Organizing in Our Own Communities?

While the four different expressions of solidarity are all important in their own way, we would be remiss as solidarity activists if we did not consider the strategic implications of these various approaches and commit resources to implement the most effective plan of action. Of the four types of solidarity activism I've outlined, most white anti-racist activists who have traveled to Caledonia have spent the majority of their time and energy at the reclamation site, and the least effort in attempting to organize within the Caledonian community, where there is the greatest need for white anti-racist activism.

While countless hours of work have been done by solidarity activists at the site, I would argue that the benefits of their presence are rather limited, serving more to educate and reward the activists themselves than to advance the struggle of the Six Nations. Although volunteering at the site may have the effect of demonstrating to people at Six Nations that not all white Canadians are racist, it does very little to alter the overall balance of forces that will ultimately determine how the struggle over Douglas Creek Estates will turn out, nor does it make a contribution to

the reclamation site that could not otherwise be made by the indigenous people present.

As long as the Six Nations community is united behind the reclamation, the only way they can be driven off the land is through the intervention of the Canadian military. Because military intervention requires the pretext of ungovernability and violent conflict in the surrounding area, non-Native activists from outside the area can make an important contribution to minimizing this danger by organizing within Caledonia.

This perspective follows from the argument raised by the American Indian Movement, the Black Panthers and the Young Lords during the 1960s, who insisted that the most important contribution that white activists could make was to organize within their own communities to address the conditions that allowed racism and state repression to be directed against anti-racist and anti-colonialist movements. While it is sadly the case that many white anti-racist activists—then and now—do not belong to a meaningful “community” beyond their immediate group of friends and political acquaintances, this does not change the fact that white people have a special responsibility to work to counter the outpouring of racism coming from Caledonia—especially since the only entry requirement for this kind of work in Caledonia is to identify as being “Canadian.”

Taking responsibility for organizing within white communities should not be seen as an unpleasant duty meant only to satisfy the directives of anti-colonial movements; implicit in our own desire to build an emancipatory society is the requirement that we challenge reactionary politics in our own settler/white-dominated workplaces, communities and schools. Caledonians clearly see themselves as part of the Canadian mainstream, and even if white anti-racist activists sometimes wish to escape from or deny our integration within the same body politic, we must recognize our responsibility to organize with and struggle to transform the politics of fellow settlers as we work to rupture the colonial foundations of the Canadian nation-state.

For more information, visit www.honorsixnations.com.

Tom Keefer is an editor of the anti-capitalist journal Upping the Anti and a member of Community Friends for Peace and Understanding with Six Nations, a coalition organizing within Caledonia in support of Six Nations.

Editors' Note: This article was shortened from the original version, which can be read in full at auto_sol.tao.ca/node/view/2246.

A **shears-wielding, brush-frollicking, dry-weather, please-come-to-our-town wolf** to **Robert "Roy" van de Hoek** for defending the integrity of the Ballona Wetlands, one of the largest remaining coastal wetlands in California. A former Bureau of Land Management biologist, van de Hoek is facing jail time and large fines for allegedly cutting down non-native plants like ficus trees and myoporum shrubs. His attorney reported that van de Hoek will plead not guilty.

This will be brave van de Hoek's second time facing charges for such actions. Ten years ago, he was caught cutting down aquifer-destroying Australian eucalyptus trees in the area, and was sentenced to three years of probation.



A **stingray-venom-gurgling, just-see-who's-gonna-get-stung-next poodle** to all the **people who have been killing stingrays** in retribution for Steve Irwin's death. Irwin, the host of *Animal Planet's* "Crocodile Hunter," was killed while on a mission by a stingray, which was just using its natural defenses against the adoring invader. He would have been content with the way he died, but he's probably rolling over in his swampy grave at the thought of people murdering the wild animals he loved. While Irwin did exploit the animals he stalked for his television show—invading their natural habitats in order to broadcast them across the world, and probably raking in the cash for it—there's no doubt that he was also committed to conservation and educating the public about the importance of wilderness.

Wolves and Poodles

A **car-slamming, must-be-global-warming-fumes-induced, unexpectedly-pleasant-but-we-would-still-never-so-much-as-honor-them-with-an-EF!-T-shirt wolf** to the **California Attorney General** for filing a suit on September 20 against Chrysler Motors Corporation, General Motors, Ford Motor Company, Toyota Motor North America, Honda North America and Nissan North America for designing incredibly inefficient cars that contribute greatly to global warming, which costs state taxpayers millions of dollars.

In 2005, 10 states, including California, passed laws to ensure decreased vehicle emissions by 2016. The car companies themselves recently went to court challenging these 2005 emissions laws. Some of the things the companies would have to do to make their cars more efficient are incorporate hybrid systems and better engine and transmission designs, slicker aerodynamics and lower resistance tires.

Hopefully the car companies will lose a lot of money over this and eventually be forced to stop making cars altogether! In fact, we're going to stockpile some more bikes....

A **backyard-clucking, rifle-waving, feather-ruffled wolf** to the **woman who recently shot her husband** after he kicked one of her pet chickens out of the house and shot it. The woman was taken into custody and her husband is recovering from his bullet-wound, but the chicken died on the scene. It was not the first to be killed; the yard was reportedly littered with dead chickens. Neighbors say that the couple lived alone with their animals, and often appeared intoxicated.

The couple's daughter came at about midnight the day of the showdown and retrieved the remaining animals from the house.



A **back-tracking, whale-bone-cracking, scientific-my-ass poodle** to **Iceland** for resuming the exportation of whale meat after a 15-year hiatus. Iceland claims that it must export the Minke whales that are killed for "scientific research" because there is not an adequate domestic market for thousands of pounds of whale meat.

Iceland resumed whaling in 2003 and, along with Japan and Norway, has declared itself exempt from the United Nations' Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES), which bans whale trade. It is selling the meat to the Faroe Islands, a self-governing region of Denmark. But there is debate about whether or not the spirit of CITES is being breached by exporting to the islands, because while the Faroe may be self-governing, Denmark is still supposedly bound by CITES.

A **money-panting, breath-commodifying, what-other-useless-piece-of-crap-could-possibly-be-marketed-next poodle** to the **Big Ox company** and its **gullible customers** for creating, marketing, purchasing, and actually inhaling bottled air. It contains 93 percent oxygen and comes in two flavors, "mountain mint" and "tropical breeze." Like processed energy drinks and energy bars, bottled air has been marketed to people who are stressed out by their everyday lives and hope that the product will help them always be at "peak performance." The Big Ox website is full of images of athletic-types climbing mountain peaks and looking triumphant. Health professionals say the bottled air, which is currently available in the US and Japan, will have little or no effect on people's wellbeing, even temporarily.

The two men who started the company said they came up with the idea of selling bottled air while lounging in an oxygen bar in Las Vegas. Each bottle of Big Ox retails at \$10 to \$15 and contains about 30 breaths of air.

blast from the past

Samhain 1995 *Earth First! Journal*



Digging in at Warner Creek

BY MATT ROSSELL

As the first snow falls above 4,500 feet in the Willamette National Forest, all who live there are preparing for the upcoming Winter, including Earth Firsters. The vine maples are bursting bright red to welcome the season, the Douglas firs are moving their water into their outer bark to make themselves ready for the frost, and activists at Warner Creek are digging in (literally) for a long and productive Winter campaign.

Ignited by arsonists in October 1991, the Warner Creek burn area spans 9,000 acres. Warner Creek stands alone as the only salvage timber sale that has remained uncut for five years following a fire. On September 6, Judge Michael Hogan lifted the injunction that once protected Warner Creek from the saws, because Clinton's salvage rider rendered legal arguments moot.

Predicting that outcome, EFlers moved in to reclaim their public road and close it to corporate lawlessness. Ever since, a peaceful tribe has occupied the road to physically stop logging. Thomas Creek Logging Company has purchased the first 16 acres of nine million board feet to be "salvaged" along Bunchgrass Ridge and in the Kelsey Creek watershed. Activists have kept the fellers and Freddie's away with no arrests, and their battle cry echoes across the valley checkered with clearcuts: "Not One Black Stick!"

Good Housekeeping

Living on logging road 2408, almost completely undisturbed by the US Forest Service (USFS) cops, members of the recently independent "Cascadia Free State" have worked tirelessly to protect the recovering forest. The barricades begin below a former USFS gate, which has been converted into a wall by three barrels of cement fortified with rebar, "locking" it permanently closed. If the Freddie's do visit, they will first be greeted by a gatekeeper on the 15-foot-high log wall and will soon need to ask very politely to enter if they expect the drawbridge to be lowered over the moat that is under construction.

Friendly folks can come on up to the tent village where a large, dry living space has been created with tarps and equipped with a kitchen area, pantry, media table and a warm fire circle. Tipis, shelters and tents are scattered all around, including one pitched right over the steel door lockdown set up in front of the gate. Above the gate stands a large, beautiful tipi constructed of downed trees and waterproofed with cedar bark found on the forest floor.

What were once "ditches" in the road have now become canyons. "Evolution Creek" has flowing water and is at least 10 feet deep and 15 feet across—big enough to devour a car. Another mile up the road, "Full Moon Gorge" is just as formidable, and the sound of digging never stops. Other blockades, shelters, ditches and rock walls have been strategically placed along the last five miles of 2408, ending at the first three sale units.



photo by Cinnamon

Welcome to the Cascadia Free State.

And They Call Us Terrorists...

Two unknown goons sabotaged one ingenious barricade, a bi-pod (a two-legged tripod suspended by cables). The two men, identically uniformed in camo gortex and shiny badges, walked quickly past the gate encampment one day and refused to answer any questions. Their sabotage was soon discovered: stolen and destroyed equipment including slashed water bottles and tarps and stolen binoculars, food, tools and radio equipment. A rock and log structure named "Clearcut Hut" was also damaged and has since been rebuilt and reinforced by the architects, who didn't flinch at the sight of the damage. They simply said, "We'll rebuild it—we have much more energy than those Freddie's!"

Although more work always needs to be done, residents living in the Cascadia Free State are finding many projects to keep themselves busy and warm. Winterizing living areas, chopping wood and preparing meals are just a few daily chores. The entrenched activists remain vigilant around the clock—ready to lock down or take their support positions.

For the rest of the Warner Creek story, check out the Samhain 1995 issue of the *Earth First! Journal*. Back issues of the EFl Journal are available for five dollars each. Order our near-complete, 26-year set for \$500.

Prisoners in the Struggle Support Them!

The following list is a small sample of the total number of political prisoners and prisoner support groups worldwide. Regulations for mail sent to prisoners vary according to individual prisons. Before sending monetary donations, stamps, books or packages, ask prisoners what the regulations are. Assume that the authorities read everything you write to a prisoner. When prisoners are awaiting trial, it is best not to discuss their cases or related topics with them. Although many prisoners are listed together, they must be written to separately. The EF! Journal offers discounted subscriptions for prisoners. Please contact us for more information.

Prisoner and Legal Updates

•Madeline Buckler PR7492, HMP Peterborough, Saville Road, Westwood, Peterborough, PE3 7PD, England. On September 22, Buckler was sentenced to two years for sending hate mail to a family that bred guinea pigs for vivisection.

•Rodney Coronado #03895-000, FCI Tucson, 8901 S Wilmot Rd, Tucson, AZ 85706, USA. Serving eight months for his role in an EF! sabotage of a mountain lion hunt. Coronado is also awaiting trial for allegedly telling people how to construct an incendiary device during a speech at an animal rights gathering. He has been moved to the above address.

•Joseph Harris, TN5728, HMP Woodhill, Tattenhoe Street, Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK4 4DA, England. Harris, a doctor of molecular biology, was sentenced on September 20 to three years for damaging the property of people associated with Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS).

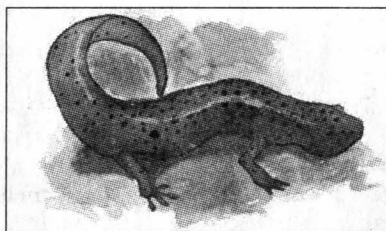
•The "Lecce 5" are awaiting trial in Italy, accused of damaging gas pumps in opposition to the war on Iraq, targeting Benetton in support of the Mapuche and damaging an ATM at a bank with links to an immigrant-detention facility. All of the defendants are now under house arrest.

Awaiting Trial or Sentencing

•Fadalla Idris Alajaimy, Mohamed Ahmed Alajaimy and Ali Mohamed Alhassen Massad are awaiting trial for "waging war against the state"—a capital crime—for allegedly organizing against the construction of a dam. Their current addresses are unknown. For more information, contact the Sudan Organization Against Torture, Argo House, Kilburn Park Rd, London NW6 5LF, UK; info@soatsudan.org; www.soatsudan.org.

•Tre Arrow, CS#05850722, Vancouver Island Regional Correction Center,

4216 Wilkinson Rd, Victoria, BC V8Z 5B2, Canada. Appealing extradition to the US to stand trial for alleged involvement in the arsons of logging trucks and vehicles owned by a sand and gravel company. For more information, visit www.trearrow.org.



•Eric McDavid, X-2972521 4E231A, Sacramento County Main Jail, 651 I St, Sacramento, CA 95814, USA. Awaiting trial for alleged conspiracy to destroy the US Forestry Service's Institute of Forest Genetics, a dam, cell-phone towers and power plants. For more information, visit www.supporteric.org.

•Manase Furima and Matius Nasira, Lembaga Pemasyarakatan Manokwari, Jl Sabang No 4, Manokwari, Papua, Indonesia. Awaiting trial for taking part in a road blockade to prevent illegal logging.

•Peter Daniel Young, #10269-111, FCI Victorville Medium II, POB 5700, Adelanto, CA 92301, USA. Awaiting trial for alleged involvement in a 1997 mink liberation in South Dakota and serving two years for releasing mink and foxes from six different fur farms. For more information, visit www.supportpeter.com.

Animal Liberation

•Jon Ablewhite, TB4885, John Smith, TB4887, and Kerry Whitburn, TB4886, HMP Lowdham Grange, Lowdham, Nottingham NG14 7DA, UK. Serving 12 years for conspiracy to blackmail a supplier of guinea pigs for vivisection.

•Natasha Avery, NR 8987, UKDS HMP Bronzefield, Woodthorpe Rd, Ashford, Middlesex TW15 3JZ, UK. Serving 16 months for using abusive words and behavior toward a fox hunter.

•Dave Blenkinsop, EM7899, HMP Rye Hill, Onley, Warwickshire CV23 8AN, UK. Serving 10 years for attacking the managing director of HLS, liberating 600 guinea pigs and planting incendiary devices under slaughterhouse vehicles.

•Donald Currie TN 4593, HMP Woodhill, Tattenhoe St, Milton Keynes, MK4 4DA, England. Awaiting sentencing for arson against a courier company with links to the vivisection industry.

•Joshua Demmitt, #12314-081, FCI Safford, POB 9000, Safford, AZ 85548, USA. Serving 2.5 years for an Animal Liberation Front (ALF) arson of an animal-testing facility. For more information, visit www.supportjosh.org.

•Garfield Marcus Gabbard, TV4271, HMP Moorland (Closed), Bawtry Rd, Hatfield Woodhouse, Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN7 6BW, UK. Serving 21 months for threatening to kick a security guard during an anti-vivisection protest.

•Sarah Gisborne, LT5393, HMP Cookham Wood, Rochester, Kent ME1 3LU, UK. Serving 5.5 years for conspiracy to cause criminal damage to vehicles owned by people linked to HLS.

•Josephine Mayo, PR6508, HMP Peterborough, Saville Rd, Westwood, Peterborough PE3 7PD, UK. Serving four years for conspiracy to blackmail a supplier of guinea pigs for vivisection.

•Daniel Wadham, TF5524, HMP Rochester, 1 Fort Rd, Rochester, Kent ME1 3QS, UK. Serving one year for using abusive words and behavior toward a fox hunter.

Ecodefense

•Marco Camenisch, Postfach 3143, CH-8105 Regensdorf, Switzerland. Serving 27 years for using explosives to target nuclear facility power lines and for the alleged murder of a Swiss border guard. Camenisch reads French, German, Spanish and Italian fluently. He can also read some English.

•Ibai Ederria, Carcel de Pamplona, C/San Roque Apdo 250, 31080 Iruñez, Pamplona, Navarra, Spain. Serving nearly five years for sabotaging machinery at the Itoiz dam construction site.

•Jeffrey "Free" Luers, #13797671, OSP, 2605 State St, Salem, OR 97310, USA. Serving 22 years and eight months for arson at an SUV dealership and for attempted arson of an oil truck. For more information, visit www.freefreenow.org.

•Christopher McIntosh, #30512-013, USP Hazelton, POB 2000, Bruce-ton Mills, WV 26525, USA. Serving eight years for a joint ALF/Earth Liberation Front (ELF) arson against a McDonald's. For more information, visit www.supportchris.org.

•John Wade, #38548-083, FCI Petersburg Low, Satellite Camp, POB 90027, Petersburg, VA 23804, USA. Serving three years for a series of ELF actions against McDonald's, Burger King, urban sprawl, the construction industry and an SUV dealership.

•Helen Woodson, #03231-045, FMC Carswell, Admin Max Unit, POB 27137, Ft. Worth, TX 76127, USA. Serving nearly nine years for violating her parole by dumping a cup of red paint over the security apparatus of a federal court and making warnings ("threats") of weapons of mass destruction. In 2004, Woodson completed 20 years for disarming a Minuteman II missile silo with a jackhammer, mailing warning letters to officials with bullets inside, robbing a bank and burning the money.

Il Silvestre

Il Silvestre is an Italian eco-anarchist group whose members have been framed for a variety of direct actions. Except for Gioia, all the defendants listed below are awaiting trial for allegedly using explosives to damage an electricity pylon. Three other Il Silvestre members—William Frediani, Leonardo Landi and Alessio Perondi—are currently under house arrest.

•Federico Bonamici, Casa di Reclusione, ia Nuova Poggioreale 177, 80143 Napolo Poggioreale (NA), Italy.

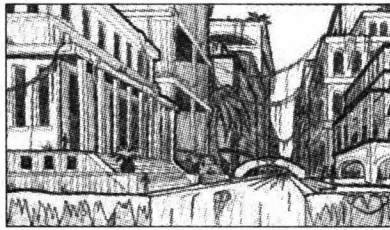
•Giuseppe Bonamici, Nuova Casa Circondariale "San Michele," Strada casale 50/A, 15100 Alessandria, Italy.

•Silvia Guerini, Carcere "La Dozza", Via Del Gomito 2, 40127 Bologna, Italy.

•Benedetta Galante, Casa Circondariale, Contrada Capo di Monte, 82100, Benevento (BN), Italy. Serving 3.5 years for promoting and participating in direct action.

•Francesco Gioia, Via Maiano, 10, 06049 Spoleto, Italy. Serving more than five years for promoting and participating in direct action. Gioia is also awaiting trial for escaping from house arrest.

•Costantino Ragusa, Casa Circondariale, Via Prati Nuovi 7, 27058 Voghera (PV), Italy. Serving five years for promoting and participating in direct action.



artwork by Falynn K.

Indigenous Resistance

•Byron Shane of Chubbuck® Clan, #07909-051, USP Beaumont, POB 26030, Beaumont, Texas, North America. Serving 80 years for aggravated assault on federal agents, escape and bank robbery. Chubbuck funneled money that he stole from banks to the Zapatista National Liberation Army in Chiapas, Mexico.

•Leonard Peltier, #89637-132, USP Lewisburg, POB 1000, Lewisburg, PA 17837, USA. Peltier, an American Indian Movement activist, is serving life in prison after being framed for the deaths of two FBI agents killed during the 1975 Pine Ridge siege. For more information, visit www.freepeltier.org.

Mapuche

The indigenous Mapuche people in Chile are fighting to defend their forests from multinational companies. For more information, visit www.mapuche-nation.org.

•Aniceto Norin Catriman and Pascual Pichun Paillalao, Carcel de Traiguén—Coronel Gregorio Urrutia N° 129, Traiguén, IX Región, Chile. Mapuche lonkos (chiefs) serving five years for intimidation and "terrorist arson."

•Victor Ancalaf Llaupe, Complejo Penitenciario El Manzano Concepción—Dirección, Camino a Penco N° 450 Casilla 70, Chile. Mapuche leader serving five years for "terrorist arson."

•Jaime Huenchullan Cayul, Juan Carlos Huenulao Tricauko, Florencio Jaime Marileo Saravia, José Patricio

Marileo Saravia, Jose Nain Curamil and Patricia Troncoso Robles, Centro Detención Penitenciaria Pedro Aguirre—Cerde N° 80 y Los Confines s/n°, Angol, IX Región, Chile. Huenchullan is awaiting trial, accused of theft and intimidation. Huenulao is awaiting trial, accused of "terrorist arson." Troconso and the Marileos are serving 10 years for "terrorist arson." Nain, a Mapuche leader, is serving five years for arson.

MOVE

The MOVE 9, members of an eco-revolutionary group, were framed for the murder of a cop and sentenced to 30 to 100 years each. For more information, visit www.onamove.com.

•Debbie Simms Africa, #006307, Janet Holloway Africa, #006308, and Janine Philips Africa, #006309, SCI Cambridge Springs, 451 Fullerton Ave, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403-1238, USA.

•Michael Davis Africa, #AM4973, and Charles Simms Africa, #AM4975, SCI Graterford, POB 244, Graterford, PA 19426-0244, USA.

•Edward Goodman Africa, #AM4974, SCI Mahanoy, 301 Morea Rd, Frackville, PA 17931, USA.

•William Philips Africa, #AM4984, and Delbert Orr Africa, #AM4985, SCI Dallas, Follies Rd, Drawer K, Dallas, PA 18612-0286, USA.

•Mumia Abu-Jamal, #AM8335, SCI Greene, 175 Progress Dr, Waynesburg, PA 15370, USA. Abu-Jamal, a politically active journalist, was framed for the murder of a cop in 1981.

Political Prisoners

•José Pérez González, #21519-069, FCI Yazoo City Medium, POB 5888, Yazoo City, MS 39194-5888, USA. Serving five years for conspiracy to destroy federal property during a May 2003 celebration of the end of the US military occupation of Vieques.

•Fran Thompson, #1090915 HU 1C, WERDCC, POB 300, 1101 E Hwy 54, Vandalia, MO 63382-0300, USA. Before she was given a life sentence in the early 1990s for shooting a stalker in self-defense, Thompson was active in animal rights and environmental campaigns.

Prisoner Support Groups

•Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network, elp4321@hotmail.com; www.spiritoffreedom.org.uk.

•NorthAmericanEarthLiberationPrisoners Support Network, naelpsn@mutualaid.org; www.ecoprisoners.org.

announcements

thanksgiving caravan to indigenous resistance communities

november 21-26 · black mesa, arizona

This Thanksgiving a caravan of work crews from around the country, including California and Colorado, will be traveling to Black Mesa, Arizona, to spend a week with Diné (Navajo) families affected by mining and relocation laws. Anyone with a willingness to work is invited. Hands-on projects will demonstrate how indigenous communities are actively shaping their future and working to assure cultural survival. You will learn about traditional indigenous ways of life and participate in practices that provide the basic foundations of life (water, food, shelter and clothing).

Work projects include building water catchments and corral, roof and home repair. Work crews will be spread out, visiting people of both the Hopi and Diné Nations.

In the Bay Area, there is a particular need for people with trucks and vans to help transport workers and donations. Donations such as tools, money, and Winter clothes are also needed.

To join the Bay Area caravan, contact the Vox Populi Collective, vox.populi.collective@gmail.com. If you're in the Sacramento or Los Angeles area, contact (415) 552-6156; aireannach_99@yahoo.com.

To join the caravan out of Boulder, Colorado, contact Traditional Support Caravan, POB 71, Hygeine, CO 80533; www.traditionalsupportcaravan.org.

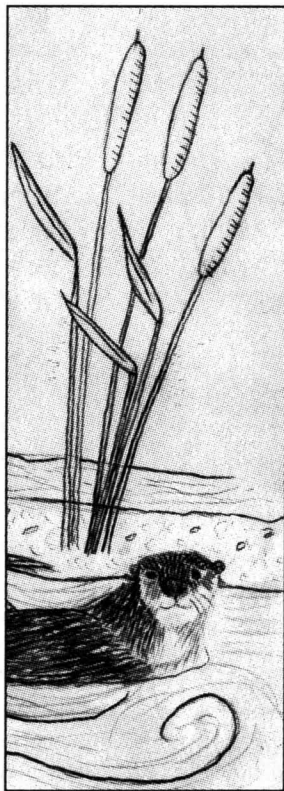
For more information, contact Black Mesa Indigenous Support, blackmesais@riseup.net; www.blackmesais.org.

earth first! organizers' conference

february 22-26 · austin, texas

The Organizer's Conference and Winter Rendezvous will be held deep in the heart of Texas, February 22-26, at the Rhizome Collective's Brownfield in Austin. It is located inside the city, but the 10-acre area is wooded, adjoined by a pond and a tributary of the Colorado River. There is access to a community kitchen at Rhizome, where the meals will be cooked and transported to the Brownfield. If you'd like to learn more about the Brownfield, visit www.rhizomecollective.org.

If you would like to do a workshop or if you have any suggestions, input or questions, contact (210) 316-6014; efoc2k7@hotmail.com. Thanks to everyone who has helped out so far, and we'll see you in February!



day of solidarity with green scare indictees and political prisoners

december 7

The one-year anniversary of the first "Operation Backfire" arrests will be marked by a worldwide "Day of Solidarity" to raise awareness about the Green Scare. Please put together an event in your area to support Green Scare indictees and political prisoners. You may want to organize a music festival, a teach-in, a rally, a film screening, a fundraiser, a potluck, a prisoner letter-writing party, a garage sale, a bike ride, a book sale or a panel of speakers. December 7 could be a visible culmination of anti-Green Scare community organizing to influence public opinion and awareness.

Remember, everything you do to support people targeted should be *legal* and in their best interest. Please do not organize something that could jeopardize their cases. If you are organizing events for specific defendants, please make sure to contact their support committees before organizing rallies or fundraisers.

For more information, to let nationwide organizers know what events you have planned or to get ideas or support for your event, please contact greenscare@mutualaid.org; www.greenscare.org.

anti-g8 infotour

january-february

san diego, california to vancouver, british columbia

Every year, eight of the most powerful people in the world organize a secret meeting in a luxury hotel and decide how to manage the world according to their neoliberal economic ideology. The public and the press are kept out of their meeting, and there are no records or minutes of their decisions. Wildly unpopular, this annual meeting of the leaders of the world's eight richest nations—the G8—has been met with mass protests since at least 1985. Next year, the G8 will meet June 6-8 in Heilingendamm, on Germany's northern border. The anti-G8 Dissent! Network has been organizing for more than a year and has held numerous direct actions against the coming G8 summit. This January and February, the Dissent! Infotour will organize a West Coast US tour to promote the mobilization. The focus will be on lessons learned from European mobilizations against the G8. Contacts are needed from San Diego to Vancouver to host the tour.

For more information, contact goodniteg8@riseup.net; www.dissent.org.uk; www.gipfelsoli.org.

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

1. Publication Title: Earth First! 2. Publication Number: 1055-8411. 3. Filing Date: September 27, 2006. 4. Issue Frequency: Bimonthly. 5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 6. 6. Annual Subscription Price: \$25. 7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (not printer): 831 E 47th St, Tucson, AZ 85713 (Pima County). Contact Person: Turtle. Telephone: (520) 620-6900. 8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (not printer): PO Box 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. 9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Address of Publisher, Editor and Managing Editor: a. Publisher: Daily Planet Publishing, PO Box 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. b. Editors: Josh, Oskar, PO Box 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. c. Managing Editors: Josh, Oskar, PO Box 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. 10. Owner (If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address): Daily Planet Publishing [501(c)4], PO Box 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. 11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages or Other Securities: None. 12. Tax Status: Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months. 13. Publication Title: Earth First!. 14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: September-October 2006. 15. Extent and Nature of Circulation: Column 1: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: a. Total Number of Copies (net press run): 6016. b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation: (1) Paid/Requested Outside-County Mail Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies): 1202. (2) Paid In-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies): 31. (3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution: 3095. (4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS: 94. c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation: 4422. d. Free Distribution by Mail (Samples, complimentary and other free): (1) Outside-County as Stated on Form 3541: 410. (2) In-County as Stated on Form 3541: 0. (3) Other Classes Mailed Through USPS: 36. e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means): 239. f. Total Free Distribution: 685. g. Total Distribution: 5107. h. Copies Not Distributed: 909. i. Total: 6016. j. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation: 86.59%. Column 2: No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: a. Total Number of Copies (net press run): 5700. b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation: (1) Paid/Requested Outside-County Mail Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies): 1082. (2) Paid In-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies): 0. (3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution: 3045. (4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS: 71. c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation: 4198. d. Free Distribution by Mail (Samples, complimentary and other free): (1) Outside-County as Stated on Form 3541: 0. (2) In-County as Stated on Form 3541: 0. (3) Other Classes Mailed Through USPS: 37. e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means): 178. f. Total Free Distribution: 795. g. Total Distribution: 4993. h. Copies Not Distributed: 707. i. Total: 5700. j. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation: 84.08%. 16. Publication of Statement of Ownership: Publication Required. Will be printed in the November-December 2006 issue of this publication. 17. Signature and title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager or Owner: Oskar, Editor. Date: September 27, 2006. I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

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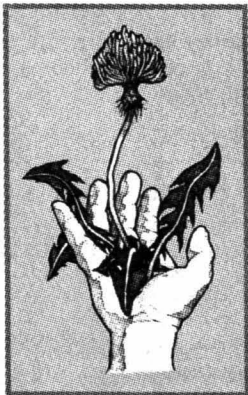
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CELEBRATE EARTH DAY '07 WITH US!



The *Earth First! Journal* currently has an opening for a new member of our editorial staff. It could be you! Being a part of the *Journal* is full of rewards—working on a consensus basis with a tight collective to publish a magazine essential to the radical environmental movement. Our new long-term editor ideally will have publishing experience, be personally compatible with existing staff, have excellent editing skills, be computer literate, have a sense of humor and be able to commit to at least a year and a half. As a collective, all of the work is shared, so a motivated, hard-working individual is required!

We also welcome people with a variety of talents and activist experience to come and work for one issue of the *Journal* as a “short-term” editor. This adds to the diversity of voices and energy in the magazine. The waiting list can be long, but it also depends on how flexible your schedule is and when you will be available.

To apply, send your resumé with a letter of interest to the *Earth First! Journal*, POB 3023, Tucson, AZ 85702. Please forward a writing sample, activist history and the names of some EF! activists who can vouch for you. For more information, contact (520) 620-6900; collective@earthfirstjournal.org.

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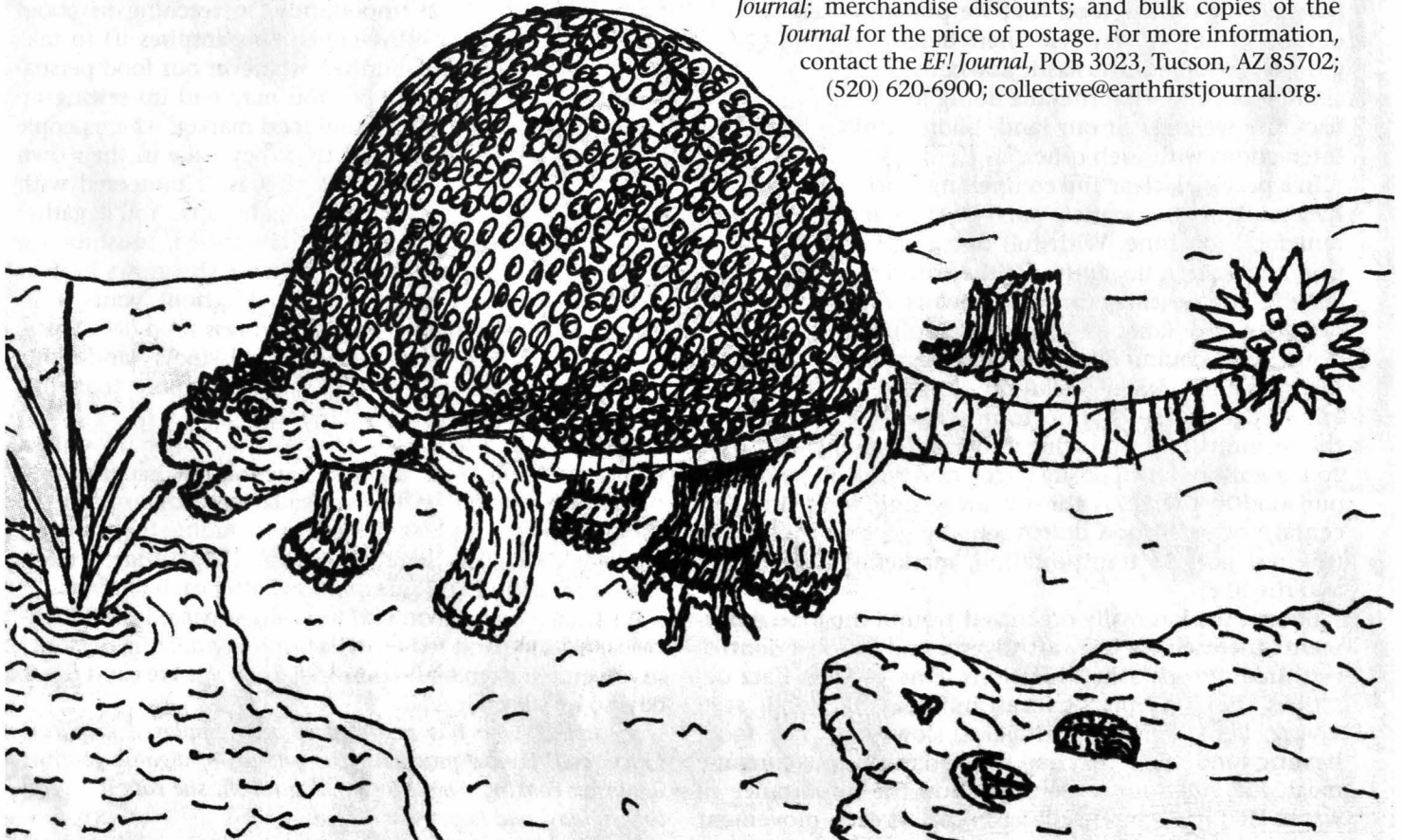
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Food...

Before and After the Revolution

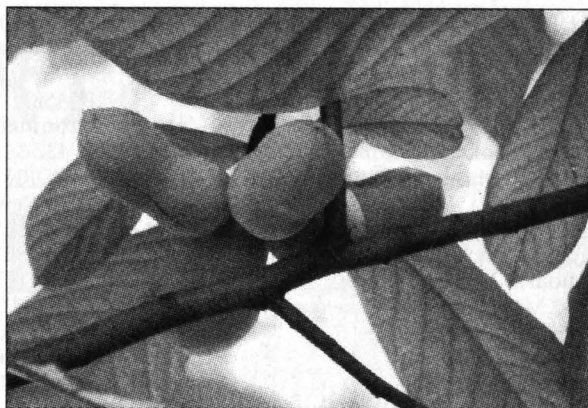


photo by Robert Graver

The delicious, native, but nearly forgotten pawpaw fruit is making a comeback thanks to slow and local food movements.

BY SOPAIPILLA

The Revolution Will Not Be Microwaved: Inside America's Underground Food Movements by Sandor Ellix Katz, Chelsea Green Publishing Company, 2006.

"Just as fermenting liquids exhibit a bubbling action similar to boiling, so do excited people, filled with passion and unrestrained." So begins Sandor Ellix Katz as he describes his inspirations for *The Revolution Will Not Be Microwaved*. The fermentation of foods and drinks is a metaphor for "social fermentation"; as the fermentation goes on, more excitement builds and we end up with something active, powerful and healing.

Katz's second book—his first was *Wild Fermentation*—explores the concealed truth about the dominating grasp of government bureaucracy on the food that we put into our bodies every day. He then describes groups of people enthusiastic and conscious about food, and what they are doing to take back the wellness of our land, bodies and interactions with each other.

In a personal, clear and compelling voice, Katz explains the scariest parts of the current food machine. With full documentation and charts, he confronts the world of genetic engineering, corporate ownership of seeds and land, government prohibitions, food commodification and decreasing nutrition, water pollution, forgotten knowledge and alienation from what we eat. He shows the absurdity of the growing multinational-organic-brand collaboration (see opposite page), how a full 50 percent of our food in the US is thrown away, and what tiny percentage of each food dollar actually goes to the farmer (the rest goes to transportation, marketing, advertising and the like).

But the book is really organized around the food movements themselves. They are diverse and action-oriented, not tired, greenwashed reactions. One by one, Katz describes the concepts of local and seasonal food, seed saving, land and labor struggles, slow food, raw food, healing food, illegal plants, vegetarianism and humane meat, foraging and scavenging, and the importance of water. He highlights his descriptions of each movement

with personal anecdotes, as well as those from friends. He swings from humorous—as he retells an indoor-composting fiasco or his experiments with homemade gourmet maggot cheese—to serious—as he examines his own struggles with HIV and his decision to take pharmaceutical products.

However, what admittedly drew me in from the start was the wide array of fun stuff. The text, scattered with relevant plant drawings, is as plump and juicy as a dumpstered papaya. There are simple recipes for exciting-sounding foods like wild-foraged pesto, root beer, creative raw pâtés, ganja butter, veggie fermentation, raw-milk cottage cheese, local dirt, herbal-elixir mead and "slow" gefilte fish. Article

and zine excerpts let underground experts have their say about everything from wild mushroom gathering to community gardens to how to judge the freshness of roadkill.

Most importantly, in teaching us about these movements, Katz inspires us to take it a step further, whatever our food persuasions may be. You may end up setting up an underground food market, where people can sell bread that they bake in their own ovens and milk that isn't tampered with by government regulations. You'll gather dandelion leaves, chickweed, mushrooms, prickly pear or whatever else grows in your own backyard. You'll school yourself in herbal healing, live in raw food decadence, get involved in a grassroots land-rights movement or finally take more than five

minutes to savor a meal with friends.

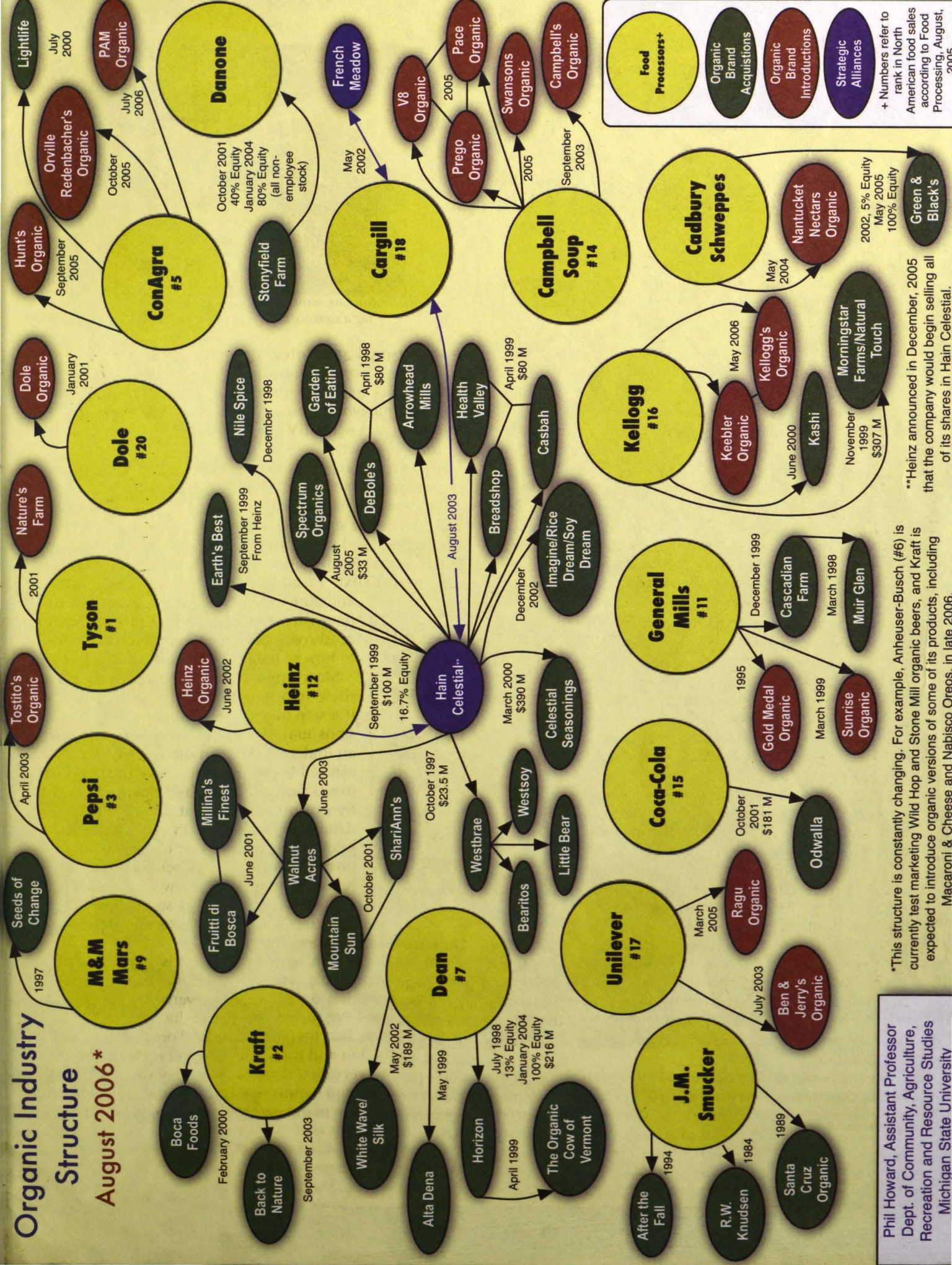
The only problem with *Microwaved* is that it's only a 400-page handbook, an introduction. Volumes could have been written on the topics covered by any one of these chapters. But luckily, besides including theories and strategies, Katz lists literature, film and organization references for "action and information" after each chapter.

It's time to get down with food the way we love it: delicious, healthy, and requiring lots more vitalizing personal involvement than bland personal finances. We eat it every day, so let's keep it real!

Sopaipilla, who has in the past been employed preparing fancy food, is now practicing the fine art of organic gourmet dumpster cooking. She loves food so much, she eats it several times a day, and hopes you do too.



Organic Industry Structure August 2006*



Food Processors+

- Organic Brand Acquisitions
- Organic Brand Introductions
- Strategic Alliances

+ Numbers refer to rank in North American food sales according to Food Processing, August, 2005

*This structure is constantly changing. For example, Anheuser-Busch (#6) is currently test marketing Wild Hop and Stone Mill organic beers, and Kraft is expected to introduce organic versions of some of its products, including Macaroni & Cheese and Nabisco Oreos, in late 2006.

**Heinz announced in December, 2005 that the company would begin selling all of its shares in Hain Celestial.

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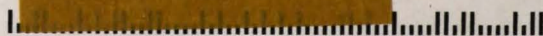
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