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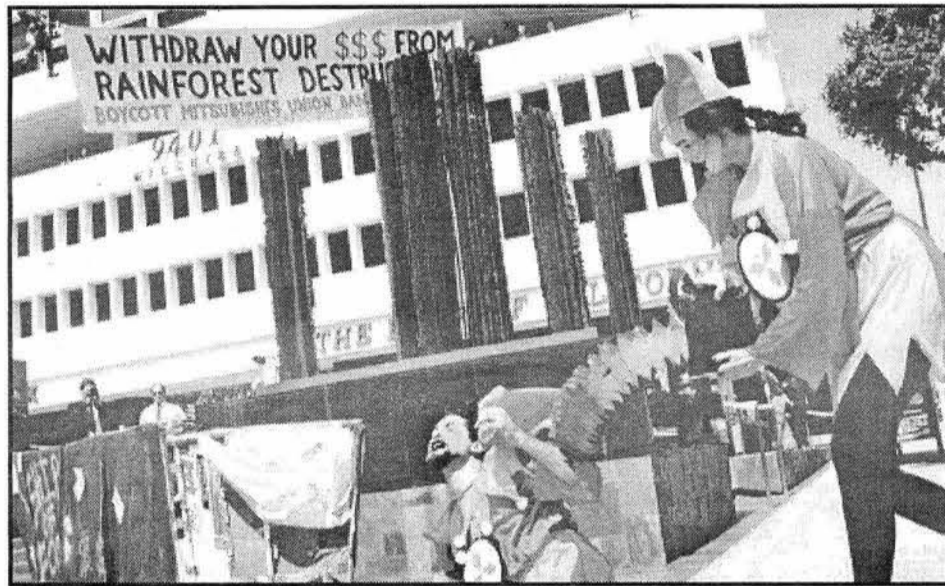
April Fools for Mitsubishi

BY JIM HOWLS

For most, April First is a day when people conspire to surprise friends and colleagues with elaborate, humorous practical jokes. Environmental activists involved in the Mitsubishi Boycott are no different. However, the "jokes" they played this year will not soon be forgotten by the Mitsubishi corporate family.

Protesters across the country and abroad simultaneously descended upon Mitsubishi to demonstrate, perform street theater, hang banners, and lock down to protest Mitsubishi's involvement in forest destruction. Mitsubishi Corporation (MC) is one of the world's worst corporate forest and indigenous culture destroyers.

In New York City, a 20-foot banner reading "Boycott Mitsubishi" was unfurled at Mitsubishi International. Three activists from Wetlands Preserve (New York's Earth First! center and general hellraiser hangout) scaled the building to deploy the banner 35 feet above the street. Other protesters from Wetlands, Greenpeace, NY/NJ Earth First!, and Student Environmental Ac-



Jester jabs at Mitsubishi's role in forest destruction.

tion Coalition dressed as court jesters and took to the street below holding signs that read "Don't be Fooled... Mitsubishi Kills!" The climbers were arrested after the NY Fire Department was called in to take them off the overhang, but not before the closed-off streets filled with onlookers and me-

dia. Mitsubishi was pissed.

On the other side of the continent, three 1,200-pound lockdown devices were rolled up to the front doors of San Francisco's Bank of California (owned by Mitsubishi Bank) just before the wage slaves showed up for work.

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Sierra Club Goes Zero Cut

BY CHAD HANSON

In the strange and improbable culmination (or just the beginning?) of a six-year grassroots campaign within the Sierra Club to restore John Muir's vision to the organization, the Club membership voted on April 20 to adopt a zero-cut forest policy. The reform movement known as the John Muir Sierrans (a name which will not change again) authored the zero cut on public lands initiative for the Club's national ballot last fall.

We wanted to campaign for our initiative, but Club election rules prohibited us from using any list of Sierra Club members to contact people. Any attempt to communicate with the members about this issue by phone, mail, or e-mail, we were told, would have been ruled to be a violation of Club election rules, which might have resulted in invalidation of election results.

A setback, no question—but no one could stop us from talking to members in person. With this in mind, fellow John Muir Sierran David Orr and I set out on a road tour in January. By car, bus, train and any other available means of travel, we visited as many Sierra Club chapters as possible.

We began in the Club's main stronghold, California. Soon the word was out among the Sierra Club old guard's network, "They're loose in California. Sound the alarm!" The Sierra Club put out their equivalent of an all-points bulletin across the state, "Now hear this, now hear this, be on the lookout for two activists answering to the names of Chad Hanson and David Orr. They are believed to be armed with information dangerous to the old guard's grip on power!"

The "dangerous" information includes historical facts I dug up while researching back issues of the *Sierra Club Bulletin* from the 1890s. It turns out that it wasn't Earth First! or the Native Forest Council who first proposed to make the National Forests off-limits to logging; it was John Muir and the Sierra Club. Due in significant part to Muir and the Sierra Club, the United States Cavalry was actually called in to run armed patrols in the national forests to guard against timber theft. Needless to say, this information was a real eye-opener to members wherever we went.

We began to meet with the executive committees (the chief decision-making body) of Sierra Club chapters, getting them to pass resolutions in support of our initiative and publish supportive editorials in their newsletters.

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THE UNABOMBER: UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

BY LESLIE HEMSTREET

In an attempt to explain the motives of the Unabomber, some of the mainstream media attempted to link Earth First! and the environmental movement to Theodore Kaczynski upon his capture. Using thinly spun threads of spurious evidence from self-appointed EF! investigator Barry Clausen, ABC *World News Tonight* started several rumors about Earth First! that spread through the media like a child's game of "telephone" gone bad. The *New York Times* later added dirt to the mudslide.

What got muttered into the public ear courtesy of ABC was that Theodore Kaczynski was on an FBI list of people who attended a meeting also attended by "top EF! members" and that the Unabomber got two targets in a "radical environmental journal." In reality, the meeting was an Native Forest Network conference attended by over 400 people and the "targets" were from the tongue-in-cheek "Eco-Fuckers Hit List" from eco-anarcho 'zine *Live Wild or Die* (See "Open Letter to ABC News" on page 26). In spite of the compromised factual nature of this report, other media sources accepted the information as fact, drew the conclusions insinuated and repeated the story, convoluting it along the way. By the time the information made it all the way around the telephone circle, Theodore Kaczynski had attended an Earth First! meeting where he received a directive on two of his hits from Earth First's "enemies" list. This appeared as fact in so many national papers, an inventory here would be unwieldy. We had calls from all over the country saying "I heard on my radio station/TV broadcast/read in my newspaper/etc. that y'all are connected to the Unabomber."

The *New York Times* (NYT) participated in the rumor-mongering with a slightly more convincing posture of journalistic integrity. After mentioning that the Unabomber's writings "seem to parallel" the *EF! Journal's* (EF!) NYT pointed out that the Unabomber targeted

Burson-Marsteller (B-M) about nine months after *EF!J* printed an article criticizing them. Both our article and the Unabomber's letter to NYT criticized B-M for helping Exxon clean up their image after the Valdez oil spill. Burson-Marsteller claims that, while they may have worked for Exxon, it had nothing to do with the oil disaster. The NYT implied that the only place the Unabomber could've gotten his information was from *EF!J* because of the parallel "mistake." Other media sources extrapolated that the Unabomber got information from *EF!J* and used it as a directive. In reality, the article was a reprint from *No Sweat News*. *Covert Action Quarterly*, citing the Canadian *Vancouver Sun*, printed a similar article around the same time. The information originated from a 1992 publication "The Greenpeace Book of Greenwash."

In his letter to NYT, the Unabomber spells Burson "Burstson," an error not printed in any of the above publications. He also emphasized that he targeted B-M for their contribution to "thought control" and human rights abuses. Of course, the press would not publish any facts that did not support their theory that he draws inspiration from EF!

The NYT is no great research tank. We volunteered the information about our B-M article because we have nothing to hide; watchdogging corporations is not yet a crime in the US. They were a shred more accurate than ABC because at least the part that we printed an article about B-M was factually true.

For every media source that repeated the B-M connection, we received at least ten phone calls from journalists with enough integrity to fact check. Most dropped the B-M angle, once they found out that EF! wasn't the source of some unique information making a connection undeniable.

Disturbingly, every reporter seemed to unquestioningly swallow B-M's disassociation from the oil spill as truth. If part of their strategy to help Exxon's image was to never mention the Valdez spill, their disclaimer could be a lie by omission.

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EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

POB 1415 • EUGENE, OREGON 97440 • (541) 741-9191



The Framing of Earth First!

Radical environmentalists and the Unabomber: a terrorist connection? For a week the phones were ablaze here at the *Journal* office, with media outlets across the country demanding an answer. The last time Earth First! received as much national press was when Judi and Darryl were bombed. The mainstream press at that time dutifully reported the FBI's story that Judy and Darryl blew themselves up (I still meet people whose only knowledge of Earth First! is as "the ones who nearly killed themselves with their own bomb").

Such slander hampers our ability to reach people with our message, reinforcing the status quo. When we are marginalized as terrorists it not only deflects criticism of corporate malfeasance away from the real criminals, it hinders our ability to communicate such criticism. The public will not believe Earth First!'s environmental message if it perceives us as an extremist fringe element.

The misperception of Earth First! as terroristic was no doubt strengthened by the McCarthyite linking of Earth First! to the Unabomber. What effect such slander will have on our activism this summer is yet to be seen. It seems likely, though, that our foes will attempt to exploit the connection to marginalize us, and that the public is well-primed to accept that lie.

Bearing this in mind, it seems to me we should be extra careful to not behave in ways that could allow us to be portrayed in a violent or dehumanizing fashion. Activists might want to lay off the camo at public actions; the connotation of camouflage is too militaristic for Joe and Jill Six-Pack. Likewise, wearing masks at civil disobedience actions makes it look like we have something to hide, and makes it easier for the public to dehumanize us. If you want to use a pseudonym, say for purposes of jail solidarity, use a believable one. Calling yourself "Bark Beetle" or "Pine Fresh Scent" sounds flaky.

One of the problems I see with Earth First! activism is that we sometimes confuse civil disobedience's role. Physically stopping destruction is not civil disobedience's strength. The strength of civil disobedience is its announcement to society of an injustice. Hopefully, the CD will generate enough outrage and political pressure to reverse the situation. Viewed in such a context, it would be silly not to appeal to as broad an audience as possible and stupid to allow yourself to be easily marginalized.

Another problem is that we often measure the success of an action by how much media it garnered. A better measure of success, though, is to assess how well the coverage projected our message. Did we come across as having legitimate gripes or as a fringe interest group? Did our story resonate with people or alienate them? Were we portrayed as courageous s/heroes putting our bodies on the line to prevent a grave injustice, or as violent terrorists seeking to put honest people out of work?

Since I'm on my soapbox, I'll mention that sometimes we seem to let anger replace strategy in our activism. Direct actions can then become little more than platforms to vent, rather than calculated appeals for support. Anger is healthy, even appropriate, but it must be directed in a positive fashion.

None of the above should be construed as a call to retreat to some form of namby-pamby liberalism, afraid to offend people's sensibilities. If people's sensibilities are destroying the earth we've no choice but to confront them. But this con-

frontation should not be gratuitous, and as much as possible should not be sanctimonious. People are more inclined to listen that way.

—CRAIG BENEVILLE



Ramon's Remarkable Recovery (RRR)

Just when we all thought Uncle Ramon was down for the count—he had a brain tumor reportedly the size of a clenched fist à la the EF! logo—we received a photograph and a feisty note letting us know he was okay. The brain surgery was a resounding success.

Of course, he chided us for not receiving the latest copy of the *Journal*. Hmmm, maybe the operation did have an effect. Then again, it's more likely that he is on the road to full recovery. He is acting like Ramon, being grumpy, multiple gripes and all. Now we can truly say he is hard-headed—he has a steel plate firmly implanted in his cranium.

Best wishes to Ramon. We expect to see him roaming around Cove/Mallard this summer for the Round River Rendezvous.

—GARY MACFARLANE

BELTAIN

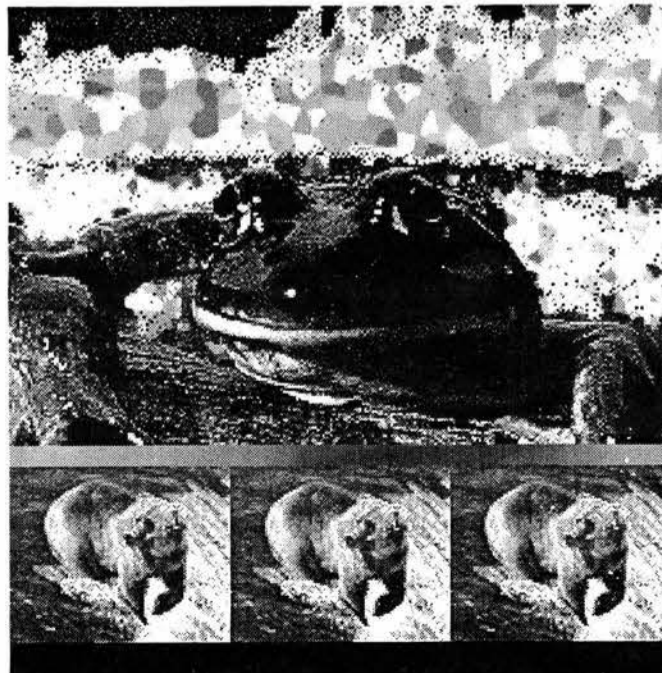
BY PEGGY SUE MCRAE

Beltain is the Celtic cross-quarter day that celebrates Spring full on. Apple blossoms promise apple pie. Bees and bears and snakes stir up the woods. The mating songs of frogs chirp eager joy. May pole dances swathe the great phallus in flowered ribbons.

In ancient Scotland Celtic people lit huge bonfires on hills. They constructed giant wicker structures in human and animal shapes. The wicker structures caged humans and animals selected for sacrifice. The cages were set on fire.

Today, without ceremony, multinational corporate entities sacrifice whole ecosystems; animals and humans, coldly and mechanically at a pace of acres per second. There is no need for us to make further sacrifices. Corporate violence is ripping through the fabric of life.

Still... Spring returns, confirming the life force. The power of Spring is in alignment with the force of nature. Sing like a frog. Dance like a snake. Love like a bear. It's spring!



Earth First!

Beltain

May 1, 1996

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

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

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SCHEDULE

Earth First! Journal is published 8 times a year on the solstices, equinoxes, and cross-quarter days on or about November 1, December 21 (Winter Solstice), February 2, March 21 (Vernal Equinox), May 1, June 21 (Summer Solstice), August 1, and September 21 (Autumnal Equinox). One-year subscriptions in the US via third class mail are \$25. First class delivery is \$35. Outside the US, surface delivery is \$35 and airmail is \$45. Corporate and law enforcement rate is \$45.

Deadline for the next issue is

May 31

LESS IS MORE: MONEY CAN'T BUY YOU INTEGRITY

A hot topic of conversation and rumor in recent months, other than salvage slaughter and the usual host of catastrophes, seems to be money, namely who's got it, where did it come from and what price are they paying, in the way of concessions or compromise, to get it. Hours of debate and reams of fax paper have been expended debating the pros and cons of foundation grants, so-called "blood money." Allies and former arrest compatriots have assailed each other with accusations and rhetoric of a vehemence normally reserved for political and corporate vermin (and perhaps better expended on them). These arguments aside, there are some very good reasons *not* to have a funded environmental movement.

The argument in support of funding is a strong one. If people were funded full-time, they wouldn't have to take time away from fighting for the earth to "chase dollars," either through outside employment or canvassing. Over-worked activists who exist on shoe-string budgets could get badly needed money for new computers, fax machines, and maybe even vehicles, tires, phone bills, and gear. Heck they might even start wearing nice clothes to demos... and bathing!

Sounds good to me too. Maybe I could even get money for that wheel bearing I blew out monitoring

sales last summer or all the gear and materials I've 'donated' to various campaigns over the years. Like many of us who've been at this a number of years, the thought of a stable home or piece of land sounds increasingly appealing (call it "growing up" if you must). What if I *could* make a 5-digit income and still do this kind of work?

"You don't help your enemy when you're at war!"—Chumbawamba. The potential drawback, and it's a big one, is that when the repercussions of your work have the potential to jeopardize how you're paying the bills, the mortgage, perhaps even (gasp) feeding the kids. I don't care how much integrity you have, it's gonna be a hell of a lot harder to always put the earth first, especially if that sentiment means being perceived as "radical" or "extremist." Sure, you may justify your watered-down, less-controversial positions as "appealing to a broader community," or having "grown up," but the bottom line is, your actions are going to be an even greater personal liability than they were before. We already risk getting beat up, shot or having our houses burned, so why have to worry about pissing off another group and losing our income.

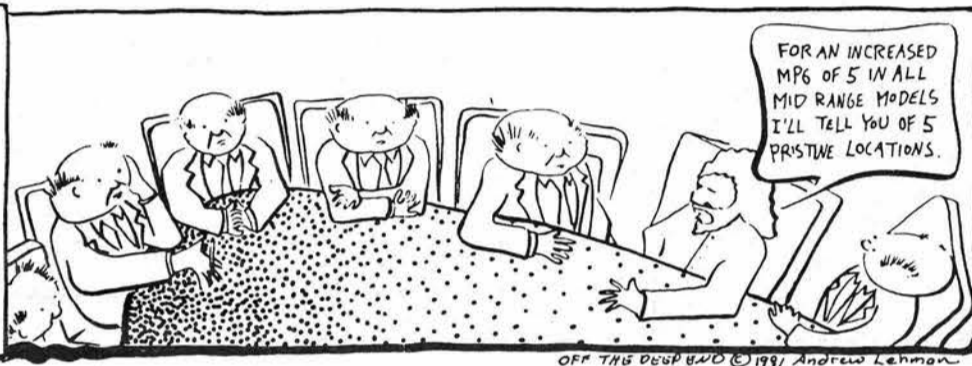
In addition to keeping your funding indepen-

dent, and perhaps "off the books" if you're lucky, working for yourself or someone else a few days a month gives you a chance to keep a finger on the pulse of how folks are thinking out there in the "real world." Many of us move in a pretty isolated subculture, and it pays to be reminded periodically that there are folks out there who still haven't heard of the Salvage Rider. Perhaps more importantly, working in this way allows you to keep the blood on your own hands, that is, to witness first hand (and hopefully mitigate) the amount and kind of resources that go into making that buck. If you're landscaping or growing medicinal herbs, you'll see the fuel and or animal products that go into every job. Selling crafts or art? You'll personally witness the waste and resource use. There truly *is* no such thing as a guilt-free lunch in the cash economy, but who better than you to keep the level of blood on your money to a minimum? Those nice demo clothes can be purchased at the Goodwill, too, or borrowed from a friend.

Of course there may be times and places for a little outside funding. We can no doubt all point to campaigns or accomplishments that couldn't have been pulled off without it, but it is hardly a sound footing to base a long-term movement on. The Wobblies and others did not win the eight-hour day living off of PEW money! They saw earning a living as an integral part of their organizing. Neither did the suffragettes, Gandhi's Indian independence struggle, or any other successful political movement. Money does not grow on trees, and the forces of the status quo are not ultimately going to fund the kind fundamental change required to save the planet, because in the end it will spell their own demise! Earth First!

—GARTH KAHL

THE YEAR IS 2021.
GENERAL MOTORS
PLACES A MEMBER
OF GREENPEACE ON
ITS BOARD WHEN IT
DISCOVERS THERE ARE
NO SCENIC VISTAS LEFT
TO FILM AS BACKDROPS
FOR COMMERCIALS



MISSIVES FROM THE MASSES

Dear Green for Brains:

I have loved this rag for two years and even though I am an officer in the military (yuk!), and a physician (MD), my environmentalism and commitment to Mother Earth is forever strong.

Action is Protection! Keep us strong and unified. Eventually our mother will be at peace.

—DOC BRACE

[Editors' note: The following missive was apparently sent to all of the residents of Redway and surrounding communities.]

A MESSAGE FROM CHARLES E. HURWITZ TO THE RESIDENTS OF SOUTHERN HUMBOLDT COUNTY

As many of you surely realize, our choice of Redway for our new clearcut (THP 1-96-036) was no coincidence. We knew our plans would be a visual blight, would cause landslides and damage property—we intended to provoke you. Our workers long ago learned the high cost of dissent, and now we want to show you, once and for all, what happens to those who question our prerogatives.

You see, we've allowed you to hold your polite rallies, tolerated your quaint marches, your petitions, your chanting and drums. But some of you seem to want nothing less than total revolution. You reject the corporate model of passivity and consumption. You flaunt our laws, trespass in our forest and spread rebellion in our work force. We wonder if you wouldn't rather just trash our company and live wild in the woods.

From Chiapas to Nigeria to Humboldt, nothing less than corporate control of the world's future is at stake. While defeat for you could be the beginning of a rebellion that may eventually destroy the entire corporate world order, it is equally clear that if you can't stop us here, you will not stop us anywhere—ever.

So put up or shut up. We've put our cards on the table; it's time for you to show your hand. This silly game has gone on long enough. Either you win... or we do.

—CHARLES E. HURWITZ
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
MAXXAM

Dear EF! Journal,

I want to point out unauthorized edits of my article in the last issue ("Civil Disobedience as a Tactic, not a Culture," transcribed from a speech). I never said or wrote "Be happy with incremental change." That statement does not reflect my views, nor was it in my speech or in the text I submitted to the *Journal*. Those are words placed in my article by somebody on the *Journal* staff, which doesn't say much for your editorial policy.

Furthermore, an important paragraph was struck entirely. That paragraph, as submitted, was about the difference between Earth first, and Earth First! first, and how dedication to the goals of the movement mean recognizing that radical appearances and radical actions are not always the most productive approach. "The message is more important than the messenger."

I realize the article was controversial, and I suspect mine will not be the only letter about the

article in the next issue. This made it all the more important that the words in it should have been my own. It is hard to respect, or trust, a publication that would monkeywrench the writing of its contributors.

—MITCH FRIEDMAN

[Editor's note: The change to your meaning was a mistake and unintentional. We apologize. But monkeywrenching?

The addition to your article and the subtraction of the paragraph are one in the same. Editors have the job of sometimes adding/altering subheads to summarize positions. The cut paragraph in question read:

"IT'S EARTH FIRST, NOT EARTH FIRST! FIRST: Sad but true. The public doesn't particularly care for environmentalists (especially protesters) these days, even while it shares our concerns for life. This means we have to find others to carry our issues publicly. If it bothers you that the message is more important than the messenger, than you have slipped into the "Earth First! first" righteousness trap and only a long stint away from jail and EF! gatherings will cure you. If you get so frustrated at mainstream rallies that you want to take over the stage and chastise the audience for not being hard core enough, than you need a long break from coffee shops, liberal arts campuses, and Dead (or Phish) shows."

Even though we disagree with you about the public not caring for environmentalists (when 70-80% of the public say they are one), we did not intend to change your meaning. Sorry our editing was too heavy.—JF]

SFB,
re: Hippie bashing
in Eostara

The real problem with being hip is envy.

Mitch Friedman

can get a hairdo and put on a bow tie before he locks down but invariably the camera will, as he points out, zoom in on those who dress hip and have cool hair. Face it Mitch, you're being a nerd. That doesn't mean that you can't also be a darn good activist. Alas, the hip will always be more attractive and photogenic. Just because I dress hipper than other people doesn't mean I don't respect them. If people feel threatened by hip threads and groovy hair maybe it's time they reassess their own wardrobe and hairdo.

And what can I say to the Generation X band TREE who are whining because hippies had so much fun before they were born?

(Viet Nam was a real blast all right.) How about... Hey, I thought the 90s were supposed to make the 60s look like the 50s so quit whining, get hip and make it happen.

forever hip,

—PEGGY SUE

Can't you just hear the arguments among the suffragettes when they were taking over the streets, fighting for the right to vote? "Hey! Don't wear pants to the demo. Try to look normal or our message will never be heard. This isn't about fashion; it's about our right to vote." Who turned out to be right?

—TIM REAM

IN MEMORIAM

Tony Merten died by his own hand on February 17, 1996. He left five cats and a bunch of friends who are sorry that he is dead. There seems to be a bunch of other people who wish they could get their hands on him also. Ah but alas, he is unavailable for comment. Tony was a passionate man who felt the earth's distress acutely. In a letter he left to some of his friends he explained his reason for departing. He stated his life had never been better personally. He didn't want people to be sad for him. He checked out as a response to the overwhelming toll we humans are extracting from the planet. His strategy was to lighten the load. I for one am sad he is gone.

—PEG MILLET

THE GREAT COAST GIVEAWAY

BY DIANA WILSON
FOREST ACTION NETWORK

The province of British Columbia on the west coast of Canada was founded on a history of corrupt land-grabbing by governments and corporations, but most people are unaware of the fact that this shameful legacy continues today. Forest Action Network (FAN) researchers have unearthed a massive land giveaway of scandalous proportions on BC's mainland coast.

The mainland coast of British Columbia contains the largest areas of intact, old-growth temperate rainforest left on the planet. FAN and many other groups are trying to raise international awareness of these globally critical and imminently threatened areas. The Great Coast Rainforest, which stretches up the mainland coast of British Columbia to the Alaskan border, contains some 2.5 million hectares (over 6 million acres) of pristine wilderness. The largest roadless area alone (1.2 million hectares or nearly 3 million acres) is approximately four times the size of Clayoquot Sound. Due to the accelerating demands of corporate greed, virtually every last pristine valley is scheduled to be roaded and clearcut within the next five years, the majority within only the next two years!

The Great Coast Rainforest is characterized by snow-capped mountains with steep, forested slopes descending through coastal fog into salmon-filled fjords. This area supports incredible biodiversity, with large populations of grizzlies, wolves and cougars roaming through ancient stands of Sitka spruce and red cedar. It is perhaps the only region of temperate rainforest large enough and sufficiently varied to act as a reservoir to eventually reforest, resalmon and regizzly the devastated regions of the North American temperate rainforest region. But if serious action is not taken to preserve this area immediately, the entire planet will soon be impoverished by its loss.

On September 27, 1995, government officials in the mid-coast forest district in Hagensborg, BC quietly drew lines on the map giving away virtually all of the area's last unassigned areas of merchantable old-growth rainforest to five major timber companies. This process, known as charting, took place behind closed doors, without any public announcement or public input process, and signed the death warrant for dozens of lush, pristine coastal temperate rainforest valleys, fjords and even whole islands. In what FAN has named the "Great Coast Giveaway" hundreds of thousands of hectares (over half a million acres), a total area larger than Clayoquot Sound, were literally given away to the lucky corporate recipients with no bidding process and no money changing hands (at least not over the table).

BC's shameful history of land-grabbing began in the 1800s with the

government's theft of virtually the entire province from the indigenous people. The government named these stolen areas Crown land on behalf of the Queen and began busily giving it away in the early 1900s to timber and mining interests.

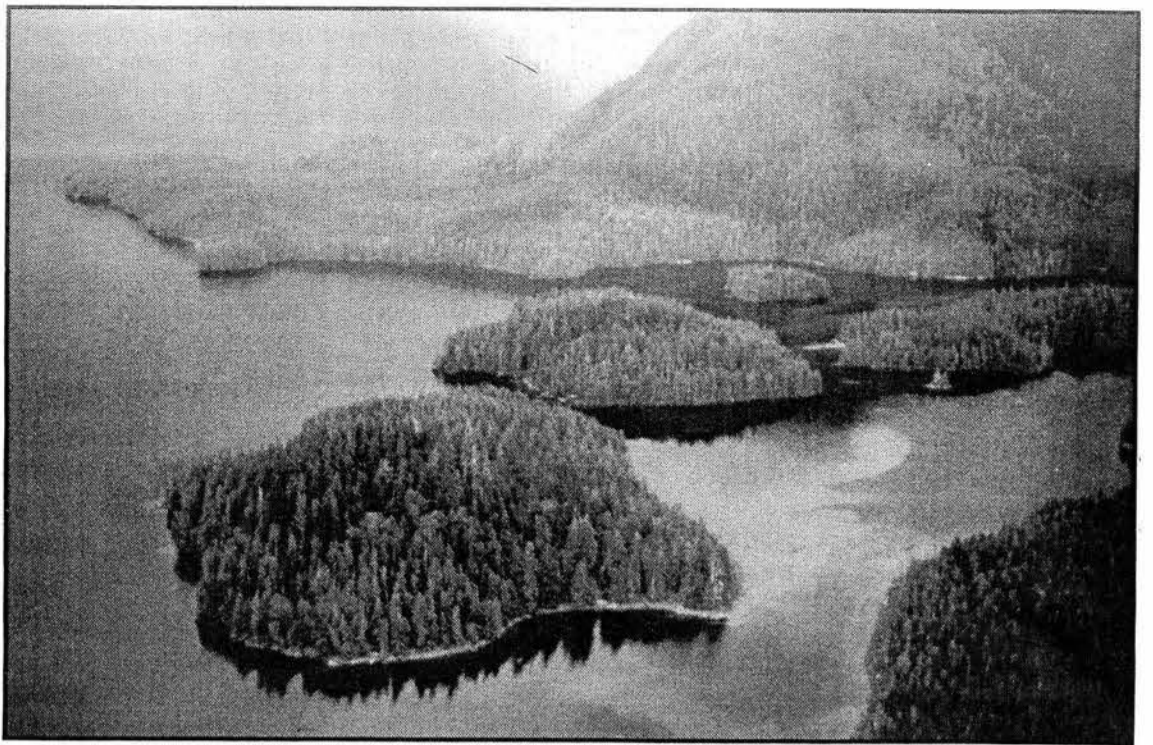
This early era of corporate giveaways was followed in the 1950s and 60s by another wave of land-grabbing. Much of the present system of forest tenure was established, entrenching the rights of a tiny number of forestry giants to monopolize the timber supply of virtually the entire province. This period is renowned for its corruption; "Honest" Bob Summers, the Forest Minister at the time, even served time in jail for taking bribes from forest companies. Nowadays, the ten biggest logging companies in the province control over half the forested land base. Clearly, the era of government/corporate complicity is not over.

The main beneficiary of the Great Coast Giveaway is corporate giant INTERFOR (International Forest Products), a company with a shocking record of fisheries violations and environmental abuse. Bruce Colpits, INTERFOR's Operations Forester for their mid-coast division, has reason to be happy with the Ministry of Forest's decision: The Ministry employee responsible for this conferral of logging rights worth millions of dollars is Nancy Colpits, his wife.

As if this weren't scandalous enough, the giveaway happened despite an impending Land Resource Management Plan (LRMP) process for the area. The LRMP process is supposed to help implement the provincial government's woefully inadequate goal of protecting 12 percent of the land base (while granting industry unfettered access to the other 88 percent) by suggesting new Protected Areas Strategy (PAS) areas for the region. It is outrageous that the government would prejudice the outcome of the LRMP process by awarding cutting rights over important candidate PAS areas before the process can even begin. Now that cutting rights have been sold in these pristine areas, any attempt to preserve them will result in costly buyouts using taxpayer dollars.

(Ironically, the LRMP process for the entire mid-coast has been put on hold for almost a year because the Ministry of Forests employee designated to oversee the process is pregnant—the same Nancy Colpits who was responsible for the giveaway!)

On the whole, there is very little public outcry or attention on what is happening in the vast, but rapidly disappearing, pristine areas on BC's mainland coast. While high-profile battles have been waged to save some fragments of temperate rainforest left in more densely populated areas further



The Ellerslie, near Bella Coola, BC, is part of a three-lake system in Heiltsuk Nation territory scheduled for roads in 1997.

south, whole collections of pristine valleys are falling, uncontested, further north on the coast.

There are two main reasons for the recent land giveaway in the Great Coast Rainforest. The first is that the government has set the rate of cutting for the area at a ridiculously unsustainable level, as is the case in the rest of the province. By the government's own calculations, the Annual Allowable Cut in the Mid Coast Forest District is 47 percent above their own declared sustainability level, a level which most scientists and eco-foresters would agree is already far too high. This overinflated Annual Allowable Cut compelled the Ministry of Forests to open up these last pristine areas to clearcutting. Only a massive reduction in the Annual Allowable Cut can prevent the complete destruction of the Great Coast Rainforest.

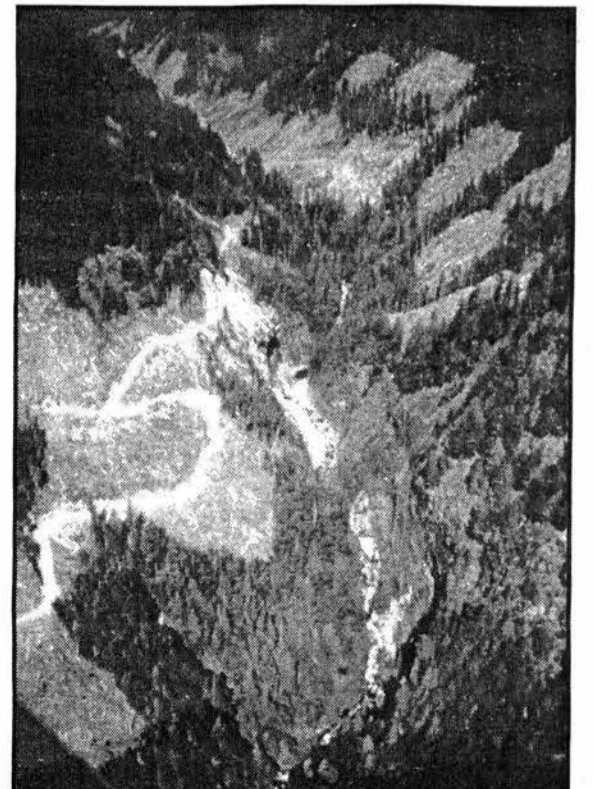
The second reason for the recent giveaway is that under the BC government's recently legislated Forest Practices Code clearcuts are now limited to less than 40 hectares (approximately 100 acres) in size. New regulations govern how close together they can be, as well. Because of this, logging companies now require approximately four times the land base to maintain the same unsustainably high level of cut. What this means is that under the new Forest Practices Code, touted as ensuring "world class forestry" and an end to the "war in the woods," more pristine areas need to be roaded sooner in order to access the same volume of timber. The Forest Practices Code not only enshrines clearcutting as the harvesting method of choice for the whole province, but by accelerating the move into pristine valleys, it also qualifies as a genuine environmental catastrophe for the temperate rainforest.

The Forest Action Network is committed to drawing attention to and stopping the destruction of the Great Coast Rainforest. For the last year FAN has been based in Bella Coola, BC, working with the Nuxalk Nation, which is committed to stopping the destruction of its traditional territories. Together with the Nuxalk people, we'll be starting our summer-long

campaign to keep INTERFOR and other companies out of the remaining pristine areas on the coast. There will be an action training camp in the beginning of May. We'll be doing direct action this summer, of course, but we'll also be setting up a trail-building project and a scientific research camp.

FAN and the Nuxalk Nation need all the help we can get to put the spotlight on what's happening in this remote and magnificent area. We're looking for volunteers to come to Bella Coola and help out with the campaign, and/or for people to highlight the issues from where they live. We also need donations of everything from food to office equipment to boat stuff and climbing gear (and, of course, money). If you're interested in coming up to Bella Coola to help, please contact us first because our ability to transport, house and feed people in the extremely remote areas in which we work is limited. Also, our agreement with the Nuxalk requires us to screen activists. So, we're asking for a brief resume from interested volunteers.

Contact FAN in Vancouver at POB 155, 1895 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, BC, Canada, V5N 4A6; (604) 739-4782, fax (604) 736-7115, or contact our Bella Coola office at Box 625, Bella Coola, BC, Canada, V0T 1C0; (604) 799-7800, fax (604) 799-5830; e-mail: fan@alternatives.com; <http://www.alternatives.com/fan/index.html>.



Paradise Valley with dispersed clearcuts as required by the new BC Forest Practices Code

Gila Hit Hard by Arson

BY TODD SCHULKE

You all know the story by now. Profiteers brandishing chain saws, cans of blue spray paint, and butane lighters have been at work again. July 27, 1995 was not only the infamous day Clinton signed the Salvage Rider into law, it was also the day an arsonist started the HB Fire in the Eagle Peak roadless area in the Gila National Forest, New Mexico. Coincidence you say? That's what the Gila National Forest (GNF) bureaucrats said too. They laughed at the possibility that someone could be so aware of the political situation in Washington, DC. Why heck, they didn't even know about the Salvage Rider until September!

The arsonist set the blaze along the edge of the vociferously contested Eagle Peak timber sale. It was also some distance into one of the last remnants of old growth left in the Gila outside of designated wilderness. The HB Fire burned about 13,000 acres. Between, 1,500 to 2,000 acres burned in a hot, stand-replacement fire.

The fire investigation cited no evidence of arson. Apparently the investigating officer couldn't get into the area because a firefighter's staging area was established at the source of the fire and when he went back 24 days later there was no evidence of arson. In spite of this, the USDA Inspector General has asked the Chief of the US Forest Service (USFS) to investigate a number of controversial issues surrounding the sale. These include that the fire started the day the Salvage Rider was signed; USFS allowed the fire to burn through spotted owl core areas and interfered with fire-fighting operations; USFS began planning the sale the day after the fire started; and the Spotted Owl Recovery Plan was illegally altered to allow the sale.

Memos obtained through the Freedom of Information Act show that the GNF interfered with fire fighting efforts to improve opportunities for future salvage. The fire was not fought at all in the Mexican Spotted Owl Cores (areas protected from logging as owl breeding grounds) that coincidentally contain most of the merchantable timber. The GNF prevented early attempts to fight the fire from the air while simultaneously doing flyovers, scouting the area for potential salvage.

Eagle Peak is the most important unprotected roadless area left in the Southwest. RARE II, the Roadless Area Evaluation of 1979, analyzed 57,000 acres for potential wilderness designation, but there is an additional 10,000 to 20,000 roadless acres surrounding this. Eagle Peak is home to a population of Mexican spotted owls critical to the dispersion of the threatened species to the northern parts of its range. It is also home to other imperiled species such as northern goshawks and Goodings onion.

There were plans in the mid 80s to cut Eagle Peak but the sale was successfully appealed. In 1990, a draft Environmental Impact Statement for a new, improved Eagle Peak Sale was submitted by the GNF to massive public outcry. In response, the Forest Service developed a new alternative that didn't allow logging in the roadless area, giving assurances that all large, roadless, old-growth areas on the Gila would be dropped from consideration for logging (at least until the next forest plan was developed). Enter the Salvage Rider.

THE ENEMY IS



Salvage plans for Eagle Peak, which were developed only two days into the fire (if not sooner), include cutting up to 14 million board feet from the hot burn area where mortality rates are as high as 90 percent. This is the largest sale of any kind in the entire Southwestern Region. The Gila plans to build 10.5 miles of new roads into the roadless area. They claim they will attempt to obliterate the roads after the logging is completed but

have admitted that after the salvage there is no way to fully restore the area to its now pristine condition.

Under pressure from the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity (SWCBD) about the roadless issue, a helicopter logging alternative was developed. This was just a bone the GNF tossed out in an attempt to get us off their backs. The proposal included building over seven miles of new roads; it seems they missed the point. Even the Helicopter Logging Association saw through this one, cautioning the GNF not to use helicopter alternatives as a political ruse.

Supposedly, the HB Sale will not include any green trees, although some of the nicest big green trees left happen to be directly in the path of the proposed logging roads. Ground checks reveal discrepancies over mortality rates in some areas, so we'll have to keep a close eye on where the blue marks go.

The GNF is claiming that if any spotted owls show up in the sale area they'll take acreage out of the sale or drop it altogether. There was a team of owl researchers hooting in April to see if any return. They have been following this population for several years, carrying on a demographic study that will be interrupted if the salvage plans go through.

The GNF is getting desperate to prepare a viable timber sale. They even went so far as to pressure the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to illegally alter the Mexican Spotted Owl Recovery Plan. Days before the recovery plan was signed, the Deputy Director of the GNF wrote, "Jim Lloyd [the USFS Regional Endangered Species guy] called back re: our call yesterday concerning the wording of the owl recovery plan and salvage. He verified the way the plan is going it would in effect counteract the salvage wording in the Rescission Act. He is continuing to work aggressively with FWS to get more flexibility in the plan. However, in our discussion it became more obvious that at the Forest level we need to adjust the agenda on the upcoming field trip with FWS to focus on HB [Fire]... HB is going to be critical in establishing what the Region will be able to do re: salvage. If we can't do it there we probably won't be able to do it elsewhere."

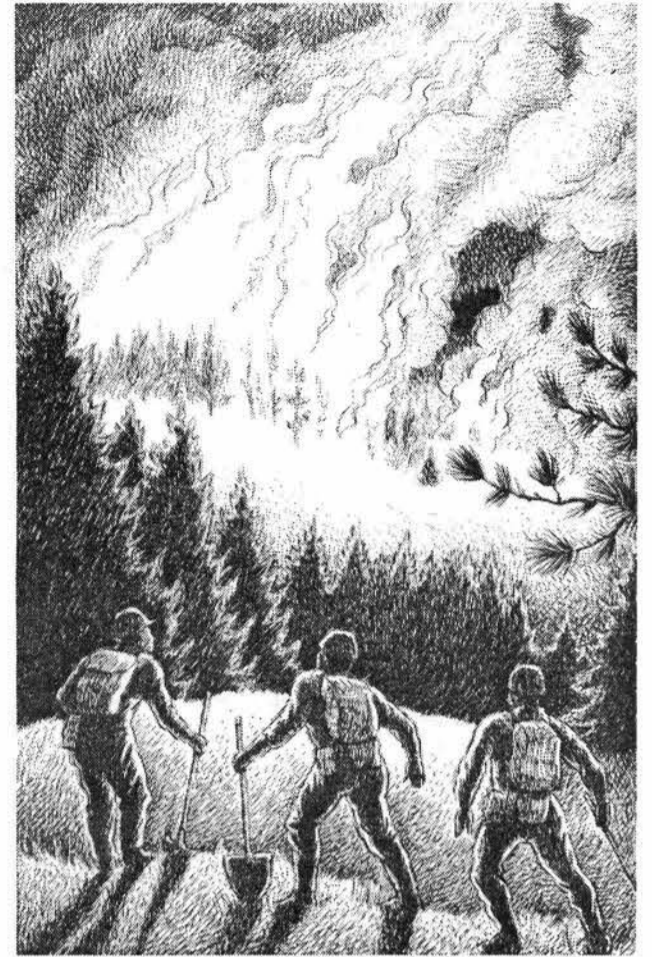
When the Mexican Spotted Owl Recovery Plan was signed it included strong language that precluded salvage logging in spotted owl core areas and on steep slopes in roadless areas. But, the Plan was not released to the public for almost three months after its signing. When it was finally made available, the salvage wording had mysteriously disappeared.

The SWCBD uncovered this discrepancy, breaking the story the night before the FWS was to release the plan at several news conferences. The FWS hastily canceled the news conferences when their phones began ringing off the hook that morning. Members of the Recovery Team expressed shock and dismay when contacted by SWCBD about the illegal alterations. But, after a conference call between team members there was an unusual amount of agreement that well, actually, maybe the changes were okay. Seems fishy, don't it?

All in all, this has been a pretty sleazy deal. SWCBD has demanded a formal investigation by the Inspector General of the Department of Agriculture, asking him to look into the alteration of the Recovery Plan, the interference by the GNF in the fighting of the HB Fire, and the failure of the GNF to conduct an adequate investigation of arson in the fire. Also, as part of a discovery motion filed by SWCBD in an effort to extend an injunction stopping all logging in the Southwestern Region, a judge has granted us the right to question people under oath to testify about the alteration of the Recovery Plan. Should be interesting.

The SWCBD is trying every possible strategy to stop this stupid sale. We have proposed the Natural Recovery Alternative (NRA), including no logging, no grazing, natural regeneration, no fire suppression, and an intensive monitoring project. We proposed buying the sale to facilitate the implementation of the Natural Recovery Alternative, but the GNF didn't seem too excited by the idea.

We are also planning a summer-long encampment to blockade attempts at logging. There is even a youth group from Barcelona vowing to make the trip over



if things heat up. We are shameless and don't feel a bit bad about luring folks away from the Northwest to come help us. Would you rather get all moldy up there or come to the sunny Southwest to work on your tan while defending ancient forests? Why, we're even offering special door prizes to the first several activists who show up.

One thing to keep in mind about this encampment is that it's located in Catron County, hotbed of wise use activity in the West. We need to be careful and act respectfully and nonviolently.

The basecamp will be close to Eagle Peak. Contact us to get the location. We are planning a gathering for May 10-12 to see the area and to strategize for the summer. It looks like cutting won't start until late June or even July, but we have to be prepared to go at any time. We could use help monitoring the sale area as well as getting ready for the basecamp, so if anybody wants to come in May and stick around that would be great. We can also use the usual support like cash, food, tarps, water containers, action gear, etc.

Directions to the May 10-12 gathering: Get a New Mexico map. Get a Gila National Forest map. Find the town of Reserve in the southwestern corner of NM. Go 2.4 miles east of Reserve to Forest Road 233. Go south 12.2 miles on 233. You'll see a sign for Forest Road 38 and the Eagle Peak Fire Lookout. Take that right turn. Go 3.5 miles to an open area with aspens. There will be signs for trails leaving the area if you are in the right place. There will also probably be a locked gate preventing vehicular access to the lookout. There may be some dirtbags hanging around. Make yourself at home. Trail 768 leads into the sale area. The other trail/road leads to a developed spring where there is very good water, but please be respectful, the springs are part of a Zuni sacred site.

There are other things you can do. Write GNF Supervisor Abel Camarena. He may be familiar to some of you. He worked on planning Sugarloaf. He would certainly be glad to hear from some of his old friends. His address is Gila National Forest, 3005 E. Camino del Bosque, Silver City, NM 88061. He loves to get faxes at (505) 388-8204. Also write Nancy Kaufman, Regional Director of Fish and Wildlife at USFWS, 500 Gold St. SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102. Give her a hard time about allowing the changes to the MSO Recovery Plan and ask that USFWS withdraw support for the HB salvage sale.

Contact the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity, POB 102, Pinos Altos, NM 88053; (505) 388-8799, fax 388-0666; e-mail: tschulke@sw-center.org.

TOUGH LUV IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

BY MIDDLE FORK CHINOOK AND MOLLY MAGUIRE

Middle Fork Chinook speaks:

Wolverine paused, sniffing the air before crossing the alpine meadow. Warily hesitating in the fringe of trees at the meadow's edge, Wolverine peered from a rock outcrop into the fringes of the ancient forest below. Silent with expectation, the wandering scavenger watched as Cougar moved with stalking quiet, closing on a straggler from a small herd of mule deer—an old one, who would not last through the next winter. In a blur of speed, power, grace and crunching bone, it was over. The herd scattered down slope into the dappled shadow of the forest, sounds of their flight fading quickly. Wolverine waited; Cougar would finish and cache her kill...gathering clouds darkened the moon as a cold breeze warned of winter's march.

Such was the dance of weather, seasons and life that characterized these Eastside forests for thousands of years. But those ways are unraveling now. Decades of overcutting have degraded the land and watercourses until only a tiny fraction of the old forest remains. Here, below the Indian Rock Scenic Area, adjacent to the North Fork John Day Wilderness, the tattered fringes of unlogged roadless forest are dressed in blue, spray-painted with death stripes. The Reed Fire burned through the Blue Mountains two summers back. Now, ancient, living trees are marked for logging in the Reed Fire Sale of the Malheur National Forest. Marked, despite the promise of the Long Creek District's Environmental Assessment that no live trees would be cut (front page news, but the sale went on). The fragments of the great Eastside Forests that survived insects, drought and fire for centuries were marked for death by the agency entrusted with ensuring their life.

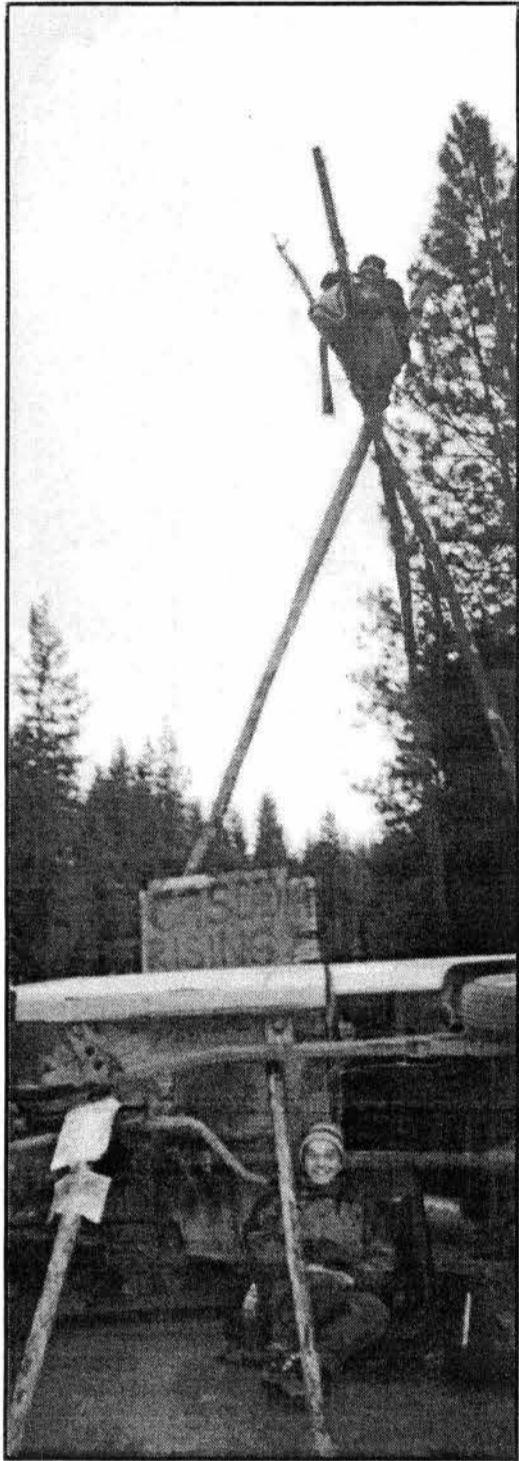
Some folks held off Reed, and many other timber sales, with threats of lawsuits for a while, but all that crumbled with the Salvage Rider. Non-violent direct action was our only choice to stop these sales once Nature's blockade was breached by spring. Reed was sold last fall to Malheur Lumber Company. We expected them to wait till snow melt, but they went

in with a plow and cut half the sale before they were discovered. However, the roadless area with the old forest had not yet been reached. Sparse, spindly trees on burned, eroding soils were all that remained on the half that had been cut. The Forest Service had the shameless audacity to call this atrocity a "fire recovery project" for "forest health." With no recourse, we blockaded the access roads to the uncut roadless part of the sale.

Molly Maguire describes the blockade:

Spring Equinox in the Malheur NF, no moon to speak of, and my Luv's linked by 5 feet of chain to the bumper of Middle Fork Chinook's truck, flying down a hundred miles of back roads, with no lights, my right front brake rotor smoking and threatening to seize. This will end badly and soon, thinks I. But, in the dawn light we find the Luv on its side in the middle of the road, with Magpie fastened by her neck to its undercarriage, and valiant Pine Cone perched 25 feet overhead in a tripod cleverly intermeshed with the Luv so as to jeopardize the stability of both. This was the first overt direct action in these parts, so when a vehicle arrives on the scene at 6:30 am and the Cat driver looks at the truckpod, the expression on his face is due to more than just another case of unfortunate upbringing.

He took the work stoppage in stride, and by 7:30 am the fallers were arriving, not happy at all with the way the road to their worksite was blockaded. Eventually, they walked up to the blockade, swore, threatened, swore some more, threatened some more, went back to their trucks, talked, and repeated the process. Each time the hostility grew greater, even with our peace-vibe at maximum setting. The pod was kicked several times, a camera-person was singled out for a vicious verbal assault, and for a while things were looking very sketchy for a dozen of your friends. A couple fallers declared that if Pine Cone wasn't so young they'd "knock that thing right over." "You're breaking the law, why can't I just break the law, too, and shoot you?," stood as the



Malheur greeting party

Photo by Molly

high-water mark of logger logic in the Malheur that morning. Violence was probably averted only by the arrival of the mainstream press.

Except for the *East Oregonian*, accounts failed in objectivity and accuracy to a degree that should embarrass anyone involved in journalism—one claimed that we blockaded the wrong road (that's why ten monster trucks with irritable cargo arrived and hung out with us for the whole morning).

By noon the loggers called it a day and repaired to the Austin Junction bar to plot revenge. FS Law Enforcement sent one of their more expendable personnel to suss us out. "Yep, looks like a roadblock, alright." He told us we had to leave, but took the hint and left when we ignored him. A "wise-use" cull named Ted Ferrioli, along with two over-fed companions dressed in acetate (that kinda resembled spawning Chinook on acid), appeared at mid-afternoon to take pictures of everyone and tell us to "be careful out there." Careful we were. Here in the heart of "wise-use" land, rhetoric and attitudes of respect do not seem to preclude the use of firearms as viable problem solving tools. We were sweating carefully.

Dusk came with some suspicious lights and sounds; Three of us slithered across a drainage to spy on a covert meeting of two quiet vehicles of about 5 or 6 folks in the dark, a half mile down from our roadblock. Time to get the kids out of camp, maybe ourselves as well.

There were too few of us to withstand what we felt was coming, and we didn't want to get swept from the area and leave our lock-downs without support, so all thirteen of us packed into a VW bus. The next three vehicles that passed us heading toward the barricade were Federales.

"What pick-up truck?" "No one told us about a closure." "None of us have ID." "I don't feel like a person. I'm a tree." "I'm a goshawk." "What's your name?" Their initial response—"How hard do you want this to be played?," devolved finally to a stumbling "Open the gate, Billy." Thanks, Billy, see ya later.

Middle Fork Chinook speaks again:

Although we stopped logging for a day, the sale did get cut. Two-hundred thirty-nine acres and irreplaceable roadless habitat have joined Sugarloaf, Hoxie Griffin, Rocky Brook and the other lost places. And many more places will die undefended. We need to prioritize essential roadless, native forests that we cannot let fall. We must go beyond increasing public awareness to empowering people to action. A few handfuls of folk in the backwoods cannot stop the destruction alone...

The following are some of the roadless/ancient forest areas currently at risk in Eastern Oregon. Its not an issue, its our home. The only thing between life and death for these places is you!

Bear Valley RD, Malheur NF (Aldrich and Todd roadless areas), Long Creek RD, Malheur NF (Fox, M & O, and Sunrise Lookout roadless areas), Burns RD, Malheur NF (Utley Butte roadless area), Walla Walla RD, Umatilla NF (Buzzard roadless area, Heppner RD, Umatilla NF (Texas Butte roadless area).

Send contributions and requests for information to Cascadia Rising!, POB 9554, Bend, OR 97708.

Takings Bill Would Take Wildlife for Ride

BY GARY MACFARLANE

One of the worst pieces of anti-environmental legislation from the 104th Congress will soon to be voted on by the Senate. Senate Bill 605 (S. 605) will make it impossible for federal agencies to protect habitat for wildlife and endangered species. Similar so-called property rights or "takings" legislation passed the House of Representatives last year.

Takings legislation would require taxpayers to compensate any landowner who claims that the value of his/her property has been diminished by one-third or more because it provides habitat for endangered species, contains federally protected wetlands or has been affected by any other federal regulation, policy or contract. This bill would enable a land speculator to buy property with the

full knowledge that it is critical habitat for endangered species. The speculator could then file a claim against the federal government for the loss of potential value of her/his property before s/he even builds a proposed project! The government must choose between paying the developer for not destroying the habitat or letting the development proceed.

The bill provides no funding for this new entitlement program. Instead federal agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency and the Fish and Wildlife Service, must pay claims out of their already thinly stretched budgets.

This bill requires the creation of a new federal bureaucracy to conduct regulatory impact assessments and process claims from property owners. The so-called conservatives promoting this legislation are the same members of Congress who claim

that government is too big and wasteful. This legislation would ruin the budgets of resource agencies, stymie them from protecting vital habitat and create more unwieldy bureaucracy all at the same time.

What You Can Do

Please write your US Senators: Senator _____, United States Senate, Washington, DC, 20510 or call the Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and urge them to oppose and vote against S. 605 and other takings bills.

If you would like more information, please call Tim Eichenberg, Center for Marine Conservation's Program Council at (202) 429-5609.

The Center for Marine Conservation contributed to this article.

Sordid "Salvage" Story: Political Perversity

BY JOHN GREEN

Activists across the US continue their struggle against the 1995 Salvage Rider, the latest in a series of riders from hell. The rider suspends all environmental laws in the interest of combating (by logging, of course) a nonexistent forest health crisis. It defines any tree killed or threatened by fire or insect infestation and all associated trees (any tree) as "salvage timber." In the Northwest, it also mandates cutting thousands of acres of old-growth forest in sales previously stopped because of the enormous environmental damage they would cause. After initially vetoing the bill containing the rider, our "environmental" president flip-flopped and signed it. When it became obvious that the move would cost him politically, Clinton tried to claim that he didn't realize how damaging the rider really was. Perhaps he never read it.

The Salvage Frenzy

By defining salvage timber so loosely and suspending environmental laws, the rider opens the door to all kinds of abuse by the US Forest Service (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), supposed conservation agencies which have proven their inbred preference for logging. Across the country, these agencies are taking old, environmentally destructive timber sales that were killed by public pressure and lawsuits and repackaging them as salvage. In eastern Oregon, the Malheur National Forest directed its planners to call every sale "salvage"—as long as the sale contains a single tree that could meet the rider's loose definition, it is legal to do so.

In the northern Rockies, the Forest Service is taking advantage of 1994's huge wildfires to engage in an orgy of destructive logging. Gigantic sales in wildlife corridors, roadless areas, endangered species habitat, etc. are marked for salvage logging. The Forest Service (together with bought-and-paid-for politicians and their timber industry patrons) is obviously viewing the rider as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to trash roadless areas and endangered species habitat.

California's national forests will take a major hit under the rider with at least 248 salvage sales planned, comprising 900 million board feet. One of the worst, the Barkley Salvage sale, in the Lassen National Forest, would have logged along Deer Creek, one of only two remaining salmon and steelhead streams in the northern Sierra Nevada. At press time, the Barkley sale had been withdrawn, presumably because bad timber sales could harm Clinton's chances to win California in November. California activists should

use this leverage to stop salvage in its tracks.

Salvage is not just an issue for the western US. Public lands bureaucrats across the country are rubbing their hands together in glee as they plan one environmentally horrendous sale after another, secure in the knowledge that they can't be appealed and that lawsuits are almost guaranteed to fail.

Tree Tradin': Why It Sucks

In the Umpqua National Forest in Oregon, three weeks of continuous actions by Cascadia Forest Defenders and Earth First! hindered logging of old growth in the First and Last timber sales (see related story, page 11), adding to pressure on the Clinton administration to stop the logging. Unfortunately, the bureaucrats' solution was not to buy out or cancel Roseburg Forest Products' contracts, but instead to arrange a timber volume trade—that is, to trade old growth in already-cut areas of the Umpqua for the old growth of First and Last. This obviously sucks, but at least it will side-step further fragmentation of the forest in the First and Last area. The administration is looking at volume trades as a way to say they're doing something to halt the damaging effects of the rider, while in reality they're doing almost nothing. They plan to pursue similar trades elsewhere, ignoring the fact that there has been too much cutting on our national forests already.

The Red 90 Timber Sale, adjacent to the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness Area in Oregon's Willamette National Forest, exemplifies another shortcoming of the administration's volume trade scheme. Red 90 is another old-growth sale. Freres Brothers, which holds the contract on Red 90 (and also the nearby Horse-Byars sale) had apparently been willing to trade for other timber. But the owner, Rob Freres, got pissed off when our old friend Senator Hatfield introduced a bill to protect Opal Creek, an old-growth area nearby, and decided to log both Red 90 and Horse-Byars out

of spite. So in addition to their other problems, volume trades are undesirable because they require the contractor to agree to trade; if the contractor is a jerk they can simply refuse, and there ain't a damn thing Clinton is willing to do about it.

One positive note is that the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals has halted logging in marbled murrelet habitat in old-growth areas in the coast ranges of Oregon and Washington at least until early May. The court is scheduled to hear oral arguments on a case requesting that the government apply scientific standards in deciding whether areas slated to be cut are occupied by the threatened marbled murrelet. Under the Salvage Rider, proven occupation by murrelets is about the only way to stop logging. But the rider applies ridiculous criteria for proof, criteria which almost guarantee the logging of murrelet habitat, occupied or not (see *EF!J*, Yule '95). The 9th Circuit ruling reversed a decision by Judge Michael Hogan of Eugene to allow logging.

Repeal the Rider!

The way to stop these recurring nightmares is to repeal the Salvage Rider. It is going to take a combination of direct action, demonstrations, letter writing and lobbying. We must use every available option.

On the legislative front, a bill to repeal the rider introduced by Representative Elizabeth Furse (D-OR) in the House, and Senator Bill Bradley (D-NJ) in the Senate is still gathering co-sponsors. Many candy-ass Democrats from western states, fearful of offending their corporate paymasters, have yet to sign on to the repeal effort, while even some conservatives from the East and Midwest have realized how bad the rider is and are supporting repeal. If Clinton just threw his weight behind the Furse bill and called for full repeal, a lot of the wimpy liberals from the West probably would sign on.

What can you do? Get involved!

Join a direct action campaign and organize a demonstration. This is a national, not a regional issue, and there is no shortage of things to do. Distribute information, harangue your "elected" representatives and the President. Demand their support of the Furse/Bradley bill (H.R. 2745/S.1595). Now more than ever, there is no excuse for not getting involved.

Fight the rider now! Not just the old-growth component, but the entire hellish thing. The only forest health crisis is the one we have created by cutting down far too many trees in far too much forest.



Salvage By Any Other Name

by Pol' Cat

Idaho's Senator Larry Craig is trying to make the Salvage Rider permanent with his forest health bill, S. 391. His logic: who could be against forest health? It's a proven public relations hoax from the timber industry—the same characters, Potlatch, Plum Creek, Weyerhaeuser and Boise Cascade, that deforested the Cascades and parts of northern Idaho and northwestern Montana. They're the same crooks who fund the campaigns of "pseudo-populists" like Larry Craig, Slade Gorton and Mark Hatfield.

S. 391 is designed to eliminate any stands of old growth in the national forests that the Salvage Rider fails to destroy. There would be no appeal and little public involvement. Once an area has been designated for salvage savaging, the trees must be sold within 120 days.

Furthermore, S. 391 would rob already underfunded Forest Service protection programs to cover the expenses of the inevitable road-building subsidies. If the Forest Service does not earn enough revenue from salvage funds, it may substitute funds appropriated for wildlife habitat, watershed restoration, recreation and other activities. Vaunted "conservatives" like Larry Craig are institutionalizing corporate subsidies—stealing from the deep pockets of the taxpayer and giving to rich companies.

Where are they going to cut these trees? Everywhere! The Forest Service even has plans to salvage log high elevation forests like Utah's wild, roadless Uinta Mountains and the ponderosa pine ecosystems of the Mogollon Rim in Arizona and New Mexico. Industrial logging does it all in Freddie-World: protects wildlife, purifies streams, slices your onions without a mess and tucks the kids in bed at night.

The Wild Rockies have been lucky compared to Cascadia and the national forests in the East and Midwest. There are few big cuts next to rivers. All that is changing with salvage mania. Good bye South Fork of the Salmon River, Boise River, and North Fork of the Clearwater River. Pay your last respects to the roadless Gallatin Range, the last vestiges of wildness along the Yaak, and the dry forests of northwestern Wyoming. S. 391 intends to close the door on wilderness forever.

Want more facts about the ill effects of salvage logging? Barry Carter of the Blue Mountain Native Forest Alliance has compiled 85 reasons on why it is wrong. To order a copy, contact: BMNFA (541) 523-2357; e-mail: bcarter@igc.apc.org.

Some Thoughts on Big Money and Bad Activism

BY KIERAN SUCKLING

Editor's note—Pew Charitable Trusts is a Philadelphia-based grantmaking foundation with roots in oil money. Pew disperses over \$20 million annually to environmental causes. Critics contend that Pew leans on groups to support a compromised environmental agenda and subverts the movement as a whole by whom they choose to fund.

A memo came across my fax machine following the Seventh American Forest Congress. The memo lambasted "Pew-funded sellouts" and upheld Peter Galvin as a grassroots hero for hijacking the microphone at a press conference announcing congressional support of the Salvage Rider. Funny thing is, Galvin is funded by Pew as the coordinator of the Southwest Forest Alliance. In fact, he was in DC courtesy of a Pew plane ticket (coach class). Assuming that every radical is foundation-free makes for bad memos and muddled critiques. So does the assumption that there's a foundation lurking behind every compromise—environmentalists are perfectly



capable of being weak-kneed on their own.

Foundation influence is real but usually not direct. It's not like the hotline rings and Rockefeller barks, "Drop the lawsuit!" By making money available for certain issues and particular ways of addressing those issues, funders can exert great influence. Nothing is necessarily evil in this. Imagine Aunt Nellie left you \$300,000 a year to distribute to environmental groups. To ensure that as much wildness was saved as possible, you'd carefully choose which issues you want to fund, which bioregions are most important to you and which strategies you think are most effective. You'd fund groups you trusted or rely on the recommendations of people you trusted. In other words, you'd be a foundation, seeking to change the world with your donations. By funding and not funding certain groups you'd change the environmental movement. To the extent that groups decide to do what they think you want them to do to get your money, you'd change the environmental movement. But, since you're

not a megalomaniac (right?) you wouldn't impose your ideology on the movement *carte blanche*, you'd also be open to exploring new strategies.

The problem is, most foundations didn't get their money from Aunt Nellie; they got it from family dynasties founded on the oil, car, timber, computer, media industries, etc. Additionally, most foundations have their money invested in earth-destroying industries because they pay the highest returns. Because of the ideological distance between a foundation's purpose and the source of its money, foundations often fund activism that could ultimately cut into their profits—one of the classic contradictions of capitalism. In terms of affecting environmental activism, the political orientations of the trustees and especially the staff are more important. They're the folks who distribute the money and set the agendas.

These folks are not entirely untouchable. While there is not much you can do to influence the agenda of the more rigid foundations, the more open funders are definitely influenced by successful activism and compelling presentations of new strategies. This assumes a commitment to a certain strategy and a willingness to follow it through whether it is currently "fundable" or not. Changing strategies to chase money is a formula for stagnation and generic activism.

In 1995, 70 percent of the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity's

funding came from foundations. Via the Southwest Forest Alliance, we received money from Pew Charitable Trusts. Independently, we were funded by Turner, Harder, Levinson, Deep Ecology, Ruth Brown, Patagonia, Human-I-Tees and the Outdoor Industries Conservation Alliance. Harder and Levinson are activist foundations which regularly give us advice, usually good. Pew keeps a pretty close eye on the Southwest Forest Alliance to ensure it delivers what it promised, but has not attempted to influence policy decisions or rein in the aggressive components of our campaign—even after the "Galvin incident." The rest have a pretty hands-off approach. Thus far, no funder has ever asked us to compromise anything.

Foundation funding has allowed us to grow from two people with a fax machine in 1990, to a full-time staff of nine with a door-to-door canvas, 2,200 members and a budget of \$171,000. Funding has enabled us to inundate the earth-rapers with a constant flood of petitions, appeals, lawsuits, media stories, and ecological research papers while monitoring a slew of timber sales, mines, grazing allotments, dams, and land exchanges. As our membership grows, we want to decrease our relative dependence on foundations, but for the time being, they definitely make our work possible.

Contact the Southwest Center for Biological Diversity at POB 17839, Tuscon, AZ 85731; (520) 733-1391; e-mail swcbd@igc.apc.org.

Some Thoughts on Bad Money and Big Activism

BY DANA STOLZMAN AND CECELIA LANMAN

Since 1977, the Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC) has been working to protect endangered species and preserve the last of the ancient redwood forests in northern California. Our efforts to defend places like the Sinkyone Coast and Headwaters Forest are essentially *pro bono*, in-kind work taken on by unpaid zealots. In our case, the founders of EPIC were rural Luddites who left their homesteads and came down from the hills to fight against herbicide spraying, deforestation, siltation of salmon habitat and desecration of sacred sites. When the Maxxam corporation of Houston orchestrated a hostile takeover of Pacific Lumber (PL) in 1986, EPIC sought funding to challenge the liquidation logging operations of this corporate giant.

EPIC mapped out a five-year plan, or conspiracy as PL likes to say, to protect the remaining old-growth groves as endangered species habitat. Our first grant submitted to the W. Alton Jones Foundation (WAJ) was sketched out on an accordion-like collage of papers as big as our vision for forest preservation. We worked out of the converted garage of a friend who let us use his computer. WAJ awarded our tenacity and dedication with funding that was instrumental to EPIC's initial development as an organization.

Last year at the Eugene Environmental Law Conference, Jeffrey St. Clair, editor of *Wild Forest Review*, informed us that WAJ invests in Scotia Pacific Corp., the subsidiary of Maxxam which owns all the old-growth groves. We were shocked. Why would a foundation that supports our work to stop Maxxam's rapacious logging of the last ancient redwoods simultaneously invest in the holding corporation that owns the most pristine ancient redwood groves remaining on Earth? St. Clair quoted Cecelia Lanman, EPIC's program director, "When I saw that

Alton Jones owned some of Hurwitz's bonds and stock in Scotia Pacific, I was nauseated." Well, yeah. It's about as nauseating as flying over PL's cut-over lands. EPIC was dumbfounded that WAJ, which funds our citizen lawsuits, would simultaneously invest in the defendant's stocks! But we figure we're a wise investment since we win precedent-setting lawsuits with an annual budget less than the salary of one of PL's lawyers.

It's not totally surprising that a large environmental foundation would have accumulated its wealth from mining, oil drilling or logging. Ravaging the earth has always been more profitable than preserving it—just compare the plaintiff's account balances with the defendants. Despite the contradictions, EPIC feels that WAJ's contributions have gone a long way to curb the profits of Maxxam, and of course have managed to save some old trees and rare species in the process.

WAJ has wholeheartedly supported our mission, goal and objective of preserving the redwood ecosystem and fighting corporate domination of the last redwoods. EPIC has always tried to make responsible decisions about foundation support. If there were strings attached to a foundation's grants we would simply cut ourselves free. But WAJ has been unconditionally supportive of EPIC in our work to protect endangered species habitat, even on private lands. We honestly hope that this disclosure may prod WAJ's investment bankers to consider divesting from Scotia Pacific and, in the future, choose investments more consistent with the principles the foundation promotes.

WAJ has provided support for significant legal challenges including *Sierra Club v. Board of Forestry* in the State Supreme Court, *Marbled Murrelet v. Pacific Lumber* in Federal Court and our current federal lawsuit *Marbled Murrelet and Northern Spotted*

Owl v. Babbitt. These legal rulings have lent greater protection to the Headwaters Forest and its endangered species. WAJ and nearly 20 other foundations have provided a solid base of support from which we have achieved environmental protection, developed solid programs and diversified our funding sources. Over half of our income is generated from memberships, donations and community fund-raising. We enjoy the volunteer community spirit which sustains our work.

For more information contact EPIC, POB 397, Garberville, CA 95542; (707) 923-2931.



All Done Dancing Down the Headwaters Death Road

BY DRAGONFLY

We have great news to report. First, the proposed "Death Road" into the heart of the Headwaters Grove has been denied by the California Board of Forestry! Next, the 50,000-acre "salvage" injunction has been upheld by the Federal Court! And finally, temporary restraining orders have stopped eight additional old-growth Pacific Lumber cuts!

The Earth First! community has been elated at the repeated administrative and legal victories. We owe it all to the fine work and determination of the kick-ass lawyers at the Environmental Protection and Information Center of Garberville, California. Headwaters has again been successfully defended as "critical habitat" under the Endangered Species Act.

February 22, Earth First! held a rally to draw attention to the double threat facing Owl Creek, one of six groves in the Headwaters complex. In the quad of Humboldt State University, over 200 folks gathered to support the ancient redwoods. Pacific Lumber was seeking approval of 135 acres of clearcuts in "residual" ancient forest immediately adjacent to the federally protected 500 acres of Owl Creek.

A week later we were hot on the trail of Representative Frank Riggs, the cause of much of our trouble. Riggs visited the Northcoast Environmental Center in Arcata to "listen" to the concerns of the environmental community. The mainstream environmental groups gathered to collectively denounce his evil Headwaters legislation but EF! wanted to tell him in our own special way what we really thought of his ideas.

February 28, 30 Earth First!ers rallied at Frank's office in Eureka to draw attention to his sponsorship of the Headwaters Forest Destruction Act, HR 2712. He is attempting to pass off this bill (obviously written with detailed assistance from Pacific Lumber) as a compromise even though it mandates a long list of industry demands.

The many drainages and water-courses that define the Headwaters Forest comprise over 100,000 acres. Under the recent court decisions, only 50,000 of these acres are protected. Riggs' bill would set aside a mere 3,000 acres of ancient forest, but only if Pacific Lumber sells the land within 18 months and the stingy Republican Congress can meet Pacific Lumber's astronomical asking price.

The bill would allow Pacific Lumber to destroy the Smith River National Recreation Area. A maniacal little clause would give away five million board feet of fatty old-growth Douglas fir a year to Pacific Lumber. The pristine roadless area is not only ancient forest, but also home to a wild, undammed river that would be ruined.

Last fall, Northcoast Earth First! fought to defend the "North" Headwaters by tangling with Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) and the Elk River Timber Company. Though we locked down, tripodded, tree-sat and protested across northern California, we were unable to prevent a 55-acre clearcut from being placed smack dab next to Headwaters Grove. This crime against nature has poured untold tons of sediment into the Little South Fork of the Elk River.

We are once again preparing to do battle with the redwood-thirsty clearcutting conglomerate known as SPI/Elk River Timber. A new rotten plan, Timber Harvest Plan 059, calls for clearcutting 395 acres of 90-year-old redwood and Douglas fir on the steep slopes directly above the South Fork of the Elk River. Though this whole

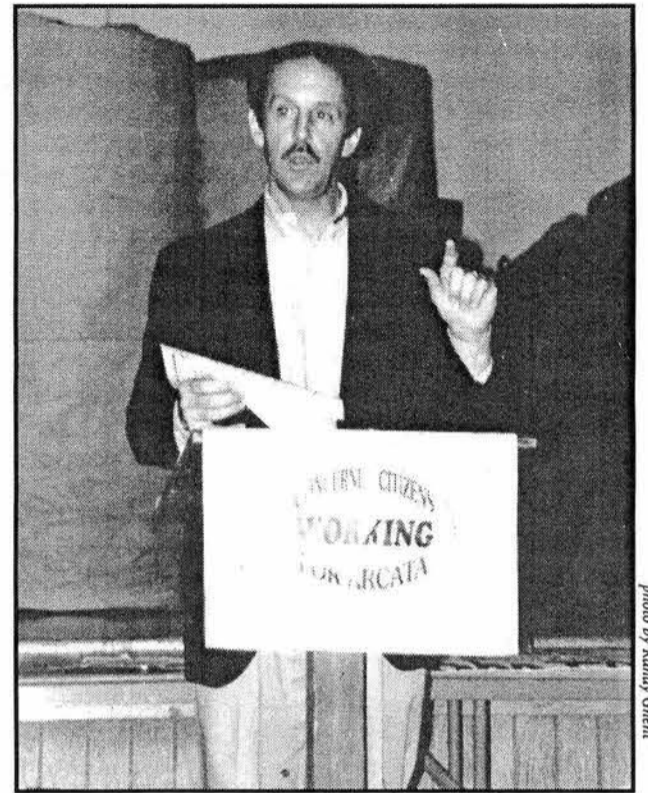
watershed has been severely degraded by poor historical forestry practices (i.e., ruthless clearcutting, even of immature second growth), some trace populations of wild coho and Chinook salmon remain. The whole Elk River valley was inundated by unusually high floodwaters this winter. More industrial logging will wash away the disappearing topsoil, decimate wild salmon populations and compound flood damage.

In addition, Pacific Lumber is seeking approval of a plan to log the last 200 acres of "residual" old growth on the North Fork of the Elk River. Though this rim of canopy habitat was previously logged, it was not clearcut and still has trees over eight feet in diameter. This area is prime habitat for both marbled murrelet and northern spotted owl, as well as salamander, lichen, mushrooms and tree voles. Unbelievably, state Fish and Game biologists have not visited the site.

Numerous old-growth sales have been released in the Klamath National Forest by the lawless logging of the Salvage Rider, including several old-growth sales in roadless areas. Among the worst is the Dillon Creek sale. This is a Late Successional Reserve roadless area that is also prime habitat for wild salmon and steelhead trout populations. The Lick Salvage Sale proposes logging unstable slopes in the Tom Martin roadless area.

In addition to this madness, over 20 sales are planned in the Six Rivers National Forest. The Pilot Creek sale would log in riparian areas and the last roadless section of this watershed. We are planning our "Headwaters Spring" and "Salvage Summer"

campaigns, so come visit beautiful Humboldt County and put your body on the line for the ancestral trees. For more information contact Northcoast Earth First! at POB 4796, Arcata, CA 95521; (707) 825-8911.



Frank Riggs, Cascadia Forest Destroyer, indicates how much of Headwaters he wants to save.

Photo by Randy Ghent

Headwaters Legal Update

BY DANA STOLZMAN

The movement to preserve Headwaters Forest is reaching critical mass. A potential Debt-for-Nature swap is presenting an opportunity to secure permanent protection of Headwaters in exchange for Maxxam CEO Charles Hurwitz's \$1.6 billion debt to the American taxpayers for his failed Texas Savings and Loan. While the federal government looks at Headwaters protection as an election year issue, Environmental Protection and Information Center's (EPIC) litigation and Earth First!'s direct action tactics are crucial to temporarily protecting the groves until permanent protection can be achieved.

EPIC received a preliminary injunction in September halting review-exempt salvage operations on nearly 50,000 acres of proposed critical habitat for the marbled murrelet. On April 3, we received a second preliminary injunction enjoining eight old-growth timber harvest plans that didn't comply with the Endangered Species Act and would harm northern spotted owls.

In March, the Board of Forestry unanimously voted to uphold California Department of Forestry's de-

nial of an eight-acre timber harvest plan in the heart of the Headwaters Grove (known as the "Death Road"). EPIC coordinated scientific and legal comment on this plan and helped mobilize public support. Over 150 citizens testified in front of the Board including lawyers, activists reading from Dr. Seuss' *Lorax* and biologists speaking on behalf of the marbled murrelet and coho salmon.

Usually the California Department of Forestry (CDF) denies one plan out

remaining old-growth holdings. CDF cannot piecemeal approve a multi-phase road project intended to result in extensive harvest operations." This plan proposed to clearcut old-growth redwoods on both sides of a new road in the core 3,300-acre Headwaters Grove, the largest unprotected ancient redwood forest on Earth, setting the stage for a full-scale assault on the forest. Both the state Department of Fish and Game and the US Fish and Wildlife Service determined that "activities proposed under [the plan] are likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the marbled murrelet and result in a taking of the marbled murrelet, a state and federal listed species."

April 1 (no fooling) marked the beginning of marbled murrelet nesting season so there is a reprieve on the occupied groves. Activists should be prepared in case EPIC loses the temporary injunctions on salvage logging in the critical habitat areas. Sierra Pacific Corporation, which owns land on the northern boundary of Headwaters, is also submitting logging plans that would affect the coho salmon and northern spotted owls.

For more information contact: EPIC, POB 397, Garberville, CA 95542; (707) 923-2931, fax (707) 923-4210.



On Earth Day Zonker occupied a crane at the Humboldt County Jail hanging a miniature version of this banner.

Photo by Randy Ghent

of a thousand, so this is a landmark decision based on scientific concern about the marbled murrelet. Even CDF's attorney acknowledged that the Death Road Timber Harvest Plan would pose "significant long-term damage to the marbled murrelet and would be the first stage of a 35-year project to liquidate Pacific Lumber's

UMPQUA ANCIENT FOREST SPARED

DIRECT ACTION GETS THE GOODS

BY CIMMARON AND RAVEN

On spring equinox the comet passed over radical and mainstream environmentalists as we banded together to stage an intense, three-week series of actions in the Umpqua National Forest. Day after day, protesters from Southern Willamette EFi, Cascadia Forest Defenders and Siskiyou Forest Defenders, along with assorted friends from Baja Cascadia to Alaska, attempted to halt logging on

sales—Cowboy, Nita and South Nita—contending that they violated even Section 318 environmental protections. First and Last were hastily withdrawn by the Forest Service before they could be ruled unsound on similar grounds. On January 10, Judge Hogan released all five sales. Because Cowboy, Nita and South Nita fell under the previous injunction by Judge Dwyer, they are currently held up, pending review by his court in early May. First and Last were put on the chopping block.

to the units. Success was within our grasp one Monday when a sex-pod and elaborate car blockade cut off fallers on three different roads. But, alas, a sneaky Fred happened upon a third road crew and prevented them from erecting a spiked tripod on the fourth access road. Just days later another tripod crew succeeded in delaying the fallers for hours. Individually each action was less than successful, but the cumulative delays slowed the attack on the wild considerably.

Roseburg Forest Product's Deal of Shame

Cooperation with the local environmental group, Umpqua Watersheds, had a synergistic effect on the activities in the woods, making this high-profile campaign a model of cooperation between direct-action groups and the mainstream. Persistent pressure from the woods actions and Umpqua Watersheds also fast-tracked the lagging negotiations between the Forest Service and Roseburg Forest Products to swap volume for timber on less sensitive lands. After weeks of high-level sidestepping, negotiations eventually resulted in a timber swap of these ancient trees for shelterwood leftovers on nearby "matrix" lands (checkerboards of private and public forests). Intact wild forest and critical fish habitat was saved at the expense of "destined-to-be-harvested" trees on already cut-over lands. The direct action groups on the ground, having no voice in the negotiations, did not sanction the swap. But the signing of the deal suspended activities and activists have

turned their attention to other Cascadian disasters.

First and Last are safe for the present. But Cascadians are keeping a careful eye on Abe's Wren (another terrible Tiller old-growth salvage sale), Cowboy, Nita and South Nita. If necessary, they are prepared to move back into the area. The Freddie's, too, are waiting. The Freddie's gates are still on road 2719, albeit open for now. More woods action in Douglas County may be just around the corner. Thirty activists from CFD and SWEFi already blocked access to Ollala Wildcat in the Roseburg BLM, another salvage sleeper sale. Three women locked themselves to two concrete-filled 55-gallon drums, shutting down logging for the day (see photo page 25). Loggers did not return to the area the next day despite the napping forest defender's low profile. A closure has been placed on the area.

For more information, contact Cascadia Forest Defenders, POB 11122, Eugene, OR 97440; (541) 465-8971; e-mail: mickey@efn.org or Southern Willamette EFi, POB 10384, Eugene, OR 97440, (541) 343-7305; e-mail: swef@efn.org.

Visit the Umpqua Watersheds web page for more information (<http://www.teleport.com/~francis/umpquawater>).



Day One: Activists line up for the penalty kick. Freddie Kelly negotiated a draw, no arrests.

the First and Last timber sales with car blockades, tripods and other "work interferences." The first morning fallers arrived, with chainsaws primed, they found a dozen activists occupying the road. Soon thereafter Don Otsby, Umpqua National Forest Supervisor, slapped a 16-square-mile-plus federal closure on the area.

The Very Last Timber Sale

The Umpqua contains the most extensive tracts of native forest in Oregon and some of the last mid-level old growth. The forest is a mix of Douglas fir, pine, cedar and hemlock covering steep, low mountains and small, fast streams. The forests affected by these sales are critical to the endangered sea-run cutthroat trout and threatened coho salmon and are located in ecologically significant old-growth roadless areas and spotted owl habitat. Last fall only 100 sea-run cutthroat returned to the Umpqua.

The First and Last timber sales are part of a group of five controversial Section 318 sales (sales offered under a 1989 rider that were ruled illegal and never cut) in the Tiller Ranger District. All five were awarded to Scott Timber, the purchasing arm of Roseburg Forest Products, which controls over 350,000 acres of private forest lands. In the First sale, core samples of a six-foot diameter Douglas fir revealed an estimated age of 1,044 years. Scott Timber and their Farce Service pals graciously moved the unit boundary to spare her for future generations of RV owners on a soon-to-be wayside attraction, but allowed the adjacent 860-year-old tree to be cut.

In 1992, the Audubon Society and Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund successfully sued over the three other

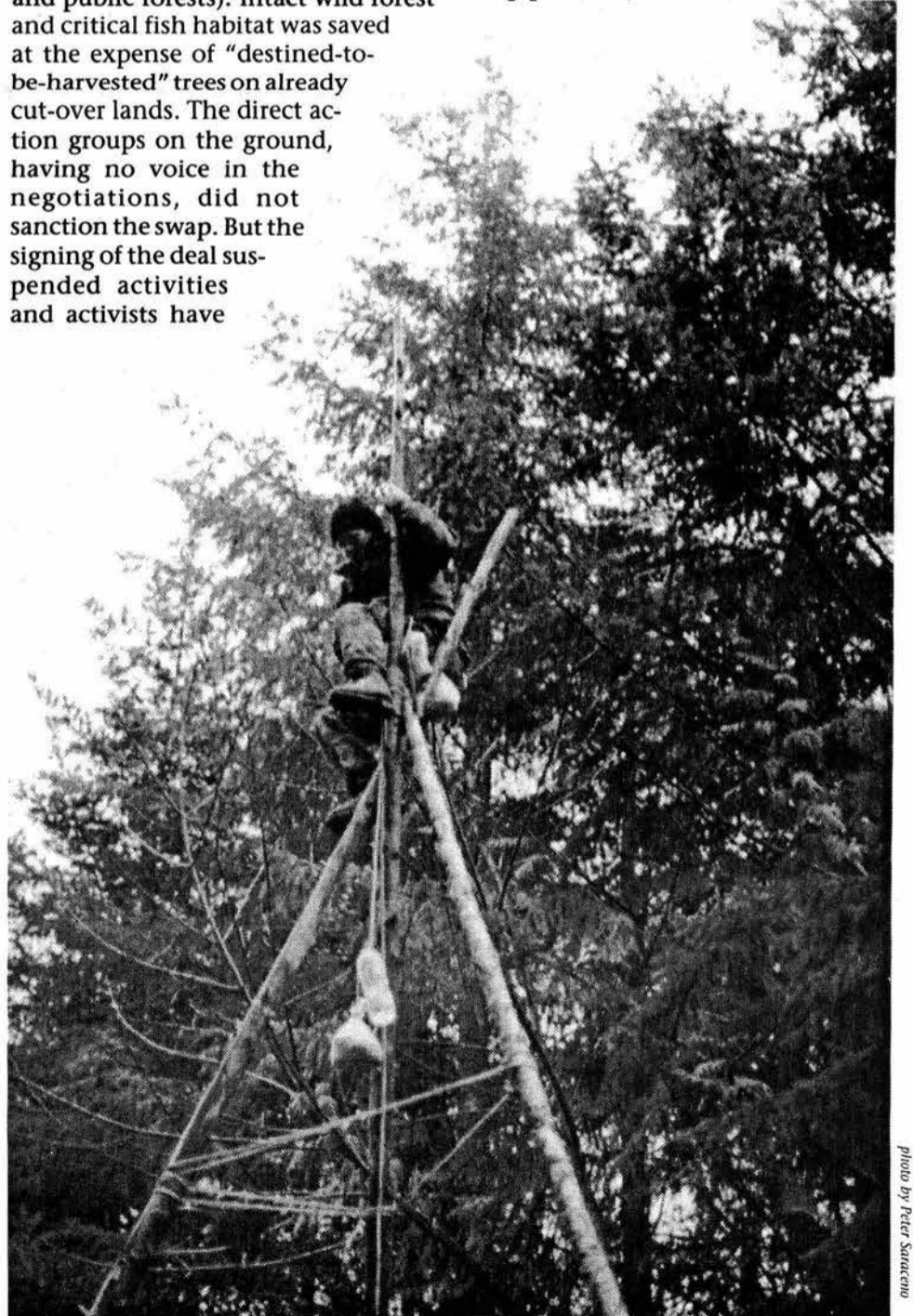
CD Comes to DC

Douglas County has a history of high levels of logging on public land and little or no experience with EFi-style activities. In the county's first-ever civil disobedience action, 21 were arrested at a choreographed Witness Against Lawless Logging protest at the North Umpqua Ranger Station in January for stepping onto the public sidewalk. An Earth First!/Cascadia Forest Defenders protest at the Roseburg BLM and Forest Service offices in March reaffirmed earlier warnings that protests were certain to occur when cutting began.

Activists expected hostility from locals in this timber-oriented region when road blocks began, but it was actually minimal. In fact, many locals came by basecamp to bring manifestations of their support. Even some Freddie's secretly detested these sales and supported the efforts of protesters to stop them.

With word that cutting could start as early as May 20, activists who had been monitoring and video-documenting the area for months moved in and set up a semipermanent, open camp. Law Enforcement representatives from the Malheur, Willamette, Siskiyou and Colville National Forests were quickly summoned to the area. Uniformed, plain-clothed and camouflaged agents roamed the closure day and night and maintained two round-the-clock road blockades to prove their overzealous commitment to protecting public safety.

Undaunted by flexible closure boundaries, poor communications and the six roads into the area, activists repeatedly attempted to block all access



Day Seven: Tripod sitter Fire held RFP and the Forest Service at bay for hours.



CLEARWATER CURTAIN DROPPING

BY THE BIG DIPPER

Ah just wanna to tell all you Wild Rockie ingrates that things don't go so good on thu Clarewater Nashunal Forest. What with that doggone Salvage Rider and Operashun Pipeline to cut 80 million board feet a year, started by muh buddy, Supervisor Jim Caswell, there won't be no trees to worry bout real soon. On top of all that, that wild bunch down in the I-dee-hoe state legislature passed a bunch of bills sayin' that thuh Clarewater could be better managed by the state of I-dee-hoe instead of those Freddie's. And while Ah don't like them Freddie's much, Ah hate those state guys worse. The legislature said them local peoples that want to chop trees gots rights. They said that they want to let the locals have the forest, and it was only right and proper and all that.

But when Ah told them that Ah was a local that Ah din't want them to cut all the trees and build them doggone roads, and that lots of jest plain folks felt the same way, they told me that Ah wasn't local enuf, and thet anybody who was really local wanted to chop down them trees. It don't seem to matter that Ah live right next to the forest with all them little critters, like salmon and wolverines and such. They jest told me thet

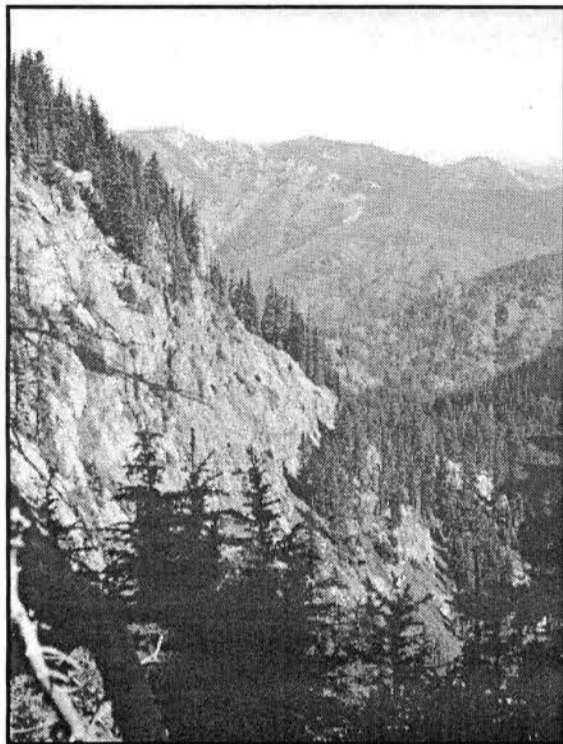
only communists liked them things, and surely Ah was one. They told me thet the forest was sick and had to be chopped down. And then Ah asked them if they shot their grandpappy when he got aillin' and pissed all over hisself and they said no. So Ah asked them about them big trees and they told me it weren't the same thet some of them big trees got bugs. And when I told them about my little boy gettin' lice and still not killin' him, they tole me it were diffrint agin, and thet Ah was bein' contrary, and to get the hell out.

Helen Chenoweth in Washington DC is workin with them state boys and wants to pass some dang laws back there to give the Clarewater to the state to log. Thet's gotta happen if the state is gonna get ahold of the Clarewater. Ah figures thet will happen this summer, then the Clarewater'll be the Muddywater.

They gots these big old timber sales called Fish Bate over there on the North Fork of the Clare, down by muh fa-vo-rite fishin' hole. Reckon after they get done with that one, the hillside'll slide into the river, and then us folks won't have no more fishin' hole; just a big ole beach. Now Ah don't mind takin' a sun bath, but it ain't nearly as much fun when your belly's aimpty with no fish in it. They's got some other stinkin' salvage sales around, like Fuzzy Bighorn in the Bighorn/Weitas roadless areas. Plus, last winter, all them loggin' roads got all tore up by rain-n-snow. Ah know there ain't many bull trout left, and their homes up Papoose and Squaw Creek was hit real hard by Lolo Pass. Makes me think thet I've fried muh last one up. Margaret Gorski, from the Powell District, got transferred to the Regional Office to look at all them slides, but she's a slippery one, and knows how to waste money.

Ah should also tell ya thet they're a gonna chop muh favorite place in the name of thet new-fangled "Ecosystem Management" this summer. White Sand up by Lolo Pass, one heck of a purty crick, is gonna get all busted up. They're gonna chop all around Sneakfoot Meadows up there too. They jest don't like old thangs up there, Ah think, and they tell me there's lots of bad old trees up there thet's gotta go. Ah reckon Ah'll be a might bit sad if thet happens.

Well, if y'all are makin' yer vacashun plans this summer, these next coupla years are going to be some of the last purty ones. So come and visit! And maybe bring some of them monkeywrenches with ya. Ah'm sure there'll be puh-lenty of places to use them. We're gonna be needin' some help, cuz this is the last purty place next to Alaska. And ah'm gittin too old to leave.



The Mallard Larkins area above Heart Lake showcases the natural beauty of the Clearwater.

FREDD'S PLEAD FOR LAMB BROOK APPEAL

BY BLUE COYOTE

A federal court has given the Forest Service an extension until May 6, 1996 to decide whether to go forward with its appeal of the recent Lamb Brook decision, which temporarily stops the Freddie's from destroying critical black bear and songbird habitat in Vermont's Green Mountain National Forest (see Samhain, '95, *EF!J*). The United States Solicitor General must approve all court appeals by federal agencies, but so far he hasn't bothered to tell the demoralized Vermont Freddie's whether or not he will give the required permission.

The Lamb Brook decision, issued on December 14, 1995 by Judge Murtha, thwarted Forest Service plans to strip 3.2 million board feet of timber from the 5,500-acre Lamb Brook area and extend a logging road into the remote forest core. The Court earlier refused to consider the testimony of the plaintiffs' experts, who found that the project would wipe out all black bears from a 17,500-acre wildlife "subunit," and prevent neotropical songbirds, including scarlet tanagers and black-throated blue warblers, from breeding successfully. The below-cost timber sale would have lost at least \$100,000.

The Court based its decision on the Freddie's Environmental Assessment, which conceded that the project would harm bears, but concluded with typical sociopathic élan, that there would be "no significant impact" on the environment.

"On its face," concluded Judge Murtha, "the proposed action, which includes clearcutting of over 300 acres and its admitted attendant effects such as intrusion into bear and neotropical bird habitats, is 'significant' under any reasonable construction of the term."

Murtha's injunction blocked the Freddie's taxpayer-subsidized destruction until the Forest Service prepares an Environmental Impact Statement. Murtha's decision was widely praised by establishment media, and touted relentlessly by lead plaintiff Green Mountain Forest Watch and its Executive Director, former *EF!* activist turned eco-yuppie Mathew Jacobson, who promptly applied for numerous foundation grants on the strength of his big win.

A source close to the case says that Solicitor General and Supreme Court Justice-wannabe Drew S. Days, III wouldn't even return the telephone calls of Forest Service lawyer Helen "the face that launched a thousand log trucks" Toor, forcing her to apply to a federal appeals court in New York City for an extension of time.

An embarrassed Toor presented her request during a conference call with Green Mountain Forest Watch lawyer Steve Saltonstall, and US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit staff counsel, Frank Scardelli. Scardelli okayed the delay, but not before raking Toor over the coals for wanting to appeal.



Vermont black bear cub in Lamb Brook roadless area

"Why won't you agree now to prepare an EIS, since the government is charged with enforcing environmental laws and the Judge found that these laws were broken," Scardelli bellowed during a prolonged tirade that sometimes forced Saltonstall to cup the telephone receiver to muffle his laughter, according to the source. "This case raises a question mark regarding the propriety of what the Forest Service is doing, the question of bad faith."

But Toor stuck to her guns, reportedly telling Scardelli that the Forest Service views Judge Murtha's decision as a potentially devastating blow to the FS's plans to clearcut Vermont.

Members of mainstream Vermont conservation groups, including Audubon and the Sierra Club, have since launched a letter-writing campaign to persuade Solicitor General Days to continue to ignore Toor's phone messages. Other, bolder activists, hoping for a Court of Appeal's victory that would extend the legal reach of the Lamb Brook decision to New York and Connecticut, have sent taunting missives to the Freddie-defendants, including the about-to-retire timber hog, Floyd "Butch" Marita, urging them to press forward with their appeal.

For more information about Lamb Brook contact Green Mountain Forest Watch, 48 Eliot, Brattleboro, VT 08301; (802) 257-4878.

CLEARCUTTING BAN ON MAINE BALLOT

BY RON HUBER

An end to the savage over-cutting of the Maine Woods may occur this November if enough Maine voters pull the yes lever on the following ballot question: "Do you want Maine to ban clearcutting and set other new logging standards? Yes _____ No _____."

On February 15, 1996, Maine's Secretary of State announced that the Ban Clearcutting Campaign had gathered more than enough valid signatures to place that question on the 1996 election ballot. Anger at forest abuse in Maine is so strong that *more than enough signatures (55,000) were collected in a single day.*

The initiative bans clearcutting, ratchets down the amount taken in partial cutting to 1/3 the total volume of existing wood every 15 years, requires the maintenance of age and species diversity and otherwise restricts the ability of Big Timber to loot the Maine Woods.

The ban will apply in the unorganized townships that make up most of the Maine Woods. There, millions of acres are ruled like corporate fiefdoms by International Paper, Bowater/Georgia Pacific, Champion International, James River, SAPPI (South Africa Pulp and Paper, Inc.) and their ilk. Collectively they denude an area the size of Delaware every year in Maine (Maine is 33,215 square miles, about 14 Delawares). These business interests also rule the state legislature, governor and state

bureaucracy. Every attempt at curbing these companies' practices through legislation has been defeated. Thus, a citizen ballot initiative.

The clearcutting ban will also help fend off a deadly GATT-port proposed for Maine. The timber barons are trying to force a woodchip export complex onto Penobscot Bay on the Maine coast. A clearcutting ban, however, would make it impossible to turn the Maine Woods into woodchips fast enough to satisfy the global market's lust.

The transnationals' reaction to this challenge has been to allocate millions of dollars to spread lies and distortion and use scare tactics to defeat the initiative. A shadowy consultant firm, Winner, Wagner and Mendelback, that specializes in quashing citizen ballot initiatives, has been summoned from San Francisco. Astroturf grassroots groups are being deployed. Misinfomercials clutter the media landscape. PR voices can be heard on local talk radio, pretending to be local callers, trying out the first fruits of focus-grouping.

Defeating big industry's PR storm will take tenacity and smarts. If you have experience fighting anti-environmental PR firms, strategic and tactical ideas to get the initiative passed, or want to personally participate in the battle, contact the Ban Clearcutting Campaign, POB 2218, Augusta, ME 04333; (201) 623-7140. Donations of money for organizing expenses are also welcome. Make your check out to the Ban Clearcutting Campaign.

Timber Rights Tested No-Cut Bid Rejected

BY MITCH FRIEDMAN

Conservationists have filed an appeal with the General Accounting Office, claiming the US Forest Service is wrong to not grant a timber sale contract to the Northwest Ecosystem Alliance (NWEA). On March 20, the FS rejected a bid by NWEA to acquire a contract for the Thunder Mountain Timber Sale on the Okanogan National Forest. NWEA offered the highest bid for the clearcutting contract at an auction on December 20, 1995, declaring its intent to pay the bid price but not remove the public's trees. In granting the contract to a lower bidder, the Forest Service will not only receive less money but also subject public forests to unnecessary environmental damage while incurring additional costs to the taxpayers.

The Forest Service rejected the bid because it claims that a responsible purchaser would have to carry out the logging described in the sample contract. NWEA's appeal focuses on a Forest Service document which states that the award of the contract, "will be made to that responsible bidder whose bid, conforming to the invitation for bids, is most advantageous to the United States on a basis of total value at rates bid for the estimated quantities."

"The Forest Service is saying that it will not accept any proposal that doesn't include cutting down the public's forest," said Mitch Friedman, Executive Director of NWEA. "That decision shows no flexibility or accountability. With this logic they would turn us away even if we offered a million dollars, or a billion."

A natural (and ecologically beneficial) forest fire roared through the Thunder Mountain area in 1994. The Forest Service has not claimed that logging the area will benefit the environment, taxpayers or the American public. While the agency does claim logging will create jobs, its only reason for rejecting NWEA's bid is that it would not fulfill the contract.

No agency documents offer a comparison of the public costs and benefits of logging the area with those of not logging. NWEA bid \$28,875 on the 3.5 million board foot sale. The Forest Service has thus far spent over \$300,000 preparing the sale, and will likely spend almost that much again to administer a logging contract, build and remove road, reforest, and mitigate environmental damage.

NWEA had been unable to contest the sale due to the Salvage Rider. Friedman said, "Since this new clearcutting law, our public lands are being managed for an exclusive good old boys club. A checkbook won't get you in; you need a chainsaw."

For more information contact Mitch Friedman, Northwest Ecosystem Alliance, POB 2813, Bellingham, WA 98227; (360) 671-9950, fax 671-8429; e-mail: nwea@pacifirim.net; <http://www.pacifirim.net/~nwea/>

SLASH AND BURN ON THE GIFFORD PINCHOT

BY DAVE WERTZ

Under the Salvage Rider, the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in Washington State has launched a campaign to strip all remaining unprotected old growth from the forest. In their publication, *New Ground*, they boast of overshooting their timber target in 1995 by nearly 2 million board feet. Conspicuously absent is the fact that the US Fish and Wildlife Service issued permits to "take" (e.g. harm, harass, or kill) 19 endangered species on the forest in the same year.

With no pesky laws to contend with, the Gifford Pinchot intends to increase their cut by 14 million board feet this year. Over two-thirds of 19 planned sales are within Key Watersheds—areas designated to protect and restore aquatic ecosystems and their associated species. In addition, the Forest Service has proposed logging and road building in the 7,600-acre Horseshoe roadless area and the 2,200 acre South Midway roadless area adjacent to the Mt. Adams Wilderness Area.

The Gifford Pinchot National Forest plans to cut ten and a half million board feet of old growth, enough to fill over 2,000 log trucks, from the 700 acres of the Cispus Adaptive Management Area and Key Watershed. Although the Forest Service is supposed to "maintain late-successional forest [and] healthy riparian zones" in the AMA, their plan is to consolidate clearcuts to form large blocks of "future old growth." And under the Salvage Rider, they think they can get away with it.

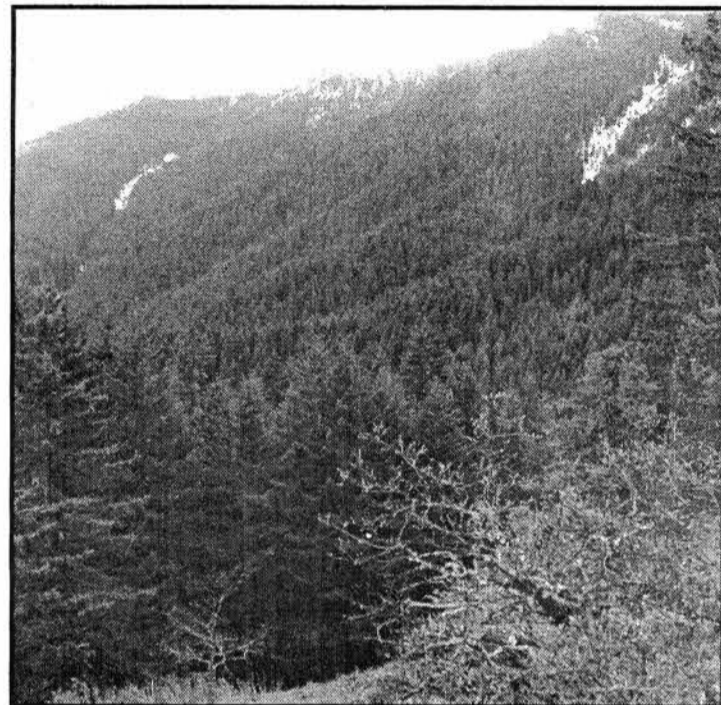
The Walupt Timber Sale, located just outside the Goat Rocks Wilderness, contains some of the last classic old growth in the watershed. Stands are over 350 years old and contain many trees over 5 feet in diameter. Because of the diverse array of wetlands, rock outcrops, talus slopes and ancient forests in the region, the sale contains habitat for spotted owls, lynx, wolverine, fisher, goshawk and 255 other species, including 18 listed under the Endangered Species Act.

Go visit this forest and defend it. Until the snow melts out, write District Ranger Randy Shepard at the address below and tell him to (1) drop the units in old-growth forest; (2) provide full riparian protection for intermittent streams, seeps, springs, pools, and rivers; and (3) reduce road density to less than 1 mi./sq mi. so that wolverines can roam freely.

The Jammin' timber sale would cut

up to 8.3 million board feet from 416 acres of the Little Huckleberry Mountain roadless area. Located in the Little White Salmon River Key Watershed in southern Washington, this 4,000-acre roadless area borders the 30,000-acre Lava Beds/Red Mountain/Bear Creek roadless area complex.

The Little Huckleberry Mountain



Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Little Huckleberry Mountain, Monte Christo Range. The Jammin' Timber Sale will cut in this pristine roadless area.

roadless area contains steep, unstable areas and geological hazards that are susceptible to logging and roadbuilding-induced debris flows and landslides. In this heavily over-cut watershed, the roadless area provides one of the only sources of clean, sediment-free water that sustains native cutthroat trout populations. It also contains one of the largest unfragmented tracts of late-successional forest in the area, and a high concentration of uncommon plants, plant communities, sensitive plants and special habitats. This roadless area provides important habitat for goshawk, spotted owl, peregrine falcon and several amphibian species.

In 1994, the Eastside Scientific Panel recommended cessation of roadbuilding and logging within roadless areas larger than 1,000 acres to reduce fragmentation, retain hydrological properties of watersheds, reduce sedimentation of streams, and limit human access and thus disturbance to forest plants and animals. The courts recently agreed that these recommendations should be considered in sale planning. The Forest Service apparently still disagrees.

Take action today to stop these timber sales. Send letters about Jammin' to Gregory L. Cox, Mt. Adams Ranger District, 2455 Highway 141, Trout Lake, WA 98650; (509) 395-3400 or 395-3424. Send letters about Walupt to Packwood Ranger District, 13068 US Hwy 12, Packwood, WA 98361.

For directions, documentation, citations, reference material or more information, contact Dave Wertz at Northwest Ecosystem Alliance, POB 2813, Bellingham, WA 98227; (360) 671-9950, fax 671-8429.

The Endangered Natural Heritage Act

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) is under attack from industry and private property fanatics. Now is the time to demand that Congress strengthen the ESA, not dismantle it. A strong ESA is essential to ensure that this nation's dwindling biological diversity is conserved and protected.

A working group of the Endangered Species Coalition has completed the Endangered Natural Heritage Act (ENHA), a bill to strengthen the ESA. This is the only proposal which would strengthen the ESA. A competing bill put together by Georgia Pacific, the Environmental Defense Fund and others [see sidebar] is being touted as a "compromise" bill and has already gained the support of several moderate Republicans. We need a torrent of grassroots

support for ENHA, sending a unified message to environmental supporters in Congress that strengthening the ESA is the only rational choice.

The Endangered Natural Heritage Act reaffirms this nation's commitment to protecting the biosphere, from which basic rights to the medicinal, agricultural, economic and spiritual benefits derived from a healthy environment accrue.

An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure

The number of Candidate species (those the Fish and Wildlife Service believes should be listed under the ESA) is huge and growing. Other species are showing precipitous declines due to habitat destruction. Instead of ignoring these species, Federal agencies need to take proactive measures to prevent the need to list them. These measures include habitat protection and acquisition, and the proactive regulation of activities rather than reactive bans.

Everyone Needs a Home

The ESA currently provides less protection for plants than animals, and less for invertebrates than vertebrates, despite overwhelming scientific evidence that such distinctions are not only useless but, in fact, dangerous. By protecting "higher" life over "lower" forms, humans are balancing the food web on its head and fanning the flames of our current extinction spasm. Instead, all life forms should be guaranteed equal footing under the ESA in order to maintain the essential functions of all ecosystems.

Currently, the ESA requires that critical habitat be designated at the time of listing, with only minor exceptions. But the exceptions have swallowed the rule, and only 40 percent of listed species have designated critical habitat. To cure this, ENHA will follow the lead of the National Academy of Sciences and require that essential habitat be designated at the time a species is listed, and that delineation of critical habitat should be refined and finalized in the final recovery plan. The widely abused exceptions to critical habitat designations will also be severely curtailed or eliminated.

Another loophole with respect to critical habitat is that of "adverse modification." As originally conceived, the question of when habitat destruction becomes illegal was to be judged by whether or not it would impair the recovery of a listed species. Bureaucratic mangling, though, has relaxed the standard to species survival. In guaranteeing only survival, this loophole ensures eternal endangerment for listed species. ENHA will eliminate this loophole by requiring that critical habitat be fully protected from all harmful modifications.

Endangered Species Must Recover, Not Just Survive

The purpose of the ESA is to ensure that all listed species recover, which requires that enough healthy, well-distributed populations exist for the species to



be taken off the ESA lists. In order to reinforce the recovery goals of the ESA, ENHA will ensure that recovery plans are developed and implemented for all species, including those already listed but without a plan. Further, it is essential that all affected federal agencies, state, and local governments participate in the development and implementation of recovery plans.

Current recovery plans often fail to provide for actual recovery, despite a statutory mandate for objective and measurable criteria that will allow for delisting. Instead, ENHA will require that objective scientific benchmarks be established for all listing, recovery, and delisting decisions.

Other loopholes in recovery planning must also be closed. For example, ENHA will establish deadlines for adoption and implementation of recovery plans. Also, for species not making progress toward recovery, ENHA will require that the Fish and Wildlife Service reduce or eliminate the total number of allowable annual incidental takes.

Many federally funded programs or actions fail to fully account for endangered or threatened species, and most agencies prefer to ignore the ESA's mandate to conserve and recover. ENHA will unequivocally state that federal agencies and permit holders have a duty to recover, not just maintain, listed species.

The Public Must be Involved in Endangered Species Protection

The ESA requires public participation at some stages, while ignoring public input at other key areas. This leaves many species open to abuses by agencies or private parties driven to exploit the environment rather than protect it. To cure these shortcomings, ENHA will improve the public's ability to participate in and enforce recovery plans and Habitat Conservation Planning.

ENHA will also broaden the scope of emergency citizen suits (which are exempt from a 60-day notice requirement) to all emergencies, not just listing emergencies. This will preclude tragedies like Mt. Graham, where the Forest Service illegally cut 250 old-growth trees in prime red squirrel habitat before legal action could stop them. Also, in order to eliminate financial incentives to violate the ESA, civil and criminal penalties will be upgraded, and a new provision for natural resource damages will be included.

Habitat Conservation Plans Must Not Compromise Species Recovery

Originally, Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) were a mechanism to ensure that private parties would work with the Federal government toward the goals of the ESA. The original HCP, on San Bruno

Mountain, California, protected 90 percent of the habitat of two endangered butterflies. However, recent HCPs have eliminated most protection for listed species, and are merely permits to destroy habitat rather than conserve it. Northern spotted owl HCPs in Oregon and Washington regularly allow for 95 percent habitat destruction. Similar plans are in the works in Texas, Florida, California and elsewhere. This is a recipe for further extinction, and must be stopped. Therefore, ENHA will declare that HCPs and permits allowing adverse impacts on species should be approved only if they work positively to help recover a species by ensuring a healthy habitat at all life stages. ENHA will also require permit holders to demonstrate their ability to fully fund and implement conservation measures before starting habitat alteration.

Biodiversity Conservation Needs International Scope

World financial institutions and some federal agencies, like the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, wreak havoc on natural ecosystems throughout the world on a global scale. Much of their funding comes from the US, but there is no mandate that these organizations obey the ESA outside of the US. Therefore, ENHA will require that all programs and actions receiving US funding shall conform to the ESA, including the positive mandate to conserve listed species. This simple action will show the world that the United States values the biological and natural heritage of all the world's ecosystems, not only those occurring domestically.

For a more extensive ENHA briefing packet, contact Roger Featherstone, Director, GREEN, 1101 14th Street, NW, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20005; email rfeather@clark.net.

—SOUTHWEST CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

ENDANGERED SPECIES COALITION TO ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND: GET OUT!

BY MARTY BERGOFFEN

While a working group of the Endangered Species Coalition was assembling its ESA reauthorization bill, the Endangered Natural Heritage Act, some Coalition members were secretly breaking ranks. The Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the Center for Marine Conservation (CMC), all ESC members, joined "moderate" Republicans and a coalition of The Nature Conservancy, Western Governors Association, National Association of Realtors, Plum Creek, Georgia Pacific and water development interests to draft an ESA "compromise" bill.

EDF, WWF and CMC are on the steering committee of the Endangered Species Coalition. Their secret negotiations violated a steering committee agreement to keep the Coalition informed of plans to amend the ESA. This action also undercut the most basic tenet of the Coalition: to strengthen the ESA. The bill proffered by Congressman Saxton would seriously weaken many of the ESA's best provisions, and allow states and private industries to continue to destroy species and their habitat with impunity.

The idea that any environmental group would work to weaken the nation's most powerful conservation law is preposterous and a disgrace. In response to this double-dealing, the Endangered Species Coalition expelled EDF from the group and censured CMC and the WWF. EDF had refused to withdraw from deliberations with the pro-development forces, and pathetically defended itself by casting aspersions and hiding the true facts of their "compromise." The Center for Marine Conservation subsequently resigned from the Coalition.

SABS, SEA LIONS AND SALMON

BY GARY MACFARLANE

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife staff members intent on killing three to five sea lions thought to be preying on rare steelhead arrived at Ballard Locks on March 25 only to find that the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) had already been there. Two cumbersome metal walls from a floating sea lion trap had been removed and dumped into water 60-feet deep. This sabotage is the most recent reaction to years of bureaucratic bungling in response to declining steelhead and salmon runs in the Washington Lake drainage—a strange saga that, ridiculously, has pitted rare fish against marine mammals.

Protesters were also out that day, arguing that the sea lions shouldn't be killed. In an odd twist, counter-protesters shouted slogans like, "Long live the salmon!"

The Washington Fish and Wildlife Department later claimed the kill could not have taken place that day anyway, because they were short-staffed when the personnel from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) failed to show up. NMFS officials claimed none of the agency's people had arrived because they had received threats.

This controversy has been raging for over a decade. Since the mid 70s, steelhead runs have declined from nearly 3,000 to around 100, a fact some people blame on predatory sea lions. At the same time, the runs of Chinook, coho and sockeye salmon have declined just as precipitously. However, the sea lions are not around to eat those salmon when they spawn.

The various government entities approached this issue as they usually do—they formed a committee and initiated a big study. Not surprisingly, they concluded after a decade of "rigorous" work and inaction that sea lions were a problem. The Marine Mammal Protection Act requires NMFS approval before sea lions can be killed. In a decision affirming the propensity of bureaucracies to make the most

idiotic choices, NMFS and the other agencies decided that removing the five offending sea lions was the solution.

Even the Washington Department of Wildlife, one of the agencies involved in the process, admits shooting sea lions is not a long-term solution. Almost everyone agrees that other factors appear more significant in the steelhead decline. The Ballard Locks and Dam literally scale 60 percent of the young steelhead smolts migrating to the ocean, leaving them near death. The fish ladder for the locks/dam is often dry. The Army Corps of Engineers has had 80 years to build an oil boom and has failed to do so. Habitat has been destroyed and polluted.

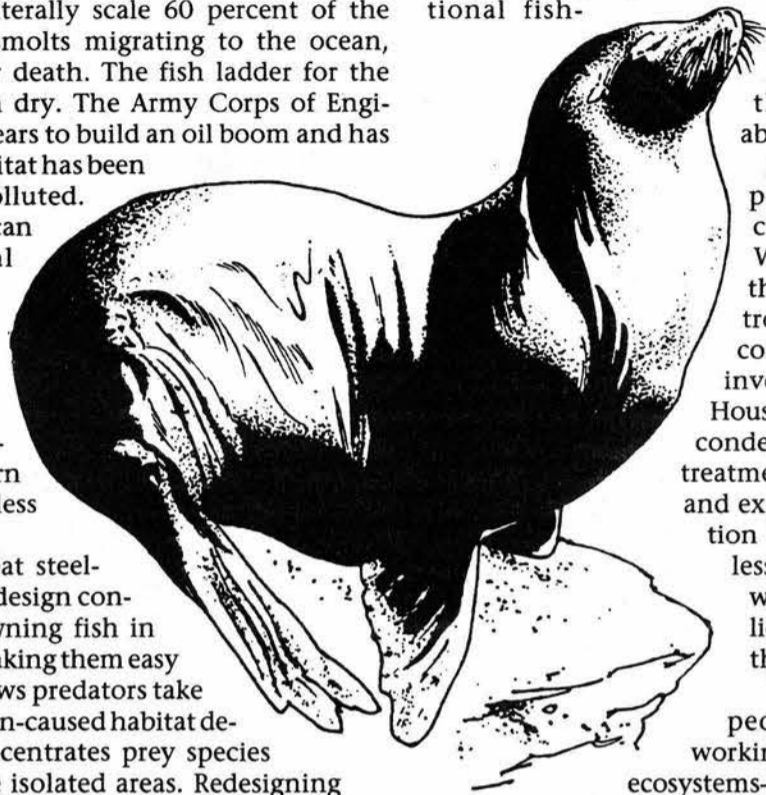
Climatic changes (can you say global warming?) have shifted ocean dynamics making formerly nutrient-rich areas off the Oregon, Washington, and southern BC coasts much less productive.

Sure, sea lions eat steelhead, but the lock design concentrates the spawning fish in unnatural ways, making them easy prey. Research shows predators take advantage of human-caused habitat destruction that concentrates prey species into smaller, more isolated areas. Redesigning fish passage structures would be much more beneficial to steelhead than killing a few sea lions.

Animals rights and environmental activists—Humane Society of the US (HSUS), Progressive Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) and Earth Island Institute (EII)—have suggestions including construction of a sea lion barrier below the locks or the temporary

detention of sea lions while spawning steelhead pass through the locks.

The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe requested permission to use the condemned sea lions for traditional purposes after testing them for toxicity. The Tribe also recently issued regulations for killing 75 marine mammals, including 50 sea lions, to be used for traditional purposes. Since the Tribe has traditional fish-



ing areas that have been affected by the decline in steelhead, they are concerned about fish runs.

Sea World offered to permanently take the condemned sea lions. While this was seen as the solution to the controversy by some politicians—including rumored involvement by the White House—PAWS, HSUS and EII condemned Sea World's past treatment of marine mammals and expressed ethical opposition to the offer. Nonetheless, the Sea World deal went forward and the sea lions will be moved when they are next located.

The real tragedy is that people who should be working together for marine ecosystems—PAWS, ALF, EII, HSUS, and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe—are pitted against each other by the bureaucratic paradigm. This isn't an issue of sea lions versus steelhead, as the bureaucrats have so cleverly spun it (obfuscation is one thing bureaucracies do well); it is one of our modern, industrial society messing things up. Therein lies the solution.

FUN AND BLOCKADING AT THE NUCLEAR TEST SITE

BY EARL CAN

Editor's Note—The Nevada Nuclear Test Site and the adjacent Nellis Air Force Bombing Range, located on traditional Western Shoshone land, cover a few million acres in southern Nevada—what Bob Marshall called the finest desert wilderness in all America. Besides being the site of numerous nuclear bomb tests, a high-level nuclear waste repository is planned for the area. Large-scale testing has been temporarily halted, but active resistance to the storage of nuclear waste is ongoing and support is needed.

Chaos reigned as we carried poles under the cover of morning darkness. A sheriff drove past while our equipment crawled toward the gate. Now! The tripod sprung up. The sitter flew into position. A human line, linked with lockboxes, laid across the road. Traffic was blocked. An angry cop dove toward the lockbox people, pushing Ann and me several feet. "You can't just run over people," I yelled repeatedly as we ran to block a renegade pickup on the other side. The drums continued and people danced and howled.

We jumped in a van because traffic was being redirected to another gate. Minutes later, stuck on the off-ramp, we piled out and walked past the angry workers. We

saw security close to our friends who sat locked to the gate. Actually only one was locked, the other person was unable to lockdown in time, so he was just pretending. Ann and I casually walked up to the gate, ripped kryptos out of our shirts, and locked down head to head. With our asses facing the traffic, we smiled as someone counted 10 buses of workers and one truck of radioactive waste stuck in our blockade.

Traffic was redirected to the old Mercury entrance and the hydraulic bolt-cutters appeared. Three quick clips and we are free. "You can stay and sit, just don't attach to the gate," one cop said before they mobilized to the old entrance. Again, we piled in a car and sped to the open entrance. As a nuclear waste truck approached, we linked arms and fell to the ground. The cops proceeded to bully us, pulling, shoving and twisting whatever they could grab. Bart, the bully, got pissed off when he was unable to rip Ann's arm from mine. He tried to drag me with both arms while twisting one arm in every direction. Finally, after a few minutes, we were shoved into a pile and the shipment squeezed by. A woman pounded on a drum, chanting, "Quit your job. Quit your job." In between blocking ve-

hicles, we educated, harassed and invited the cops to our hippy registration. The energy was dying so Ann and I hiked back to the blockade and the main gate. Simultaneously, Axel and Ben decided to shut down traffic at Mercury.

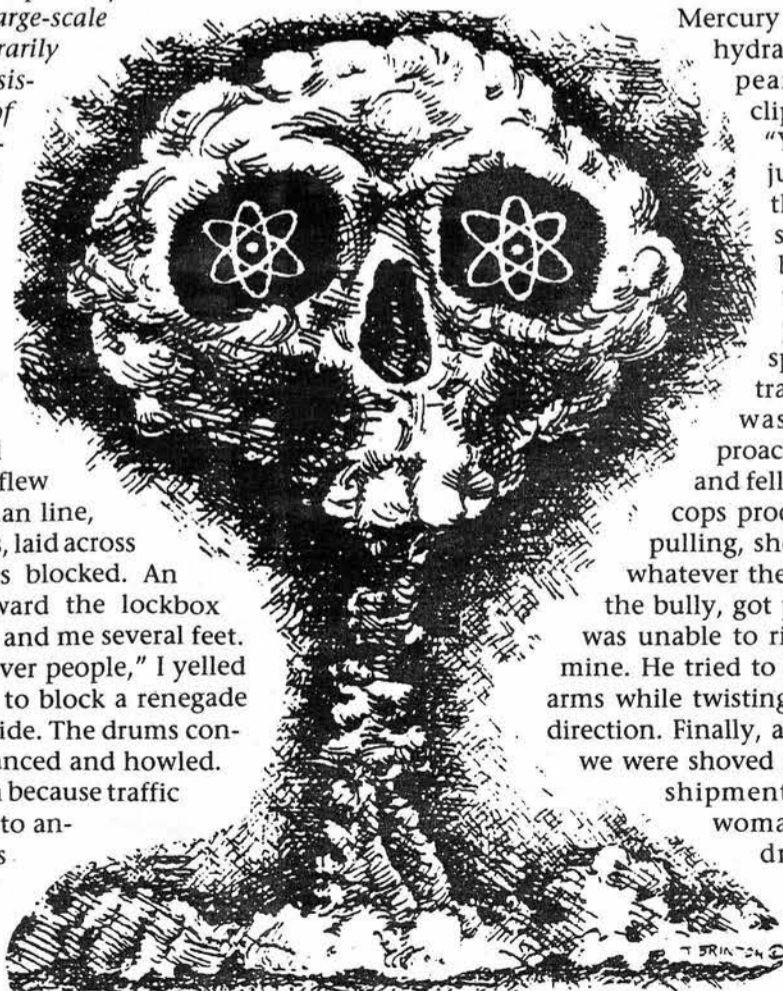
Grasshopper jumped in front of a truck and asked them to stop. The driver obeyed. Ben and Axel slipped under the truck. Ben was pulled away only to return with another lock and click, hello. The drivers did not see Axel at first, but finally they turned and asked "Are you locked also?" Axel turned with a simple wide grin. After 30 minutes they clipped them out with the hydraulic bolt cutters.

Back at the main gate, the cops told everybody they would be arrested in 20 minutes. So people made a deal to stop blockading if everyone was released.

In the end we blockaded worker buses and nuclear waste shipments for five hours. We also brought direct action back to the test site for the first time in four years. Many old and new nuclear activists were excited to learn how easy it is to lash, setup and climb a tripod. Two hours before the action (at 3 am), we realized a serious logistical problem. The action plan changed five times before we set up. Spontaneity makes for great actions.

Subcritical nuclear testing is still scheduled to start in mid to late June. There is a motorcycle relay scheduled at ground zero just before the tests. If you want to join in, write People Against Radiation, Armies, Navies and Other Insane Devices Simultaneously (PARANOIDS) c/o Brad Goans, POB 76 Tecopa, CA 92389, or call Nuclear Abolition 2000 (702) 796-3835.

There are approximately 10 entrances to the Mercury test site north of Las Vegas. Mercury currently receives over 900 shipments of radioactive waste each year. Come on down with your tripods and lockboxes. This is the perfect place for the uninitiated activist to get arrested. They cite and release and don't ask for ID.



MAHOGANY EXPORTS SUNK

BY LYNN HAMILTON AND ATOSSA SOLTANI

You can't always get what you want. But on March 4 in Savannah, Georgia, protesters got what they needed: a discussion with US Customs—the first step in a long-overdue investigation of illegal mahogany imports.

At 5:30 am, delayed but not deterred by both engine and battery trouble, 43 activists launched three boats onto the Savannah River. One boat drove up to the side of the *Frota Belem*, a Brazilian vessel loaded with rainforest timber. The first rays of daylight revealed activists locked down to the cargo ship's banner-laden cranes to prevent offloading. Nearby a "public demonstration" boat of protesters cheered the activists and used a bullhorn to inform dock workers and media that mahogany costs lives. Members of the Rainforest Action Network, Food Not Bombs, and Katúah Earth First! held the ship for five hours while the Georgia Port Authority, the Coast Guard, the shipping company, *Frota*

Amazonica, and US Customs mulled over a demand for an immediate investigation of illegal mahogany shipments.

Local television was not far behind the police; reporters were escorted to the action site by a media boat, courtesy of the campaign. Activists unlocked voluntarily only when spokesperson Atossa Soltani was granted an immediate conference with US Customs. Before evening, Soltani had successfully negotiated an agreement to investigate mahogany imports into Savannah. Nobody was arrested, and local reporters called Atossa to thank her for getting them out of the office.

The majority of Brazilian and Bolivian mahogany imported to the US is logged illegally on indigenous lands and national parks in the Amazon rainforest. Indigenous lands are protected by the Brazilian constitution, but infringements are met with fines that barely dent the huge profits from trade in a luxury timber. Logging profiteers harass, maim and murder anyone in the Amazon who stands in their way. Recent events in Brazil threaten only to

accelerate the current rate of human rights abuses and environmental destruction. A new wave of mega-developments is planned for the region, including roads and waterways that will open up the Amazon to further exploitation.

In addition, the Brazilian government recently enacted decree #1775 which undermines the Brazilian constitution's guarantee of rainforest dwellers' rights and allows commercial interests to appeal the boundaries of demarcated indigenous territories. Brazil has not responded in any way to Rainforest Action Network's letter campaign imploring the Brazilian government to honor its promises to rainforest residents. Activism must stress demand-side solutions. Nearly half of all mahogany exports from Latin America end up in US markets, where they are used for furniture and paneling. Nearly half of all Brazil's shipments come to the port of Savannah.

Please write Bill Clinton and propose that mahogany be listed as an endangered species under CITES, appendix II. If you want to join the campaign to boycott mahogany, call the Environmental Awareness Foundation at (919) 942-8251 or (910) 334-5324.



photo by Rick Spencer

BOYCOTT MITSUBISHI

(Osaka, Japan) The boycott of Mitsubishi products is now being carried over into Japan. Marking Japan's inauguration into this international effort, Burmese Relief Center-Japan and like-minded human rights activists staged a peaceful protest called "Haiku-d'état" in central Osaka. Protesters read hundreds of original haiku poems, and performed lively street theater to show how Mitsubishi's investment in Burma causes environmental destruction and enables the Burmese dictatorship, which spends nearly half the national budget on the military, to continue to deny its people the most basic human rights. Rainforest Action Network is spearheading an international effort to boycott Mitsubishi and its subsidiaries until the company stops logging or purchasing timber or timber products from operations that harm the environment or violate the human rights of the indigenous peoples who live there.

At 11 am in Osaka, Japan, over 40 Burmese Relief Center-Japan and human rights activists gathered to mark the beginning of the Japanese boycott of Mitsubishi on the historic bridge at Shinsaibashi-Dohtomburi. Coinciding with the vernal equinox, protesters peacefully assembled to urge Mr. Minoru Makiyama, President of Mitsubishi Corporation, to end support for the Burmese military dictatorship and to stop destruction of the rainforests.

Burmese activist and Noble Peace Prize laureate, Aung San Suu Kyi, said: "I felt that many Japanese people cared about more

than just business. But I think the consciousness of some Japanese people perhaps needs to be aroused a bit...Perhaps those who care about peace and justice are not speaking loudly enough."

Mitsubishi Corporation is a long-standing target of direct action campaigns by Rainforest Action Network and like-minded environmental groups around the world. Mitsubishi Corporation is one of the largest corporate destroyers of the world's forests. It fully or partially owns logging operations throughout the world. Mitsubishi's corporate activities lay waste to thousands of square

miles of forest. This deforestation causes the annual loss of millions of plant and animal species, and does immeasurable harm to the indigenous peoples who inhabit the rainforest.

Rainforest Action Network works to protect the Earth's rainforests and support the rights of their inhabitants through grassroots education, organizing, and non-violent direct action.

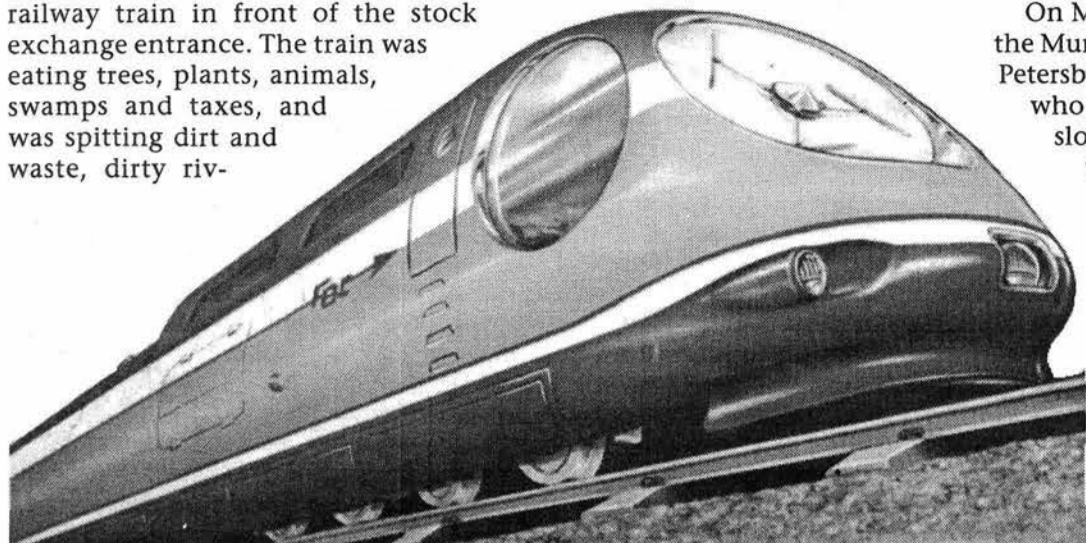
For more information, contact the Rainforest Action Network at 450 Sansome Street, Suite 700, San Francisco, CA 94111; (415) 398-4404.



Wicked Russian Train Trampled

BY OLGA MIRYASOVA

The Rainbow Keepers and other environmental organizations continue to protest construction of a high-speed railroad slated to connect Moscow to St. Petersburg. On February 29, the joint-stock company, High-Speed Railroads, began to auction shares in the train. On March 5, the Rainbow Keepers put a model of the high-speed railway train in front of the stock exchange entrance. The train was eating trees, plants, animals, swamps and taxes, and was spitting dirt and waste, dirty riv-



ers, felled trees, dead animals and more poverty for poor people (because the construction will be heavily subsidized by the state). Activists held signs in the middle of the road close to the building with slogans like "Hi-speed railway is shady transaction with state guarantee." In the end, the model train was trampled and destroyed by the activists. The police arrested six people who were standing in the road. The action was shown on TV and media raised the problem of the high-speed railway again.

On March 31, the Rainbow Keepers struck again near the main entrance of the Municipal Zoological Gardens. They hung signs saying "Moscow" and "St. Petersburg" on the zoo's fence and constructed a large "beast" of five people who ran from one "city" to the other. The beast had a disgusting face and a slogan on his skin: "I'm a wicked, perfidious high-speed railroad!!!" There were a lot of wild animals, insects and birds around loudly crying out, "We are afraid of the railroad! We hate the railroad! We are against the railroad! We like to live!" The terrible beast threatened, beat and pushed the animals and protestors.

But a huge "elephant" constructed of seven people appeared among the animals to stop the beast. The elephant stripped the beast's skin and trampled it down. The elephant was victorious over the railroad beast!

This action was shown on several TV programs. Rainbow Keepers is trying to attract attention to this issue now because the case is being considered by the public prosecutor. We have to press again and again as strongly as possible!

The Rainbow Keepers address is on page 39.

April Fools for Mitsubishi

continued from page 1

Six activists locked themselves into the 55-gallon concrete filled barrels, to blockade the doors of the Mitsubishi-owned building. After a successful two-hour blockade, 30 of San Francisco's finest, including a SWAT team, assessed the situation and decided to move the barrels with the activists attached. Very stupid. Upon finishing their donuts, the cops began the life-threatening maneuver. After being dragged across the sidewalk, activists unlocked to avoid injury. Four people were arrested, but the charges were later dropped. The other two unlocked before the police moved in.

In downtown Portland, Oregon, a highly trained and practiced climbing team scaled the Bank of California tower, rappelled from the top of the 15-story building at lunch time and unfurled a giant 30- by 20-foot banner which read: "Stop Corporate Forest Destruction—Boycott Mitsubishi's Bank of California!" Activists negotiated with bank execs and won an agreement to have no charges pressed and police decided not to arrest the climbers. The Portlanders pulled off the action in just a few short weeks, with no budget. It was magical!

The same day, three activists took to the palm trees to unfurl a 35-foot banner that read: "Withdraw your \$\$\$ from rainforest destruction. Boycott Mitsubishi's Union Bank of California." The action took place outside the Bank of California on Wilshire Boulevard in downtown Beverly Hills. Two climbers scaled 50-foot palm trees while a third climbed off a parking structure and was suspended on a traverse line attached to one of the palms. The aerial activists had radios and a cellular phone to do interviews from high in the trees. Meanwhile, a couple of April Fool's Day jesters, dressed in colorful costumes and greasepaint, showed up in a "Ship of Fools" to perform guerrilla theater illustrating Mitsubishi's foolish destruction of the rainforests. The banner was up for over six hours before heavy winds brought it down. Twelve arrests were made. Charges against the climbers included posting a sign without a permit, and attaching to public or private property with the intent to create a scene. The other arrests were for the ground support team, charged with aiding and abetting the illegal sign posting.

Actions in Seattle, Minneapolis and Maryland included loud, spirited, humorous demonstrations. Activists with the Seattle Rainforest Action Group (RAG) targeted Bank of California with a rally and huge banner. Bank executives quickly became frustrated, told the RAG representative that Bank of California is "no longer part of Mitsubishi Bank" and refused to discuss the protesters' demands. Such outright lies have long been a part of Mitsubishi's response to

accusations of earth pillaging.

Rainforests are being destroyed at an accelerating pace around the world, eliminating vast numbers of plant and animal species, and devastating the traditional lands and cultures of the people who live there. Every year, an area of rainforest the size of Italy is destroyed and much of that destruction derives from exploitation by multinational corporations. Complicit governments cooperate with greedy companies such as Mitsubishi to plunder the earth for short-term profit.

Mitsubishi's corporate activities lay waste to thousands of square miles of forests and contribute to the destruction of native rainforest cultures. Worldwide, Mitsubishi Corporation has timber and mining operations and concessions stretching from the US to Malaysia and Brazil. Mitsubishi Corporation's Alberta Pacific chlorine bleach kraft mill is the largest wood pulp processor in the world, running around the clock to process 300 truckloads of trees a day. The Mitsubishi-owned Canadian Chopsticks Manufacturing Company wastes 85 percent of the trees it cuts down because the wood is not white enough to produce disposable chopsticks. Mitsubishi is also responsible for the largest milling operation in the Amazon.

The Mitsubishi Keiretsu, or business family, includes Mitsubishi Corporation, Mitsubishi Bank, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Mitsubishi Motors, Mitsubishi Electronics and many others. The Mitsubishi corporate family is the largest corporation in the world (measured by sales).

April 1 also marked the first official day of the merger between Mitsubishi Bank and Bank of Tokyo, now known as Mitsubishi Bank of Tokyo. It is the largest bank in the world, controlling an enormous \$800,000,000,000 in assets! This meant that

the Bank of California (100 percent Mitsubishi Bank owned) merged with Union Bank (70 percent Bank of Tokyo owned), creating the fourth largest bank in California, with over \$25 billion in assets. Mitsubishi Bank and its domestic holdings fund environmentally destructive projects around the world.

National and international days of action are an extremely effective strategy for social change campaigns, especially those targeting multinational corporations. Coordinated, organized protests greatly increase the amount of political pressure felt by the targeted corporations, industries, and even governments. A local direct action can be made more "newsworthy" by being connected with other actions nationally or internationally on the same day. The media reacts more positively to an accessible, coordinated action. Having one person or affinity group coordinate the national media including press releases, press packets and follow-up is critical.

Coordinated actions also build movements by creating opportunities for people from different regions to work together. When people from various groups organize together, it creates strong connections. This kind of coalition building is crucial in battling multinational giants like Mitsubishi. Combining the skills, energies, and resources of a broad spectrum of social change activists and organizations is effective, fun and critical to the resistance of corporate dominance.

If you would like more information about the devilish Mitsubishi or would like to get more involved in the Boycott Mitsubishi Campaign, contact the Rainforest Action Network at 450 Sansome Street, Suite 700, San Francisco, CA 94111; (415) 398-4404. To call Mitsubishi Motors toll free from a payphone, dial 1(800) 55-MITSU.



Hey kids! You can try this at home. Complete instructions on page 25.

Beltane 1996 Earth First! Page 17

YUKON GOV'T KILLS WOLVES DEAD

BY MIKE HOWELL

In January of 1996, 25 activists dedicated to the protection of the wolf headed north to Whitehorse in the Yukon Territory to put an end to the Yukon Government's wolf kill program and promote the public's understanding and acceptance of wolves.

These magnificent symbols of wild nature are under attack by people who would profit from hunting "game" animals. To date, the Yukon Government's wolf kill, officially called the "Caribou Recovery Program," has resulted in the deaths of at least 150 wolves.

The 22,000-km square Aishihik (pronounced a-she-ak) wolf kill zone is across the Alaska Highway from the Kluane National Park in southwestern Yukon, Canada, with a very narrow (2-20 km) buffer between the park and the kill zone. Many have feared that the Aishihik wolf kill would have an impact on the wolves in the Park. Only a thin green strip of suitable wolf habitat lies between icefields to the West and the kill zone to the East. Wolves are very mobile and do not respect park boundaries; it is natural for them to disperse into an area where there are not a lot of other wolves.

When the wolf kill was announced in the fall of 1992, one of the keystones of the Yukon government's rationale was that there was an extraordinary abundance of wolves relative to available prey in the region. The Yukon government, which has few environmental laws and little accountability for its actions, justifies the program as an "experimental scientific study," asserting that Caribou herds have been decreasing in this region for decades. Yet, no studies have been done on all the factors contributing to the herd's decline including habitat loss, climate change and increased hunting pressure.

What We Did

Armed with nothing but our wits, courage, media skills, and funds from the EF! Direct Action Fund, we came to promote the public's acceptance of wolves. Our campaign plan included backcountry outings, overflights of the kill zone, international publicity, local outreach events, and rewards for wolf-kill

information. We figured that if we shed light on the truth, the government would give under the pressure of worldwide exposure and public opinion.

On our first flight over the wolf kill zone, we found a probable snare site. However, when we landed in Whitehorse, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) threatened to seize our plane if we did not leave. Additionally, the mercury plummeted to record lows that day, between -40° F and -60° F. On the bright side, due to the temperature, the wolf killers were also grounded.

During the campaign, members of *Vier Pforten* (Four Paws), an animal rights group from Germany, joined us in Whitehorse. In Germany *Vier Pforten* has been successful in discouraging Yukon tourism, collecting over 10,000 postcards and petitions. The guide-outfitting industry depends on income from European hunters, especially Germans, so much so that the Yukon Minister of Tourism has made several trips to Europe to promote Yukon tourism. Further, Austrian millionaire Fritz Melnhoff (who owns outfitting businesses in the Yukon) has requested several meetings with *Vier Pforten* in a vain attempt to persuade them to call off the Yukon

ing concession area. Until 1991, Kluane Outfitters was owned by John Ostashek, Leader of the Yukon Territorial Government. He sold the business to his son-in-law Ross Elliot and Fritz Melnhoff.

Melnhoff owns three outfitting businesses in the Yukon: Kluane, Ruby Range and Rogue River Outfitters. In September of 1995, a Kluane Outfitters guide took an Austrian client 11 km outside the outfitting area, where they were caught hunting moose and wolves. In early February, wolf activists rallied at the Whitehorse courthouse to draw attention to the wolf kill and Kluane's poaching habits. We demanded the maximum \$10,000 fine for poaching and revocation of their outfitting license, but the court disappointed us with a paltry \$1,500 fine, even though Melnhoff admitted negligence in not telling his guides where the boundaries are. Melnhoff appears to have a pattern of lawbreaking as his Rogue River Outfitters is charged with the same poaching violation.

The Future For Yukon's Wolves

The good news according to Yukoners is that the Ostashek regime has little political support, having carried through on few of its campaign promises. Hopefully Ostashek will be replaced at the next election. If the wolf kill is not stopped by the new government, activists will again travel to the Yukon to put international pressure on the government to halt the kill. We met many supportive people in the Yukon, whom we hope will form a group working to preserve the wolf.

What Can You Do?

The Yukon Territorial Government has committed itself to wolf "control" until 1997. You can express your concerns and let the following people know you support a Yukon tourism boycott John Ostashek, Government Leader; Mickey Fisher, Minister of Renewable Resources; and Dennis Senger, Minister of Tourism all at the Yukon Territorial Government, POB 2703, Whitehorse, YT, Y1A 2C6, Canada. Send copies of your letter(s) to local media: *Whitehorse Star*, 2149 2nd Ave., Whitehorse, YT, Y1A 1C5, Canada, and the *Yukon News*, 211 Wood St., Whitehorse, YT, Y1A 2E4, Canada.

Book travel plans in the Yukon using their vacation hotline; (800) 78-YUKON. Then cancel your vacation before paying any deposits, explaining that you found out about the wolf kill and you won't visit the Yukon until wolves and other wildlife are given permanent protection.

Please send us copies of your letters. We are also asking for donations to help keep us going since our expenses are beyond what we can afford. If you can donate a snowmobile, winter gear, video camera or money (earmark checks to the Yukon Wolf campaign), please write to Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers, POB 7941, Missoula, MT 59807



tourism boycott.

At a press conference, the RCMP tried again to boot us out of the country. They identified and harassed foreign activists, threatening deportation and "suspected sedition." Despite our desire to head to warmer climates to protect the rare "beach wolf" (*Canis lupus bajacalifornicus*), we stayed for more fun and frolic.

Meanwhile, we launched snowmobile excursions into the wolf kill zone with the hope of getting video footage. Government helicopters and airplanes were seen flying over Aishihik Lake, and a leghold trap was found on one trip. Unfortunately, the rough ride destroyed one of our two video cameras and we were unable to film any wolves.

Guide Outfitter\$

Big game hunting outfitters are among the most vocal promoters of the wolf kill. One, Kluane Outfitters, stands to profit greatly because more than two-thirds of the wolf kill zone overlaps their hunt-

PUBLIC GATHERINGS FACE PROHIBITIONS

BY CRAIG BENEVILLE

On February 18, law enforcement officers swooped down on a gathering of the Rainbow Family of Living Light in the Osceola National Forest, Florida, and arrested hundreds. Eighteen of the arrested—those who admitted some leadership role in the gathering—were charged with violation of the so-called "Rainbow Regulations," new Forest Service rules that went into effect last September. These "group use regulations" require noncommercial gatherings of more than 75 people to obtain a Forest Service permit. Regulations governing land use are not new to the Forest Service; prior to the adoption of the Rainbow Regs, however, their enforcement was lax.

While some see a legitimate need to regulate public lands use, the Rainbow Family and many Earth First! activists see the new regulations as an infringement of the Constitutional

rights of freedom of religion, free speech and assembly. Backing the Rainbows in this claim are federal court decisions in Texas and Arizona. In both cases, the court struck down as unconstitutional similar Forest Service regulations.

The Rainbow Family has not signed a permit since 1981. Their chief position is that they do not need anyone's permission to gather and that they sign away their right to peaceably assemble by signing permits.

The stated intent of the Rainbow regs "is to implement reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions on group uses of National Forest System lands." Under the rules, a "proponent" is required to apply for a permit at least 72 hours before an event. The Forest Service then has 48 hours to deny the permit. The FS may also require the permit signer to post an insurance bond.

The Forest Service can deny the permit to avoid impacts on ecologi-

cally sensitive areas or if there are concerns about public health and safety. Tellingly, the Forest Service regulations also require that "[t]he proposed activity will not delay, halt, or prevent... scheduled or existing uses or activities on National Forest System lands." These "scheduled and existing" activities include mining, grazing and timber operations.

Theoretically, a group of 75 demonstrators planning a forest protest could be legally denied a permit, and if they demonstrated anyhow could be arrested for violation of the Rainbow regs. The penalty for violation of the regulations is a fine of up to \$5,000 or imprisonment for up to six months, or both.

Earth First! activists have in recent years avoided the permitting process. Organizers of the last three Round River Rendezvous have not applied for permits. They instead notified the Forest Service of their plans and consulted with the agency on an informal

basis about health and ecological issues. By organizing in this way, Rendezvous organizers have been able to avoid liabilities falling on the one person who signed the permit. After the 1992 Rendezvous the Forest Service fined the permit holder \$8,000 for a minor fire that occurred at the Rendezvous site after the gathering, despite scant evidence showing the fire was EF! related. In another case, a permit holder for a gathering in southern Oregon lost the security bond she had posted after the Forest Service learned that civil disobedience training had occurred at the event.

The committee for the 1996 Rendezvous in Idaho has decided to again forego the permit process. The first act of civil disobedience in Idaho this summer may be the Rendezvous itself. See you there!

Laurie Starfire and Seamus contributed to this article.

SPILLS, CHILLS AND DIET PILLS

Anytime of the day or night I can sit in my living room and watch as the freight trains go by within a 100 feet of my house. This stretch of track is called the low-line, one of the major east-west routes for rail traffic. Dozens of trains and hundreds of freight cars carrying everything from timber and ore to grain and the latest high-tech consumer goods cross Montana each day on their way to markets in every major city from Seattle to Boston. Last week, a train hauling chlorine, hazardous waste and other toxic chemicals for Stone Container derailed just north of here in the tiny community of Alberton on the Clark Fork River. The train wreck caused the second largest spill in history and led to the evacuation of a large area now referred to as the "hot zone." The understandably irate residents of the hot zone have not been allowed back in to check on their pets and livestock and are spending their evenings at the local motels courtesy of Montana Rail Link—the union-busting corporation that operates Montana's section of the low-line. Ironically, it was this tragedy that knocked the Unabomber off the front pages of the newspapers.

Toxic spills along the rail line are not unusual these days, and neither is the subsequent evacuation of nearby communities. It is cheaper to operate carelessly; accidental spills just get factored in as an acceptable risk. Spills do make great news, with drama and victims galore, but missing from this coverage is what happens when the chlorine isn't spilled but is instead utilized for the purpose for which it was imported. Every month, hundreds of tons of chlorine are used in the area's pulp mills to produce paper products for our wasteful society. The kraft pulp manufactured here is used for cellophane twinkie wrappers, rayon, photographic film and hundreds of other products. The sheets of finished kraft pulp are fluffy, white and pure as the driven snow and contain no large amounts of chlorine or other dangerous chemicals. So what happens to the chlorine? It goes out the smokestack, or the waste water discharge or into the landfill. That is, it is spilled deliberately into the environment as part of the cost of doing business and making a profit. Pulp and paper companies are now among the most profitable industries in the US and their bottom line continues to improve despite occasional spills, however risky or disruptive to nearby communities.

Because of this spill, the Department of Transportation will conduct a brief investigation in the coming weeks and probably will make a few safety recommendations to the train operator. Unless one of the engineers smoked a joint or ate a diet pill before showing up to work, no criminal charges will be pressed. At worst, Denny Washington, Montana Rail Link's owner, will get a small fine and some bad publicity. But he will be laughing all the way to the bank, and the chlorine cars are already rolling again along the low-line in front of my house.

Meanwhile, in nearby Lincoln, Montana, former home of Ted Kaczynski, the big news is not the Unabomber, but Phelps-Dodge's proposed Seven-Up Pete heap-leach, open-pit gold mine on the banks of the famed Blackfoot River. This mine will be the largest of its kind in the Rockies and, not so coincidentally, is sighted on land owned by the family of US Senator Max Baucus. Although Max denies any involvement in the project, he stands to make some good money if the mine is developed. Heap-leaching involves lots of cyanide, shipped in by rail cars. Of course, no one will be shipping out any cyanide, overburden or slag, only pure solid gold. The rest is for us to keep, always.

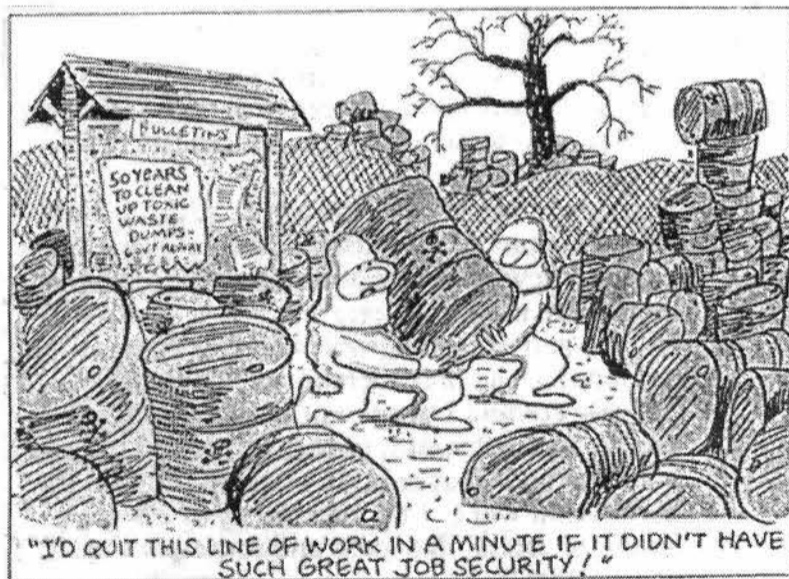
The heavy freeze this winter followed by an usually warm rainy period caused the thick ice on the Clark Fork River to break up and flow downstream, flooding and scouring the banks of the US' largest Superfund site and releasing huge amounts of heavy metals into a river just starting to recover from a

century of mining abuse. The impoundments that failed, built only a decade ago, were supposed to withstand the effects of a 100-year flood. Then of course we have the Salvage Rider, which permits the largest timber corporations to steal live green trees off steep mountain slopes under the bogus argument that it will benefit "forest health." You want violence and law breaking, we got it here in Montana! But don't look for it on the TV news or in the *New York Times*.

We shouldn't be surprised that the news media is more interested in a mad bomber than toxic terrorists. When someone sends a package by mail that blows someone's fingers off or kills them, that is news. When Denny Washington delivers a package by rail car containing chlorine or cyanide that may maim and kill many more, that is commerce. The media is fascinated with mayhem, as long as it is perpetrated by a lone crazy, a militant cult or a drug addict—not a powerful corporate customer.

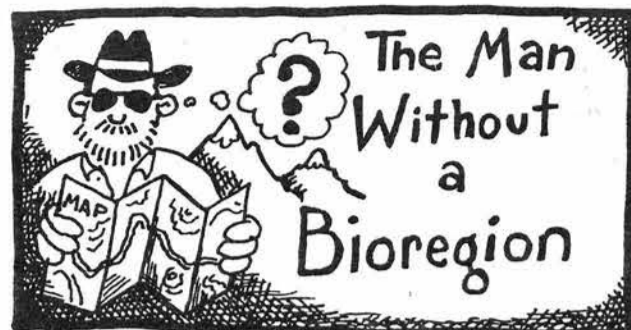
I am, by the way, opposed to both types of terrorism. But it makes me mad that only one receives media defamation and harassment from law enforcement, and the other receives legal protection and buys millions of dollars worth of air time. When Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney were injured by a pipe bomb designed to kill, the FBI arrested them, not the bomber. And when they dropped the charges for lack of evidence, they closed the case. Many other environmentalists have been assaulted and threatened with no action by the FBI. Wait a minute! Is this the same FBI that put a hundred agents on full time for a year to find the mad Unabomber? Could it be that the life of an environmentalist is not as important to the FBI as the life of a university professor or an airline employee? Mark Twain once said that a lie will make it halfway around the world before the truth even gets it shoes on. Is this the motivation behind the FBI leaks to the media?

The mainstream news media just isn't going to mend its ways anytime in the near future. For what it is, we are stuck with it until we can replace it with



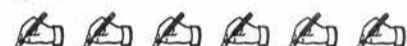
something better. Along with the steady diet of mayhem and street crime, there will always be an OJ trial, a baby hippopotamus at the zoo, a brave cat, a cute baby or a drug-addicted movie star more interesting to the jaded, corporate-funded news producers than a legitimate story about how corporations routinely rob, poison and maim people they've never met, how they cover up their tracks and avoid responsibility and how they corrupt our democracy.

But take heart. Right before the collapse of the Soviet Union, *Pravda* was the world's largest newspaper. Problem was, nobody believed anything they read in it. Thankfully, blow-dried lackeys like Peter Jennings are not the only show in town. Network news and the *New York Times*, no matter how influential, don't have the credibility they once did. No matter where you live, you have access to the alternative press, which reaches people and communicates with them in a more meaningful way than ABC News, even without 20 million people viewing at once. We do it face-to-face, distributing



our own media that can educate and activate the people we need to reach the most. I think it's important to remember that we don't usually radicalize people through our actions. People become radicalized by their own experiences. Organizing is more about uniting like-minded people in the exercise of political power than about changing people's minds.

No doubt a few people in Alberton, Montana will be a little bit more responsive when contacted by a local environmental group about the effects of paper mills and chlorine usage on their health and the environment. They are now far more worried about the reality of the lingering effects of a chlorine-and-toxic-waste cocktail than about the remote risk of receiving a bomb in the mail. As long as we are visible in our communities and are willing to communicate our message, we can reach people, one at a time, and we can build a movement strong enough to stop these toxic terrorists from ever hurting anybody again.



The news media is finally starting to cover the zero cut debate now raging within the environmental movement. A recent story on the AP wire by Scott Sonner focuses on the ongoing fight for a zero cut policy in the Sierra Club. Recently, the *Lewiston Morning News* ran an editorial about the unlikely alliance between the Audubon Society and Earth First! in calling to end commercial logging on public lands. The editorial praised Dave Foreman for being willing to compromise with the timber industry on this issue while castigating the rest of the environmentalists for an all-or-nothing strategy. If I had read this a few short years ago, I would have dismissed it as an April Fool's prank. But things have changed. Foreman recently confided to an activist I know that the FBI is breathing down his neck. How this has influenced his change in position on zero cut, which he supported in his article for *Clearcut: the Tragedy of Industrial Forestry* and in past issues of *Wild Earth* is a mystery. Since his election to the Sierra Club Board, Foreman seems to have joined the good ol' boys club he once despised. But perhaps it's because he's gotten some irresistible party favors from the Club's inner circle. It seems he's gotten access to the Sierra Club mailing list to sell subscriptions to *Wild Earth*. Several members told me their Club membership numbers appeared on a Foreman fund-raising letter. Plus he gets a constant forum for his ideas in *Sierra* magazine. As one old-time Club member stated, "Foreman's rise to the top of the Sierra Club bureaucracy is unprecedented in the hundred-year history of the Club".

But it doesn't matter. Judging by the overwhelming victory it received in the ballot measure, zero cut is an issue whose time has come, and no backsliding or compromising is going to change that. Just a few months ago some people were talking about the "new Congress" as if it were an invincible, conquering army. We should expect less, they argued, because of the new political reality. Now those new congressmen and women are so much dead meat, having taken an unprecedented amount of money from the same corporate interests that they blasted on the campaign trail. And they haven't delivered any goods, either. We may yet have some new opportunities to push our agenda. Now is not the time to get squeamish, friends. Things are just beginning to get interesting again.

—MIKE ROSELLE

TWO-IN-ONE: Better than 9 to 5

BY TIM HAUGEN

What kind of setting lends itself most completely to the practice of an "Ecotopian" life? Urban? Small town? Rural? Wilderness?

Personally, I once considered and ultimately rejected the wilderness option. In this day and age, a migration of humans to the wilderness would do nothing to preserve the little that is left. Others may find various reasons to support the urban or town options, but I am a fan of rural living.

By obtaining a chunk of rural land, you can restore at least some of the natural values the land held prior to the onset of industrial agriculture. At the same time, the rural lifestyle affords sufficient privacy to remain true to your Ecotopian eccentricities. It will provide you with food, natural building materials, and the endless adventure and entertainment of the kind that only nature can provide.

In this current era, a piece of land located out of sight from the prying eyes of fickle neighbors and inquisitorial authority will allow you to reify your earth-centered values in very practical ways. Just try building a \$500 house from recycled materials on Manhattan Island. The building authorities would rather you were homeless and living in a cardboard box than showing the world that perfectly fine shelter can be had for a fraction of the prevailing rate. That would be catastrophic for business-as-usual in America.

Out of sight from disapproving eyes, it is possible to accumulate salvaged materials to meet needs that might otherwise be met by the consumerist option of expensive, mass-produced goods. From my collection of salvaged and recycled materials, I have built or otherwise acquired parts of a cabin, a greenhouse, furniture, a water collection and storage system, a shower, a wood-burning stove, a solar oven, a large-capacity pull-cart, a washing/exercise machine and a clothes dryer. I plan to build a food dryer, a solar still for purifying water, a garden irrigation system... I estimate that all of the above, cabin and greenhouse included, has cost me a cumulative total of \$1,300 for the parts that I couldn't salvage.

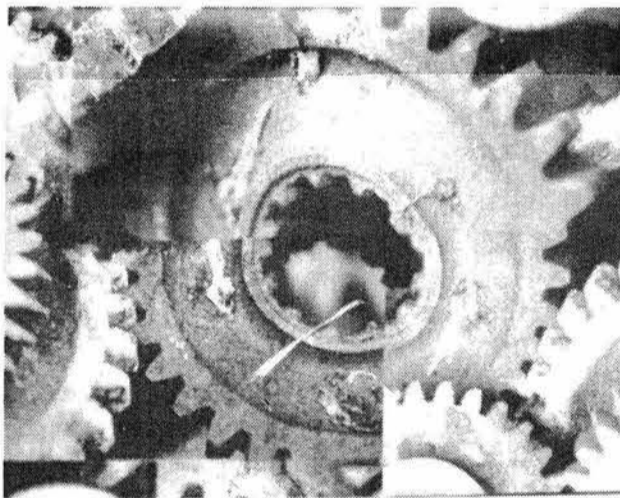
This leads nicely into a topic which could be referred to as "Advanced Dumpster Diving," except your happy hunting grounds will not be just dumpsters, but also landfills, salvage lots, demolition sites, corporate warehouses...

Say you have an idea to build a machine: a washing/exercise machine, for example. The last thing you want to do is draw up a detailed plan that specifies the exact components of your machine down to the diameter of the last bolt. If your plan

relies primarily on salvaged parts, you will search forever to find exact parts for your Earth-saving invention. Rather, go to the salvage site with a general idea of how your machine will function, then figure out how the parts you find can be adapted to your plan. For the tumbler of my washing machine, I used the rim and spoke assembly from two bicycle tires, connected by chicken wire. However, I could just as easily have used two round pieces of wood, perhaps from a salvaged end table, or two lids from garbage cans. Items I found to complete the machine include an assortment of bicycle parts, motorcycle parts, car parts, wood, nails... all hauled out of various landfills and salvage sites. I bought cable and cable clamps, nuts and bolts and a sheet of plastic to complete the finished product. The result is a washing machine powered either by pedaling or weight-lifting.

Another rule to remember is to link functions together whenever possible instead of embracing the corporate ideal of having an entirely different machine for each discrete function. My washing machine is also an exercise machine. I've not only found the time to maintain good health, I've integrated physical activity into my home maintenance routine. No need for an expensive membership in a health club. And since I built the machine, I know how it works. I have never once had to call in the Maytag repairperson.

My theory that this demonstrated willingness to do the household laundry would be irresistibly attractive to at least one of those wonderful eco-defending women out there has yet to be adequately tested. There are nothing but ranchers' daughters around here, for whom essence of cow shit consti-



tutes the ultimate aphrodisiac.

Building machines is not like work to me, or at least not the kind of drudge work that you associate with the endless routine of 9 to 5. Rather, I derive the same kind of entertainment from designing and building that others derive from assembling a puzzle. In the end however, I have something that can be used to make my life easier, and at a tiny fraction of the price for an equivalent offering from corporate America.

Since I have no TV, I am not bombarded daily by consumerist propaganda. Thus, when I do perceive a need, the need is real, not just an induced false perception. Furthermore, my first impulse is not to go out and buy something in order to fulfill my needs. Rather I think about how I can build something to meet the need. The puzzle construction begins, and personal creativity becomes part of my ration of daily entertainment. I am also entertained and amused by writing, by cartooning, by my cheap guitar and wooden flute... Thus I am entertained by the reified images from my own imagination rather than the banal offerings of pop culture. My entertainment is active, not passive. Therefore I avoid the mindless lethargy induced by TV that causes people to become so vulnerable to corporate consumerist propaganda.

Non-consumerism is not deprivation, but enrichment. I know I can live a fulfilling life on far less than what is "needed" to maintain the American standard of living. Instead of mindless consumption, I accumulate huge quantities of quality time. And the experience of quality time is what life is really about.

This column welcomes contributions from all the creative people out there who are living by the seat of their pants. Just write Tim Haugen with your ideas at POB 81, Gulnare, CO 81042.

MISS DEMEANOR: ADVICE FOR THE ECOLOGICALLY CONFUSED



Dear Miss Demeanor:

Every time I slip my tan, naked, muscular body into a hot tub, I quiver all over with the most delectable delight! It's not even comparable to the sip of a finely blended carrot and mango shake. I fear I'm addicted to the swirling, chlorinated jets of hot water that turn my thighs (tired from a hard climb) into oozing ecstasy.

I know these tubs of chemical pseudo-massage creation are not good for my mother, the earth. But what can I do—go add another human to the wild places where the real hot springs are, and not even get the jet effect? I can't resist whenever I'm near one, but the tiny guilt builds up every time. Please justify it for me.

—HOT IN THE TUB

Dear Hot in the Tub:

As I have advised others, guilt has no place in the ecologist's repertoire. As for justifying your addiction—perish the thought!

I have an acquaintance who claims her ultimate fantasy is to be naked and neck-deep in a warm bath of tenderized abalone. (I jest not!) But, thankfully, she cannot justify the affront to the abalone and the wallop to her wallet.

If she can find the inner strength to resist, so can you. Get thee to a natural hot spring!

Dear Miss Demeanor:

Please help me. I recently attended an Earth First! meeting and I was so offended I may never attend another. The problem was all the drinking. Those people were swilling can after can of the most awful muck you can imagine. It was tasteless and repulsive.

Don't those EF!ers know that beer companies are behind the most sordid and twisted causes? Don't they know what they are supporting with their foul drinking habits?

Can it be they don't know that perfectly good, extremely potent beer can be made with a five-gallon bucket and a two dollar airlock for about eight bucks a case? Should I give up on these people? Please advise.

Yours Truly,

—ANNA THESIA, PINKSLIP, IDAHO

Dear Anna Thesia:

Well, dearie, one needn't give up on dedicated Earth defenders because they are alcoholically challenged. Your unenlightened friends simply lack a good role model. When you arrive at the next meeting with your own home brew to share, they will no doubt be receptive to your wisdom.

Miss Demeanor responds to actual letters. Humorous questions may be sent directly to me at the Journal addressed to Miss Demeanor, POB 1415, Eugene, OR 97440.

CONCRETE: CEMENT YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE EARTH

BY LOCKBOX AND BARREL

Concrete is a vastly misunderstood concept. It's goopy until it sets through a process of crystallization; it's stronger when mixed with a high proportion of cement (the glue); and its inherent brittleness can be reinforced with flexible materials. It can be poured into many molds, from short pieces of pipe to abandoned vehicles. You can buy the "quick-set" variety for rapid night work, but it's not as strong as the gradually curing kind (Portland cement) which you can mix at home for later deployment.

Chemistry Lesson

Cement develops its binding capacity through hydration as a result of a chemical reaction with water. "Portland" cement, the most commonly used to make concrete, consists of calcium silicates. Concrete has high compressive strength, but low tensile and flexural strength. This means only very hard blows will shatter concrete. Reinforcement (such as steel) can increase the overall strength of the product/form.

Cement, H₂O, Sand and Stone

The best ratios to use are anywhere between 3:1:3:3 and 3:1:5:5 (cement:water:sand:gravel). The higher the proportions of sand and gravel, the weaker the end product will be. This is probably fine for road emplacements because weight is more important than compressive strength. Also, high cement-to-water ratios will make the concrete hard to stir, especially as you add more sand and gravel. You can up the water concentration to 2.5:1 (cement:water), however, this will increase the setting time. Rain water and snow melt are not recommended because they are very low in calcium. Tap and lake water are preferable. Sea water is usable, but will corrode steel reinforcement. Of the sands available, "plaster sand" works best because it contains lime (calcium) and has been screened to remove very fine particles. Gravel finer than 1/4 of an inch and greater than 1/16 of an inch in diameter is ideal for smaller objects (e.g., barrels), though larger sizes (up to 3/4 of an inch) can be used for very large emplacements (thousands of pounds). When you buy these components from outdoor yards, try to get

the dry stuff from the top of the pile because absorbed water will screw up the above ratio estimates.

Three main kinds of cement are available: Portland cement types I, II and III. These set between 4,000 to 8,000 pounds per square inch (psi), depending on which type you use, how careful you are with ratios of cement to water and the setting time. Type III is the strongest and hardest to find (6,000 to 8,000 psi). Types I and II (4,000 to 6,000 psi) are usually used in sidewalks and are available at most large hardware stores. Adding commercial admixtures such as calcium chloride, granulated blast-furnace slag (type IS cement), and pozzolans (type IP cement) will give greater strength, sooner. Calcium aluminate (or high alumina) cement is 25 percent stronger than Portland and sets in a little over a day's time, even below freezing.

Storing, curing and temperature

The temptation with concrete is to try to use it as soon as possible after pouring. If you are using "quick-set," this is probably okay. However, as some people have found, regular concrete less than 24 hours old ain't worth shit. Plan ahead! Regular concrete has 75 percent of its ultimate strength after seven days and 99 percent of its ultimate strength after 28 days. Install road-embedded placements several weeks ahead of time, cover them up and come back later. Make barrels when nothing else is happening, not in the middle of a campaign. Make some in your garage and take them into the woods.

Concrete should be cured under humid conditions. Slop water on the top while it sets or put heavy absorbent materials soaked in water on top. This helps keep micro-cracks and larger cracks from forming. Air-cured concrete has 50 percent less compressive strength than moist-cured. While curing, con-

crete should not be exposed to extreme temperature changes. The warmer it is the better (70 to 100 degrees F). Though concrete will set at near freezing conditions, it will take longer and be weaker. Cure barrels and lockboxes in water and indoors, if possible.

Different Shapes

Obviously, the shape of the finished product will depend on the form (or mold) used to pour the concrete. The shape of the form will affect the strength of the object. Remember that concrete is brittle. Try to imagine where the force will be applied to break your barricade. With barrels, law enforcement officers often hammer at the sides to get at the lockbox inside. So, the more cylindrical the barrel is, the better, because the shock will be ab-

be activated whenever needed (weeks or years later).

History Lesson

A description from early 1994 for the Tacoma action barrels included information that is incorrect. Avoid the temptation to fill up space with extraneous materials like wood and big rocks. These objects will act as centers of chaos and autonomy within the barrel. Once hammering commences on the outside of the barrel, cracks will migrate between weak areas first. These are mostly the "transition zones" around wood or large rocks, air pockets, the lockbox, and even rebar reinforcement. So, keep that stuff to a bare minimum. Sidewalk-strength concrete will keep them hammering for awhile.

Barrel or Emplacement Design

For a 30-gallon barrel: 1) cut four-inch PVC or ABS pipe into two equal pieces that will join in the middle of the barrel to make a 150-degree angle "V"; 2) fit these through holes in the side of the barrel into a T-joint (flex tubing or PVC/ABS) which has a hole punched through the center with rebar; 3) heat the rebar (precut to 3 inches less than the height of the barrel) and push it through the hole in the T-joint; 4) cover the third open (vertical) side of the T-joint (a big yogurt lid will do); 5) put in a cage of reinforcing wire and rebar about 4 inches from the outside of the barrel, include cross pieces; 6) start mixing and pouring concrete (100 to 200 pounds a batch) until you fill it up (a 30-gallon barrel requires 600 pounds of concrete).

Remember: Scale the height of the holes in the side of the barrel to be comfortable for a seated person; keep the pipes secure while pouring the concrete; mix the concrete thoroughly to get rid of air bubbles and effectively mix in the cement paste.

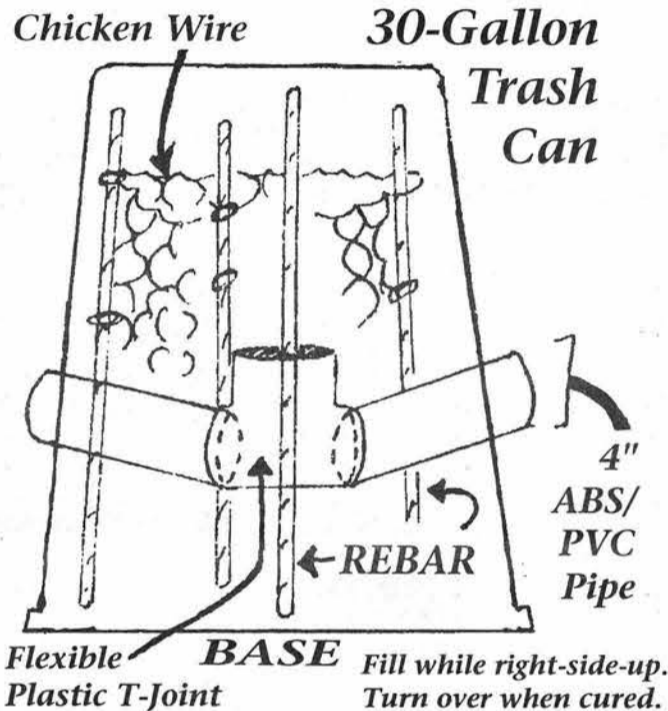
Consider refrigerators, washing machines, old cars and custom made forms. If you decide to make something in the 1,000- to 3,000-pound class consider buying a half yard (1,500 pounds) or full yard (3,000 pounds) of concrete at a larger hardware store or concrete yard. If you do so, request that they add some extra cement to make it stronger. Pre-mixed concrete at this scale costs more but is a hell of a lot easier than the alternative. You will have to rent or know someone with a flat bed for this. Even one-ton pickups will die under this kind of load.

When delivering the finished product, try not to drop it off the truck. It will probably crack, especially if it is not completely set. Heavy timber ramps, big dollies and come-alongs will probably help. Avoid being downhill from said behemoth.

Say It With Concrete

With the above recipes, lots of imagination and a human or two who will never unlock, you can tie up traffic and law enforcement for several hours to several days. Dream about concrete lockboxes around truck axles, dragons awakening in the road, refrigerators full of sidewalk and full-leg enclosures in buried barrels.

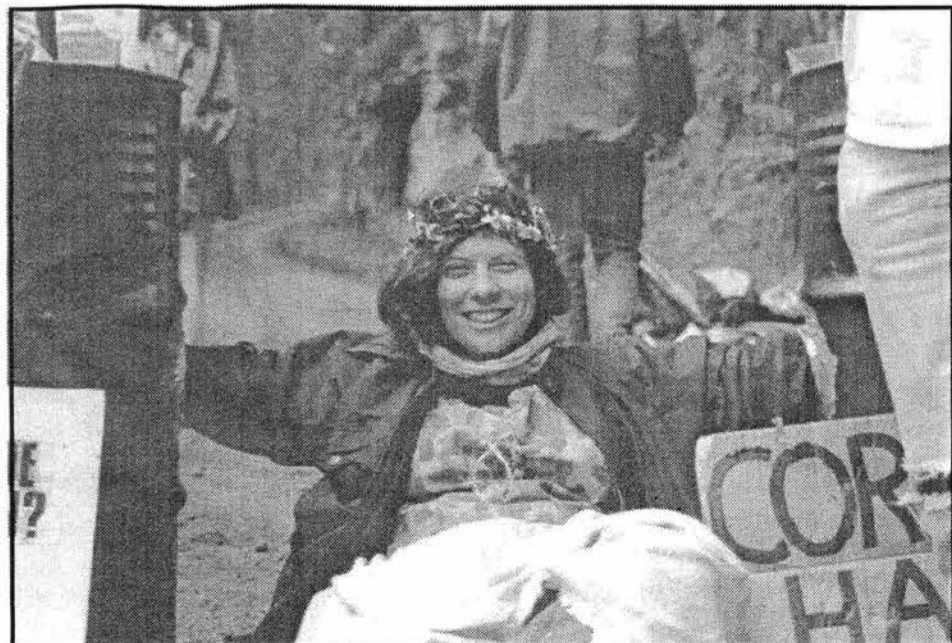
For the mother.



sorbed and dissipated effectively. Steel reinforcement will make concrete much harder to hammer through, but don't overdo it. Try to avoid thin layers of concrete and sharp corners. Concrete lockboxes are a relatively new approach worth pursuing. They are composed of a steel lockbox surrounded by a concrete sheath, enclosed within a 12-inch plastic form. Plan ahead so you don't have to use quick-set cement and remember to keep it moist.

Dragons and Other Fancy Stuff

If you are going to rely on road-embedded concrete to hold you down, it must be at least 50 percent cured. For regular concrete at spring road-bed temperatures (40 to 50 degrees Fahrenheit) this could take at least three days. Get out early to set up (like Friday night for a Monday action). Dig the hole, pour in several hundred pounds of concrete around your lockbox (or other locking devices, such as eye bolts), cover the concrete with something that can take a vehicle's weight (if autos will be going by in the daytime), cover with several inches of road material, pack it down well and mark the spot. After a long weekend, this will be strong enough to use. The deeper the plug, the deeper they'll have to dig to get it out. An easier way to do this is to take a pre-made barrel with a top-mounted lockbox and drop it into a ready-made hole. Someone once called a road emplacement like this a "sleeping dragon" because it can



If this princess can feel a pea under 17 mattresses, locking to cement barrels must not be that uncomfortable.

Photo by Martine Knifes

An Open Letter to ABC Network News

BY CRAIG BENEVILLE

Editor's note—The Earth First! Journal sent the following to ABC News April 8 and many other media sources thereafter. We also posted it widely on the internet.

On Friday, April 5, the ABC news program *World News Tonight* with Peter Jennings aired a report linking the non-violent environmental group Earth First! with Theodore Kaczynski, the alleged Unabomber. The piece was riddled with distortions and inaccuracies, and can only be described as a hit piece on Earth First! and the environmental movement. ABC's sensationalistic coverage has done serious damage to the reputation of the Earth First! movement, based on the word of Barry Clausen, an individual employed by the timber industry.

The ABC hit piece begins with footage of an Earth First! protest circa 1988. A group of people are shown in the midst of a chaotic scene of violence; fists are flying, people are screaming. The imagery, which sets the stage for the rest of the piece, is clear: these people are violent, crazed extremists. The real story behind this footage, however, provides quite a different context. That day, two protestors, in an act of civil disobedience, had locked themselves by the neck to a logging road gate. In the moments just prior to the footage aired, these activists had been

attacked by loggers, and were dragged by their necks in an attempt to open the gate. The decontextualized footage aired by ABC showed other activists attempting to intervene in order to protect their friends. The person throwing punches was one of the loggers, although ABC does not mention this.

ABC bases its allegation of a Unabomber-Earth First! link on two flimsy pieces of information. The first is Kaczynski's alleged presence at, as ABC calls it, "a meeting which top level leaders of Earth First! attended, at the University of Montana." In fact, this "meeting" was actually an environmental conference sponsored by the Native Forest Network, a grassroots environmental group working to protect temperate forests worldwide. Over 400 people attended, including environmentalists from Poland, Scotland, England, Chile, Mexico, Canada and Australia. Even representatives from the US Forest Service attended the conference. Activists associated with Earth First! also attended the event, but had no role in the conference proceedings. Kaczynski's alleged presence at the conference (his name does not appear on the conference registration list) links him to Earth First! no more than it links him to the US Forest Service.

(The most interesting fact presented in the story, completely glossed over by ABC, was news of an FBI

list of conference attendees. Is attending environmental conferences an activity now considered suspicious by our government? The November, 1994, conference occurred before excerpts of the Unabomber manifesto were released which linked the Unabomber to environmentalism.)

The second piece of information is ABC's contention that two of the Unabomber's victims were on "Eco-Fuckers Hit List" published by, in ABC's words, "a radical environmental journal." (This is the motto in the masthead of the *Earth First! Journal*.) A quick shot of the hit-list page was followed by a quote from Leslie Hemstreet, a member of the editorial staff of the *Earth First! Journal*. In the quote, Hemstreet says something like "We cannot be held responsible for what Theodore Kaczynski may have done with any information he may have gotten from us, because if he had read our journal thoroughly, he would've seen that we are completely dedicated to nonviolence."

The inference could not be clearer: The *Earth First! Journal* published the hit list. Yet this is false, and ABC knew that it was false. (An underground anarchist/environmental publication called *Live Wild Or Die* actually printed the hit list.) Roxanne Bezjian,

continued on page 29

Unabomber cont'd...

continued from the front page

There's No Such Thing as a Free Inside

Some of the negative coverage came out of the paper with the cereal box design—you know, to make for comfortable breakfast-time reading—*USA Today* and their parent company Gannett. Two of their syndicated columnists, Linda Chavez, ex-cabinet member from the Reagan administration, and Cal Thomas, a former publicist for Jerry Falwell, hijacked the bandwagon, repeating the ABC and *NYT* reports with a personal flair. Instead of merely possibly attending the same public conference, Earth First! was practically seen at a molotov cocktail party with the Unabomber. Our hit-lists are apparently not even as dangerous as our eco-sabotage how-to manual that includes instructions for "making explosives."

Chavez let it fly with outright lies including that, in the early 80s, we "put metal spikes in trees and on roads to injure loggers and road crews in wilderness areas." In reaching for violent rhetoric, she gets in a time machine and goes back to a Dave Foreman speech from 1983 "in which he inveighed, 'The blood of timber executives is my natural drink, and the wail of dying forest supervisors is music to my ears.'" That quote was from a tall tale by Foreman, part of a standard speech he's given hundreds of times. He adopts the "Pecos Bill" persona to illustrate, ironically enough, how rhetoric is not sufficient to protect biodiversity.

Chavez tries to link EF! to the murder of California Forestry Association's Gilbert Murray by pointing out that the bomb was addressed to the organization's former name, Timber Association of California, just like in EF! faction-produced, *Live Wild or Die*. She avoids mentioning that the fatal package was addressed to Bill Dennison, former president, not Roberta Anderson as named in *Live Wild or Die*.

Chavez' sickest gesture was saying that we have a baby-killer philosophy so we must've inspired the Unabomber to kill a pediatrics professor. Plus, she wants to reopen an investigation of a crude pipe bomb sent to a pediatrics specialist. She speculates that if the Unabomber doesn't turn out to be the perpetrator, "perhaps a

less talented radical environmentalist put the bomb together." She goes back to a 1986 Miss Ann Thropy *EF!* article discussing how changes in infant mortality have impacted population growth for her evidence.

The Right's Revenge

Chavez and Thomas were the first trickle of a flood of whining from the right-wing press about how the left-biased media jumped all over the possible influence of hate radio, militias and right-wing ideologies over Timothy McVeigh but would not draw the same connections between left-wing environmentalists and the Unabomber.

There is a huge difference between scrutinizing and decontextualizing EF! to come up with violent rhetoric and quoting the violent rhetoric actually emanating from right-wingers and wise-users. James Watt may not have said that he eats environmentalists for breakfast, but he did say that sometimes the cartridge box is more effective than the ballot box.

Another difference is that the militias and Timothy McVeigh were both armed. The Unabomber was armed but Earth First! never has been. When I argued this point with Chuck! Adler on his TV talk show out of Boston (we apparently don't have a trademark on the exclamation point), he pointed out that the militias also claim to be nonviolent. So I would just like to say for the record that we here at Earth First!™ are the kind of nonviolent who don't stockpile and brandish weapons. Plus let's face it, whatever rhetoric we are putting out there, Rush Limbaugh with his big piles of money reaches a lot more people than my beloved little *Earth First! Journal*.

To conclude that because EF! and the Unabomber share a few elements of a philosophy, we must also share tactics does not follow logically. Especially because dedication to nonviolence is a pervasive part of the EF! philosophy. Additionally, the Unabomber owns our writings and disowns our tribe in his 35,000-word manifesto. The press only picked up on the "...if you read the radical environmental and anarchist journals..." part.

To put it simply, there is no connection. According to the *Dallas Morning*

News, sources in the Justice Department stated that evidence gathered from Kaczynski's cabin "indicate research" into environmental issues, but "no direct link to any radical group or movement."

To even identify the Unabomber as environmentally motivated is stretching it. Of his 26 victims, only two had any environmental connection.

Debunked Some Myths

Although we considered it a victory when the story got "killed," some of the press actually behaved in an endearing manner. KEZI, our local ABC affiliate ran a lovely story in which they were surprisingly none-too-kind to ABC *World News Tonight*. New York's *Newsday*, found out that the mysterious FBI list of names was actually something that Barry Clausen allegedly gave to the FBI after getting it from, he claims, a friend in law enforcement. The *Washington Post*, ran a story called "Eco-Maniac or Madman?" which aired and debunked almost every allegation against us. These are just highlights. We had hours and hours worth of opportunities to talk to the press and set them straight about EF! monster myths.

Three weeks after the initial ABC report, just when we thought it was safe to have something better to do than defend ourselves from a press hungry for stink and blinded by the color yellow, an editorial repeating every above-mentioned allegation emanated from the *Boston Globe* and oozed into at least two California newspapers. Jeff Jacoby's story, "Eco Fringe Escapes Blame," opens with the sentence, "That perfect silence you hear is the environmental movement not being blamed for the crimes of the Unabomber." It repeats the two ABC innuendoes as fact, moves on to discuss the B-M connection, then talks about the media's double standard. I just want to say one thing to you Mr. Jacoby: "NPR." That's right. Even National Pub-



lic Radio ran their version of a hit piece on us. The teaser, repeated on the radio throughout the day was this: "Far-right radical groups like the militia and separatists have given pause to the US, but now there may be a link between inflammatory environmentalist rhetoric and the suspected Unabomber." Yes, this piece from the "alternative" public media was as bad as the teaser indicates and just like ABC, they used Barry Clausen as their source.

Rumors are flying that this alleged link between EF! and the Unabomber will be used to justify an FBI investigation into EF! as domestic terrorists. *USA Today* quoted former California Forestry Association president Bill Dennison, whose name appeared on the package that killed Gilbert Murray. He said, "I'd like to see a legislative hearing. The Unabomber's philosophy is only one step removed from the more radical writings of Earth First!"

The rumors died down after a couple of weeks. I think we're out of the hot seat for now, but we should stay alert so we don't soundbite off more than we can chew.

Just when I thought I was losing my sense of humor about the whole thing, I read the *London Daily Telegraph's* version of what happened. They clearly got their information straight from the Sahara Club's home page (<http://www.aloha.net/~pjc/green/unabomb-ef.html>) which lays out the links between Earth First! and the Unabomber. Even though most of what the *Telegraph* wrote about EF!'s activities was just like a Stephen King horror novel, I closed my eyes for a minute to pretend one thing that they said was true: They wrote that the *Earth First! Journal* has 15,000 subscribers.

BARRY CLAUSEN: FLIM-FLAM MAN OR PRIVATE DICK?

BY JAMES BARNES

For a long time the radical environmental movement, Earth First! in particular, figured that if it ignored Barry Clausen, he'd go away. The movement was wrong. In fact, this professional snitch has been (and I hate to give him any cause for self-satisfaction) almost single-handedly responsible for the bad press Earth First! has gotten in the past couple years. So, it is time for us to deal with him.

Until recently, he's been merely an irritant, and often a source of amusement, falling all over himself to paint us as baby-eating terrorists to wide-eyed Wise-Users, making up stories and spelling our names wrong. Since Theodore Kaczynski was arrested on suspicion of being the Unabomber, though, things have changed. EF! has had to counter an avalanche of innuendo about our "connection" to the Unabomber and Clausen is the main source of this misinformation. People are being threatened—called murderers and so on—just as we approach a new season of unprecedented public lands destruction and the subsequent upsurge in direct action protests all over the country. We can't continue to have nonviolent activists placed at risk because of Clausen's damned lies.

An Informer's History

Barry Clausen admits in his book, *Walking on the Edge*, that his love affair with law enforcement began when he was busted for grand theft auto at the age of sixteen. From there he spent much of his time doing coke in Montana, working an assortment of jobs and trying to get close to movie stars. He turned to narcing after a cocaine smuggling deal in Texas went sour, sending him running to the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA).

The DEA wouldn't believe his tale, but Barry was apparently so thrilled by all the leather and guns that he went straight to the sheriffs of Park and Madison counties in Montana and offered himself as a stool pigeon. The sheriffs set him up with body wires but only a couple of busts came down as a result. The cops later testified that they thought Clausen "unreliable" and "working both sides," so Barry's career as an undercover drug agent came to an end.

Meanwhile, Barry was working as a seasonal Forest Service employee. It was also during this time that was charged with felony theft of an automatic rifle. Clausen later retaliated with a lawsuit targeting just about every law enforcement agency and individual he ever worked with, thus producing some interesting depositions. Barry doesn't seem to realize how pathetic these things make him look, so he describes them thoroughly in his book.

In 1989, Barry Clausen was introduced to Bruce Vincent, founder of the Wise Use group Communities for a Great Northwest. According to Barry, this was when he first heard of Earth First!.

In Deep Cover

Under contract from some unnamed group (Communities for a Great Northwest, I imagine), Clausen went to work "infiltrating" Earth First!. He visited the Montana EF! contingent and weirded them out, telling different cover stories to activists in Bozeman and Missoula, and generally getting himself classified as a wingnut.

He never really figured EF! out, so he still refers to one EF!er as "the head of Montana Earth First!" and another as the "publisher of *Live Wild or Die* and former head of Earth First! Washington." His account engages in some stylin' libel such as a photo caption which reads: "This helicopter was torched by Earth First! terrorists in Montana."

Since he couldn't actually get any Montana EF!ers to do any copter-burning, or other crimes, Barry went off to Seattle to work for the Washington Contract Loggers Association as a private eye (despite the fact that neither he nor his company, North American Research, were ever licensed to operate in Washington State; he has lately restyled

himself as a "consultant," possibly as a result of inquiries into his PI status).

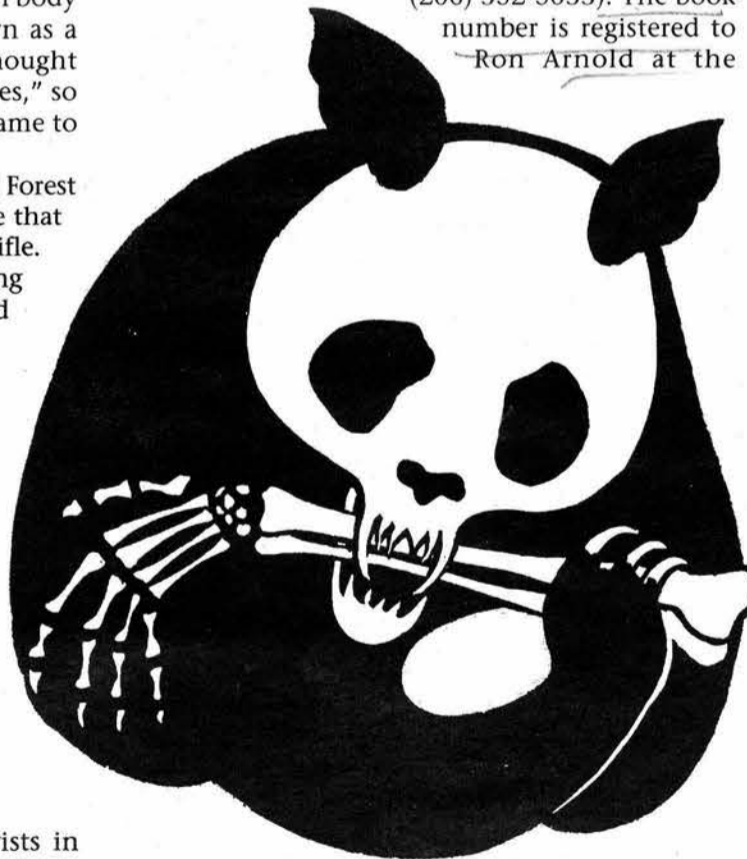
In Seattle, and up and down the coast (he went to Redwood Summer), Clausen continued his "investigation" and continually harassed Forest Service law enforcement with information on EF! terrorism and plots, which they were clearly uninterested in. Again and again they refused to work with him, citing his past record. In one example, FBI agent Horace H. Mewborn gave sworn testimony that, "...we did some other agency checks, and they said he [Clausen] was not reliable."

Barry even tried private companies. He badgered McDonald's about "animal rights terrorism" following Jeremy Rifkin's "Beyond Beef" campaign until they demanded that he cease bothering restaurant employees about vandalism. Security officers at MacMillan Bloedel blew their stack when they found out Clausen had contacted some of the largest MacBlo customers. Barry got the addresses from the November, 1994, *Earth First! Journal* announcing a boycott of the huge corporation for its role in the destruction of Clayoquot Sound. He warned MacBlo's customers about potential terrorist attacks, and may well have increased the publicity and success of the campaign.

Barry Discovers the Media

In 1994, the *Province*, a Vancouver tabloid, printed some of Barry's allegations verbatim. The success of this story in attracting attention, spin-off stories and cashola encouraged him to shift his focus from private investigations to public relations. The press often has no standards of proof other than titillation and scandal, and his employers in the timber industry want only to smear their enemies. Clausen's work meets both conditions.

Later in 1994, *Walking on the Edge: How I Infiltrated Earth First!*, by Barry Clausen with Dana Rae Pomeroy was published by Clausen's employer, the Washington Contract Loggers Association (2421 Pacific Avenue, Olympia, WA 98507-2168; (800) 422-0074 or (206) 352-5033). The book number is registered to Ron Arnold at the



The World Wildlife Fund's logo as interpreted by Lyndon H. LaRouche's Executive Intelligence Review

Center for the Defense of Free Enterprise. Later that year he got another story out over the wire services, this time claiming that the Native Forest Network (NFN) conference, held in November, 1994, in Missoula, was to feature a who's who in ecoterrorism.

This nonsense has resurfaced in the latest Clausen-inspired round of eco-bashing. He claims that Ted Kaczynski attended the NFN conference. But he won't show anyone any proof. Clausen used the Unabomber to good effect last year too, when Gilbert Murray of the California Forestry Association was killed.

Last year, Clausen put out a pamphlet called "Report on Terrorism: The Real Truth" which de-

scribes Earth First! as a terrorist organization and blames us for all the acts of terrorism in the US for the past five years. He also includes copies of his correspondence with timber-industry-pocket-Senators Slade Gorton (R-WA) and Conrad Burns (R-MT) in which he convinces them to ask for a Justice Department investigation of Earth First! There are rumors that such an investigation may happen this spring, thrusting us into the headlines again.

Enter Lyndon LaRouche

Clausen's latest project has been a newsletter called *Ecoterrorism Watch* which he co-edits with Lyndon LaRouche follower Rogelio Maduro. The newsletter is published by the LaRouche organization at their headquarters in Virginia (POB 214, Leesburg, VA 22075; (703) 779-0121. Forget about subscribing, it costs \$145 a year for photocopied articles from the EF!J). This cult-like organization believes in a bizarre conspiracy theory that considers the entire environmental movement to be controlled by banking and corporate consortiums which in turn are controlled in turn by the World Wildlife Fund and headed by Prince Philip of England. I'm not kidding about this. They think His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh personally hand-picked fake Kreilick to run the Native Forest Network ecoterrorist front.

Clausen is also featured in LaRouche's publication, *Executive Intelligence Report*. Among other strange things, it states that Dave Foreman was hired by the Wilderness Society and Sierra Club to found Earth First! to make them look better and toughen mainstream positions. Supposedly, Foreman was guaranteed funding and a ten-year contract limit. (Actually, considering how Foreman's been opposing Zero Cut at the Sierra Club and calling us all "True Believers" a la Eric Hoffer, this doesn't seem so far fetched.)

Spreading Fear—for Fun and Profit

Since 1993, Clausen has regularly spoken to Wise Use groups all over the West. His speeches aim to frighten people into believing Earth First! terrorists are coming to get them and destroy their communities. Clausen pushes "security" services with some Soldier of Fortune-type macho dudes that he claims are ex-Navy Seals or Airborne Rangers or some damn thing.

At these talks he repeats the Judi Bari-and-Darryl Cherney-blew-themselves-up story despite the fact that he has admitted he knows it isn't true. He also targets a Seattle EF!er who has worked for both Greenpeace and the Native Forest Network, and therefore is clearly a linchpin of the big green conspiracy. He attributes right-wing bombings to EF!, and labels the 1989 Dixon, California livestock auction barn-burning as an EF! action, despite it's being well known now as an insurance scam, etc. His best story is that Earth First! intends to poison water supplies all over the country with virulent *E. Coli* bacteria as per instructions in Dave Foreman's book *Ecodefense*, and in fact we have done so already in Portland, Oregon. Of course, *Ecodefense* says no such thing. He says he knows who shot some cattle in Utah and who sabbed the powerlines in Santa Cruz in 1990, but for some reason his information has never been acted upon by law enforcement. Oh, and Mike Roselle is the leader of the whole terrorist kit and kaboodle.

Clausen has been trying to get this Unabomber thing to stick for several years now. When Kaczynski's arrest came down he was all too prepared with the "real" story. The press, in frenzy mode, was willing to swallow it whole. It's all too easy, really. And he'll be back when circumstances arise that make "ecoterrorism" a top story he can peddle. So, we have to be ready. If you hear that Clausen has a speaking engagement in your area, attend it. Call the *Journal* for a Barry Clausen fact sheet to hand out or give to the press if there is going to be a Clausen-inspired media attack in your area. Clausen himself can be reached at POB 65298, Port Ludlow, WA 98365; (360) 437-0453, fax (360) 437-9101. Call and give him hell, nonviolently, of course.

Peabody Coal Stopped by Dineh Alliance

BY STEVE BRITTLE

For over 27 years, the British-owned Peabody Coal Mine has operated the world's largest surface coal mine on the Navajo Reservation. The mining operation has been the bane of the local's existence, causing surface water contamination, groundwater depletion and air pollution, as well as disturbing burial sites and decimating family flocks of sheep. Blasting from mine operations has disrupted everyday life in area residences and left scars across the landscape. In August 1995, the Dineh Alliance and other traditionalists appealed the renewal of Peabody's Kayenta Mine Permit in the courtroom of Administrative Law Judge Child. In order to testify and participate, they had to literally camp out for several days in Flagstaff, over 100 miles from their homes, as well as take on the federal Office of Surface Mining (OSM) and Peabody's attorneys. They complained in detail of how OSM ignored hundreds of citizen's complaints over the years about the Peabody Coal Mining operation.

On March 12, 1996, Judge Child stunned all parties by denying the renewal of the permit for the Kayenta Mine. He ruled that Peabody must correct its violations or overturn his decision in order to get a new permit. The mine continues to operate under interim status using its old permit, however.

Judge Child found that Peabody Coal mined within 300 feet of residences without gaining the owner's consent, as required by law, violating the property owners' rights. Peabody was also found to have willfully violated the Surface Mining Coal Reclamation Act (SMCRA) for mining within 100 feet, and in some cases directly through, burial sites that Peabody should have had previous knowledge of. Willful violations are grounds for revoking coal mining permits.

Plus, special conditions attached to the previous permit were not satisfactorily met. These conditions required OSM to review Peabody's compliance for adequacy. OSM was found to have failed in this and in preparing an adequate Environmental Impact Statement. The Kayenta Mine operation of Peabody Coal was found to be in violation of SMCRA.

Judge Child chastised the federal government for its poor oversight of the mining operation. He declared that the Department of the Interior and OSM view their trust responsibility to the Native Americans as "one of arm's length." He mentioned the detrimental impacts of the coal mining operations on the surrounding residents and the degradation of

the air and water. Judge Child also noted that although the Navajo government receives \$45 million annually in coal mine royalties, the people directly impacted by the mine have never received anything, not even monitoring or assistance from Navajo Environmental Protection Agency.

These nearby residents, traditional Navajos, are among the poorest people in America. Paying for legal counsel and experts to fight a wealthy, multinational corporation and a corrupt federal agency in court is difficult, but the peoples' stories have carried much weight.

Donations for the legal fight can be sent to Don't Waste Arizona, Inc., for the Black Mesa Legal Fund, 6205 S. 12th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85040. One hundred percent of all donations go into the fund.



Ozark Lawsuit Mandates Watershed Approach

BY TOM MCKINNEY

ARKANSAS CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB

There is good news to report on the lawsuit against the Ozark National Forest filed to protect the watershed of the Buffalo National River (*Newton County Wildlife Association, Sierra Club & State of Arkansas vs. George Rogers, US Forest Service et. al. and the Arkansas Forestry Association as intervenors*). The suit challenges four logging projects in the Ozark National Forest that are within the watershed of the Buffalo National River and the Richland Creek Wild and Scenic River.

The suit was filed because the Forest Service didn't complete a comprehensive management plan for the Richland Creek Wild and Scenic River by the congressionally designated deadline and, thus, is in violation of federal law. Using a California case that our attorney successfully conducted (*Wilderness Society vs. Tyrell*) it was argued that the comprehensive management plan should include not just the area within the 1/2-mile administrative corridor boundaries of the stream, but the whole watershed. Since the Forest Service missed the legally mandated deadline for completing such a plan, all four of the logging projects are illegal and should be enjoined.

With some fantastic testimony by hydrologist Dr. Bob Curry, fisheries biologist Dr. Cynthia Annet and silviculturalist Dr. Bill Ferral, we documented that previous roadbuilding

and logging on the Sand Gap and Round Hill timber sales had already damaged nearby streams. On-site evidence proved that activity on the sales introduced 10 to 100 times more silt and gravel into the tributaries of the Richland and the Buffalo than the Forest Service had predicted. Dr. Annet testified that extensive on-site sampling over a two-year period documented that the fishery in the two streams was damaged by the erosion from the sales. Dr. Ferral provided evidence that the even-age logging in the Forest Service's plans was damaging the biodiversity of the forest and resulted in below-cost sales. None of our experts were even cross examined.

To refute all our on-site evidence the Forest Service and the Arkansas Forestry Association had nothing except arm-chair experts who had made no inspections of the sites or even been in the general area of the streams. In one of the more humorous moments of the trial, Jim Crouch, past supervisor of the Ozark National Forest, spoke of his on-site inspection of Richland Creek. He testified that he drove across Richland Creek in his pickup only once and determined by the color of the water that there was absolutely nothing wrong with the creek and that logging had done no damage at all. He really said that, honest. And that was the timber industry's expert witness. The Forest Service's fishery biologist (and one of Dr. Annet's former students) admitted that you

cannot just manage the land inside the administrative corridor to protect the streams; you must take into account the whole watershed. Well, duh!! Charlie Moulton, representing the State of Arkansas, put the director of the Arkansas Wild and Scenic Stream Commission and the state's water expert on the stand to testify that the state law requires whole watersheds to be evaluated to protect wild and scenic streams.

During the hearing, Judge Wilson interrupted the testimony to announce that he was not going to issue the Preliminary Injunction. The Forest Service, well on their way to losing, was as stunned as we were. Judge Wilson said we had won the case on its merits and shown that there was the possibility of irreparable harm to the streams from logging, but he was not going to issue a Preliminary Injunction due to the damage that the loggers might suffer. We requested a Temporary Restraining Order to enjoin the sales until we could appeal his ruling to the 8th Circuit. Judge Wilson asked for briefs on the matter and scheduled a conference call for Monday, April 8. To say that we were confused when we left the courtroom would be putting it lightly.

On April 8, Judge Wilson repeated his declaration that we had won this hearing on the merits and would likely win the case as well. He also strengthened his finding of irreparable harm from the possibility to the probability

of it occurring. He ordered the Forest Service to complete comprehensive management plans for all six streams in the Ozark National Forest and insisted the plans include all watershed lands that might affect the protected values in the river corridors. This extension of the management plans from the corridors to the complete watershed of a designated stream is SETTING A NATIONAL PRECEDENT. *THIS IS NEW LAW!* Language contained in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act directs that planning must include the complete watershed of a stream, but this is the first time it has been legally mandated. The Forest Service and timber industry lawyers were almost speechless. They were stammering and arguing with the judge until he basically told them to shut up.

Judge Wilson would not grant our request for a Preliminary Injunction on the sales, but he did grant a temporary stay until the appeal was heard by the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals. The 8th Circuit will rule on the Permanent Injunction in May.

The first step of this suit has been successful so far. It is due to the hard work of all of our volunteers both in the Arkansas Chapter and in the Newton County Wildlife Association and to the support given us by the Southern Plains RCC and other volunteers throughout the Club. We will be proceeding with our appeal as well as preparing for the case on the merits.

Sierra Club Goes Zero Cut

continued from the front page

A genuine insurgency was forming and the old guard was furious—so furious they mounted a misinformation campaign using Sierra Club funds and staff time to produce and distribute misrepresentations about our initiative. Almost everywhere we went, we were met by individuals who had either been sent by the old guard to oppose us or who were influenced by the disinformation.

As we walked in the door of one meeting in Santa Barbara, a woman we had never seen or spoken to before jumped to her feet, pointed at us and screamed, "You must be Chad Hanson; and you must be David Orr! I object to your presence here! I refuse to allow you to speak!" But speak we did. And as we stripped away the layers of disinformation, she and others gradually became friendly.

The turning point came in February at a meeting in San Francisco—the national headquarters of the Sierra Club and the home of the Club's oldest and second largest chapter. We were on their home turf, and knew it would be an uphill battle at best. We knew that if we could win there, anything would be possible.

In need of help, we called David Brower and Martin Litton, two of the Club's oldest and most revered activists, both of whom were establishing national parks and fighting timber sales long before I was even born.

Both Litton and Brower are in their 80s but neither have lost a step. Litton had taken a bad fall down a flight of stairs the day before, nearly breaking his nose and losing a quart of blood. He said he'd be at the meeting anyway. So did Brower.

That night, the room was packed with about 65 people—including activists, journalists, and local politicians. Most of the people in the room wore stickers indicating their support for the Muir Sierran's forest initiative, so the crowd was on our side.

Nevertheless, the old guard was confident. They had the votes. That is, of course, until David Brower and Martin Litton walked in at the last minute—to their surprise and chagrin. They spoke passionately and eloquently in support of our initiative. The tide turned, and the vote went our way.

Despite the campaign mounted against us, almost every chapter we visited voted to support our initiative, including the Oregon chapter (one chap-

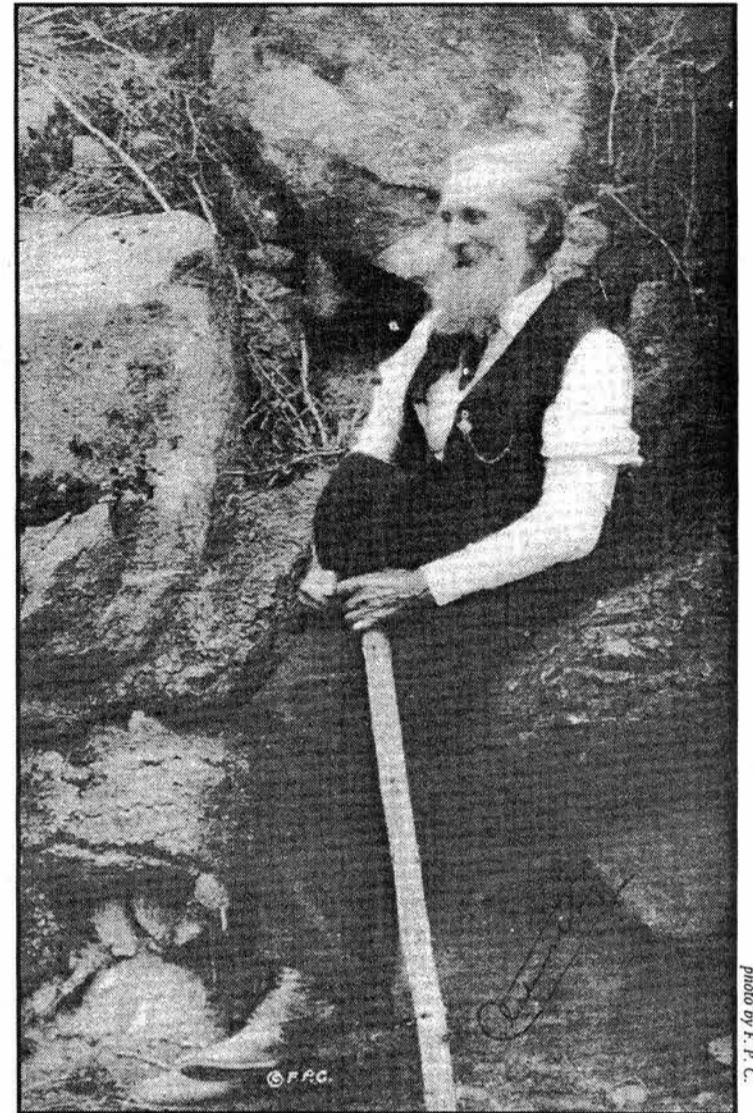
ter chose not to take a position). Our road tour lasted about nine weeks. By the time the election ballots were counted, the chapters that voted in support of the zero cut on public lands initiative represented 304,000 Sierra Club members—over half of the organization's entire membership. Editorials in support of the initiative were published in chapter newsletters that went out to a total of 190,000 members.

On the eve of John Muir's birthday, we found out the results of the Sierra Club election. The zero cut initiative passed by a two-to-one margin! The Sierra Club now joins Earth First!, the Native Forest Council, and many other environmental groups who support ending all logging on all public lands nationwide. Soon after learning the results, we decided to venture into uncharted territory and asked some key national leaders—Club President Robbie Cox, Executive Director Carl Pope, and Conservation Director Bruce Hamilton—if they would work with us to promote the new zero cut campaign. After initial hesitation on both sides, some significant signs of cooperation have begun to show. For instance, Sierra Club executive director Carl Pope and I just co-authored an editorial putting forth the arguments for zero cut. Plus, David Orr and I will present our plans to advance the Club's zero cut agenda at the next board meeting on May 18 in San Francisco.

As I think back on the last three months, and all of the Sierra Club activists we met while on the road—people who put us up for the night, fed us or gave us gas money for the next leg of the trip—it occurs to me that an organization is defined not by its figureheads, but by its rank-and-file activists.

Times are changing in the Sierra Club, whether the Club's old guard likes it or not. They still have enormous control over the organization, both at the national and chapter level. But their control is waning; and it is becoming clearer and clearer that the fighting spirit of John Muir is still alive and well in the Club's grassroots.

If you, like many activists, have refused to join the



John Muir, the grandfather of Zero Cut

Sierra Club in the past because you felt it didn't give you anything to believe in, it's time to consider joining. For those of you who left the Sierra Club, it's time to come back.

Chad Hanson is a John Muir Sierrans activist in the Sierra Club's Oregon Chapter. The John Muir Sierrans can be reached at POB 25431, Eugene, OR 97402; johnmuir1@aol.com. For more information on Zero Cut, contact the Native Forest Council, POB 2190, Eugene, OR 97402; (541) 688-2600; zerocut1@aol.com.

An Open Letter to ABC cont.,

continued from page 26

the freelance reporter who interviewed Hemstreet for ABC, told the *Journal* after complaints about the coverage that she made it very clear to Brian Ross and Dave Rommel, the correspondent and producer of the piece, respectively, that the *Journal* had not printed the hit list. And while ABC never directly says the *Earth First! Journal* printed the list, the inference was strong enough to provoke phone calls to the *Earth First! Journal* office with people screaming that we are terrorists directly responsible for the Unabomber's actions.

ABC further distorted the story by claiming that both of the victims appeared on the hit-list roster. The two corporations that ABC is referring to as appearing on the list (the list was composed of corporations) are the California Forestry Association and Exxon. Thomas Mosier, one of the Unabomber's victims that ABC cites as being part of the hit list, worked not for Exxon, but for the public relations firm Burson-Marsteller. ABC claims that Mosier was connected to Exxon because Exxon was a client of Burson-Marsteller. However, Burson-Marsteller, one of the largest public relations firms in the world, has numerous clients. Whether Mosier ever worked on anything related to Exxon is unclear.

Perhaps the most outrageous aspect of the hit piece is ABC's source of information, Barry Clausen, who appears in the piece. Clausen is a paid informant of the timber industry whose livelihood de-

pends on an audience interested in Earth First!. Clausen has made a cottage industry for himself travelling to rural areas on speaking engagements paid for by "wise use" groups and the timber industry. The subject of his speeches is his claimed infiltration of Earth First!, and how Earth First! "terrorists" are attempting to destroy jobs, the economy and the whole of civilization.

Barry Clausen is not a credible source. He is a wannabe informant who has been rejected as unreliable by every law enforcement agency he has tried to work with. These include the Sheriffs of both Park County and Madison County in Montana, the US Forest Service in Montana, Washington and California, the US Marshall and the FBI. Clausen has also been rejected by private agencies including a private investigator in Seattle, Washington, and the security department of McDonald's hamburger chain.

FBI agent Horace Newborn, in charge of the Domestic Terrorism Unit at the FBI's headquarters in Washington DC, also characterizes Clausen as unreliable. In a sworn deposition Newborn stated about Clausen, "I think what we did is we did some other agency checks with Clausen. His name came up in other places, and we did some other agency checks, and they said he was not reliable."

This rejection (except Newborn's) is documented in Clausen's own book, *Walking on the Edge: How I Infiltrated Earth First!*, published by the Washington Contract Loggers Association, either in the form of

direct conversations or by the agencies' refusal to grant Clausen and his partner Joanne immunity.

ABC's portrayal of Earth First! as violent is totally contradicted by the history of Earth First! activism. In the sixteen years since Earth First!'s formation the only people to have been injured as a result of Earth First! activities have been Earth First!ers themselves. Earth First! activists have all too often been the victims of violence. Activists have had their houses burned down, been shot at, and beaten up. In 1990, Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney were bombed in their car while organizing for Redwood Summer, an Earth First! campaign to protect California's redwoods. (Their lawsuit against the FBI for wrongful prosecution and harassment is still pending.) ABC's irresponsible portrayal of Earth First! as violent terrorists legitimates such heinous attacks.

The damage done by ABC's hit piece on Earth First! is tremendous. Hard working environmental activists, who regularly place their bodies on the line to protect the earth, should not be subjected to such blather. This is especially true in light of the "logging without laws" timber salvage rider, which makes salvage logging operations above the law on US public lands. We have better things to do with our time than respond to such outrageous allegations.

The *Earth First! Journal* is asking for people to call and write *World News Tonight* to complain about ABC's irresponsible, sensationalistic reporting. You can reach ABC at 47 W. 66th, New York, NY 10023; (212) 456-4040; e-mail: newsaol@ccabc.com.

Continuing Responses &

Re: Images at the Headwaters Conference

For the fifth time Headwaters held a winter conference in Ashland, and for the fifth time I, and hundreds of others, attended. As usual, there were days of presentations—dozens of speakers, and more information than anyone could possibly absorb.

Also as usual, I missed almost all of it. I chatted with folks in the halls, ducked into a few minutes of one session on the way to a potentially more interesting concurrent event—then left to catch a few minutes of the really good presentation, which I usually either missed entirely or only heard enough of to underscore the fact that I should have arrived earlier.

And as usual one incident caught—for me—the flavor of the day. Others probably latched onto some other theme as the essence of the event, but for me it was a presentation by a former, and apparently “reformed,” Earth First!er about civil disobedience. He suggested that Earth First! style civil disobedience was sometimes counterproductive, and that folks in suits made for better press. I applauded. I believe that he has a point: civil disobedience can be theater—the audience is the public, and it pays to dress for the stage in a costume that is meaningful to the audience. So I applauded, but also started to think about the notion of dissing the folks who have often been out on the front lines, pulling others along.

Later I regretted my applause. I agree with Governor Kitzhaber's suggestion that, “Oregonians should raise a hue and cry” about Congress' attacks on our environment. I agree with him that many protesters who engage in civil disobedience “deserve credit for raising the issue[s]” and that much of the protests that have taken place are “within the limits of what we consider acceptable.” As long as protests are absolutely peaceful and non-violent, I support those who participate—and perhaps especially those who are willing to face arrest in order to bring attention to the issues. I agree that it is easier to dismiss folks who do not look like yourself, and that the image of Brock Evans being arrested in a suit is more powerful than the image of a kid in dreadlocks and camouflage being arrested. But do I agree that we should discourage the dreadlock and camouflage types? No I don't think so. Not at all.

I remember when I was a Vietnam war protester. I was unruly,



Mitch Friedman, dressed for success.

angry, unreasonable, and definitely did not wear a suit. Other folks came to rallies, stood at podiums in suits, and said reasonable things—I didn't listen. Some of them tried to convince me that I would be a more effective spokesperson for my cause if I got my hair cut. I laughed. After the rallies I went off and got arrested. The reasonable folks worried about the image, but I wasn't going to let them harness me. I wanted to overthrow the system, not join it.

So now I've joined the system. I'm an average middle-class white guy, I go to rallies in suits, and applaud when I hear suggestions that others should do likewise: that the Earth First!ers should get their hair cut, put on suits, and fit in. But they shouldn't. They should do just what they are doing. I have no more right to expect them to adopt my strategy than they have a right to expect me to adopt theirs. They represent a powerful and unchannelable force—a force that shows up where others fear to go—a force that demands change without trying to mold itself into an image that the guy sitting in front of a TV can relate to.

If I want to control that image—the image of the protester on TV—I should not ask others to change their tactics. I should change mine. I should recognize that Earth First! types show up when there is a crisis—when no one else is taking action. They come when they're needed. So how can I, and the others who joined in applauding the speaker who asked for a more “respectable” image at protests, get what we want? Simple: Don't ask others to show up in suits, show up ourselves. If we average folks who make up the mainstream of society want to avoid having news stories about nothing but Earth First! types at protests, all we have to do is show up at protests ourselves—and in great numbers.

Just as we should expect to find teachers in a school, firemen at a fire, and lawyers in court, we should expect to find Earth First! filling the vacuum

created by our absence at the site of an environmental crisis. Fill the vacuum. Remove the crisis. That is the way to capture the image, to control the spin.

So I'm not going to ask Earth First! to look like me. I'm not going to say that protesters should wear neckties. I'm just going to show up with my suit and hope that others join me.

—CHARLIE OGLE
FEDERAL FOREST ISSUES
OREGON SIERRA CLUB
(Reprinted from the Spring, 1996 issue of *The Runoff*, the newsletter of the Eugene Many Rivers Group of the Sierra Club.)

Dear “Soup to Nuts,”

In the “60s” when I were a young-un and a Wobbly too, I learned all about infiltrators and set-ups and government provocateurs. About the same time, I learned about the Grim Politics of the Blind Faith and the Anti-laughture Heroes of Self-righteousness among the Left-wingers.

Me, I'm just a little woman with a lot of life to live. I didn't want to play with any of them. To me the gov't and the bosses and the political zealots were playing the same game and it weren't no fun.

Now I'm seeing this “I'm so fucking grown up and such a big deal” crap out of enviro-rad types. Fuck that. If we're saying Earth First, it don't mean “Me First” it means we need all of us—we need the nerds, the “woo-woos,” the big contributors and the small contributors. I'm sure you bitchin serious types are very sure you have the True Faith—I've seen your type before. If you can't take a joke or cope with Nature spirituality types you need help. Go out and get smashed with a buddy who'll maybe do you the favor of dumping you someplace with a wild paint job on your ass. What planet are you on? You gonna “save” it alone? Or do you really want Earth to be treated right? Do you want to see human animals change? Then deal with it, dude. We ain't ever all gonna be like you. But if we are ever gonna change toward treating Earth right, we'll do it along the lines of the kind of diverse critters we are.

Fuck all you grim radicals. Get a life. Get a laugh. Get real!

—GRANDMA JONES

Dear Allies,

I just received my Eostar copy of the *Journal* and noticed Frank Rivers' “Wake Up Call,” a response to Alex Cockburn's column in the *Seattle Times*, in which Cockburn claimed that those who recognize and value various continuities between human beings and animals are acting in a way that is ominously reminiscent of (gasp) Nazis. Rivers' response is well done. Of course, Cockburn's founding assumption that there is something inherently opposed to Teutonic Nazism in our immaculate American culture can easily be exploded by merely referring to the contents of highly researched historical studies by writers like Noam Chomsky, Richard Slotkin and Howard Zinn. Chomsky notes the eager, ruthless use of ex-Nazis by our capitalist-totalitarian government immediately after WWII to further secure its profiteering hegemony, and the resulting destruction of the earth and human lives that continues to the present moment—his recent “Year 501” is highly detailed. But I want to suggest that a simpler, anecdotal approach might be taken in order to challenge the wearisome pretense that there is an essential, absolute difference between the political practices of the United States and those of Nazi Germany.

In order to deal efficiently with jingoistic dumbshit bozos, it is not even necessary to argue in complex, historically detailed terms. For the sake of clarity and efficiency, just keep this in mind: the similarities between the on-going death-dealing political strategies of the United States and those briefly used by Nazi Germany can be made apparent simply by pointing out that Hitler himself admitted that he modeled his plan to annihilate systematically entire categories of human beings in death camps upon the techniques by means of which the white citizens of the United States, in their genocidal greed, had already so efficiently eradicated entire populations of Native Americans. (See James Loewen's excellent revisionary history book, *Lies My Teacher Told Me*.)

For that green fire

—BILL BONNEY

Ima Shit-Fer-Brains,

I would like to correct an error in my article, “SeDnA Confronts Exxon” (Brigid, '96 EF!), which Scott Strehlow responded to last issue. The acoustic testing re-

ferred to was triangular geometric testing with low frequency seismic sound blasts. I should not have compared the 250 decibel blast with putting your ear to a police siren because we do not have low frequency hearing like many marine mammals and some other creatures that live in the oceans. Exxon stated that decibel level in their Environmental Assessment as the decibel level they are broadcasting.

Regardless of the levels, the fact is that the tests are destructive, threaten marine ecosystems and SeDnA was there in a stand of resistance and defiance.

—JONATHAN PAUL
SEA DEFENSE ALLIANCE (SeDnA)

To: Mike Roselle

From: An Earth First! supporter
“Fishing happens to be one of the few outdoor activities that average citizens can enjoy without trashing the environment.”

You have got to be kidding me! Never have I heard an “environmentalist” say something so narrow minded and hypocritical.

—E.P.B. BETHESDA

Relax Mike,

No one is going to mistakenly confuse the goal of the animal rights movement to, “outlaw anything fun,” with the goals of Earth First or any other environmental organizations.

Both you and the *Journal* have done an excellent job in reminding us animal rights activists how silly and different we really are. We never realized the best way to promote respect and compassion for animals is to hunt and hook them. Nor did we know that it is o.k. to cause suffering to other beings as long as there are plenty left over for the next guy or gal, and you weren't driving your monster truck through the woods while enjoying your “sport.” Animals are sort of like renewable resources wouldn't you say?

We even went so far as to believe that raising and slaughtering animals (contrary to what Ronald says pork chops don't grow on trees) is immoral, and that knowingly supporting such cruelty through one's diet is as equally wrong. Thanks to you Mike, we now understand the issues of morality and suffering pertains to only humans, whereas the suffering of animals is not a moral question for the human race, but rather one of “how much fun am I having.”

Isaac Bashevis Singer stated, “For animals it's always Treblinka.” I guess he was wrong.

Sincerely,
—PETER WOOD



Other Assorted Letters ...

earthfirst@igc.apc.org,

What are your movement's links to the Unabomber?

Did you supply him with funds?

How many people have your movement's members killed?

Does your movement advocate murder when others do not agree with your positions on environmental issues?

What is the difference between you and those we call "terrorists"?

Your movement monkey-wrenched some heavy earth-moving equipment down here in San Diego about 10 years ago, and then abruptly stopped after you found out that the mob owned the machinery. You guys afraid of simple mobsters?

I truly hope the unabomber case exposes you twerps for what you really are.

—PATRICK MANNION
72614.1411@COMPUSERVE.COM

You've got to be kidding me!

All this stuff I've heard, all this press, everything I've read about you folks...and you're based in Eugene!

It figures. Ha.

I'm a native Oregonian and a graduate of OSU.

I've been a tree farmer all my life. I'm into guns, big trucks and, yes, Ronald Reagan was the best president I've ever voted for.

Up in Corvallis you Granola-lovin' treehuggers were a thorn in everyone's side, and we generally tried to ignore the crazies that lurked the campus posting liberal propaganda. My friends and I really loathed you folks.

Recently, my most extreme right-wing friend dropped a copy of the salvage rider in my lap and said he could already hear the shovels and picks of you people

bought out by private enterprise, but this blew my cap. We hiked the trail through some of the most beautiful ancient forest that I've ever seen.

I've always been against tree spiking. The guy that gets hurt isn't the one who's making millions off the deal. I think it would be nice to secede from the United States, seal the border and shoot anybody selling an endangered tree. But, I dunno. That may be a bit radical.

Anyway, I hope people realize that the environmentalist movement isn't identified by something as inane and insignificant as political affiliation. It isn't a matter of "the Democrats did this and the Republicans did that." It is, only to the extent that our ancient forests are a pawn in an evil party struggle. I'm a Republican—or, well, a political conservative—but the fact is I will vote against ANY politician that doesn't expressly denounce cutting our ancient forests.

EF!

Could you send me a sub again. I lapsed, I moved, I resettled. Much interested in getting in touch again. Though it is outside the scope of the wilderness focus I'd found the Green zine *Regeneration Synthesis on Dioxins* very interesting. Near here is virtually no "wilderness" but much toxic waste in waters, food chains, and buildings. Thru reading that zine I realized I'd had a PCB solvent poured on my head to remove epoxy roofing tar and I now possibly suffer from chloraene, a skin disease. Possibly that relates to any problem I might have with Earth First! as a name since it sets up an order and a dichotomy. When as strange as we are, we are part of earth, and on another angle who's going to act against their self interest? (people second!)? or last!? Or more accurately what they misperceive as such. I'm not saying 'Everything First!' is a better name but only to remind you (as I'm sure you already know) that "environmental issues" of urgency extend to the heart of roadless wilderness as well as the heart of the city, and the farm. If you avoid attention to the latter two realms you'll stay true to the Deep Ecology philosophy but not the Deep Shit reality, and ultimately nothing will be solved.

—PETER KALBERER

Greetings Activists,
RE: Friends of the Wolf (FOW)

This responds to David Barbarash's letter regarding FOW's campaign to save the wolves in BC and the Yukon.

We are part of a group who spent between four and seven weeks in the Yukon for FOW's 1995-1996 winter campaign. About 24 activists from four countries were there at various times. While Barbarash was not with us this winter, he participated in FOW's campaign the previous year.

Barbarash compiled an information package that deals largely with events he neither observed nor experienced. He relied on extensive interviews with this winter's participants to ensure the accuracy of the package. By publicizing a disgraceful situation involving FOW, Barbarash laid himself open to physical and legal attack. We commend David Barbarash for his efforts and agree with his basic theme and conclusions.

We believe that FOW and its leadership severely damaged the cause of the wolf rescue and recovery in the Yukon. We failed to accomplish what we set out to accomplish. What could and should have been a crown jewel of the environmental movement was transformed into a shameful, soul-shattering fiasco.

Since some two dozen activists were involved in the campaign, it might be averred that we should share the shame and blame with FOW leadership. Our attempts to remedy the situation were stymied and the FOW leader chose to go home for some weeks while continuing to exercise complete and undisputed authority over day to day events, finances, equipment and overall strategy (if, indeed, such strategy existed). We consider him principally responsible for the debacle.

If you want to work for the wolf, please forget about FOW. Our experience indicates you'll be squandering your enthusiasm, destroying your idealism, shattering your spirits, wasting your time and returning home financially broke.

Some of us are trying to repair the damage done by FOW. We have begun getting in touch with other groups that might be active. We will report from time to time.

If you would like a copy of Barbarash's information package, please contact him at 165-1472 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, BC, V5L 3X9, Canada.

Listed below are the ex-FOWers who participated in compiling this letter.

—BRETT CLUBBE, JOE DIBEE, MIKE HOWELL, STEVE PAULSON, ABE RINGEL

Just Lines on Paper

UNABOMBER EVIDENCE MOUNTS

Family members have revealed to private investigators that the suspect did indeed wear socks. Federal agents found a 1986 quarter, similar to this one, in the suspect's cabin - a quarter which fits a slot in a local laundromat's washing machine where the suspect could have washed, yes, socks. Irrefutable evidence, according to investigators...



earthfirst@igc.apc.org,

A great big Ha Ha to you People-Lasters!!

Welcome to the great unwashed group of Lied-About-by-the-Media-Everydayers!

We hunters, who eat what we hunt, are still lumped in with slob-hunters and every other kind of "Gun Nut." We also make it possible, through our hunting license fees, for you bunny-huggers to have bunnies to hug! So bug off on your hunt-harrassing escapades and get a life—and mebbe even a JOB!?! (Heaven forbid!)

Have a nice day.

—DONALD J. SEAMAN
SEAMAND@PA.NET

earthfirst@igc.apc.org,

Thanks to the Unabomber (besides your actions) you and your ilk are revealed for what you are.

You pathetic, anarchistic, violent pigs should be put in jail.

I do a radio talk show (Conservative) on a 50,000 watt radio station WWWE out of Cleveland and I'm going to enjoy bringing you psycho's and your "work" to the forefront for all in the coming days.

You people are irrelevant.

Have a nice day.....

—RICH MICHAELS
MICHAELS@CYBERGATE.NET

Dear shit 4 brains,

I see a newspaper article down here suggesting The Unabomber is an EF! follower. Looks like some shit is coming down. The FBI have another pretext for harassing you poor bastards even more. I am sorry, but I feel pessimistic on this. Ciao for now,

—NAME WITHHELD AS I AM SORT OF PAID BY THE FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRY

tearing up the logging roads. Not long after, he and an old high school teacher piled in his old Dodge 4x4 and ran supplies to the protesters up at Opal Creek so they could keep digging. Ha! My best friend gone granola!

The following weekend we loaded our trucks and drove to Pamela Road. We wanted pictures of the trees, of the equipment. Things to share with the world. Unfortunately, all of the side roads were conspicuously closed. A lot of them were wiped out by storms, but we knew which ones were clear fairly clear—including Pamela.

At the Pamela gate we saw a red and black Chevy S-10 pickup. We consulted maps for awhile, because the "Road Closed" barricades and orange cones were blocking the road. We waited for him to leave before we drove over the barricade, and we made sure that there was little evidence behind us that we had gone through.

Nevertheless, as we stopped to traverse a storm-fallen tree just a few minutes later, a Forest Service truck pulled up behind us. While it's likely that it was coincidence, it was just too close. He questioned us for awhile and said there were threats of tree-spikers up in the cutting area. He asked us if we had tree-spiking equipment and we told him truthfully that we had no idea what a tree spike even looked like. Then he threatened to fine us and escorted us off the road. He gave us a tip to go to a really nice hiking trail.

When we got there, the trail and all the trails and areas around it were closed because, the sign said, of helicopter logging overhead. That means the whole friggin' forest was shut down for a logging company. It's not news that the government has been

People need to know that this struggle enjoins and allies people from many different background and beliefs. Any other assumption would be counterproductive.

Thank you for your time. Perhaps we will cross paths in the woods someday.

Regards,

—CHRIS GATTMAN
GATT@THETICS.EUROPA.COM

Right On, Earth First,

This is the first time I've had the opportunity to Thank you, Bless you, and let the ecowarriors know that I am constantly praying for the struggles that this newspaper, and the people who are actually at the various locations to stop or put a temporary halt to the destruction, are involved in. As a high school teacher I am always informing the students about the individual roles they can play in helping to save our environment. Sadly, I don't have finances but I can assist by publicizing Earth First's constant vigilance. I will resubscribe soon. Bless you all and thank you.

—CHAWN

Dear Friends,

I thought up a joke about Clinton which I hope won't be appropriate again:

Someone told me that Clinton has the backbone of a jellyfish.

I think he should give it back if he's not going to use it.

Here's another joke:

Did you know the Republicans have a suicide watch on Newt Gingrich?

They are afraid he is going to shoot his mouth off.

—BARRY CARTER

P.S. Insanity is doing the same thing and expecting different results.

Dear SFB,

Apparently the Forest Service is a little concerned about what their employees have been writing on their e-mail. The Freddie's send out an e-mail that says:

"Lately there have been a few things coming across the computer concerning the possibility of our electronic mail files being requested under the Freedom of Information Act. This is no longer a theoretical discussion. According to Sherry Wagner, Restore the North Woods has asked for email files from the White Mountain NF.

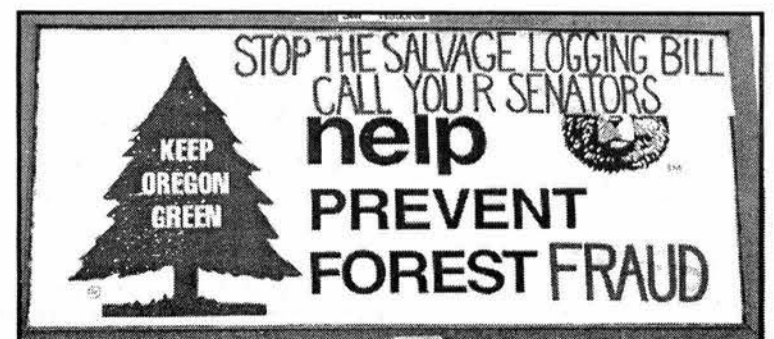
"We need to remember that the Forest Service email is not private, not even the "eyes only" stuff. Everything is supposed to be backed up on tape somewhere, even "eyes only" messages, and it is subject to FOIA.

"Do not put into a "Data General" message, even an "eyes only" message, anything that could possibly come back to haunt you (see "E-mail Etiquette, Avoid e-mail that bytes back!")

"One of the famous Longs of Louisiana (may have been Huey Long) summed things up like this: "Don't write what you can say; don't say what you can nod; don't nod what you can wink; and don't wink what you can smile."

Sounds like the Forest Service has something to hide. FOIAing some of their "eyes only" e-mail may have some interesting results.

—MCFEAR SOME



Armed With Visions

*Clear as cut glass
and just as dangerous*

A MISSING LINK

My father sky
And mother earth
My brothers and my sisters,
Those playful tributary siblings,
Likewise,
My wives
My mistresses,
(Those many thousand streams
and canyons)
And the children of my old age,
the canyon off-springs....
All
have given me great strength.
The blood of their veins
builds a new age,
A new continent upon the sea floor—
Entrada...
Carmel...
Navajo...
Kayenta...
Wingate...
Chinle...
Shinarump...
Moenkopi...
Organ Rock...
What forms of life in future eons
will note
The Glen Canyon series
pinch out and disappeared
from the strata—
When the sea bed rises
One more time...
To form a new land mass?

—Katie Lee, 1971

OUR ASTRONOMERS

At any moment, that star
could explode, and they
wouldn't notice—

our astronomers peer
through unfocused telescopes,
a trick they learned in college;

at any moment, this earth
could catch fire, and all
they would see would be
a slash on a computer screen...

—Ted Olson, *So Far*

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Send Poems to:
Warrior Poets Society
ASUC Box 361
Berkeley, CA 94720-4510



WEST FORK

The wind moves slowly beneath me.
A dream!
For this short time I can see everything—
Crumbling crimson mountain, blue-green Juniper sea
Silver silky ribbon of creek.
Spiraling upwards
I stretch my blue-black arms and sing with
the place that is me!

—Jenny Armetta

ANDREW A PHILLIPSON CENTER

There's this goddamn law building
downtown, and every time
Every time my feet pad by I wanta yell
I figure that building
that building could fuck off well enough
it's built just for that I figure

Lawyers glare at me. They have the truth.

I have a walkingstick.
It screams when we go by
'cuz god they put palm trees
they put palm trees under glass
like zoo like museum
and when it snows they just watch & get confused

—Dawn Macdonald

NY NIGHTMARES

there's toxic jelly on the highway
in Watertown and in Saratoga County
due to carbon monoxide and ozone pollution
it isn't safe to breathe.
in Fort Edward and Morean
you can't drink the water.
you can't cook with it, bathe in it,
inhale its fumes. there's kerosene in Battenskill
and in Niagara Falls a young woman
dies from chlorine gas, 76 others treated
for inhalation. Love Canal
is still uninhabitable and in Adirondack Park
brush is cleared with tordon 101.
when 250 gallons of copper sulfate
spills in water supply, Elmira
switches to another source
and in West Milton there are 4
nuclear reactors complete with core
meltdown potential, waste and leakage.
acid rain destroys lakes.
atrazine contaminates ground water.
NY Bay is a garbage dump for all Manhattan.

there's always some corporate executive
hoping to pacify people
"Your lives are not in danger,"
he reports.
until biopsy's abnormal.

—Sallie Ehrman

BOOK REVIEW

THE WOLVES OF ISLE ROYALE: A BROKEN BALANCE

REVIEW BY LYNDY WORSHAM AND MARTY BERGOFFEN

The Wolves of Isle Royale: A Broken Balance by Rolf O. Peterson, a wildlife biologist, explores the isolated wolf, moose, and other wildlife populations that make Lake Superior's Isle Royale a unique ecosystem blessed by little human disturbance. Dr. Peterson has been studying wolf behavior and population fluctuations on Isle Royal since the 1970s.

Dr. Peterson's scientific studies are pleasingly holistic and related in a simple, concise manner. He and his wife examine the entire ecosystem of Isle Royale rather than isolated species. His presentation on wolves is an excellent case study of wolf behavior and biology.

Moose arrived on Isle Royale in the early 1900s. Wolves arrived in about 1947, walking across the ice when Lake Superior froze, setting the stage for a classic predator-prey relationship in a site not dominated by human factors. Durwood Allen, Dr. Peterson's predecessor, studied the wolves until the 1970s. By examining native vegetation before and after the arrival of wolves, it was shown that wolves keeping a check on the moose population allowed for the development of more older forests, thus providing a healthier ecosystem overall. In other words, predators keep the balance!

Of recent concern has been a downward population spiral for the wolves. Dr. Peterson explores three reasons for this decline. First, Canine parvo

virus brought over by domestic dogs killed many wolves. Canine parvo was blamed as a cause for the wolf crash in the 1980s on Isle Royal, but the wolf population continued to decline after the virus was gone. Second, a deficient food supply was suspected. The weight of wolves, however, led Dr. Peterson to believe that the food supply was sufficient. Third, inbreeding due to isolation has led to a 50 percent loss of genetic diversity compared to mainland wolf populations. Molecular DNA studies confirmed that Isle Royal wolves were in fact falling prey to genetic inbreeding, even though other species of wildlife failed to show any detrimental effects.

The wolves of Isle Royal are dying out. The central dilemma of the book is whether humans should intervene to assist in the wolves' survival. In examining this question, Dr. Peterson presents two arguments. The first is Nature Knows Best, derived from the works of Rachel Carson and Aldo Leopold, whose opinions he greatly values. This philosophy has been adopted as policy by the National Park Service for Isle Royale. On the other hand, he also supports Daniel Botkin, who says the

Nature Knows Best argument is an impediment to progress in environmental issues. Because our minds define nature, Botkin argues, they also decide what nature will look like, which leads to a need to intervene and help the natural world be more natural. This argument is supported by evidence that there were no moose or wolves on Isle Royale for at

least 4,000 years before Europeans arrived, and thus our intervention led to the colonization by these species. Therefore, since they are not "native" the National Park Service policy of Nature Knows Best is at best problematic.

Dr. Peterson argues that extinction of isolated populations such as these wolves is a natural process, and we have the choice to either resist extinction or let it occur. In addition, he points to global warming, which may prevent the formation of an ice bridge from the mainland during winter. Such cold winters originally provided the wolves with access to Isle Royale. (On the other hand, it is interesting to note that moose, being deathly afraid of ice, most probably swam the 10 miles to Isle Royale!)

One problem with Dr. Peterson's arguments is that part of his interest in assisting these wolves is so that he may gratify his own ego by continuing to study them. This is, of course, the classic problem with humans and nature: many humans, including far too many scientists, continue to believe that nature is an instrumentality for humans, not a life force of itself to be honored. "Of what value is a laboratory without subjects?" Dr. Peterson queries. So while Dr. Peterson is right in his conclusion that we should help the Isle Royale wolves, he is right for (at least partially) the wrong reasons. In fact, the reason we should work to preserve wolves on Isle Royale is that we have done such severe and egregious damage to wolves everywhere, not just on Isle Royale.

Overall, this book was enjoyable and did an excellent job raising the moral dilemmas faced by modern wildlife biologists. Although Dr. Peterson may be partially blinded by the value of his own scientific inquiries, he is an excellent writer and included many valuable photographs and maps to help explain Isle Royale's unique ecology.



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Check out the CFD homepage at <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~cnoblitt>



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"FABLES & OTHER REALITIES,"
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EF! NORTHEAST SPRING RENDEZVOUS MAY 18-19

Earth First! in the northeast US will hold its spring gathering in the White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire. All are welcome to this event on May 18-19 near the site of the Kearsarge North Timber Sale.

Camping will be primitive, so bring proper gear (who knows what the weather will be?), insect repellent, cooking utensils, food, water (there is a brook for those who want to boil or filter water), libations and musical instruments.

Directions from the south:

Take route 16/302 north through North Conway. Pass a slew of motels, restaurants and gift shops. Look for the Intervale Motel on the right. Slow down after you see the motel. There will be a set of railroad tracks, the Vista County Store, and a road IMMEDIATELY after the store leading uphill. This road is Hurricane Mountain Road. Turn right onto it and follow it uphill. After about 1 mile, Kearsarge Road intersects Hurricane Mountain Road; continue straight on Hurricane Mountain Road. The Kearsarge North Trail is approximately half a mile further on the left. Hike up the trail and look for signs of granola-crunching tree-huggers... We expect to camp off the trail somewhere. The sight will be marked.

For more info contact Andy at (603) 886-0520 or write to Central New England Earth First! at POB 708, Littleton, MA 01460; e-mail: owl@grolen.com.

UK EF! SUMMER GATHERING 12-18 June • North Wales

Earth First! (UK) is holding its Summer Gathering in a remote but accessible part of North Wales. The goals of the gathering are to teach people new campaigning skills, act as a forum for debate and to introduce new people to direct action. Whether you're a hardened eco-nutter, or new and still sane, there'll be plenty to learn and lots of new people to meet.

There'll be over a hundred training workshops and discussions throughout the gathering. These will cover areas such as self defence, tree climbing, discussions on developing the ecological direct action movement, setting up a new group, first aid, basic ecology, and the history of previous UK struggles. There will also be presentations by active eco-groups in the UK and from abroad.

On Monday the 17th, there will be an action and on Tuesday the 18th we've planned ecological restoration work. People are welcome to come and go throughout the week, but those wishing to stay for the whole event are advised to arrive Tuesday (11th) because workshops will start Wednesday morning.

Please note that this is NOT a festival. It is a gathering of those involved or interested in direct action in defence of the earth. There will be no sound systems, but there will be acoustic bands in the evening. Although the site is legal it's exact location will not be announced until Monday the 10th (not for the benefit of the police but to stop it from becoming a free festival). For more details on public transport facilities, getting there by road and regional transport coordinators ring 0171 249 9114. If you would like to receive a flier with more details on the event send a SASE to: EF! Gathering flier, PO Box 7, Cardiff, CF2 4XX, UK. Bring shelter, warm waterproof clothes (just in case), boots, cutlery, plates and mugs. You'll need money for food from the vegan cafe or you can cater for yourself. The gathering is free but they'll be asking for a donation of stlg10. See you there!

THE BLF SHARK CAMPAIGN AND HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

The Biodiversity Legal Foundation (BLF) has begun a campaign designed to educate consumers and retailers on the serious threat facing many shark populations today.

Shark fillets and shark cartilage pills are the most commonly sold shark products. Sharkskin cowboy boots, wallets and other vanity items can be found as well. You can help the BLF in its shark conservation efforts by reporting establishments that sell shark "products." The BLF will send them a letter requesting that the shark product(s) be discontinued. The letter will inform the establishment of the current crisis facing ocean ecosystems and the implications for sharks.

Despite documented declines, retailers remain unaware and continue to sell shark parts. The BLF believes that it can educate the retailers of the peril facing these magnificent marine predators.

To report a business with shark products on the menu or on its shelves, please contact the Biodiversity Legal Foundation at Suite F, 2004 8th St., Boulder, CO 80302; (303) 443-5518. We will send you a copy of the letter we send to the establishment you report.

INTERNATIONAL TEAK WEEK July 1-7

Teak has been overexploited throughout its natural range. The remaining commercially exploitable quantities of native teak are found in Burma.

In the US, teak is used for indoor and outdoor furniture, interior trim, boat trim and decking, and small consumer items like spice racks and napkin holders.

What You Can Do: Organize a teak rally between July 1 and 7.

Find stores near you that sell teak products. Write to the heads of these companies asking them to cease selling teak (and mahogany).

For campaign information contact Rainforest Relief at POB 281, Red Bank, NJ 07701; (908) 842-6030; e-mail: relief@igc.apc.org; or Rainforest Relief - Portland, 1623 SE 52nd Ave., Portland, OR 97215; (503) 236-3031.

BC's Grizzly Crisis Now on Video

Following more than two years of lobbying by conservationists, the British Columbia government recently announced the "Future of the Grizzly," the province's first "management strategy" for grizzly bears. A major disappointment for halting the destruction and killings, the new plan is scoring big PR points for the BC government and the NBA's Vancouver Grizzlies. A new 20-minute video by the Nelson-based Grizzly Project slams the plan, while providing an overview of the human pressures that will make the grizzly bear an endangered species in British Columbia unless we collectively force the issue.

Each year in the province as many as 700 grizzlies are killed. The remaining population is estimated at 3,000 to 13,000 (a scientific population study has never been conducted).

The video was produced by Cold Mountain, Cold Rivers, and the Grizzly Project, and introduces the following topics: Myths, Marketing and Manipulation; Human Expansion; Industrial Exploitation of Habitat; Parks: Sanctuaries or Illusions?; and Trophy Hunting and Poaching. Spectacular wilderness footage is overlaid with views of habitat devastation and hunters, as well as interviews with First Nations activists, grizzly biologists, fence-sitting politicians, and bench-sitting NBA basketball players.

Copies of the video are being distributed throughout North America. Show "A Future for the Grizzly?" in your area. Help get the word out about the plight of the grizzly and the need for protection of BC's wild spaces. Videos and viewers' guides are available for a donation (\$15 or what you can pay). Contact the Grizzly Project, Box 957, Nelson, BC V1L 6A5; phone/fax (604) 355-BEAR; e-mail: grizzly@worldtel.com.

Third Annual Forest Activist Training Week June 10-16

The Eastern North America Native Forest Network continues its annual spring tradition by hosting the third annual Forest Activist Training Week, June 10-16, at the Green Mountain Popular Education Center in Vermont's remote and beautiful Northeast Kingdom.

A full seven days long, this training session covers such topics as:

- Northeast forest defense campaigns
- Climbing with ropes
- Orienteering and map reading
- Night hiking
- Nonviolent civil disobedience
- History of the civil disobedience movement in this country
- Fun with bicycle locks
- Banner making and hanging
- Strategic action planning
- Fundraising
- Legal realities for activists
- Philosophies of activism
- Action role-plays
- Much, much more!

We operate the Training Week as though we are at an active forest base camp. You will need your own camping gear.

If you are new to forest campaigning, these training weeks are a great way to meet Northeast forest organizers and get plugged in.

For more information and an application, please call us at (802) 863-0571 or write the Forest Activist Training Week, c/o NFN at POB 57, Burlington, VT 05402; or e-mail: nfnena@igc.apc.org. Space is limited so contact us ASAP.

World Animal Awareness Week June 18-24 1996 March for the Animals

BE A VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS!


Be part of the largest gathering of advocates in the history of the animal rights movement. Join tens of thousands of activists and movement leaders from around the world to expose the untold suffering endured by millions of animals every day.

Comprised of an international march on Washington, DC, the three day World Congress for Animals, a Celebrity Gala and more, World Animal Awareness Week promises to be a historical event.

Don't miss it!

For more information contact the National Alliance for Animals, POB 77196, Washington, DC 20013-7196; (703) 810-1085, fax 810-1089.

HERE IT IS!
STARDUST
(and other snotty remarks)



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SUBSCRIBE TO THE JOURNAL

People for the Wolves!

Show your support for the Lobo and irritate anti-wolf extremists with a great new bumpersticker from the Public Lands Action Network. The bumpersticker features a red background with bold white letters that read: *People for the Wolves!*

Proceeds from the sale of the bumperstickers will help support Lobo reintroduction efforts in the Southwest. The cost is three dollars each or 2 for five dollars. Send your check or money order to Public Lands Action Network, P.O. Box 9701, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

INTERNATIONAL EARTH NIGHTS

JULY 12-14

THE ANIMALS' REVENGE!

The Earth Liberation Front has called for international Earth Night actions aimed at the liberation of the other species of the Earth, those who are being disregarded in the way that they are treated, through torture or the destruction of their habitats and the decimation of their numbers. We call upon all animal liberators in every country to come together these nights and target those who perpetuate this carnage and suffering. No matter what the target, be it vivisection labs, fur farms, hunting farms, whaling nations, live exports, etc., come together and get the job done. By hitting all at once we can really send home our message that it's time for the cages to be open, and for those who have no voice to be respected.

As always, we ask for no injury to life, just hit their pockets.

—EARTH LIBERATION FRONT

100 Days of Action

"100 Days of Action" is a proposed national campaign to give regional direct action campaigns national exposure in the 100 days leading up to the November Presidential election. Local groups, using a network of activists throughout the country, will be able to publicize their actions and campaigns throughout every locality. Individual groups will be able to publicize on a national level their local environmental horrors and the campaigns against these atrocities. The campaign will run from July 29 until Election Day, November 5.

Our goal is to give environmental destruction widespread national exposure during the various election campaigns. Currently we are in the process of building coalitions across the country to give this campaign the base of support necessary for success.

With a project of this scale we need as much support as possible. If you can help please contact us at: 100 Days of Action, POB 344, Santa Cruz, CA 95061; (408) 425-3205

With the onset of Spring, the legal killing of Black Bears has resumed in British Columbia



Again this year, Bear Watch has stepped up its efforts to defend the great bruin. The ongoing campaign combines public outreach with a wide spectrum of direct action strategies.

CALL 1 (800) 636-5501 FOR MORE INFORMATION OR WRITE:

BEAR WATCH, #201

1472 COMMERCIAL DR.

VANCOUVER, BC

V5L 3X9 CANADA



End Corporate Dominance of the Earth!

"The earth isn't dying. It's being killed, and the people killing it have names and addresses."—Utah Phillips

He also sang "Dump the Bosses Off Your Backs," and that is what we intend to do on May 20. The time has come to draw the connection between all of our campaigns on environmental issues, all the battles in our individual neighborhoods—that connecting thread, that common enemy being corporate greed!

We plan to coordinate actions nationally against corporate destruction of the earth. We need to challenge the prevailing view that we are somehow stuck with the power that corporations wield. The plan involves compiling and conducting research on a "dirty dozen" corporations, sharing that information and launching campaigns against those targets. We need YOU! Your ideas, your organizing, your participation, and your body when May 20 rolls around.

We want to make this a coalition effort, reaching out to labor, social change and human rights groups, but with Earth First! spearheading it with a strong biocentric message. Dump the corporations off Mother Earth's back!

Contact Oregon Project, c/o Blue Mts. Biodiversity Project, HCR82, Fossil, OR 97830; (408) 425-4422; e-mail: earthfirst@igc.apc.org (Subject: end corp dom).

CASCADIAN "CIRQUE de SALVAGE" SUMMER

The key is to embrace one hairball idea, run with it, and try not to fight over your audience. This is not a roadshow, more like a travelling circus/insurrection. We are only proposing these places and dates; N. Coast EF!, SWEF!, and the Blue Heron mob are up for it. Anyone else? Each watershed could plan trainings, music events, actions, and whatever to showcase their lovely home ground. We need organizers, musicians, volunteers and contact people in watersheds that want the circus to come to their town.

June 1-2+ Six Rivers, Klamath event with the Baja-istas. Music, good brew from Anarchy Ale, and a chance to serve notice collectively to a couple of forests that the times, they have a' changed!
Contact: N. Coast EF! (707) 825-7088

June 7-9+ Raging fun in the Siskiyou. China Left could be the happenin' site. Put yer camis on and stay a while!

June 10-13 Romp through the forests of your choice. Think about floating the Illinois or North Umpqua. Be a pest; infest an active timber sale in the Siuslaw!

June 14 Music and festing with the Cascadians on some sandy Willamette beach in the capitol of cami, the temple of tie-dye, shangri-la of separatists—Eugene! Contact: SWEF! (541) 343-7305

June 15-20 Join the Cascadian Expeditionary Flotilla as it launches on Salem. A floating strategizing/socializing/outreaching/educating/media extravaganza! Dances on the sand, music, fires, food! Should senatorial candidates be allowed?

June 17 Corvallis. Press conference, music, Coast Range stuff.

June 20 Salem. Take the Capitol Bldg. Press conference, music, of course.

June 22 Portland/Mt. Hood. Rally in the woods? Take a bridge? Take a ship!?
Contact: Blue Heron EF! (Ivan) 503/282-7487

June 23-28 Hot time in Washington. Olympic N.F.? Port o' Tacoma? Take the Space Needle? Annex Western BC as part of Cascadia!

June 29 Wake up late, pack up, head to the Salmon River breaks. Rendezvous!

Everyone should come self-sufficient. Hopefully each stop would be supported by scrounging/diving the local resources and plugging the results into a circus kitchen. Campsites need to be set up by the regionals, as well. This could (should) be a sizable chunk of chaos and shouldn't (couldn't) be housed easily.

All dates and locations are flexible. Call SWEF! at (541) 343-7305 for updates.

Enviro Harassment Reporting Line Launched

An environmentalist in Washington State has a noose dangled in front of her at a public meeting, and is told, "this is a message for you." A Forest Service District Ranger in Nevada first escapes a bombing at his office, then another in his vehicle parked outside his home. Following a militia meeting in a nearby town, a rural activist known for her opposition to a proposed gold mine sees a man in camouflage marching up and down her street with a rifle. A Navajo activist at the forefront of efforts to halt logging on tribal lands is found dead under mysterious circumstances.

There has been an escalation of violence and harassment in connection with conflicts over the environment. In addition to these examples, many environmentalists, government agency employees and others are routinely subjected to intimidation. The "Wise Use" movement, militias and other anti-government extremists bear some responsibility for this violence and harassment. Threats to targeted individuals and the growing problem of harassment have caused many to withdraw from civic participation, compromising democracy.

To provide relief for those suffering from harassment and to ultimately change the situation, the Western States Center has created a resource and reporting phone line to serve the West. Callers will be provided with information on legal rights, personal and organizational security, and community responses to the violence. Reports of violence and harassment will be collected. The Center will analyze data gathered and publish their findings.

The Western States Center is a non-profit, non-partisan research and training institute. Our vision is of a vital and effective grassroots democracy with informed citizens mobilized to confront important public policy challenges. Since 1992, the Western States Center's work has included research and education on the business and ideological interests in the Wise Use movement.

The Harassment and Reporting Line can be reached at (503) 228-8859.

1996 FOREST REFORM RALLY

Announcing the 10th Annual Forest Reform Rally, to be held May 24-27, 1996 in Poplar Springs, Alabama. The site lies within the Bankhead National Forest, with its contrast of beautiful old-growth-lined canyons and pine farm plantation travesties.

The Forest Reform Network sponsors the rally each year, and this year's rally is hosted by The Bankhead Monitor, Sierra Club Southern Appalachian Highlands Ecoregion Task Force, and Heartwood.

This year's rally will focus on campaign reform and air pollution and will involve many aspects of the forest reform movement including: national forests, private land management, corporate welfare, legislation, regional strategies, chip mills, paper consumption, Forest Service plan revisions, and Native American perspectives.

For registration information contact the Bankhead Monitor at POB 117, Moulton, AL 35650; (205) 974-7678; e-mail: waruk@aol.com.

Salvage Mania/ Forest Health Hoax Week May 13-17

This week of actions will be focused on countering the Salvage Rider and exposing the phony arguments associated with forest health.

It is imperative that our movement rally around the forests that were set aside in the public trust. These are where almost all of the 5 to 10 percent of original forests left in the US are found. It's time for all groups and individuals to start facing some of these timber sales on the ground.

To plug into this week of actions, there are many different approaches to consider, ranging from media field tours, aerial overflights, educational presentations, forest monitoring expeditions, press conferences, public rallies, political protests and/or direct action involving nonviolent civil disobedience.

If you or your organization wants to go on the offensive this spring, please contact the Native Forest Network at POB 8251, Missoula, MT 59807; (406) 542-7343, fax 542-7347; nfnconferenc@igc.apc.org.

Campfire Poems Wanted

We are now taking submissions of Earth First! campfire poems.

Earth First! because it will be hard-core biocentric. Campfire because it will be able to be read around the campfire—humor and drama help.

We need poems but we also need graphics and donations (\$\$) to help us get this project off the ground.

So please, if you enjoy the pleasures of the spoken word, if you're a believer in the power of poetry to change things, contribute!

Send poems, graphics, donations to EF! Campfire Poems, c/o Dennis, ASUC Box 361, Berkeley, CA 94720-4510.

PROUDLY DISPLAY THE FIST

Proceeds from the sale of these goodies go to supporting the *Earth First! Journal*.

By purchasing music and books you also support the musicians and authors active in the fight to save the wild.

T-Shirts

(All t-shirts are 100% cotton and available in medium, large and extra large; for XX large add \$3)

Free the Earth

Multi-color on Turquoise—\$12

Earth First Tools

Black on Unbleached—\$10

No Fucking Compromise

White on Black—\$12

Earth First! Fist

Green on Unbleached—\$10

Black on Kelly Green or Red—\$12

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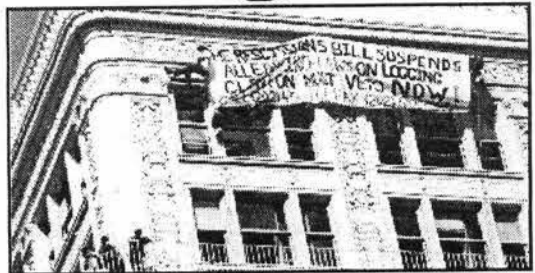
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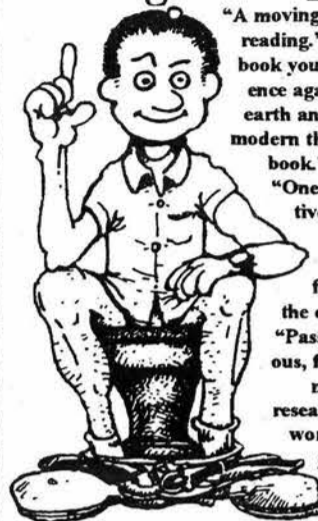


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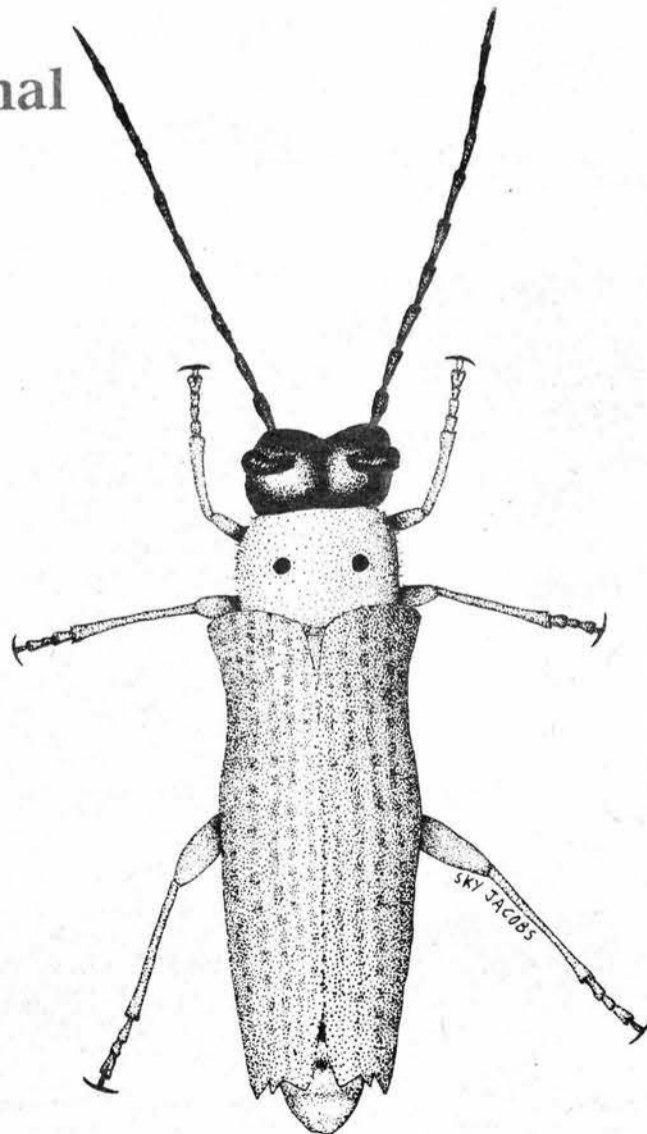


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