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# Earth First!

Beltane 1991

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THE RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL

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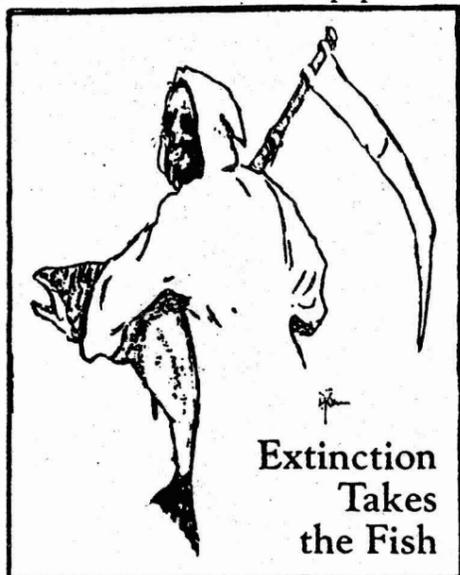
THREE DOLLARS

## Salmon Action!

BY SLUGTHANG

Once the mighty Columbia ran free. Spawning Salmon, flapping, leaping and splashing, nosed their way up the vigorous currents to return to the cold, clear pools of their birth. A spawning frenzy, a driven dash towards reproduction. The occasional fishes of this soft parade falling prey to the seals, mink, bears, wolves, condors and native peoples in the process. The intrepid swimmers following DNA codes, that only detail existentialist biologists can unravel, making their route from the salt-water abyss back to their pristine pools, laying eggs in the pebbly bottom until they expire in post reproductive bliss. They die in relief, knowing their young will ride the tide of the spring runoffs, flushing down down, picked off here and there by predators until they reach the ocean again.

But, like every once-upon-a-time scenario, this is an obsolete tale. In modern times the anadromous fish contend with oil spills, driftnets, gillnets, and sewage. They zip underneath sportfishermens' boats, dazzled by the flashy lures and other temptations created by the military-industrial fishing complex. Farther up the Columbia River basin, they push their way through dioxins and other chemicals, the product of the "solution to pollution is dilution" mentality. Surviving these obstacles is nothing compared to the first major blockade: the massive turbines of Bonneville Dam. AAAGGHH! Waters run red with salmon sushi. Those who figured out the fish ladder system must contend with as many as fifteen more dams. Not to mention the hardcore radiation leaks at Hanford, gold cyanide-leach mining, streams that are warm and muddy from clearcutting erosion siltation, streams that are sucked dry for cropland irrigation, streams that are shat in and on by the bovine bonanza grazing orgy on our public lands. What's a salmon to do? Too often it's the pattern of forced eviction. Belly up, flopping and dying. Not in reproductive bliss, but in a slide into the pit of extinction. Coho Salmon have dropped from 43 spawners per mile in 1964 to less than one in 1988. A study by Oregon Trout reveals that over 100 salmon and steelhead populations



Fish-heads hit the grille inside the Bonneville Dam.

have gone extinct on the Columbia.

This ain't no obscure, previously-unheard-of species that hangs at death's door. This is the totem critter of the Pacific Northwest. Revered by fisherfolk, worshiped by Native Americans, a dietary staple. This is the spendy dish at swank restaurants. What's the world coming to? What can we do to stop it?!? Unlike EF! campaigns on behalf of the Griz, Wolf, Spotted Owl, and soon the Weak Stemmed Milkvetch — the Salmon campaign has to go for the combined root of *all* of our lands abuses. Between the hydroelectric, grazing, irrigation, mining, pulp mills, logging and radiation we're talking about a complete shut down of the entire economic infrastructure to halt the salmon's demise. This makes the Spotted Owl debate look limp in comparison. The Chinook, Coho, Steelhead are all sliding down into the pit. Shut down the logging outfits! Demolish the dams! The mining, land raping scum sucking greedheads. *Stop them before they kill again!*

### About the "Action"

After a solid week of activating our desperately-in-need-of-a-pruning phone tree, procuring salmon heads from a yuppie deli, and costume and signmaking under our belts, our small band of zealots met on a fine sunny Good Friday the 29th, at Holliday Park in Portland, just around the corner from the Bonneville Power Administration building. There we held our pow-wow. Our cast of characters included the Grim Reaper, an Undertaker, a small child, a dog, and others with cardboard Salmon masks, as well as four Salmon heads in mini-coffins. We opted not to fling the fish heads through the BPA windows (yet), but to beat on out to Bonneville Dam, where the media and Feds await. Our target is the massive hatchery system. We intend on doing a little "funeral parade."

The hatcheries are churning out millions of factory-farmed fingerlings: "Swimming Hot Dogs." Their huddled, spoonfed monocultural masses are a ripe breeding ground for disease. Released into the river, they enter into competition for food with the Wild natives. The sheer volume of fish farm fingerlings attracts heavy predation from the Squaw Fish and Bass, who prefer Wild Salmon feed. But worse than the spreading of disease, the competition for food and the red flag for predation these bastard spawns of science facilitate — on top of the weakening of the wild salmon gene pool at large

— far worse than all these crimes against nature, the hatcheries are responsible for numbing the public into believing that the fish are being managed properly. Thus placated, the masses never riot in the streets as they should, believing that everything is fine. Just as Weyerhaeuser and others replace forests with tree farms, hatcheries replace Wild Salmon with sickly drones, working to subvert the genepool from within until the last shred of integrity is sapped. No more green fire in these fish eyes.

We pull up incognito into the hatchery visitor center. Our plan to do a funeral procession from the hatchery to the dam a half mile away is the thwarted when our recon pedestrians are ushered back to our parking lot by a BPA truck. No walking allowed between here and there. Construction zone. We regroup, and Death finally gets out from behind the wheel of his car where he has been keeping out of sight. We costume up and begin our march. Across the lot, a schoolbus full of children wave at the arriving police cars as if Ninja Turtles were behind the wheel. Never underestimate the effects of the Reagan/Bush War Cop culture on our youth. Our march is highly graphic and weird. The Grim Reaper leads, followed by Undertaker carrying a small child, followed by Mr. Fish (in waders) who keeps reeling himself in, followed by Salmon-masked, fish-headed and sign-carrying protestors. The press is lapping it up. "What is the symbolism of the child? Death and rebirth?" (Childcare.) The Reaper pauses for a photo session. What the hell, by this time there's no one out but press anyway. We make our way past the token resistance into the hatchery viewing room. The scene that the glassed wall looks down on is hosed clean in stark contrast to the gore and guts that our recon had seen some days ago. This puts us in the unlikely position of having to conjure up horrors from the neat and nice. We improvise and start saying "damn damn." Get to the Dam! We manage to get to the pickup truck and pile inside. A compressed spectacle. We motor on up to the dam visitor center, followed by the press, the FBI and the BPA thugs. Once there, the press takes their combat photo stances in front of us. We march into the building, handing out press releases and fact sheets. The Information Booth officers receive their copies with a fish-head coffin paperweight. It's a circus now with all of us factions in this lobby. Shit, it's too twisted. We

continued on page 11

# EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

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## Under the Rocks

It seems that our second issue generated a bit more criticism than the first, some printed here, some over the phone — which is good, as it gives us a chance to articulate our editorial philosophy, to ourselves as well as our readership. We thought we'd let you know a bit about the process the folks on the editorial collective are going through, as a way of spreading around the responsibility, and as a reminder that this is just another EF! project. We are not journalists putting out a paper about the environment; we are environmentalists who are putting out a paper. It's not one of the more obvious forms of activism, but it's something enough of us do periodically at some level to make it worth examining and worth getting better at. Keep the edge of the obsidian sharp.

In a strange way, we in Earth First! are animals defending habitat. We remember the animal truths of our lives, of who we really are, though the language and culture forced upon us tend to suppress this. Civilization defines us in terms of its uses for us, and seduces us into believing them. We need to remember ourselves in the world, and we remember that as beset as the wilderness is, it is not a resource or part of our country or our culture, but rather that all we are is part of it. We are within the wild world even now, wherever we may be.

We'd like *Earth First!* to prod that memory, and to serve as a tool for wiping away all the excrement that civilization has piled around us. We print it as an invitation for the wilderness to fill our lives again, overgrow our streets, crumble our houses, carry us away. We fill it with reflections of the movement. We send it out as a kick in the ass, to inspire action, and to make it worthwhile.

Need we even say that we don't believe everything we print, and neither should you? The opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors... but they do reflect the movement. We print it because it is there. Our working assumption is that the exchange of ideas and information is useful for activists. So we don't tailor what we receive to suit what pleases us, or you. We offer you a mixed bag. Use what's useful. Compost the rest.

We are scarcely peas in a pod ourselves. Each of us has different ways of doing things and if there's a common trait among us it's probably autonomy. This makes for an interesting working

On the night of March 26th Ethel Langelle, a fellow Earth Firster! and mother of Orin Langelle, passed on.

Ethel was of great inspiration and importance to the Big River EF! group.

As was her wish a small gathering of friends paid their respects as she was returned to the Earth to which she had committed her home and family. The ceremony consisted of personal prayers and thoughts for the deceased, along with the singing of "Let the Circle be Unbroken."

group, especially since it changes each issue. We're pretty flexible with editorial policy, within a somewhat consistent perspective that's come out of our discussions about the paper and the editorial collective that began last fall, and from our understandings of the intentions of the movement expressed at last year's Rendezvous, the activist conference in Boulder, and the mail and phone calls we get here. We're still playing around with format, layout, type size and organization.

We want to remain clear about what we're doing, even in these little matters, so that it doesn't come between us. Intrigue and personal defensiveness haven't done the movement any good. Clarity is important if for no other reason than because we don't have time for the dirt. So if you're wondering what we're up to, give us a call, or drop us a letter. While you're at it, send along anything that would be

useful for other activists. What constitutes activism for you isn't our business, but if something you're doing works, or doesn't, let us all know. We're looking for action; we're looking for deep biology, for poems and proposals. It always helps us if you send some graphics or photos along too, even if you're just reviewing a book. And it helps us if you send stuff in early, before the deadline. We try to get the paper to you on the publication date (though we depend on the postal feds for this) so our deadline is three weeks earlier, i.e. June 1 for the June 21 (Summer Solstice) issue. Send us material, or ask your favorite writers and artists you like to submit stuff.

We are not going to put out your paper for you and let you sit back as if you weren't a part of it. We are not going to tell you what to think. We will just try to stir you up to think and to remember and to act.

—THE EF! COLLECTIVE

## Poetry Taking Over

At first I found myself staring out the window  
at the mountains—  
now my "business" errands stretch to hours  
as I sit in parks  
to scrawl necessary poems.  
Nine to five work became distasteful  
office walls a jail even in the best of jobs  
I am a truant—better leave the city  
buying land for a place to go  
relinquishing ownership  
to roam the last wilderness  
but return to a home  
returning like the salmon to streams,  
every particular pebble in the spawning be known.  
There are many ways to wrench industrial society—  
My writing hand quivers in anticipation  
as my muscles ache  
from a moonlit night well spent.

—RABINOWITZ

Toilet Graffiti #1 Big Sur, California



"To be... is to do"  
—J.P. Sartre



"To do... is to be"  
—F. Nietzsche



"Do be do be do"  
—F. Sinatra

Jim Stiles  
©1981

## EARTH FIRST!

Beltane

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Although we do not accept the authority of the hierarchical state, nothing herein is intended to run us afoul of its police power.

Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or carefully printed, *double spaced*, and sent with an SASE if return is requested. Electronic submissions are even better, either on Macintosh disks or via Econet (send to "earthfirst"). Art or photographs (black & white prints preferred, color prints or slides OK) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested. Please include explicit permission to reprint slides. Due to our tight budget, no payment is offered except for extra copies of the issue.

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Earth First!,  
Box 5176, Missoula, MT 59806  
Phone: 406-728-8114

The Editorial Collective for this Issue:

Mary Beth Nearing  
Mangler  
Carla Neasel  
Randall Restless  
Timothy Bechtold  
David Varmint

The Man in the Dark Room: Uncle Bill  
Gatherer of Poesies: Art Goodtimes

Contributing artists to this issue include: R. Cremmins, Jim Stiles, Greta Montaigne, Canyon Frog, Jimmy Palmotti, Lone Wolf Circles, Bogan, D. N. Varmint, Lisa Henry, John Zaelit, Kelpie Willsin, Marcy Willow, and unidentified others.

Printed on recycled paper (65% recycled fiber, for now, but we're still aiming for 100%).

Ching Ming (Bright and Clear) is the chief Spring festival of China. It is also called Chih Shu Chieh, or "Tree Planting Festival".... The principal ceremony of the day for the Chinese people themselves is the visiting of family graves, to plant trees on them in order to secure permanent possession. If a tree grows on a grave, the keeper of the grounds cannot claim it.

## SCHEDULE

The *Earth First! Journal* is published 8 times a year on the solstices, equinoxes, and cross-quarter days: November 1, December 21 or 22 (Winter Solstice), February 2, March 21 or 22 (Vernal Equinox), May 1, June 21 or 22 (Summer Solstice), August 1, and September 21 or 22 (Autumnal Equinox). Deadlines for articles, artwork and ads are three weeks before the cover date. The newspaper is mailed Third Class before the cover date. Subscriptions cost \$20 a year. First Class delivery is available for \$15 extra a year. Surface delivery outside the USA is available for \$30; airmail delivery overseas is available for \$45 a year.

Subscriptions or questions should be sent to: Earth First!, POB 5176, Missoula, MT 59806

All letters will be printed, unless they are a travesty. We will print a representative sample of letters expressing the same views. Contact us if you feel your opinion was not expressed. Type or neatly print and double-space your letters. Indicate if you wish to remain anonymous. Send letters to POB 5176, Missoula MT 59806. The opinions expressed here represent only their authors, and are not official positions of the Earth First! journal staff or movement.



Dear EF!

Was I amazed at your question about a "Golf Crisis" in OPERATION MANGROVE SHIELD, March 20! Yes, the problem is widespread. Golf courses are a death sentence to any ecosystem. Because golfers crave perfection, an impressive array of chemicals are used against any rampant fauna or flora which might blemish the manicured greens. Despite claims of lighter application methods, some of these chemicals have caused unintended fatalities to both man and beast.

To animals, a golf course is one giant salad bar, albeit a poisoned one. Here in drought-stricken California, few hungry critters can resist the inviting ponds and lush expanses of green. And because of their "destructiveness," wildlife "pest" animals are frequently managed by traps and deliberately-set poison.

Golfers desire regimented surroundings. To attract their big bucks, local businessmen push for the construction of golf courses and other enclaves of privilege. This is a widespread local phenomenon, not some PGA conspiracy. Here in Fremont, California, the city fathers are hot to have a championship golf course. With land prices soaring, building it on Mission Peak Regional Preserve is seen as a good idea. Though the preserve is home to all kinds of wildlife, over 200 acres of it just happen to belong to the city as well.

The fate of this wildlife refuge is in the people's hands, since a voter initiative drive has been launched to save it. We are in the barren wastes of suburbia; and to interest suburbanites, Mission Peak is being promoted as a recreational wonderland. Local environmentalists, bending over backwards to be nice, are even suggesting alternate sites for development! But regardless of which land we destroy, we're in a drought; and a golf course's water needs could galvanize voters.

But don't bet on it. People are fighting development nationwide, with mixed results. The biggest adversary is public inertia — the "brain-dead suburban voter" who doesn't care if his own habitat is next in line for destruction.

Meanwhile, developers are as happy as any army with God on its side and a New World Order planned for the scenery.

—NINA ALVAREZ, Fremont, CA

Dear Sperm for Brains,

This letter is in response to Lynn Jacob's article defending reproduction. I admit it. I'm one of those heartless kidless "real" environmentalists who sits around with my friends speculating on whether or not children make good compost. Sometimes we even do it right in front of our friends who have some of the nasty little things.

Face it, Lynn. We, the committed non-breeders, are up against some very

big opposition, namely, as you call it, our natural instincts. It's one thing to buck society which says it's abnormal to not sire, or to buck our parents who want to be grand, or to brush away those nagging fears about being lonely and unfulfilled in our old age... but bucking our own bodies' natural urge to procreate — that's tough. All we have is the support of each other, and that takes many forms — from serious discussion to sick jokes to espousing our "irrational moral postures" in whatever newsletter will print it. We're battling a big dragon and we need to keep hearing that 1) it's a good thing to do, and 2) we're not alone.

In a way, I'm sorry for all the times that we've hurt the feelings or weakened the spirit of our friends-the-parents. I hope you'll still let us babysit once in awhile, because your kids are the only kids we'll ever have. (I won't really rip their lungs out, and the kids know that even if you don't.) You parents who are EFlers, if you can look beyond all the defensive moralizing and bad jokes, you might find yourself surrounded by a wealth of surrogate aunts and uncles. But give us some credit. It's not easy or even necessarily healthy to fight our natural desires this way. We're doing it out of a deep sense of commitment and love for our home, the earth, and in hopes that someday whatever life is left on this earth won't have to be so repressed.

My advice to the kidless? Well, since you asked, don't get all self-righteous and don't totally repress your natural urges, whatever they are. I applaud your courage not to reproduce; you're right, you're brave, and you're not alone. But let's not grow old like a stand of even-age doug-firs. Include the kids in our tribe. Likewise, some old growth. One of my best friends is pushing 76 and no one can make me laugh like he can. More than anything I encourage you to stay in touch. Make jokes, espouse your right-living-philosophy, but don't be afraid to feel the pain of the little ones we'll never know. Play a song for them. Give your love to a different little one, and then give your love — and your pain — to your fellow warriors, and to the earth.

—G.T.

Dear SFB,

It's obvious to me that Ken Shelton of Ojai, CA would more accurately label himself a misogynist than a misanthrope. This letter is disrespectful, downright cruel, and reminds me of the old, inappropriate adage that "the best defense is a strong offense." Offend he does.

Anne Wilson Schaefer wrote a book, *When Society Becomes An Addict*. I recommend it to both Shelton and Bari because it lifts the label off "the White Male System" and exposes what she calls "the Addictive System." Male or female, we can't entirely excuse our-

selves from our society. We all participate at one level or another. If men and women were willing to take personal responsibility for the way we participate, maybe we could step away from the blaming or the defensiveness and push on towards healing the damage done at individual, societal, and planetary levels.

As for Ken Shelton, Mister, the last thing this world needs is another "aggressive white male" response like yours. And my condolences to any "pampered female, wheedling, whining and conniving, clamoring for more comfort and commodities" while standing behind you. She's in a dangerous position.

—ALAINA LAMMER, Bozeman MT

Dear Dick for Brains,

I am truly baffled by your editorial policy. In response to my article "Why I Am Not A Misanthrope" you received letters from both Chris Manes and Murray Bookchin, whose ideas I was critiquing. Yet you chose not to print their responses, and instead printed the most abusive and degrading letters that you got, including a misogynist hate-letter from Ken Shelton Jr.

Now, I don't mind being criticized. If I did I wouldn't publicly state ideas that I know are controversial. But the message of your decision on the response to my article is this: A woman cannot be taken seriously enough in Earth First! to debate scholars like Manes and Bookchin. A woman cannot express feminist views in Earth First! without subjecting herself to insult and ridicule. Women can only "bitch and caterwaul" (words from Shelton's letter).

Fortunately I have never met an EF! activist with such backwards views as Shelton. Or maybe those big men just don't have the nerve to say that shit to my face. Anyway, I will leave the refutation of the points on misanthropy to a later article. But I would like to respond to Shelton's insults about me and Redwood Summer.

Obviously Shelton, a non-activist from Southern California, doesn't have a clue about what's going on up here or he wouldn't say Redwood Summer was a failure. Largely as a result of Redwood Summer, the destruction of the redwoods has become a national and international issue. Congress is now discussing a "debt for nature" swap for redwood wilderness, and the Republican governor of California has declared that Headwaters Forest must be saved. Headwaters was mapped, named, and made an issue of by Northern California EF! and Redwood Summer. Also, L-P recently announced that they were stopping clearcutting in the redwoods, and even the Wall St. analysts in the corporate press gave us credit for it. Of course the redwood issue is far from settled and we have to keep the pressure up. But it sure is strange to get more credit from Wall St. than from Earth First!

As for the charge that I compromised and betrayed Earth First!, I would like to point out that the timber industry didn't try to kill me (twice) for compromising or being ineffective. I didn't renounce monkeywrenching, only tree-spiking, and I have paid quite a price for my public endorsement of feller-buncher burnings and power-line droppings.

The strategy decisions that we have made here are in the context of a situation so heavy that they are using lethal force against us. I have been maimed for life, and others up here have been attacked and seriously injured by both timber industry and police thugs. Yet we are still out here trying to save what's left of the redwood ecosystem. And we would appreciate a little respect for our local autonomy and our judgement from armchair critics like Ken Shelton Jr.

—JUDI BARI, Ecotopia EF!, Willits CA



Dear Earth First! journal & fellow activists,

I would like to express my outrage and pain in regards to you printing another attack on Judi Bari. I am so sick of the slander and violence toward Judi and the boldface lies about Redwood Summer. How can you be defenders of Mother Earth and hate women? It feels to me like you are fostering a WAR in defense of Mother Earth (which is so male) rather than waging peace and balance. Judi Bari committed the crime of becoming successful in macho-ville Earth First! I think the California Northcoast EFlsters, Redwood Summer and Judi are threatening to the rest of the country's EFlsters, because we are modeling environmental change that requires long tedious hours of real work and communication, creating a foundation for lasting change, while the other option is blowing someone or something up! What kind of change does this model? It's the same violence that has massacred over 100,000 Iraqis (50% women and children).

Why can't the journal print the truth about Redwood Summer? The heart of Redwood Summer was all the best parts of "true" defense of Mother Earth! Despite the personal devastation to all the North Coast organizers and activists after the bombing (which occurred one week after the official Redwood Summer official kick-off in Ukiah) and despite the pain, fear, paranoia, continued death threats, unimaginable stress levels, and personal losses; we (in a 3 month period) 1) maintained 24 hr/day guard duty, medical, emotional and logistical support for Judi, 2) trained 2000 people in non-violent civil disobedience, 3) staged 4 major actions involving a total of 6,000 people and thousands across the Country donated to Redwood Summer and the Emergency Fund for Judi Bari. In addition to our major actions we had 50 continuous small actions in the streets and in the woods where we put our asses between bulldozers, chainsaws, shot guns, logging trucks, and ax handles, 4) we maintained a base camp (which had to be moved 4 times) and fed thousands, 5) we provided all the legal support for our 250 arrests up and down the Calif. coast, 6) we filed lawsuits, civil rights suits, stopped THPs, obtained injunctions and dealt with 3 of the largest lumber company monsters in the world, 7) trained a slew of new environmentalists and sent them back home to spread the word!

What did you do last summer? I would like to invite everyone to join us this summer 1991. It's guaranteed to have something for everyone, from "Resistance to Restoration" — an environmental activist's training ground! For more info write or call: Mendocino Environmental Center, 106 W. Standley, Ukiah, CA 95482 707-468-1660. In peace and solidarity, CHRISANN GILMORE, Sonoma County, CA

Dear Censors, Perverts, Compromisers & Wimps,

Too bad someone didn't spike the tree your last Journal was made from. In two short issues you've managed to make the old Junta look good. At least they admitted they had no intention of representing the movement.

It is near impossible to utilize the Journal as a tool to save wilderness when the people who are doing the saving are systematically denied access. I refer to the censorship of Lisa Henry's cartoon, Chris Manes and Murray Bookchin's letters, my article (which I agreed to edit but not censor), the cutting of the Corporate Fall article, and a Judi Bari response to the hate mail you published.

Further, you have published a hate piece to Judi from non-activist Ken Shelton, Jr. (ph 805/764/8346) a sex manual by Tom Stoddard (did he contribute \$1000 to get his inaccurate trash in like he did the last Journal?), and a top fold story about the wimpiest demo ever told (written by Montana Journal staffer Tim Bechtel — is his name just a

# DEAR SHIT FER BRAINS...

coincidence?).

Your staff has refused to take individual responsibility for your actions, making it impossible to determine who the saboteur is? For example, who the hell re-arranged the Journal contact list into an unreadable garble while simultaneously removing my name from the musicians list and the contact list? Names please.

Many folks will argue that we need to stop the in fighting and focus on wilderness. But we are people who require a process to do that, and I believe that process should be democratic, honest, and open. Your staff has been the opposite.

As part of Ecotopia Earth First! I have been fortunate to be in a group that has organized over 150 direct actions, written several wilderness proposals, mobilized thousands of people into action, and oh my God, saved thousands of acres of wilderness as an Earth First! group.

We will continue to do this, with or without your help. But we can do it better with. And perhaps that is why somebody in (y)our paper continues to subvert our message, for whatever his or her reasons may be. Don't just read Agents of Repression, learn from it. There exists not a single radical movement in the history of this country that hasn't been decimated by the power elite. We have survived three FBI terror campaigns. But can we survive the Journal?

So I am announcing a new function: "Journal Watch!" If anyone has been censored by the Journal, write to me at PO Box 34, Garberville, CA 95440. Send me your censored articles and we'll publish them in our new representative publication: Wild Earth First! And while you're at it, Montana Wimps, stick my name back in the musicians and contact list. I'll let you know when I want it pulled.

—DARRYL CHERNEY, Wild Earth First!, Box 34, Garberville, CA 95440

Some answers: 1) Tom Stoddard has given no money to this paper to date. 2) Tim's last name is Bechtold, not Bechtel. 3) David re-arranged the directory and will try to make it more comprehensible. 4) Robert Parker asked us to list him as the new RAT contact. 5) We didn't list any of Cherney's tapes because we didn't have any in stock at the time.

You have violated the name Earth First! Since the big split Earth First! has charged off in the direction of the LEFT. I think it's terrific that Earth First! wants to cure all the problems in the world but that's not what it started out as. I discovered EF! through Edward Abbey's books, I have to wonder what he would think of EF! now. Abbey was against gun control are you against gun control? You have boiled it down to Liberal vs. Conservative and the Earth in not first anymore. I've never spiked a tree or blown up a dam so who the hell am I? I'm the people you need most, I'm the people whose mind you want to change.

I use to race motorcycles in the Mojave (AMA sanctioned, District 37), Edward Abbey and the old Earth First! gave me a new outlook on that. Instead of taking Dirt Rider Magazine I'm taking Geology classes at the local Jr. College. I, a former desert racer, have donated to Earth First! Why, because I think this country needs to be shaken up about the environment, and the old Earth First! was an important part of that.

Yes, you guessed it, I'm going to side with the Dave Foreman camp and with that I hereby request that you change the name of Earth First! since the Earth is no longer first in your organization. You could call it "Earth, up there near the top of the list!"

Sincerely,  
—TIM ELLIOTT (aka ICHABOD IGNATZ)

Friends:

A fine issue, the first of the new EF! Journal. Particularly inspiring were the contributions of Robin Locksley, Eric Ryberg, and Diane di Prima. I saw few adversaries there, nor a self-righteous battling against the forces of darkness. Ms. di Prima did mention white men, but only as a metaphor of the white man in all of us, regardless of race or gender. When we begin to see that all of us wear both the victim and persecutor hats is different situations, perhaps we can begin to act intelligently.

How far the EF! Journal can go with this holistic vision is a question, however. Most of us prefer half truths. Whole truths, if we recognize them at all, tend to be uncomfortable for us. Half truths only require change in someone else, while whole truths bring about change in oneself. And so we rationalize the superiority of half truths, saying they promote action, while whole truths cause inaction. But the sages tell us it is whole truths that produce action while half truths never get beyond reaction.

And by reacting, we always let someone else determine our behavior. As a result, it is too often the despoilers — the developers or the Husseins — that keep the rest of us running in circles. My feeling is that as EF!ers, we're not being defeated by others; we're defeating ourselves in playing by others' rules — the "power-over" rule which favors those with the largest bankroll. Our strong suite certainly isn't money. Rather, it is heart; we love the planet more than they. The problem is we don't love it enough nor trust that that is where true power resides. Our connection to the earth is still tentative. We take walks in the wilderness on occasion, but that is not enough to overcome our basic disassociation from the earth. We must live in close connection with it on a day-to-day basis.

A few of us have started an ecovillage to develop just such a daily connection. We grow most of our own food, use salvaged lumber for our structures, and plant trees for future construction as well as for fuel. Three photovoltaic panels and one battery meet the simple needs of my wife and me. Our fossil fuel needs now are a fraction of what they previously were.

I, too, have been a social activist for much of my life, but with growing embarrassment. Without "walking the talk", what we say to our "adversary" is that it is too difficult for us to change our lives if it requires sacrifice, but s/he is supposed to change theirs. Not very convincing, I would think, and gives them a lot to react to. In contrast, imagine the power released in the world if all EF!ers started living a lifestyle that is radically ecological. There is no mistaking that it would be hard for some; it might be something like trying to drive a camel through the eye of a needle. But it would be much easier if done in groups, and it certainly would be empowering. Once we get the hang of it, our new life has become enormously fun.

Still, this would be only a beginning in shifting to empowerment from the tendency to have power over others. We need to take a hard look at where the tendency to dominate begins. We inflict this tendency on our children at a very early age. Starting with the view, which we learned as children, that the universe provides no design for living, we start to impose our own design which we call socialization. Not following our own intuition on how to live, we push the child out of its own intuition. The whole mess begins. We think rather than follow intuition; we react rather than act, the whole thing motivated by fear rather than love. Taken away from their intuition, no wonder babies seem somewhat chaotic in their behavior and no wonder parents often wear themselves out from years of constant and mutual manipulation. A baby is a quick learner, especially when frightened by

Human Potential Munt

our view of the universe that is foisted upon it.

How can we now undo all this, deep as it is in our psyche? A good start, I find, is a close association with nature. I'm finding infinite intelligence in nature's behavior and finding also that by activating my intuition, it shows me how I can fit in, how I can also act intelligently. More difficult is learning the art of not reacting to people. I invariably get out of my heart and into my head. I do know, however, that I will never be able to connect with the inherent goodness in others until I learn to connect with it in myself. And I know that the fact that half truths don't ultimately work is not an indication of an imperfect universe, but an indication of a perfect universe, one that must depend on love to be ultimately sustainable. More articles and poems like those of Locksley, Ryberg and di Prima will stimulate my courage to act on this knowledge.

—JIM RICH, Hillsboro, KS

Dick fer brains...

I'm totally shocked and disgusted by the article you had on the front of the last journal (March '91), "Montana Marches Against Rape". I read it twice, spitting and ranting, just to make sure I had actually read it right... unfortunately I had.

First off, I'm really fuckin' tired of seeing the word rape thrown around so loosely, especially by men. "Rape" is the act of forced sexual intercourse, and nothing less. When this word becomes used as it was in this article, it becomes meaningless... and so does the act. I hope you can see how dangerous this is.

The imagery in this article was totally out of control. You talked about how the Freddie's "pushed their rape agenda one level closer to penetration." Told us how "they are pushing hard" and "pant a little harder in their eagerness to jump the Badger-Two Medicine." You even go as far as to say that the Freddie's are "brave enough to rape"! What the fuck does that mean? What does bravery have to do with rape? Do you even realize the shit you're alluding to??

I really hope this issue gets discussed a lot more. This sort of language is pretty pervasive in EF! and shouldn't continue. Not only is it senseless and degrading, but it serves only to alienate and disempower the wimmin in our movement... especially those who have experienced sexual assault or rape.

Please think before you "spew" next time. Useless and insensitive imagery such as this has much more of a destructive force than you even realize.

—ANOTHER CASTRATING BITCH

Dear Poopface,

I'm way disgusted. "The Perfect Birth Control Method" by Tom Stoddard really bugs me. What a piece of pompous, patronizing and coercive crap! Big news flash too — gee whiz, really?!

So now we great and wise, all knowing, we know best westerners are to go pushing oral sex down the throats of "the young, childbearing age in the heavily over populated nations of the world." Give me a break. My old ecodevelopment professor Ray Dasmann used to sit and listen to us debate and promote such stuff in class. Afterwards he'd shake his head and say, "Don't you think these people know how to space their children if they want to? They have viewpoints on issues just like you do." Dasmann lived in Africa for quite some time. He also mentioned our world economic system and its connection to high population rates in poor countries.

The part where Stoddard writes that satisfaction for some males must include complete swallowing inclines me to say, "Fuck You!" As far as I know, swallowing come already ejaculated doesn't make an orgasm happen.

Some Sex ethics?

"Some" males can learn not to foist their problems on women. Sounds like a power trip to me.

What is meant by "gomorrhahic oral sex is only a pubic hair away?" I find this interesting when connected with the part where Stoddard writes, "The pain, discomfort, mental anguish and social stigma associated with abortion should induce many women to prefer gomorrhahing." I don't like that word "induce." Is this a choice or what? It feels like coercion. Am I to engage in butt-licking or get an abortion? I think I can easily get around that one. I make my own choices and societal junk will not "induce" me to do butt-licking if I'd rather not.

Oh, and about Victorian notions of oral sex being ones which drove those parents of yore to get clitorectomies for their daughters and how the penis would've gotten the axe too only it was functional, I say read your feminist history, dude. Give me a break. Men and boys never would've gotten their weenies whacked simply because they are male. It has nothing to do with penile function and everything to do with controlling women. I also don't like the underlying message that penises are functional and clits are not. I don't know where Stoddard got that bit of claptrap but I don't think I need to elaborate. Ask any woman.

I'm so tired of this white male bullshit. Oral sex can be great fun but articles like this make me want to barf.

—KAREN DEBRAAL

To the Editor:

Tom Stoddard's article promoting oral sex as a viable means of birth control was drivel — unworthy of a full page in this or any relevant environmental journal.

Oral sex is one thing in countries like this where the average person wastes more than sixty gallons of fresh water each day. But it is a different matter in undeveloped parts of the world, where, when men and women do get to wash, it is often only their ankle in a mud puddle.

Mr. Stoddard obviously thinks of himself as enlightened and on the cutting edge. I think its time we cut out this naive, cutesie crap and get on with the serious business of salvaging our planet.

—RICK DONAHOE, Redmond, OR

Dear Sludge fer Brains,

OK, so Tom Stoddard's article on The Perfect Birth Control Method was less than revelatory. But it did stress the valuable point that sex sans coitus is viable and fulfilling. At the same time, it was disgustingly heterosexist and narrow-minded in its imagination of non-coital love-making.

The argument could well be made that the article needed to speak only to the potentially careless breeders that heterosexuals are. Lesbians and gay men who decide to parent often make the ecologically responsible choice to adopt, although this homophobic society makes it difficult. Having biological children is more logistically complicated and so is always done deliberately. In addition, gay men and lesbians already know the techniques and pleasures so clinically described in the article.

But if we're going to be clinical, let's not blindly rule out "genital-genital contact." It is only a penis and a vagina together that make babies. There are other meetings of genitalia which are quite safe. The descriptions of oral sex are similarly inaccurate in specifying the gender of both participants. The gender of the mouth doesn't matter.

Why is this article so blatantly biased? It could be that just as Stoddard points out that "Birth control groups

my's Add. 10/29  
Anti-Social Justice Party (Self Pro - Justice Party)

# DEAR SHIT FER BRAINS...

may be extremely reluctant to promote oral sex... They worry that it could weaken their birth control credibility and lead to them being considered perverse," he is likewise afraid to associate his beloved oral sex with the spectre of homosexuality, preferring to forget how close Gommorah was to Sodom. This does us a double disservice. First, it makes the article alienating to lesbians and gay men who might otherwise find common cause with it. Second, it hides from interested readers two vast and exciting worlds of non-reproductive sexuality: lesbianism and male homosexuality.

Choosing to be gay is choosing a yet more perfect method of birth control. Because no birth control method is effective unless it is practiced absolutely all the time, and among gommorahing hets there must remain the temptation to make an exception every now and then and fuck, a temptation that, even if resisted, must add an uneasy tension to the field of sexual play. But homosexuality is a constant practice. It is not just a method, it is a set of methods — or better, a context of love which needs no methods. There is no need to resist temptations or limit your imagination. There is no danger of accidental pregnancy. It's perfect.

Except that, like any other healthy behavior, it's made difficult, if not always illegal, by the earth destroying patriarchy. As radical environmentalists, we should at least advocate the freedom to choose ecologically safe sexual orientations. Probably more people will end up not having kids by choosing homosexuality than will by choosing non-breeding heterosexuality for ecological reasons, simply because the former are allied with desire and the latter sometimes at odds with it. To ignore homosexuality in an article where it is so clearly relevant is to miss a chance to celebrate its virtues (ecologically here) to a homophobic culture. Celebrating freely chosen sexuality, on the other hand, undermines the dominant paradigm at one of its basic foundations. Let's do it! For all things wild and free, with love of the earth,  
—O. WILDE

Dear Compost-cranium,  
This is in reply to "Feral Ape's" letter in Vol. XI, No. IV. AIDS is more than a whisper. When any species overpopulates, a predator/parasite is bound to come along to exploit the situation. AIDS targets primarily humans engaged in reproductive behavior (sex), self-destructive behavior (addiction) and wounded individuals (blood recipients). Nature is cold. If you can't run with the pack, you die. However, compassion is also natural. Victims should be afforded all the comfort we can give.

It's unnatural for a virus to kill off its host thus dooming itself. Given time, AIDS will evolve, like whooping cough, measles, and scarlet fever, into a less deadly form of the disease, the same time humans develop defenses. With the genetic material of five billion people, some of us must be immune.

I have one other comment for "Feral Ape." S/he wants us to commit our unspeakable, unthinkable notions to print in this letters column. I remember guys like that during the Vietnam War protests. Perhaps "Federal Ape" is a more appropriate alias.  
—ROCKY RACCOON Norton, MA

Dear Shit fer Brains,  
I agree with the editors that "we should be beyond the point where we need peppy action glorifications for morale." For the most part, contributors to the Beltane issue seemed to agree, with some insightful and valuable critiques. However, I was disappointed by the coverage of the hunt sabotage issue by Skwatter Rot. I participated in the

Mojave hunt sab described, and have a different perspective and evaluation of that action and on the tone of the article in general.

Being a newcomer to the hunt sab scene, I (naively?) understood the primary purposes of sabbing the bighorn sheep hunt to be: 1) trying to stop the killing of the few Nelson bighorns in the area, and 2) spreading the word about the greed, macho-egotism and overall "domination over earth" anthropocentric aspects of hunting — especially trophy hunting of threatened species and slob "maim from the back of your pickup" pseudo-hunting tactics so prevalent today — in order to build an anti-hunting movement.

Although I like to have fun and enjoy the close-knit community that develops in such actions as much as anyone, and, being a Kropotkin-style anarchist, appreciate the important role of developing such alternative communities, it had not been my impression that we were doing it with a primary motive of having "a helluva lot of fun." Thus I am more critical of the action than Skwatter Rot, who has evidently been doing hunt sabs longer and has a different perspective, where small gains may look more like victory or accomplishment. I appreciate the perseverance of those who have come back year after year. I want to be clear that I did have a lot of fun, really appreciated the hunt sab community in the Mojave, loved the Mojave itself and would like to participate again, but am concerned that the hunt sab was not anywhere near effective enough and should be given careful critique and effort towards its improved effectiveness.

First, all that fun did not save a single bighorn sheep even though S. Rot characterized it as "our most effective sabbing in the field."

Second, the macho tone of the article and the great defensiveness of the author in defending the cliquishness of the hunt sab group. Most readers would not even have been aware of any elitism or insecurity complexes of the group, or criticisms of these, had not S. Rot said things like: "Hell, we're proud of our close-knit community and if sometimes our enthusiasm over it rubs people the wrong way, too bad," and, at the end of the whole article, "Some people seem over-ready to believe we are a macho-infested gathering of out of control hormones. We're not." Great outreach to build the movement, that, for the article, with all its macho-isms too numerous to quote and the two macho cartoons, could raise suspicions that maybe it is indeed a "macho-infested gathering of out of control hormones." This disturbs me because it limits others' desire to participate, especially women (of which I am one, and note: the most successful sabotage done, described in the opening paragraphs of the article, was accomplished by two women) and it is not fully representative of the group.

In regards to discouraging people from participating, I would not have characterized the gathering as "sustained, hardcore, back-country anarchist boot camp." Indeed, many of the participants there were not in as good shape as I am but manage to participate. Most were refugee from city life — maybe that's why the author considered it a lot more grueling than I did. And due to lack of adequate numbers of hunt sabbers and lack of new tactics or equipment to fit changing situations, many people spent hours dozing in the sun on top of hills, waiting for (probably forewarned) hunters to arrive who never came. Fortunately the around-the-campfire atmosphere was not like a bootcamp, but much warmer and more jovial while still sincere. So I encourage people to participate in hunt-sabs — women and macho-haters too — but I also encourage those speaking on behalf of hunt sabotage to be more self-critical and solicit new ideas on how to be more effective. One way is by having more people in

the field to cover gaps and vast territories — a definite need I observed in the Mojave, but one that won't be met with this kind of "outreach" that sabs itself. Less macho elitism could thus bring better results for both saving individual sheep and helping the movement grow against all the macho elites who now dominate and destroy the earth.

Finally, hunt sabbers could have a little more care for "after the dust has settled" treatment of those who join them. Three of us were charged with "possession of non-game bird feathers" in obvious hunt sabotage harassment by the CA Dept of Squish and Maim. Yet these hunt sabbers received no significant assistance with legal ramifications until there was much prodding, and even yet two cannot come back into the Mojave to help for awhile due to one- and two-year probations handed down. They had to pay most of their fines, interstate transportation to court, and legal phone costs themselves with no fundraising appeal made for them in the article. I wouldn't complain except this particular hunt sab had a lot of money available initially compared to most other E! actions, individuals knew of the pending above-mentioned costs and lavishly spent all the remaining money on the bison hunt waiting game anyway, despite promises of assistance. This dampens the spirit of newcomers a bit.

—DESERT TORTOISE

MS HUNT SAB PERSPECTIVE

Dear Mental Manure,

I am one of those "radical anti-hunting/animal rights lunatics," as well as a "nambi pambi bambi licker" that my namesake — Ramblin' Jim — rambles on about (Ostara 1991).

Ramblin', old son, where did you ever learn to equate human hunters with natural predators? Natural preds take only the weak & the sick, leaving only the biggest & strongest to breed. Humans are exactly the opposite in their choice of targets. This is what the hunt saboteurs are sabbing against.

In June of 1990, Jim, us "bambi lickens" in California passed Proposition 117, outlawing the slaughter of our state's last great predator, the mountain lion (mine is the only western state to do so).

RJ, native americans used to drive whole buffalo herds off cliffs, & killed off the mammoth, mastodon, sabretooth, american lion, dire wolf, teratorn, giant sloth & giant beaver long before we white boys set foot on this side of the Atlantic.

I suggest that Jim stop ramblin' and start reading — specifically a book written by my fellow "lunatic" Ron Baker. It's called *The American Hunting Myth*.

Thanks for your time.  
—JAMES CLINK, Glendora, CA

Ref to MARK

Dear SFB:

Just a note to say that I am in total agreement with "Ramblin' Jim" in the letters section last E! journal. The hunters and fishermen can be an ally in the cause to save our wildlife. There is nothing more fun than to create "hate and discontent" between the sportsman and the public land grazing welfare ranchers, loggers, and miners not to mention the BLM and USFS. It is relatively easy to do and completely legal. Just attend all of the public meetings you can where the above entities will be present and point out to the sportsman that the ranchers, loggers, and miners are destroying wildlife habitat as fast as they can with the total blessing and cooperation of the U.S. government. Also, write letters to newspapers on a regular basis concerning this. Divide and Conquer!!!

—COLORADO COYOTE HUGGER

Dear Feco-cephalus:

I'm into Earth Preservation, I'm into self preservation. So if I were to go out to "cripple the cattle industry" (An East Coast Supporter, March 20, 1991) I'd surely bring my shotgun and leave that *Brucella* behind. Some among the six species of *Brucella* can and do cause some nasty diseases in humans — fever, chills, sweats, weakness and fatigue, insomnia, sexual impotence, constipation, headaches, joint pain, encephalitis, meningitis, and a host of other goodies. Most troublesome for nocturnal activists is the peculiar odor said to accompany brucellosis sweats... might make an easy find for some sniff-trained lawman.

Even worse, wild and natural beasts including caribou, desert rats, wild bison (YES! cattle can transmit brucellosis to bison... shoot the cows, not the bison!), and carnivores or scavengers that eat the *brucella*-infected abortus or afterbirth can acquire the infection from domestic critters.

Best to keep it quick, sweet and simple — size out your steel shot and aim well; these cows are headed for slaughter anyways and in shooting them you can provide carrion for a few coyotes, and maybe someday, a few lobos.

STOP WELFARE RANCHING. SAVE THE RANGE.  
—DOC GREEN

Dear Brains,

This issue of whether or not it's okay to kill cows has been going on so long... Without taking one side or another, it seems like to me that the Its-Not-The-Cow's-Fault faction should just consider for once what the poor little cows are going to go through if they don't get killed in the wild. I for one would rather get shot quickly and painlessly while roaming free in the National Forest, than to suffer the heartbreak of first being separated from my mom/kid (and believe me, they do cry when this happens), loaded into a crowded stinky truck to be driven hundreds of miles away, and then... well, you know what happens then. In case you don't, I'd recommend reading any accurate accounting of Auschwitz for a pretty good correlation.

Personally, I feel like all you bleeding heart animal lovers — if you really care about the cow's rights — oughta be taking up arms and forming posses into the woods to off all the cows ASAP. For their own good. But please, do some target practice first. For the cows' sake.  
—SOMEONE

Earth First!

YEAH! I finally got my tax return back and the first thing I want to do is resubscribe to your mag. I love it and eagerly look forward to receiving each and every issue.

WASTELAND is my effort to inform and awaken the sleepy public. It's a funky (yet fun!) eco-art gallery which I own and operate here in sunny (yet cold) Minneapolis. All the art I display here is made from recycled materials and deals with the subject matter of PLANET DEATH. Believe me, there's a lot of material to work with!

I want you to know what an incredibly valuable resource your magazine is for me. I mostly work alone, for long hours, trying to achieve the impossible (and I get discouraged). But, when the mail man brings me *Earth First!* I'm not alone anymore!!! I realize that there's a lot of people out there that feel like I do. Somehow it strengthens me and I carry the current issue with me proudly wherever I go.

So please keep up the good work. The information you have to share is appreciated.  
—NANCY WALKER

# DEAR SHIT FER BRAINS...

Dear Earth First! J,

Being sympathetic to the goals of Earth First! and also a summer laborer in Yellowstone, I read with interest the Dec. 21 article "The Yellowstone Refuse Company" by Scott Herring. Scott has identified some areas of concern to us employees, but he has done nothing to attempt to understand the problems, much less suggest workable solutions. What does Scott suggest be done with the outdoor toilets, serviceable lumber, signs, snowpoles, and piles of gravel and asphalt that must be kept someplace until needed? Should they be hauled out of the park and stored there until needed? At Lake we maintain an unsightly pile of scrap iron, useless plumbing, and many of the items Scott listed in his article. When enough accumulates for a truck load to be taken to Mammoth it is added to scrap metal from other park districts and sold for scrap. Does Scott suggest that every time we have a broken appliance, piece of pipe, or kitchen sink, that a special trip be made to Gardiner with it?

Indeed there are "vast pits gouged into the earth by heavy equipment." These pits were sources of material for road construction, and many are presently being filled with burnable debris, which, until it is burned when snow is on the ground, does look like a landfill. To repeat — are large pieces of broken concrete, lumber, and windfall trees supposed to be hauled 54 miles one way to be disposed of? No doubt Scott has workable solutions to these kinds of problems???

Scott states that these "dumps" contain garbage, which is not the case and is clearly an attempt to associate garbage-habituated animals with Park Service activities. The responsibility for such must be directed at park visitors who refuse to follow multiple reminders to feed no animals whatsoever. As to the statement about garbage coyotes attacking people, I would like to see

some verification of such incidents.

Yes, there are many service roads with locked gates. The article implies that they all lead to "dumps" but anyone can understand it would not be well to allow all visitors access to water supplies, power stations, roads no longer in use, and sewage treatment plants (or does Scott suggest raw sewage be put in baggies and carried out of the park?).

The statement that Fishing Bridge campground is being used is in error, as it has not been used for two seasons and I personally helped remove some of the facilities. It is this type of "journalism" that does much to defeat the laudable objectives of EFi!

Incidentally — a couple of years ago at Fishing Bridge there was a "demonstration" attributed to Earth First! — complete with spray-painted messages to Supt. Barbee. Some time after that incident I was picking litter in the area and ran across a number of spray cans (used) deposited in the weeds along the river. Very likely just a coincidence that they would be there — or has EFi joined the Yellowstone Refuse Company?  
—LOWELL BALTZ, Weyauweja, WI

Dear Earth First,

It was with great relief that I sent off for the "Less People, More Wilderness" stickers made available in your journal last year, for I thought it signalled a decision to make human overpopulation a focus of Earth First! activities. If anyone would display the strength and courage it takes to address this most fundamental environmental issue I thought it would be Earth First!. Yet I see very little emphasis given to population in your articles, and the great little stickers have disappeared. Too controversial?

Humans present the greatest threat to the millions of other species that also

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Dear E.F.,

Here's an idea for what it's worth. Are you familiar with the vertical "No Trespassing" signs? If some enterprising persons wanted to print up some I would order one hundred of the revised version.

Here's the method of operation. We attach them (adhesive backs) to the 4 x 4 posts that support speed, curve, etc. traffic control signs. Preferably where a clear cut is visible. The idea is to have them in place when the tourist season starts. Rest areas, boat launches, picnic grounds are all good places as long as they are in the proximity of a clear cutting area. They'll be good for stapling to telephone polls and trees too. Instead of "No Clearcutting" the sign could read "Stop Clearcutting" depending on the dimensional limitations and readability.

The idea is to embarrass the establishments, both government and private, who talk tourism out of one side of their mouths and encourage Plum Creek out of the other. I'd like to know if anyone follows through on this.

—OWEN BERIC, Springdale WA

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P.S. Good for stapling to telephone poles and trees too. Let me know if anyone follows through on this

inhabit this planet. The destruction of the ozone and rainforests, wildlife habitat destruction, ocean pollution and ocean desertification caused by overfishing, extinction of species, air pollution, and even women's rights abuse, child abuse and starvation are directly produced or influenced by human overpopulation and consumption. Unprecedented levels of ecological destruction caused by the population explosion threaten the very existence of the rich diversity of life and the continuation of the life process for the 30 million species dependent on the biosphere.

The world population was three billion in 1960 and is projected to be six billion in 1995. At this rate there will be ten billion in the year 2028. Though most of the growth will take place in Africa, Asia and Latin America, we must not feel that the US nor other industrialized countries are exempt since we cause most of the damage to the biosphere. What good does it do to fight for species protection and old growth forests if we ignore the root cause of their demise? What will all our efforts lead to if people continue to breed with no regard for the Earth's carrying capacity?

"Less people, more wilderness, more wildlife!"  
—LINDA ZIDELL Minneapolis, MN

Dear Shit for Brains,

I've heard and read alot of flap about how dismal a failure Redwood Summer was last year so I thought I'd tell you one of the success stories that came out of it.

Joe Carillo is a Native American from Porterville, CA who, with about nine other Natives, came up to the Sequoia National Forest to bless the action and to tell us that we had the support of the Natives in the area. He also told me that he wanted to hold a meeting between the Native American spiritual people in California and the environmental people to come to a common understanding of our spiritual and physical interconnectedness, to join forces with the environmental people and to form a strategy by which we could forge ahead as a stronger, more unified movement.

I came away from there knowing that if we could join forces with the Native Americans we would be a more formidable force.

When I got back home I formed an organization called Alliance For Earth

and set up our first intercultural environmental council which was held at the end of September, and though small it began bringing environmentalists and Natives together. It was good to see people from Greenpeace, Sierra Club, EFi, and others working together on issues of common concern.

Our next council, which is to be held on August 9, 10, and 11 of this year at Ya-Ka-Ama Indian Development Center in Forestville, CA, will deal more directly with issues such as the Klamath River watershed, Coastal Hotsprings and the Sinkyone Wilderness.

For more information please call me at (707) 874-2313 or write to me at 13240 Frati Ln., Sebastopol, CA 95472. As usual, and like everyone else, we could use some help with our project.  
—TIM CARNAHAN, Alliance For Earth

*Carroll, of (redwood)*

Dear Shit Fer Brains

The definition of the word recycle is the reuse of something discarded. Our society is one of great waste and greed. The form of recycling I engage in most often is the salvage of usable items other people have discarded. I recommend this mode of recycling to anyone that choose or is forced to live in one of these festering Hell-holes we choose to call cities. Most cities and suburbs can be Trashed (i.e. "Recycled") effectively from a bike. I have not bought a single article of clothing in over three years. All the clothing I wear is economically friendly, regardless of origin, since all would have contributed to societies midden-heaps had not I intervened. If at all possible reuse this societies waste. It is an action neither noble or illegal but it makes a hell of a lot of sense!

—JOHN CHUBB

Earth 1st,

A suggestion to help your opposition to the U.S. Forestry Service's loss sales of timber; namely *are those sale contracts valid?*

Absent criminal duress, in the U.S. sellers seek a profit. Contracts otherwise could suggest incompetence &/or criminal action. Either factor should void such present or past contracts *plus* suggest the possible need for investigation by appropriate agencies & even potential future criminal prosecution.

—E. SCOLLIN, Carbondale, IL



# Amex Action Evaluation

BY MS

Most EFlers have at least heard about the American Express (AMEX) action after the Activist Conference last November. I've written the following not as a news story, but as one analysis of the action so that we can learn from our past. Realize that this is only one person's perception. **Overall:** The objective and the action's intent were sound. A small campaign had started to put pressure on AMEX to withdraw from participation in building a mega-ski resort. The activists decided that educating AMEX employees might be a good way to apply pressure from a yet-untried direction. In fact, a few months later, an AMEX spokesperson announced that the company is considering withdrawing from the project! **The Prep:** The absolute weakest aspect of this action was the prep. We were pretty burnt out from meetings, having just sat through three days of them. And we were pretty cocky too — perhaps we thought that we'd all been to numerous actions and countless preps, and we didn't really need (read: want) to spend too much time on this "small" detail.

We did decide that the action would be a "Fun & Run," with no arrests...hence, no arrest prep!! Mistake! All actions are potential arrest situations; even distant support people can get nabbed. *Always* spend some time on "What if you get nailed."

The other significantly weak part of the prep was detailing the plan, especially with regards to our means, or tools. There was no agreement within the group as to a few of the more visual aspects of the demo: some people brought snow, others marking pens, and someone even carried a used tampon to spread the "Save the East Fork!" message to the office walls and floors.

Using these items most likely resulted in more arrest hassle and harsher treatment from the Sheriff and DA. Some of the AMEX 17 felt "ripped off" by those doing things not agreed to in advance, while others defended the visual alterations as minor; Arapahoe County simply overreacted, they said. The thing to learn is, *even* in a "no-arrest" situation, get agreement from others when using property-altering tactics.

**Logistics:** Though departure for the action was delayed for an hour by slow-boat activists eating breakfast, the logistics went OK. A quasi-accurate road map was handed out, rides arranged, and a pre-action meeting place chosen. We parked in a lot whose building was under construction, so no one's car got towed (even after sitting there overnight).

The down-side was that the lot was right across the street from AMEX. We should have parked somewhere that employees and/or cops would have trouble finding the cars.

**The Action:** Things seemed to go OK. There was significant hooting and howling, as well as a lot of flyers being handed out to employees. Unfortunately, our signal that it was time to go — a lifeguard whistle — didn't move the EFlers out of the building fast enough. We were just having too much fun — after all, this was Corporate Fall, wasn't it??!

This inertia resulted in the Sheriff getting on the scene in time to arrest seventeen of us. Some chose to run away, and only one got caught. Running might be an OK strategy, but getting caught usually results in harsher penalties...so if you run, escape!!

**The Arrest:** There are two rules to remember when arrested: 1) SHUT UP, & 2) COPS LIE. Shut up means don't talk to cops or to each other when around cops. This includes jailers, clerks, trustees, etc. It may relieve tension, but it can only hurt your situation. If you are read your Miranda rights (*not* an automatic occurrence), you will usually then be asked to *waive* them in order to "tell your side of it" to a friendly detective.

Why would want to do this??? She/He will not be swayed by your politics; his/her job is to gather evidence *to be used against you!!* If the cop is *really* interested in EF!, invite him/her out for a beer *after* you're done with the "justice" system. With our arrest, a number of "the leaders" were given this treatment. Fortunately, most chose to SHUT UP, and those that didn't appear

to not have hurt themselves or others.

**COPS LIE:** They are under *no* obligation to tell you any truth, and frequently will lie to get your cooperation. Do *not* believe what cops say, but also do *not* call them liars, etc. Just be polite and constantly ask for your lawyer. Cops lied to us repeatedly, again with only apparently minor side effects. We were lucky.

**The Charges:** Because they're almost always reduced, charges are somewhat meaningless. Unfortunately, they do determine your bail. We got charged with felonies, which initially meant a \$5,000 bail each. This meant that most people had to spend five days in jail until the first appearance before the judge when charges were reduced, resulting in an affordable bail. If you get arrested on a Friday, it's possible that you could spend up to six days in jail before your charges are (hopefully) reduced.

**The Result:** Three people agreed to an early plea bargain with hefty penalties, but most held out for a jury trial. So far, four defendants have pled guilty to 3rd degree misdemeanor trespass and paid a \$35 fine. Unfortunately, there are still three folks with felony charges; stay tuned. In our cases so far, holding out until the last minute seems to be paying off.

A jury trial can be quite a crap shoot. Even if you honestly didn't do *anything*, it only takes a few lies from one witness and you're found guilty! There's also the possibility — sometimes remote, sometimes not — that a fellow activist will accidentally or consciously implicate you in activities that you may or may not have done.

**Jail Support:** As most of you know, getting arrested is a lot of work not only for arrestees, but also for the folks outside. Though unplanned, our jail support was excellent. It was almost a one hundred mile round-trip to the jail from Boulder, but EFlers visited whenever possible. Questions were answered and messages passed along. Bail money was raised, and we got out as soon as possible. In addition, some folks were busy with the phones, getting the news out around the country about AMEX and East Fork. The nationwide boycott of AMEX was on!

For a summary of "action shit-to-remember," consult the AMEX article in the December 21, 1990 issue of the (other) journal. And as always, please send donations to Colorado EF!, POB 1166, Boulder, CO, 80306.



## Telescopes Dealt A Double Blow

BY B. BEAR & M. GRAHAM

The proponents of the Mount Graham project woke up on the morning of April 10 and learned that the Ninth Circuit Court had issued a restraining order on them and the Smithsonian had been advised to move their telescope to Mauna Kea in Hawaii instead of Mount Graham.

### CASTLE CRUMBLING

A 15 member Smithsonian scientific panel recommended moving the Institute's 6 dish radio telescope project from Mount Graham to Mauna Kea in Hawaii. The recommendation was sent to the SI in DC and the Smithsonian's Board of Regents is going to make a decision this May. You can write to the Smithsonian at 1000 Jefferson Drive, Washington, D.C. 20560, or call them at (202) 357-1846 and ask what's up!

### LAW...WHAT LAW ?

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, on April

## East Fork Update

If you're at least semi-awake, you're aware that American Express wants to build an enormous ski resort in prime griz habitat in southwestern Colorado. The biggest news is that **there's been two confirmed lynx sightings!!** Though not federally listed, the lynx is a state-listed endangered species. Now is the time to get the Division of Wildlife to live up to its name!!

Dr. Tony Povolitis, among others, is campaigning to protect the lynx federally. There may not be enough time for the East Fork Lynx.

How many other sensitive species live in this beautiful valley? A concurrent study is searching for wolverine. The required elk study *isn't being done* by McCarthy/AMEX for the time being. "It's too expensive!" they whine.

The time for action is ever-present. Plan your work and work your plan. Not only can your efforts protect the East Fork valley, they can protect Colorado native species from extinction!



**HOT OFF THE PRESS!  
GET YOUR AMEX BOYCOTT MATERIALS!!  
(P.S. They're FRKK!!)**

That's right, while they last, we'll mail you lots of stuff to aid the American Express boycott...for free! (We accept donations, of course). Choices include:

(Quantity)

— BOYCOTT AMERICAN EXPRESS!! rubber stamps: Imprint your favorite credit card applications.

— "De-Business" cards: Carry in your wallet and hand them out to your Yuppie friends. They explain the boycott on one side with the AMEX Skull on the other.

— AMEX Skull agitators.

— Packet for photo-copying. Enlist local merchants in the campaign!

COLO. EF! ~ PO 1166 ~ BOULDER, CO 80306

**T-SHIRTS**

Two-sided design: artwork on front printed text of "Your Legal Rights" on back!

Short sleeved, 100% cotton  
Colors: white or light blue  
Sizes: S M L XL  
\$12 postpaid

Colorado Earth First!  
c/o Chris  
302 27th St  
Boulder, CO 80303  
Bulk orders call  
303-499-6310.

Profits pay Amex 17 legal costs

9th, tossed the Mount Graham lawsuit back in hands of US District Judge Alfredo Marquez of Tucson. The entire project is on hold until Marquez rules on two of the nine points of the case.

### STAY TUNED

We here on the Mount Graham front welcome this news but have been here before. That's why we call it the Mount Graham Rollercoaster. There is still much work to be done and the Mountain needs your support. The snow is melting fast.

Please call the **Mount Graham Hotline** at (602) 629-9200 for daily updates on what's going on and how you can help from your local area, or write AZEF!, PO Box 3412, Tucson, AZ 85712.

Last but not least come visit the Mountain.

# Civil Disobedience: An Urgent Critique

BY ERIK RYBERG

It is my feeling that since our battles on behalf of wilderness and biodiversity are of such an urgent nature we would do well to pause once in awhile to evaluate the methods we employ, to consider with a clear head the options available, and to debate with care and without hyperbole what effects we've had. My own experience with civil disobedience, in the Northwest, during Redwood Summer, and most recently on Mt. Graham, has given me cause to ponder this tactic and at times to question it. Allow me to present my reasoning, and you can judge for yourself:

1. First, can anyone deny that civil disobedience today is a very regimented procedure for which the rules are known, the outcome is never a surprise, and the roles and players are easily identified? Does anyone really think that CD provides a challenge to authorities, that it disrupts the workings of development, that it undermines the powerful, that it puts into question the legitimacy of progress? Isn't it instead the case that CD has become nothing more than a ritual of dissent which raises no questions, a game which holds no surprises, a compulsive societal twitch that confuses no one, subverts nothing, and which in practice does as much to legitimize power as it does to undermine it? Isn't it possible to interpret the phenomenon of CD as just one more appendage to development, one more part of the process of hacking down redwoods or extinguishing species habitat or poisoning wetlands? Hasn't CD finally become subsumed by the development process, become not an impasse but merely one more stop on the landraper's checklist? Is CD now an organic part of decimating the wild? Can it be that by chaining ourselves to trees we are actually just inserting ourselves in the process of development rather than opposing it from without?

Well, maybe that's stretching it. Maybe CD can still throw a monkeywrench here and there, but I believe, perhaps wrongly, that we have reached the point of diminishing return with CD as it is practiced now by Earth First!. I believe that CD can be seen as just one more thing that our culture does in order to enable itself to continue wiping out the wild with a clear conscience. I believe that CD is a part of the cultural "us" which always surfaces but which we rarely have trouble looking away from. And I believe that it is time to change that. We EFlers can't allow ourselves to be co-opted and subsumed by a smaller game; that is, we cannot allow ourselves in our opposition to be just another tree which any logger can chop, just another pond any official can poison, just another EFler any cop can arrest. We must ensure that wilderness destruction is never easy. We must ensure that our opposition to a project produces conflict, problems, tangles; we must guarantee our targets some sleepless nights.

It has become easy for the various authorities to deal with us. We chain ourselves to such and such a grader, they arrive with oxy-acety-

lene, cut us free, throw us in jail for a night, charge us shitloads of money, we pay and are released, and we claim victory for "delaying" them a minute, an hour, a day. But the grove falls, the road is built, the pond is poisoned. It's a game, isn't it? It's a ritual that makes us feel good, makes us feel like we "put our bodies on the line," makes us feel like we made a sacrifice, makes us feel like we did everything we could to save those trees, that pond, or in my own recent experience, that mountaintop. But did we?

(Mike Graham, at this point, gruffly urges me to recall that often, even usually, CD is the culmination of weeks, months, and years of hard, careful, and often boring work exposing the issues, filing appeals, writing letters, visiting various officials. Mike of course is correct, but read on, won't you?)

2. I believe that when we speak of putting our bodies on the line, when after our arrest we rejoice in our higher moral ground, rejoice in the way we "held them off," rejoice in the "prison crowding" which resulted, in the media attention received, when we speak of these things we do so out of a perhaps necessary fantasy, and at the possible expense of a clear picture of what really took place. All too often what takes place is that we volunteer as cannon fodder and then we agree to sign over a bunch of money to the people who shot cannons at us. We need, I think, to realize that when this is the case, CD has backfired. CD is not a guaranteed success.

CD is done for a cause, not for the individual practicing CD. CD is not used in order to elevate an individual morally; it is used as a means to bring about sensible and thoughtful behavior on the part of its targets. CD is a tool. To see it as a sacrifice or as a lifestyle is to debase it. Like other tools, CD is not universally appropriate, although an experienced handler can use it with more finesse and versatility than an inexperienced one. And, like other tools, it can wear out.

3. Martin Luther King Jr.: "Non-violent Direct Action seeks to create such a crisis and establish such creative tension that a community that has constantly refused to negotiate is forced to confront the issue. It seeks to dramatize the issue so that it can no longer be ignored."

There was a time when chaining oneself to a grader was sufficient to create a crisis, but that time now has largely passed. Increasingly, the authorities are ready for us, and nowadays the confrontation seems all too often to be limited to a few tense moments with an irate logger.

For these reasons I submit that it is time to play at non-violent CD with increased expertise, creativity, and commitment. I submit it is time we skip the nonsense about putting our lives on the line, about preferring "death" to project X, about "holding them off" for so many hours or days or minutes with our bicycle locks. It is time we learn to dispense with the heroics and evaluate our actions sensibly and strategically. It is time we have a mind for what will advance the is-

sue and not merely with what we as individuals are prepared to endure (i.e. jail and fine) to show our opposition to the project in question. We must evaluate our actions in terms of the crisis we can create around the issue. We must act in ways which will disturb and confuse the authorities. We must act so that we cannot be ignored.

*ed. note: As of Thursday, April 18th, Erik Ryberg began serving up to 70 days in Graham County Jail for his part in defending Mt. Graham from the onslaught of tunnel-visioned astronocrats. His address is: Graham County Jail, 523 10th Ave, Safford, AZ 85546. The County judge has ruled that Erik must not only serve time, but also pay a fine. Erik included this postscript to us with the submission of this article:*

Now: I tried (believe me, I tried) to put in here something about my choice to go to jail rather than pay my fine on Mt. Graham as an effort to live up to what I say in this article; that is I believe that I can contribute to the "crisis" by forcing the issue through my incarceration, by demonstrating that if they want to break the law and put

scopes up there then they are going to have to lock up physically a portion of the population: Me. I see going to jail as one "solution" to the problems I bring up in the article; jail is a way to up the ante, to make a bigger nuisance. But in the article it always came out sounding too heroic and self-serving.

But you understand, I hope, that it's in my best interests, at least, for people to know this, to know that I'm not just some dickhead throwing gratuitous criticism at everybody in sight. So, if you want, feel free to do my self-serving for me (I guess that's what I'm saying, really). I just couldn't get it into the article and I think it's important.



## The non-nonviolence guidelines.

1. Maintain an attitude.
2. Do not carry weapons unless you know how to use them.
3. If you don't have a good story, run.

## The problem of nonviolence.

Nonviolence has plagued us for decades. Has it ever brought us closer to wildness, freedom, and peace? Certainly the world has only grown more civilized, controlled and industrial. Nonviolence as practiced in this country only reaffirms the disempowerment of the individual, the glorification of suffering, the privilege of the white uppermiddle class, and the habits of obedience to authority in all its forms. We need to disassemble civilization, and do it soon. Clearly nonviolence isn't the answer. Its time to seek creative alternatives.

## The non-nonviolent response.

Non-nonviolence seeks to undo the damaging passivity that nonviolence has wrought. N-nv is dynamic and creative. Rather than waiting to deliver yourself into the hands of the cops, you run. Stay free and do more. N-nv avoids rules and so never divides people into the true practitioners vs. the infidels. In non-nonviolence, nothing is sacred. We will do what we need to, in the words of the great non-nonviolent activist Malcolm X, "by whatever means necessary."

## The tradition of non-nonviolence.

Non-nonviolence has been practiced for centuries, perhaps millennia, by disempowered people seeking to assert their autonomy. In this century the peoples of many countries have used non-nv to end colonialism. In India, for example, radical groups blew up trains, killed British military personnel, and sabotaged British business and industry until finally the British withdrew and India was autonomous. In our own country many groups, from the revolutionary soldiers to the wobblies, practiced non-nonviolence. One of the most striking and effective examples of recent times was the civil rights/black power movement. Through the practice of n-nv in groups such as the Panthers and as a whole, blacks were able to undo much of the oppression which they had suffered for years.

## Non-nonviolence and You.

Though non-nonviolence can be practiced in small groups and perhaps ultimately as a mass movement, it basically depends on individual action. It is people like you practicing n-nv, who taken collectively can make a difference. Find out about the techniques of non-nonviolence, and think up new ones. The go into the forest, or the desert, or the office building, and do what you need to do. You don't need to tell anyone about it, because non-nonviolent action isn't dependent of media coverage or public image. It depends simply on the strength and truth of the action, and you.

"NO ONE WAY WORKS, it will take all of us shoving at the thing from all sides to bring it down."

*a flyer posted anonymously at Redwood Summer*

# "Misanthropy or No - Where Does it Go?"

BY TODD SHUMAN

(ed. note - This essay came out of a series of discussions Todd had with activists who were present at Redwood Summer, and who were appalled at how many trees were cut down in spite of the hundreds of organizers in the area.)

The "Misanthropy or No" debate rages in my head as I wander through Ed Abbey's old stomping grounds in Canyonlands. My take on this debate is that the opposing viewpoints are not mutually exclusive. *Homo sapiens* is responsible for widespread ecological destruction, commencing with the onslaught of agriculture, yet really going way back to the prehistoric slaughter of large mammals. However, the reign of the affluent, white male elite has been marked by exponential increases in the rate of ecological destruction, especially during the post-World War II period. It must also be remembered that the ecologically destructive elite groups from Japan, Brazil, El Salvador, etc. only exist because of the crucial economic, political, and military aid that has been provided by the affluent white male elite of North America and Europe.

Nevertheless, the debate seems to have danced around a more crucial issue for me: the relationship between worldview and strategic action. This is unfortunate as both the "misanthropic" and "white male" models suggest very specific types of strategic action — indeed, they suggest precisely the forms of action that have polarized Earth First! in the past.

Misanthropists, of course, take a dim view of the human species in general, though exceptional individuals may provide more help than harm to the Earth. Since *Homo sapiens* in general is rotten, general appeals to its members are likely to fall on deaf ears. Efforts to generate mass support are likely to fail. Hence, the best that can be hoped for is action by exceptional individuals that will limit the damage caused by the existence of *Homo sapiens*. It is easy to see how the misanthropic world view logically leads to a preference for the strategic approach of monkeywrenching, the recourse of the exceptional individual or small group.

Judi Bari (and others of her persuasion), on the other hand, is trying to incorporate a variety of different social groups into the effort to save the Earth. Naturally, such a task is made difficult if those target social groups keep hearing that they are just another part of the rotten human species. Consequently, Bari's approach must be one that emphasizes how a particular social group has been giving the rest of us a bad name. If we emphasize the irresponsibility of the affluent white male elite, then we have a reasonable chance of gaining the support of all those other social groups. It is easy to see how the demands of building a broad movement have given rise to a world view quite different from that of the misanthrope.

So, when you really look at what is at stake in this debate, you see that much of it boils down to the old question of monkeywrenching versus mass non-violent disobedience, with neither side really engaging the key issue: they are both theoretically shadow-boxing around the question of strategy.

In the rest of this essay, I want to engage directly the question of strat-

egy, and I want to do so while avoiding the dichotomy of either/or. I feel that both types of action (and their accompanying world views) are useful, though each is more useful at some times rather than at others.

I think we need to discern the conditions under which mass-based non-violent civil action is both possible and effective. Conversely, we should explore for conditions under which monkeywrenching might be less useful, even counterproductive. Finally, we should then evaluate past Earth First! strategy in light of such theory.

Such a task is daunting, but it



needs to be done. I am going to contribute by offering a rudimentary analysis concerning the mass, non-violent movement part of the equation, at the considerable risk of putting my foot in my mouth and kicking.

Mass-based movements relying on non-violent civil disobedience have been successful in the past. Five movements obviously come to mind: Gandhi's non-violent movement in India during the 1920s and 1930s, the Filipino "people's power" movement, the black civil rights movement during the 1960's and 1970s, and a number of non-violent revolts in Eastern Europe in 1989. In none of these cases, however, did the most powerful segments of the economic/political/military elite exert a unified, forceful opposition to the mass-based movements.

In India, nationalist merchants and industrialists were a key constituent group of Gandhi's mass non-violent movement. In fact, Gandhi's particular social vision was only mildly critical of (and hardly threatening to) the landlords who were ruthlessly exploiting the peasantry. Similarly, much of the indigenous Filipino business class (as well as many high level military officers) lent valuable support to the non-violent overthrow of Marcos, whose personal management of the economy had denied much of this class a share in the spoils.

The black civil rights movement in the US, while facing viru-

lent opposition from the white southern working class and its allies in the local political establishments, did not face severe resistance from the planter-merchant class that had called the shots in the South ever since it erected "Jim Crow." This elite class was relatively indifferent to the struggles of the 1950s and 1960s, probably because the rapid postwar mechanization of the cotton and tobacco industries had reduced the planter-merchant's dependence upon massively indebted black sharecroppers. By the late 1950s, this extremely powerful class had little to lose in the second emancipation of blacks, and it did little to exert such power in comparison to

that  
**PIONEERING  
SPIRIT  
LIVES ON!**

what it had done during the previous 50 years. Added to this relative indifference was the substantial support and cultivation of black political motivation by the Democratic Presidents, who wished to incorporate blacks into the Democratic Party further.

The US anti-war movement of the 1960s, while not successful in actually stopping the Vietnam War, was successful in constraining the actions of the Johnson and Nixon administrations. The achievement of mass, non-violent resistance undoubtedly facilitated a major division among the economic/political elite that led first to the destruction of the Johnson administration and later to substantial media opposition to the Nixon war effort. The combination of mass movements, media opposition, and a divided business community prevented Nixon from escalating the war even further through the introduction of more troops and nuclear weapons into the conflict.

Finally, the 1989 non-violent revolutions in Eastern Europe were allowed, perhaps even encouraged, by the only elite who really mattered — that is, the one who exerted authority over the Soviet military forces policing Eastern Europe.

Clearly, successful non-violent movements have nearly always been dependent upon either the coopting, indifference, or paralysis of the relevant institutional elite. Other conditions, of course, are also important, but they also often facilitate movement success by gener-

ating division (and hence, relative paralysis) within the ranks of the elite. In particular, the progression from non-violent resistance to substantial violent revolt often disintegrates the solidaristic opposition of the elite. In the cases of India and the black resistance of the 1960s, rural and urban violent revolt terrified certain sectors of the political elite into accommodating some of the demands of the overall resistance movements. Concerning the former, peasant rebellion weakened the resolve of the British political elite to hold onto India as a colony. Concerning the latter, the urban riots of the later 1960s prompted a massive expansion in the distribution of state material benefits to destitute blacks. In any case, any movement needs to fracture the ability of the elite to marshal fully the resources of the state and the economy if it is to have a chance of success. Without such a prospect, a non-violent movement of resistance is likely to fall short of achieving its goals.

So the question is: Were the conditions propitious for generating such elite paralysis, and hence, accommodation to the demands of the Redwood Summer movement? I do not know, but I suspect not. Even though the bombing ruined a great start, I still think that the prospects for success were slim at best.

First of all, the economic/political elite showed no sign of yielding its intransigent and unified opposition to significant forest protection. Secondly, a rapid growth in support for forest protection from the timber-dependent regional working class was unlikely to occur. Only a gigantic inflow of outsiders devoted to mass-based non-violent civil disobedience would have been able to "shake down" the elite into delaying or slowing the timber-cutting plans. Yet it was clearly unrealistic to expect that such numbers could be mobilized in such a short time, given the population's relatively light absorption of environmental ethics. Not surprisingly then, Redwood Summer did not stop, or even slow down the cutting, with the 3000 acres of the Headwaters being the exception.

While the educational value of the effort cannot be overstated, nor the political utility of nonviolence (in relation to the statewide forest initiatives) doubted, the fact remains that the social conditions for effective mass-based non-violent action did not exist. Monkeywrenchers spiking trees not organizers working phones were the key to the survival of the redwood forests in Northern California. And Redwood Summer, through its focus on organizing massive non-violent resistance, depleted an overall movement energy supply that could have saved quite a few trees had it been channelled into monkeywrenching instead.

Well, I am done. As you can see, I am begging for an argument. I hope that all you Redwood Summer supporters and monkeywrenching foes are sufficiently pissed off to respond. The movement needs this kind of stuff to be aired directly, not indirectly, as in the past.

## Time To Declare It Mussel Beach

BY PRISCILLA PINECONE

Nine of the faithful from Big River Earth First!, including two endangered species — the Pink Mucket and a rare moss — went calling one very good Friday. We called on the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in St. Louis County and later at the EPA Information shed (trailer, actually) located on the site at Times Beach in the Meramac River floodplain.

With wit, with costumes (less than realistic, but more than fun) and with a photographer, we took all the facts and figures we could muster and went to muddy up the waters a bit. The protest concerned the construction of a "temporary" (Ha! Who'd believe that one?) incinerator which is to be built at Times Beach. Times Beach, you'll recall, is a ghost town made when dioxin-contaminated oil was sprayed on the roads for dust control. People were eventually moved out, homes bought up, and the area fenced off, but the problem just keeps festering. What to do, what to do? The current plan is to wash and then burn the dioxin contaminated soil in this "temporary" incinerator and store the ash on the site and cover it over. On a floodplain? Yes, on the floodplain along the Meramac River. Home to the Pink Mucket, *Lampsilis ahrupta*, a Federal endangered species of freshwater mussel.

The Pink Mucket is very rare, found in only about twelve sites, mostly in the Ohio River, but the Meramac River population is probably the most hearty. A filter feeder, the mussel can't tolerate silt. The river could well silt up due to incinerator construction and operation when over 100,000 tons of soil are hauled into or dug up for incineration and storage at Times Beach. The moss is similarly endangered.

We went:

- to promote biodiversity and protect endangered species
- to voice our concerns for those who can't speak and weren't consulted
- to express our outrage that dioxin contaminated soil will be brought in from 29 other sites in Missouri to be processed at Times Beach
- to protest dioxin contaminated soil's being brought in by unregulated trucks (trucks that don't go home empty) travelling on the same roads we use in our daily meanderings and purposeful journeys
- to holler out loud and clear that this is not the proper use of the country — as the dumping grounds for anyone's waste
- to question the safety of toxic waste incinerators — if they're safe, put 'em on the White House lawn
- to express indignity that Syntax will make its second profit off this — the same company that caused the problem (gave out the oil for dust control) will run the incinerator for another profit
- to verbalize worries that the incinerator will be run as a business (instead of as a public utility directly responsible to the people it impacts) with cost cutting, cheapest possible methods and equipment to deliver the largest possible profit instead of the greatest safety (for all species)
- to roar downwind our grief that no environmental impact study was done.

Pink Mucket, beautiful green moss, and me. It's so sad. From this valley we all may be goin'.



WOMB returns the screw to USFWS.

## Return of Wrathful and Outraged Mothers for Biodiversity

"Michael Spear screwed us on Mt. Graham" we cried. Passersby had only to look at us to know it was true — we all looked about twelve months pregnant. We stood sweetly on the corner with our banner and our aching backs; but inside the Fish and Wildlife offices, Region 2 Director Michael Spear was not a happy boy. Half of his staff members were reportedly laughing uproariously, the others were angry at the public disclosure of Agency crimes — the truth hurts, eh?

Michael Spear headed the attack on the Endangered Species Act by ordering his biologists to find that the proposed telescopes on Mt. Graham, AZ would have no impact on the extremely endangered Mt. Graham Red Squirrel, or he would find some biostitutes who would. Spear lied to Congress. He broke his public trust and followed his personal views instead of biology

(we're so surprised! — but outraged none-the-less).

Michael Spear screwed Mt. Graham; he screwed us; and he screwed you! WOMB says the telescopes being forced upon Mt. Graham are like an unwanted pregnancy that is sucking the life from its Mother. The scopes are destroying the Mountain's ability to sustain the children she already nurtures. Michael Spear is both rapist father and midwife to this monstrosity. Let the courts abort the illegitimate biological opinion and restore biological self-determination to Mt. Graham!

WOMB vows to pursue those guilty of crimes against Nature like wrathful mothers avenging a crime against their children's lives. Because that's what it is....

—LOOSE HIP CIRCLES

## Yellowstone EF! Endangered Species Week ACTions

BY RANDOM RECLUSE

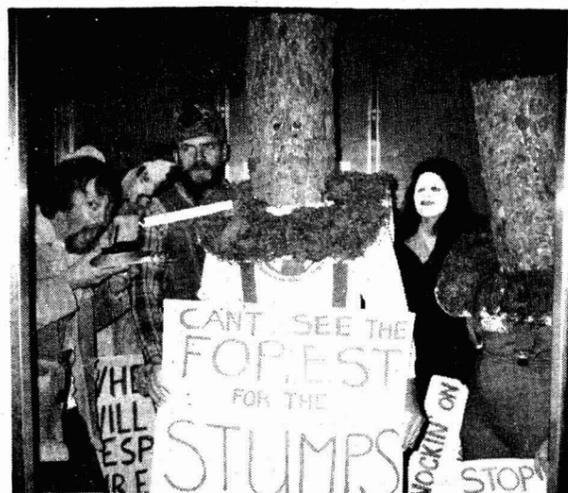
Early one morning during the last week of March someone hung a huge banner off the Baxter Hotel, tallest building downtown Bozeman. The Banner read "EXTINCTION IS FOREVER: DEFEND ENDANGERED SPECIES EARTH FIRST!" As part of Endangered Species Week ACTions, Yellowstone EF! pursued a variety of tactics to bring attention to the plight of the disappearing ones. Our first effort was to request a comprehensive listing of imperiled species in Montana from the Nature Conservancy's Natural Heritage Program. We also consulted with an independent biologist who had done plant surveys on the Gallatin National Forest under contract with the Forest Service. Next we filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request with the US Fish and Wildlife Service Region 6 office in Denver. This FOIA sought information on the Tailed Frog (*Ascaphus truei*), Flammulated Owl (*Otus flammeolus*), Fisher (*Martes pennanti*), Carinate Land Snail (*Oreohelix carinifera*), and Elrod's Snail (*Oreohelix elrodi*). Both species of snail are locally and globally imperiled; "enigmatic microfauna" which are probably in danger of extinction, if not already gone, but are receiving absolutely no government protection.

The results of the FOIA were disheartening at best, merely stating "We do not have any information in our Regional or field offices regarding the above species... none of the above species are candidates, listed, or proposed for listing (under the ESA)." The letter did, however, say that, "Because of your request... we called experts around the Region and the country. We learned that at least two of the species (tailed frog and flammulated owl) may have problems and may merit being placed on the candidate species notice of review." As usual, we are doing the work they should be doing! They said the two species of snail "are known only from locations in Montana and have not been relocated in recent years."

We learned from the independent biologist that *Carex multicostrata*, Many-Ribbed Sedge, was recently found in plant surveys done at the site of the Mill-Emigrant Timber sale on the Gallatin. It is known from only one other location in Montana, in the Centennial Mountains. In the Forest Service's usual bass-ackwards manner, the timber sale has been all laid out and signed off but the plant surveys have not been completed. It is

highly unlikely at this stage that any plant discoveries are going to change the status of the timber sale! But *Carex multicostrata* is now proposed for the Forest Service sensitive species list along with sixteen other plant species on the Gallatin.

We decided to visit the Freddie's in their lair at the Federal Building in Bozeman during the last week of March to demand remand of the Mill-Emigrant timber sale and protection for the sedge as well as Grizzly Bear habitat and roadless areas, both of which would be trashed by this timber sale. Several concerned citizens and a dead bear, a yellow panther, and two human stumps (fabulous stump costumes created for the event!) visited with Acting Supervisor Leonard Lucero and a FS biologist and spokesperson. Basically we scolded the Freddie's for half an hour for their lack of concern for endangered species and for their backward approach to habitat protection. Lucero offered to let us do the plant surveys and we said we'd be happy to if they would pay us, but we weren't going to do for free the work that they are required and paid to do! We also presented the Freddie's with a "stump cake" to honor the 100th anniversary of the Forest Reserve System. It was a stump-shaped chocolate cake with a "stumps suck" sign stuck in it. This protest/meeting received extensive coverage in local TV and newspapers. Even the cake was on TV! The Freddie's refused to eat it though.



We're here !!

# Destroying False Idols

Virtually all species of wildlife are finding it increasingly impossible to carry on their lives without somehow getting pushed, prodded, or gutted by humans in the Wild Rockies as development closes in on many remaining pristine areas under the candy coating of the New World Order. The pressures from private companies trying to extract as much money as possible from the Wild Rockies (and the rest of the world) as soon as possible, in conjunction with public agencies doing their best to hand over the publicly-owned habitat to the rapine, have created a vortex into which more and more species are tipping, perhaps never to climb out again. As our wildlands go, so goes our wildlife, and Wild Rockies EF!, in conjunction with Endangered Species Act Week, hit the usual agencies of rapine and destruction to remind

this award due to its unflagging commitment to testing the ecological resiliency of the planet. These people weren't too receptive to our overtures either: About 15 minutes before our appointment the office cleared out and we were forced to present the award to a locked glass door.

The Clark Fork Salmon Run, an event absent from Missoula ever since the construction of the Grand Coulee Dam, surged through Missoula on Wednesday, after the Grand Coulee, the Mother of all Damns on the Columbia, was blasted apart in effigy with large amounts of ersatz dynamite. The salmon plunged upstream during the lunch hour, to the admiration of all the riverside lunch crowd, spawned, and died. Bikini's fishlegs glimmered in fuschia spandex tights; the lunch crowd admired

gard for rare and sensitive plants as they push forward their timber-harvest-at-all-costs agenda. We did the skit thing outside the regional office, depicting just how thorough the Freds are in their searches and surveys for plants in areas from which they want to harvest timber. Then we gave the Region One Head Fred a FOIA so he could prove just how thorough or lacking the Freddie's have been in rare and sensitive plant surveys in the Wild Rockies.

We planned activities for each day of the week, which sure sounded good at the start, but it turns out that the media sure has a short attention span for the same group of people bitching about (essentially) the same thing to different people on each day of the week. The media ate it up on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, but the TV cameras and radio types stayed home on Thursday. This is a drawback when you have only media events planned. A better idea would be to mix in media events with other, perhaps more physically expressive activities on a succession of days. Maybe we should have moved the events around the bioregion a little more, perhaps that would have offered a fresh face to the media, but then we would have had to transport ourselves around. Bill Bob's land cruiser, the vehicle that has transported activists to wolf, bison, and grizzly-kill interventions, tree sits, tree plantings, and shit and sawdust dumpings has apparently polluted its last, however, so the transportation maneuver seemed hard to face. (The truth, of course, is that we are all very lazy and like to ski and drink beer too much, so we planned everything at the last minute, and it is always easier to plan things in your backyard at the last minute.)

—TIMOTHY BECHTOLD

## salmon...

don't have to do anything. We lead the TV crews and cops down into the stairwell, filling the echo chamber with our moans and sharp gongs on the metal handrail. We emerge into the fish ladder viewing room/gift shop, shocking the sightseers. "This has to be illegal." Well it is a sudden spectacle to be sure, this halloween death march of fish peering into the gloom of the fish ladder behind the glass wall, where we site a rare few Coho, making their way up the ladder maze. We pass another word around, "Flop Flop!" Time for the Flop-in at the outdoor ladder viewing area. The demonstrators are all writhing on the concrete, save for banner holders and the reapers.

WHAT DOES ANY OF THIS REALLY MEAN?

On the evening news, we have our one and a half minutes of stardom, all they would allow to escape the electronic web of restraints: the network filter. We can only hope that our meaningful sound bites wiggled, if not challenged, the prevailing paradigm that John Q. Public functions in. Our mobile theatre was but a stab in that direction.

For the sake of the Wild Salmon, many more stabs will be required, followed by paradigm shattering and awakening, all steps in the ultimate teardown of the resource extractive culture. VIVA LA FISH!

What you can do..... Mail fish heads and letters of outrage to: District Engineers, Army Corps of Engineers, 319 SW Pine, Portland, OR, 97205

LEO BC



Bill Bob Photo

The anadromous ones return to the Wild Rockies

them of their duties to the wild things with which humans share the planet, and to brush away the false gods of credit cards, food preservatives, and convenience stores from before their eyes.

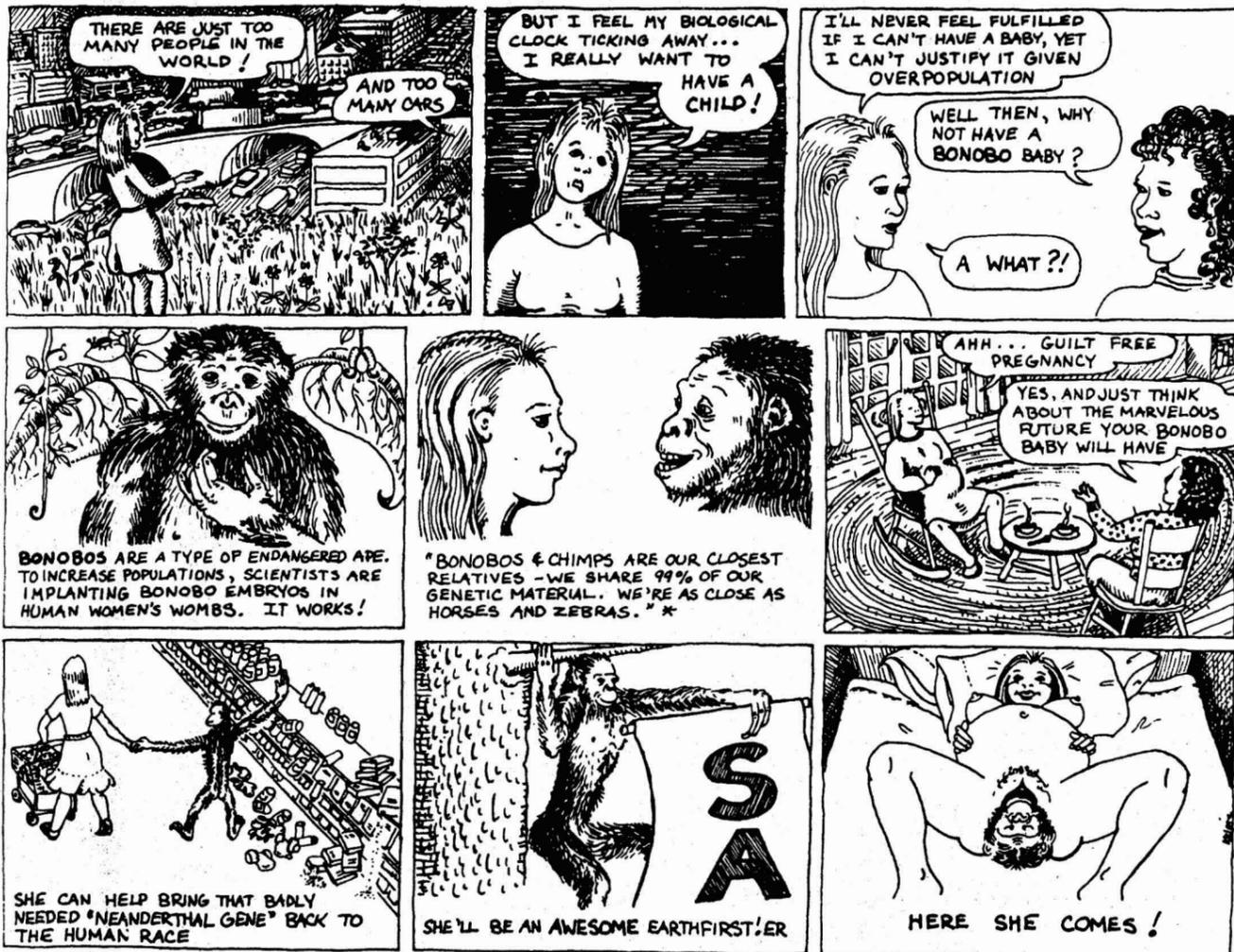
On Monday, activists gathered in Helena, MT, to present the USFWS with FOIAs on the status of five species, with the idea of initiating the petitioning process to get these species listed. You should see USFWS dupes gape and writhe when you start prattling Latin names at them (*Thymallus arcticus montanus*, *Silene spaldingii*, *Arabis fucunda*, *Howellia aquatilis*, *Synaptomys borealis*). In addition, WREF! and the Wolf Action Group jointly presented the USFWS with a larger-than-life Golden Calf, since FWS seems to be guided solely by this false idol in dealing with the recovery of the Northern Rocky Mountain Gray Wolf. As usual, the government kill squad took things poorly, and went out and darted three out of four wolf pups, the sole remnants of a pack whose saga began with the FWS deporting the alpha female to Glacier Park over a year ago, and moved them to Glacier Park as well. The fourth is still free, but the odds for its survival are low with its siblings gone.

Tuesday found us presenting Noranda (you know, the super-huge mining company) with a golden bucket of rocks in honor of their propensity for always burying their heads in the earth looking for golden rocks, so we gave them a whole bucketful so they wouldn't have to keep digging up places looking for them. Noranda deserved

them as well. It was fun, but like any run, exhaustion was a problem for some of the upstream-bound salmon.

The Freddie's were our target-of-honor on Thursday, and we attempted to highlight their disre-

## BONOBO BABY



\* DE WAAL, FRANS, PEACEMAKING AMONG PRIMATES, HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 1990

# Targets

# 1-800-ECO-RAPE



Please keep the following "800" phone numbers tied up with calls. You can talk to them about radical environmentalism, deep ecology, boycotts, or whatever, or belch into the phone, or just hang up. Use your imagination. Every call you make costs these eco-rapers the cost of a long distance phone call, and while that will only make a small dent in their multi-million dollar budgets, every little bit helps to aid the collapse of industrial anthropocentrism. Every dollar they spend on their phone bill is one dollar less they can spend to rape Mother Earth, and in addition, keeping those phone lines tied up will keep these eco-rapers from conducting business-as-usual on these lines. This list will be updated periodically.

- 1-800-722-6824 Wilderness Impact Research Foundation, an obnoxious lobbying group associated with James Watt
- 1-800-243-8766 Chevron, the first corporation to call for opening ANWR for drilling after the start of the Persian Gulf crisis
- 1-800-223-5669 Alternate number for Chevron
- 1-800-626-2000 General Electric, largest nuke manufacturer in the world, and has created numerous Superfund sites by dumping toxic waste
- 1-800-528-7711 Alternate number for GE
- 1-800-528-4800 Amerikkkan Express, involved in development of East Fork in Colorado, and held 17 activists hostage to a double felony charge for the crime of handing out flyers
- 1-800-654-8796 Weyerhaeuser, one of the Filthy 5 toxic waste producers, old-growth clearcutters and rainforest destroyers
- 1-800-438-4423 Alternate number for Weyerhaeuser
- 1-800-937-1800 Burger King. Demand that they stop using beef grazed on public lands, that they offer an alternative vegetarian burger, and that they stop using so much wasteful packaging
- 1-800-527-8721 John Birch Society. These obnoxious assholes call for dismantling the EPA, extensive development of nuclear power and oil drilling in wilderness areas and ending environmental regulations, and try to make environmentalists out to be part of a global "communist conspiracy."
- 1-800-363-3500 Dow Chemical Company, pesticide manufacturer and involved in nuke power production
- 1-800-541-6533 Dept. of Defense (careful!), the world's foremost eco-raper

- 1-800-872-2769 US Army Recruiting
- 1-800-627-4637 US Marines Recruiting
- 1-800-826-2544 Amerikkkan Cyanamid Company, pesticide manufacturer with abysmal environmental record
- 1-800-447-2301 Archer Daniels Midland Co., abysmal environmental record
- 1-800-628-3334 Exxon. Avenge Prince William Sound!
- 1-800-552-1285 Georgia-Pacific, clearcutting/rainforest destruction
- 1-800-225-5483 GTE, nuke weapons manufacturer
- 1-800-227-4177 James River Co., abysmal environmental record
- 1-800-821-5699 Kimberly-Clark, rainforest destruction
- 1-800-333-0124 Mobil Oil, extensive lobbying against Clean Air Act
- 1-800-543-3090 RJR/Nabisco, abysmal environmental record, cigarette/tobacco production
- 1-800-334-9745 Rhone-Poulenc Rorer, ditto
- 1-800-253-8600 Upjohn, animal testing
- 1-800-543-7310 Proctor and Gamble, involved in conspiracy to disrupt and destroy animal rights movement, and to spend \$12.5 million on a propaganda campaign to promote vivisection
- 1-800-343-5643 National Advertising Co., billboards
- 1-800-835-7268 Scott Paper Co., clearcutting/rainforest destruction
- 1-800-642-6116 Adolph Coors Co., donates money to anti-environment lobbying groups (also for union-busting, mistreatment of employees and financing Contra terrorist group)
- 1-800-424-9090 White House Press Office, propaganda hotline for our phony "environmental president"
- 1-800-354-1500 Atlantic Richfield, rainforest destruction

Keep in mind that it is best to call these from a pay phone, as your calls may be traced. These numbers can be called free from any pay phone. Also, if there are any more eco-rapers you have a particular grudge against, do not hesitate to call them (I couldn't find an "800" number for Maxxam).

—DAN QUAYLE REVOLUTIONARY ECO-TERRORIST PHONE CONSPIRACY

## Names and Numbers: A Corporate Fall Production

BY TAO JONES

The people who are killing the planet — major corporation heads — get away with it partly because they are inaccessible to those of us who want life on earth to continue. They protect themselves behind walls, electric fences, and security systems; they travel in chauffeured limos, hang out in private country clubs and are never seen in public. We must bring them out of hiding and make them accountable for their actions.

In an effort to make these people accessible to the planetary community, here's some names, home addresses and phone numbers. Call them up, invite them to lunch, chat with their spouses. Do whatever you deem appropriate with this list. (This paper does not advocate illegal activity.) And save the phone numbers until you can get maximum benefit from them, as they are easily changed.

### OIL COMPANIES

**Occidental Petroleum**  
CEO: Ray Irani  
338 St. Pierre Rd.  
Los Angeles CA 90077 (213) 472-8914

### TEXACO

Ch. of Bd.: Alfred C. De Crane Jr.  
55 Valley Rd.  
Bronxville NY 10708

CEO/Pres.: James W. Kinnear  
149 Tacomic Rd.  
Greenwich CT 06830

**Cargill Petroleum** (subsidiary of Angill Inc.)  
Sr. VP/Angill Director:  
Cargill MacMillan Jr.  
520 Indian Mound  
Wayzata MN 55391 (612) 475-3146

**McCall Oil & Chemical Corp.**  
W. Calder McCall  
47-195 W. Eldorado Dr.  
Indian Wells CA 92210 (619) 346-3246

**EG Smith** (fuel oil, heating & A/C)  
EG Smith  
Box 93A RD #2  
Bernville PA 19506 (215) 488-6908

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### TIMBER COMPANIES

**Louisiana Pacific** (clearcutting)  
Pres.: Harry Merlo  
3400 Scaggs Spring Rd.  
Healdsburg CA  
314 19th St.  
Union City NJ 07087

**Boise Cascade**  
Pres./CEO: Jon H. Miller  
3330 Mountain View Dr.  
Boise ID 83704

### SURFACE MINING

**Drummond Co. Inc.**  
Ch. of Bd. Garry N. Drummond  
5366 Overton Rd.  
Birmingham AL 35210 (205) 956-7107

### DEVELOPERS

**Fluor-Daniel**  
Leslie G. McCraw, Fluor Pres.  
57 Hillside Dr.  
Newport Beach CA 92660  
(714) 720-9145  
Crimes: subsidiary of Fluor Corp., which builds power and chemical plants, oil refineries, stripmines, large bldgs.

Group Pres.: Gerald M. Glenn  
33 Ocean Vista  
Newport Beach CA 92660  
(714) 673-1215

### East Fork Venture

Dan McCarthy, 2/3 owner  
9933 Lawler Ave.  
Skokie IL 60077 (708) 673-1171  
Crime: proposed ski development in potential grizz habitat in CO

### ANIMAL ABUSERS

**Proctor & Gamble**  
CEO Edwin Artzt

9005 Cunningham Rd.  
Cincinnati, OH 45243  
Crimes: animal testing, disposable diapers in Latin America

### MISCELLANEOUS BIGGIES

**Rockwell International**  
Ch. of Exec. Committee:  
Robert Anderson  
Crown Towers, Penthouse C  
10701 Wilshire Blvd.  
Los Angeles CA 90024 (213) 647-5590  
Crimes: nuclear pollution, SDI Research and Devel., aerospace, tactical weapons

## Giant Movie Theatre Knocks at Zion's Door

The dramatic southern entrance to Zion National Park, where the park's steep canyon walls rise around the town of Springdale, is now the proposed location of a twelve-acre development including a giant "big screen" theatre, an 80-room hotel, and a 275-space parking lot. The towering theatre would house a 50-foot-high, 70-foot-wide screen and seat 350 people.

The massive complex, proposed by World Odyssey, a California company, would abut the boundary of Zion National Park on two sides. It would be located just outside the park's south entrance station, in a meadow directly across the narrow Virgin River from Zion's main campground. The now tranquil campground would be permanently altered by the massive buildings, automobile traffic and light pollution from the development.

There are potential alternative sites for the project where the development would neither violate zoning ordinances nor intrude on the majestic scenery of Zion National Park. The National Park Service, for example, has urged World Odyssey to consider BLM, city or private property a mile down the road in downtown Springdale as an alternative site. If land in downtown Springdale was also developed as a staging area for a needed shuttle bus system taking visitors into Zion, the project could be more lucrative for the town and the developer.

Write to World Odyssey Inc., John Delmare/Keith Merrill, 4 Main St., Los Altos CA 94022, and the Springdale Town Council, Springdale UT 84767.

—SOUTHERN UTAH WILDERNESS ALLIANCE newsletter

# Abundant Wildlife Society

Wildlife is in big trouble today. Big game, game birds and even song birds are becoming more and more scarce. There is a CRISIS!

Its not loss of habitat. Most wild animals adjust well to man and his surroundings. In fact, many changes in the environment by man have helped wildlife. For example, when man settled the west, the land was often semi-arid. Irrigation and reservoirs allow wildlife to flourish where few could previously survive.

Hunting is not the problem either. Songbirds which are not hunted are scarce. Many areas with no hunting have few animals to see and enjoy.

On the other hand, due to the ability to control numbers of licenses, length of season and sex of animals taken, hunting has proven to be the best method for control of game animals and birds. It keeps them abundant and yet controls them from excessive crop damage or habitat destruction.

Did you know that hunting has been reduced in almost every area of North America? Yet wild game and birds are not to be seen or found in many areas. So what's the problem?

The problem is PREDATION. In recent years, predators have increased unchecked due to several reasons and the result is the destruction of multitudes of wild game and birds.

## Why have predators increased?

**Popularity** given the predators by groups which have promoted them extensively is one reason. For example, enormous parts of Washington and Oregon are being set aside as habitat for the Spotted Owl. This bird is a predator on small animals and birds.

**Protection** given the predator has increased its numbers. Northern Minnesota has always had wolves. The wolves were kept under control by trapping and hunting. The deer population was abundant and northern Minnesota was known for good hunting and viewing of wildlife. In 1973, wolves were federally protected. Now the deer population is only a small percentage of what it used to be.

**Price of furs** have plummeted. Thus few people can afford to trap with so little return. This is due to negative publicity and activities of animal rights groups. People, who used to regard fur as a status symbol, are now being persuaded that the taking of predators for its fur is wrong.

**Trapping is now under fire** by many groups. It is the intent of these groups to completely outlaw trapping. If this happens, predators will increase at an even greater rate. Wildlife will simply disappear in many areas.

—Excerpted verbatim (except title) — complete with grammatical errors — from a pamphlet distributed by the "Abundant Wildlife Society" entitled "What Everyone Who Enjoys Wildlife Should Know." Your comments to the Journal are encouraged. Or send them to AWS at: PO Box 639, Gillette, WY 82717-0639 (307) 682-2826.

## ADC Subsidies

Congress is presently working on establishing the federal budget for Fiscal Year 1992. The Administration has proposed a decreased budget for the Animal Damage Control (ADC) program. Under this overall proposed reduction, there would be a decrease in direct predator control of almost 40% (from \$13 to \$8 million).

What follows are numbers, some of which are noticeably large — especially in relationship to the others. In order to get them, we had to gas ADC dens from across the country, extract the information with barbed wire, beat it over the head until "dispatched," and then assimilate it into a readable form.

Total amount of money spent protecting individual enterprises nationwide:

• Agriculture: **	\$ 324,204 (1.9%)
• Aquaculture:	\$ 457,375 (2.8%)
• Livestock:	\$ 9,891,119 (60%)
• Crop:	\$ 2,700,772 (16.4%)
• Forest/Range:	\$ 413,560 (2.5%)
• Human Health:	\$ 1,077,615 (6.5%)
• Property:	\$ 1,139,977 (7%)
• Natural Res.:	\$ 491,886 (2.9%)

Total: \$ 16,496,508

\*\* Seven states accounted for Aquaculture, Livestock, Crop, and Forest/Range under one heading of "Agriculture."

The House Subcommittee on Appropriations for Rural Development, Agriculture and Related Agencies began meeting in late February to discuss the budget, hear testimony from agency people, and write their version of the bill sometime soon. NOW is the time to write to this committee (Jamie Whitten, Chair, 2362 Rayburn, HOR, Washington, DC 20515-6061). Tell them you support a smaller budget (or no budget), with more (total) emphasis on non-lethal control.

—THE PREDATOR PROJECT



## CHEMICAL CULPRITS

Allied Signal (formerly Allied Chemical) Subsidiary of BENDIX Corp.

CEO: E.L. Hennessey, Jr.  
Columbia Rd. and Park Ave.  
POB 40000R  
Morristown, NJ 07962 (201) 455-2000  
1988 Sales: \$11,909,000,000

Crimes Against Nature and Humanity: Among the world's largest manufacturers and suppliers of advanced technology for military, commercial, general aviation and space; uranium processing; Star Wars.

### BASF

Executive Chair: Hans Albers  
Carl-Bosch-Strasse 38  
D6700 Ludwigshafen  
Germany  
Major Pollutants: petrochemicals  
Pounds Released 1987: 50,000,000  
Net Income 1988: 1,409,800,000 DM  
Products: agricultural chemicals, growth regulators, plastics, polystyrene

### DOW Chemical USA

CEO: Frank Popoff  
2030 Willard H. Dow Center  
Midland, MD 48674 (517)636-1000  
1988 Sales: \$16,682,000,000  
Toxics Released 1987: 23,300,000 lbs., mostly petrochemicals  
Consumer Products: Saran Wrap, Handi Wrap, Spray'n Wash, Ziplock, Glass Plus, Cepacol, Nicorette  
Also: Manufacturer of Napalm

### Eastman Kodak

CEO: CH Chandler  
343 State St.  
Rochester, NY 14650 (716) 724-4000  
Major Pollutant: chlorinated solvents  
Pounds released 1987: 75,800,000  
Net Income 1988: \$1,397,000  
Consumer products: photographic equipment, film, paper, plates, and chemicals  
Also: Uses old-growth trees for paper

### 3M (Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing)

CEO: AF Jacobson  
3M Center  
St. Paul, MN 55114 (612) 733-1110  
Major Pollutants: petrochemicals  
Pounds Released 1987: 53,000,000  
Net Sales 1988: \$10,581,000,000  
Subsidiaries: Media Networks, National Advertising Company  
Consumer Products: Scotch Tape

### Monsanto

CEO: RJ Mahoney  
800 N. Linberh Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63167 (314) 694-1000  
Major Pollutants: metals, nitriles, dioxin, PCBs  
Pounds Released 19487: 75,800,000  
Net Income 1988: \$591,000,000  
Consumer Products: saccharine, Nutra Sweet, Lustrex polystyrene, Roundup herbicide, Bovine Growth Hormone (genetically engineered)

### Pfizer Pharmaceuticals

CEO: Edmund T. Pratt  
235 E. 42nd St.  
New York, NY 10017 (212) 573-2323  
Net Income 1988: \$5,385,400,000  
Toxics Released 1987: 11,200,000 lbs., mostly metals

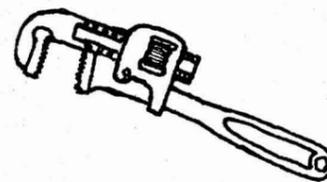
Products: Coty, chymosin cheese coagulant, recombinant DNA research

### Rohm & Haas

CEO: J. Lawrence Wilson  
Independence Mall West  
Philadelphia, PA 19105 (215) 592-3000  
Toxics Released 19487: 13,000,000 lbs, chlorinated solvents  
Products: Resins, polymers, plastics, biocides, fungicides, dispersants, soil repellent, genetic research, leather processing chemicals

### Union Carbide

CEO: Robert D. Kennedy  
39 Old Ridgebury Rd.  
Danbury, CT 06817 (203) 794-2000  
Net Income 1988: \$8,324,000,000  
Toxics Released 1987: 21,500,000 lb., mostly petrochemicals  
Products: Chemicals and plastics, industrial gases, carbon products  
Crimes Against Nature and Humanity: 487 production plants, factories and laboratories around the world. Gas explosion in Bhopal, India, in 1984 killed tens of thousands, families still not compensated. Hundreds of workers in Indonesian battery plant suffer from kidney disease and mercury contamination of drinking water.  
Vulcan Chemicals  
CEO: Houston Blount  
POB 530187  
Birmingham, AL 35253 (800) 633-8280  
Major Pollutants: pentachlorophenol, phosphene gas, acids, solvents  
Pounds Released: 73,400,000  
Consumer Products made with Vulcan Chemicals: Diet Coke, Tide, Tidy Bowl, Clorox, dry cleaning chemicals



## Just a Spoonfull of Sugar...

The following is taken from a Fifth Estate excerpt of a dossier circulated by Os Cangacieros, a French group sabotaging the "13,000 project" of new maximum security prisons. The material originally appeared in France in Mordicus and Le Monde Libertaire.

The sabotage operation undertaken against different companies involved in the construction of the new prisons began at the end of April 1989. Whoever accepted to participate in this construction project found themselves, as a result, exposed to a number of reprisals...

From the end of April until the of June, we enter different sites (Aix-les-Milles, Tarascon, Villeneuve-Maguelonne, Pontoise, Maubeuge, Bapaume), where we sabotage the cement intended for the sites using a procedure which is childishly simple. Sugar mixed with cement, in effect, in a proportion of one to one thousand (in other words, one kilo per ton), prevents the cement from hardening...

# Lessons from the Utah Wilderness Battle

BY LESLIE LYON

In early December, the Bureau of Livestock and Mining (BLM) delivered another blow to Utah desert lovers. BLM's final EIS recommends 1.975 million acres of wilderness for the state, only 100,000 acres more than the draft EIS. The Utah Wilderness Coalition, whose wish list totals 5.7 million acres, immediately denounced the Bureau's proposal.

This dismal EIS signals one more round in what may be the nation's most bitterly fought wilderness battle. Since the Utah inventory began in the late 1970's, BLM has sunk to a new low in its neglect of wild lands. Horror stories told by agency employees and critics describe vast tracts of galaxy-class wilderness deleted on pretexts like barely-discernible jeep tracks.

Wilderness advocates were not surprised to learn that BLM's guiding light was its clients' distaste for land protection. When the debacle was made public in the 1986 draft EIS, Utah environmental groups joined forces to restore WSA status to as much lost land in the inventory as possible.

The 37 members of the UWC range in size from the Sierra Club to the Natural Arches and Bridges Society. Acting independently is the Utah Wilderness Association, the party responsible for compromising Forest wilderness down to a measly 800,000 acres. UWC's strategy has been to nationalize the BLM issue, a tactic which has its drawbacks in the peculiar Utah landscape.

Brigham Young forged the local mindset during his iron rule as first Territorial Governor. The era's US Army incursions and polygamy persecutions fostered a deep resentment of outside interference in the Utah psyche. Incidents like the murder of government surveyors by pioneers masquerading as Indians also set the tone.

Today's Utahn, wooed by federal dollars, has called a truce with Washington. The Utah independent streak still manifests itself at times, as it did when the Pentagon coveted much of Nevada and Western Utah for the MX missile racetrack system. Local stoicism turned to fear with the news that MX would disrupt our rural sanctity with 100,000 support personnel. Soon after, the Mormon Church issued a statement of displeasure with MX. Grateful for Utah's unequalled support in the 1980 election, Reagan rewarded the church by killing the racetrack scheme.

When it comes to issues which do not affect Mormon supremacy, the "general authorities" have less to say. The church encourages neither those members determined to protect Zion from godless tree-huggers, nor those who think we should save something for our many youngsters to enjoy. In the absence of guidance from above, Utahns have proven easy prey for wilderness foes.

Wilderness advocates, intent on their national agenda, often seem uncertain how to crusade for wilderness in Utah, and even unwilling. Cynicism can strike even the most optimistic activist in a state where big families and conspicuous consumption are part of the religion. The awesome Utah education budget has led to such irresponsible acts as offering state land in national parks to the highest bidder, conjuring images of McDonald's arches set off by stone arches.

Like their colleagues throughout the West, Utah ranchers and developers exert an influence all out of proportion to their numbers. Here, the landsuckers are even more frightening than their cronies in other states. The Mormon independent streak and the sagebrush rebellion make cozy bedfellows.

With unwitting irony, local ranchers refer to their government servants as parasites. This despite the fact that Utah agencies are packed with cattle dynasty younger sons, groomed to make federal land more profitable for the clan. Pro-wilderness moles within the BLM and Forest Service have to maintain an even lower profile in Utah than they do elsewhere.

Bewildered by the unique local state of mind, "exotic" wilderness activists usually limit their

grassroots outreach to the urban Wasatch Front, where most non-Mormons live. Southern Utah, that charmed land of carved stone and surreal vistas, is regarded as the heart of anti-wilderness darkness by environmentalists.

At first glance, the idea of enlisting southern Utahns in the wilderness battle would seem absurd to an outsider. The opposition portrays us as a happy family of ranchers, loggers and miners, ignoring the fact that only one or two percent of local workers are employed as such. Gaining influence in southern Utah requires much more patience and psychology than it does up north.

Only one key environmental group, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, has an office south of the Wasatch Front. SUWA started out as a grassroots group, but has since evolved toward dependence on outside support and detachment from local opinion. SUWA's present style is typical of the Utah environmental scene.

The Alliance's origins are strikingly similar to those of Earth First! Clive Kincaid, SUWA's first director, became disillusioned as a BLM employee in Arizona. Around a lonely campfire, Kincaid, Grant Johnson, and Robert Weed conceived of an alliance dedicated to protecting Utah's canyon country. The cattle kings of Garfield County were among the first to recognize the new group by hanging its founders in effigy on Mother's Day, 1984.



SUWA's early membership included a high percentage of southern Utahns. Early newsletters came out of the founders' home in Boulder, terminus of the Burr Trail. These newsletters were brash, defiant, and full of exciting war stories. With unflagging energy and his own money, Clive Kincaid launched most of the campaigns the Alliance carries on today.

SUWA soon made a name for itself in southern Utah. One newsletter proudly quoted a wilderness foe who regarded Kincaid and Weed as "two of the most arrogant, self-righteous, fanatical bastards" he had ever met. SUWA's testified opposite local politicians in congressional hearings on Utah wilderness, forced the BLM to give interim protection to omitted WSAs, and fought to stop the paving of the scenic Burr Trail. The Alliance has also tackled issues like forest management, wild rivers, chaining, nuclear waste dumps, and ORV abuse.

Despite a valiant effort, a discouraging number of SUWA battles have come down on the enemy's side. Much of the Burr Trail is now coated with a substance suspiciously close to asphalt; carbon dioxide and other mineral leases proceed apace, and a challenge to the bloated

Moab Jeep Safari ended in failure. The final BLM wilderness EIS is only the latest in a series of setbacks.

The specter of defeat has also haunted SUWA's founders. Clive Kincaid fell victim to enemy machinations when the BLM claimed that a corner of his house lay inside a wilderness study boundary. The media was quick to parlay the allegations into a scandal. In a 1988 Wilderness Society quarterly devoted to slickrock country, Kincaid admitted that BLM persecution hastened his departure from the Alliance. Eventually, he was forced to tear down his house.

The other SUWA founders also suffered reprisals. Long before Kincaid's troubles began, Robert Weed found his well poisoned and his driveway booby-trapped with nails. The Garfield County sheriff arrested Grant Johnson for the sabotage of big yellow machines, although he was never convicted.

SUWA's 1987 shakeup ended in the hiring of Brant Calkin as Executive Director. An accomplished veteran of the New Mexico Fray, Calkin used his Sierra Club experience to recruit new members and big-money contributors. SUWA had a membership of about 1400 when Calkin took the helm. Three years and 200,000 pieces of mail later, the Alliance has 7500 members and a substantial war chest.

Naturally, SUWA's growth emphasis has changed its style. The Alliance now has a Wash-

ington lobbyist, a direct mail specialist, and wealthy tycoons on its board. Direct mail has cultivated the type of member who complains when newsletter denunciations of ecotage aren't scathing enough.

Like their northern colleagues, the present SUWA leadership has taken few pains to woo community support. Brant Calkin once said on camera that since public lands belong to all Americans, the locals are going to get wilderness whether they like it or not. Such statements, though true, can hardly win over people who have an innate fear of meddling outsiders.

Home-grown activists like myself have tried to involve SUWA in local outreach with little success. Calkin's promises to write an article for a local Earth Day series and to seek an environmental speaker for Southern Utah University were never kept. Recently, a foundation gave SUWA a large grant to develop a pro-wilderness video for local viewing. The video has been ready since August, but as of the writing of this article, the leadership has not found time to show it.

Other wilderness advocates, mostly native Utahns, have done more to cultivate local sup-

*continued on next page*

# Save Boulder Mountain from the Forest Service

Descriptions of Boulder Mountain invariably seem to lean on superlatives. It can't be helped. Even the late Edward Abbey, hardly ever at a loss for words, called Boulder Mountain "superlatively scenic."

Rising to more than 11,000 feet, its forest is the highest in North America. The mountain's abundant alpine lakes and ponds offer "world class" fishing, yielding record trout. Huge old growth Ponderosa Pine crown Boulder's slopes, part of an unbroken transition of life zones from arctic-like tundra to slickrock canyons. Deer, elk and antelope graze its meadows while black bear and cougar lurk in the sheltered shadows of its wooded coves and eagles soar above. Several extraordinarily rare plant species are found nowhere else and ancient habitation sites are silent reminders of a long gone Fremont culture.

Boulder Top, the 50,000 acre summit of the mountain — really more of a plateau — is a stark, wide open, lonely place with lake and boulder dotted meadows and stands of stunted spruce. Perhaps the oft mentioned notion that Boulder Top is "a piece of Alaska floating above the Utah desert" best sums up its unworldly feeling. A dramatic volcanic cap rock rim defines the top all around the mountain, providing overlook views the likes of — nothing else...Hike up there and see for yourself, to Bown's Point, Chokecherry, Government, Lookout Point. Better yet, find your own grandest view of them all...Just be sure to look beyond the Henry Mountains for the La Sals a hundred miles to the east or south to the jagged broken horizon that is Monument Valley. Seek out the intricate canyons of the Escalante and don't overlook misnamed Thousand Lakes Mountain (some forgotten cartographer's mistake, the name was originally intended for Boulder Mountain) which rises to the north off a redrock pedestal.

## St. George Slurpee of the Virgin

The Washington County Water Conservancy District (primarily the greater St. George area) drools at the prospect of setting up a plumbing system in the Virgin River basin in Utah that rivals the complexity of the network which supplies to Los Angeles. Judging by numerous proposals set forth by the district, the only good river is a damned river.

District officials overlook the fact that they live in a desert, an area naturally limited by water

### Utah Lessons

port. Congressman Wayne Owens, sponsor of a 5.7 million acre wilderness bill, has taken his case to the people in town meetings, and promises to do so again. Independent activists are using their knowledge of Utah idiosyncrasies to educate their peers and school children.

Local support is out there, waiting in the Mormon independent streak. Outside Garfield County, most people are quite approachable. Activists who work with Utahns have discovered that a surprising number are either fence-sitters or closet wilderness fans. Many southern Utahns are newcomers from more progressive states, especially in the populous retirement mecca of Washington County. Even the livestock lobby has its black sheep. One crusty cattleman I know despises predator control and public lands grazing.

BLM's disdain of thousands of out-of-state wilderness letters proves the limits of a national agenda. It's a rare BLM home boy who would lose sleep over a letter from New York or California. If a barrage of letters came from St. George or Blanding, however, it might even keep him awake in church.

The bleak, influential BLM proposal makes it clear that Utah wilderness groups must take a careful look at their strategy. Before it's too late, let's stop relying on a quixotic Congress to legislate wilderness protection for us, and recognize the importance of local support in saving the lands we love.

But while more and more people are discovering Boulder Mountain, a western wonder outstanding even in Utah, the Forest Service seems reluctant to recognize that this resource offers more than logging and grazing. *In fact, based on ambitious timber plans, you'd think the Dixie National Forest sees the mountain as little more than a wood fiber source.*

To date, live trees have never been cut on Boulder Top. Dead wood has been salvaged over the years, the result of a major Spruce Bark Beetle infestation in the 1920's. *But if the Dixie Forest gets its way, more than 16 million board feet of Englemann spruce are scheduled to fall to chainsaws on Boulder Top over the next five years* in the highest elevation commercial timber harvests ever attempted.

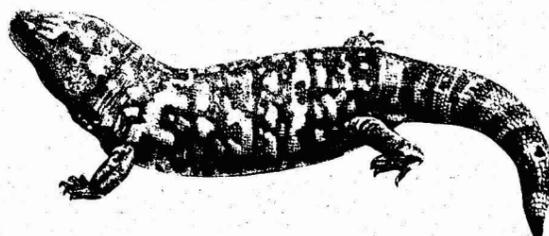
To put this 16 million board feet in perspective, it equals close to 70 percent of the current annual harvest from the entire Dixie National Forest. In terms of area, the 6,800 Boulder Top acres proposed for logging represent about two percent of the Dixie's suitable timber base. Sounds like a lot of wood from one area. And when you see the small, stunted nature of the Boulder Top spruce, two by four framing stock at best, you realize it will take a whole lot of trees to achieve that 16 million board foot target, all according to Forest Service, with "select" cuts. Indeed, it appears most of the trees will have to be selected. Add to this a network of roads and skidder trails, and new descriptions like "sacrifice area" come to mind for Boulder Top.

#### What You Can Do

The first of the five proposed Boulder Top cuts is the Noon Sale (originally called the "Stink" sale — seriously — the Forest Service changed the name, perhaps hoping folks would be less apt to raise one). The Dixie is currently accepting comments for its analysis of this 4.5 million board

availability. They view unlimited water supplies as the conduit to unlimited growth, neglecting arguments that a sustainable society would protect the region's natural features that draw people to the area in the first place. Some of the *ninety proposals* for the Virgin River watershed are now beginning to move forward.

In Zion National Park vicinity, the District is closely examining three potential dam sites: the North Fork of the Virgin River (gateway to the park's famous "narrows" which allow the visitor to wade for miles below towering cliffs); the East Fork of the Virgin River (located within the Parunuweap Canyon Wilderness Study Area); and North Creek. Recently, the District filed for water rights, announcing its intention to build reservoirs on Fort Pierce Wash along the Arizona border and on Beaver Dam Wash within the Docs Pass unit proposed for wilderness in H.R. 1500. For more info, write SUWA, 436 Alameda Ave., Salt Lake City UT 84111. Write the Washington County Water Conservancy District as well. Excerpted from SOUTHERN UTAH WILDERNESS ALLIANCE newsletter



Gila Monster

foot, 1850 acre cut. And yes, we're asking you to send yours...

Foremost, let the Forest Service know if you're opposed to the Noon Sale and make your comments as specific as possible. Provide more than opinions — the Forest Service needs to hear reasons. And remember, whether you've experienced the natural beauties of Boulder Mountain or just hope someday to visit it and find more than stumps and roads — it's your mountain too! Raise your own points, the more the better, though the following concerns seem particularly significant:

1) **Area Analysis.** The Dixie Forest has never developed a comprehensive "area analysis" long range management plan for Boulder Mountain, even though such planning is essential for sound management of such a fragile, unique resource. Tell the Dixie Forest to conduct an analysis, assessing the cumulative impacts, **before** embarking on timber sales.

2) **Wildlife Impacts.** The Forest Service rates Boulder Top as "high priority" deer and elk summer range, but has yet to do a comprehensive analysis on the impacts of heavy timbering.

3) **Regeneration** No evidence exists to show that regeneration will occur at over 11,000 feet, and until adequate studies have been carried out, no cutting should happen on Boulder Top.

4) Forest planners called Boulder Top a "marginal commercial forest" in a 1975 EIS, citing "low volumes per acre, poor timber quality and poor access." The situation has not changed in 15 years.

5) **Below Cost Timber Sales.** The Dixie, which has the largest timber program of Utah's National Forests, also ranks second only to the Ashley Forest in losses from below cost timber sales (a net loss of 727,000 of your dollars in 1989, according to the FS's own reports). Demand that the Dixie complete a thorough economic analysis — showing the true cost of cutting such low value, slow growing spruce at 11,000 feet.

6) **Bark Beetle Control.** The Forest Service is quick to point out this "benefit" by saying that another infestation will be prevented by harvesting Boulder Top. In other words, to save the trees — cut 'em down. Tell them what you think about this highly questionable and too often used "management" rationale.

7) **Small-Scale Salvage.** Seven very small mills in Wayne County have been relying primarily on beetle-killed dead wood salvaged off Boulder Top for 50 years (a steady source of mine shaft props for the coal industry). The Noon timber sale can only hurt small entrepreneurs who, ironically, have long been the ones operating on a scale appropriate for a high desert forest, but they can't compete with large timber companies.

8) **Roads and Off-Road Abuse.** The Forest Service already admits that off-road vehicle use is "out of control" on Boulder Top. More roads mean more off-road vehicle use — and abuse.

9) **Biodiversity.** Express concern for Boulder Mountain's unique mix of species, particularly its rare, endemic plants which to date have not been adequately inventoried.

Again, the most important thing is to state why you are against the Noon Sale. Tell the Forest Service you support the no-action alternative. Send your comments **as soon as possible** to: Marvin Turner, District Ranger, Teasdale Ranger District, Dixie National Forest, POB 99, Teasdale UT 84773. Send copies of your comments to: Hugh Thompson, Forest Supervisor Dixie NF, POB 580, Cedar City UT 84721-0580, and Gray Reynolds, Regional Forester, US Forest Service Region 4, 324 25th St., Ogden UT 84401. For more info, write Boulder Mountain Project, Utah Wilderness Coalition c/o 177 East 900 South, Suite 102, Salt Lake City UT 84111.

(Update: So far, activist response has been tremendous. As one Forest Service employee put it, "We can't sneeze without hearing about the Noon Sale." The Dixie is still accepting comments — let your voice be heard. It is making a difference!)

SOUTHERN UTAH WILDERNESS ALLIANCE newsletter

## You and "Sandulek"\*

With the complete extinction of marine mammals expected in fifty years,  
the end of Canadian wilderness in maybe twenty,  
time is truly measured in less than seconds  
as scientists spend it watching the death of a star that exploded in the age  
of woolly mammoths. I startle upon seeing the unnatural fuzzy green of  
plastic disks taking over a young woman's eyes — she didn't like her own  
but an IBM executive tells me, not joking,  
that it's ok. if all the air and water is polluted—  
as long as human beings go on having longer life expectancies—  
nothing else matters to him.

But your matter fascinates me as you outdo any Supernova  
"tearing the fabric of space"

with your touches in the darkness  
transformed along the lines of my back  
so simply into earth pigment images

of animals  
your touches  
at the base of my neck  
flourishing into expanding lavender flowers.

"Sandulek's" explosion,

I can't feel  
you can't touch  
I can't see  
no one smells  
as I you  
you I.

—RABINOWITZ

\*"Sandulek" is the name of a supernova (star)

## Nuclear Waste Dump for California Desert?

Ward Valley, California, in the desert near Needles, may soon become the site of the only low-level nuclear waste dump opened in the U.S. since the 1960's. The California Department of Health Services (!) is pushing to open this dump, which would accept radwaste from Arizona and North and South Dakota, and have hired the shady firm "US Ecology" (USE) to design the dump. The dump could be opened as soon as the fall of 1991, even though 4000 of the 5000 local residents have signed a petition opposing it. The dump would cover 70 acres, with a capacity of 10 million cubic feet. Minimal procedures will be employed for monitoring possible release of radionuclides into the environment. Contamination of the groundwater is very possible and the Colorado River is only 13 miles away. The area is also desert tortoise habitat.

USE formerly managed disposal sites at Sheffield, IL and Maxey Flats, KY, both of which have been closed due to severe off-site contamination. The Ward Valley dump is opposed by the State Dept. of Fish and Game as well as the State Region 7 Water Quality Control Board. The EPA is concerned about possible migration of radionuclides to groundwater.

The dump would be legally able to accept radwaste from across the country and likely would, since there are few operating dumps anywhere. Twelve of 13 states proposed for major dumpsites have slowed or stopped the development of dumps — all but California. Trucking of radwaste to California from places like New York would be a transportation nightmare. The waste to be stored here would include intensely radioactive material such as nuclear reactor cooling water filters which can deliver a lethal dose in an hour, but which are still classified as "low-level waste." Thirty-nine percent will come from nuclear power reactors, 46% from industry, and 5% each from academic, government and medical sources.

Alternatives such as storing of radwaste at above-ground, monitored, retrievable, on-site facilities should be explored. Burying the waste in the desert will not make it go away.

—Abalone Alliance, 2940 16th St., Suite 310, San Francisco, CA 94103 (415) 861-0592;  
People Against Radioactive Dumping, Box 4, Route 161, Needles, CA, 92363 (619) 326-4318; Redwood Alliance, PO Box 293 Arcata, CA 95521 (707) 822-7884.

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## Freds Want to Open Griz Habitat to Oil & Gas

The Shoshone National Forest in Wyoming is accepting public comment until June 3 on their plan to change their Forest Management Plan and open 66,650 acres of critical grizzly bear habitat to oil and gas leasing. This is the same plan which, when approved in 1986, set this acreage off-limits to drilling because it was considered so critical to the bear's survival that wildlife considerations for the area were put above development proposals. Apparently, something's changed on the Shoshone, and it isn't because all the bears have moved away.

Once again, development pressures have brought the Fredies to their knees before the altar of big oil, at the expense of wilderness and the great bear. Write the Shoshone today for more information, and be sure to get your comments in before the end date: Shoshone National Forest District Ranger, POB 2140, Cody, WY 82414. Information contact: Gary Carver, forester, same address.

## L—P Bad Air

A year ago, Louisiana-Pacific signed an agreement with Colorado's Health Department's Air Pollution Control Division.

Largely written by L—P's lawyers, the agreement set a timeline to complete its application for a Prevention of Significant Deterioration permit. L—P should have gotten this permit before the plants at Olathe or Kremmling began operating over seven years ago.

L—P's strategy has been of delay and dodge. Call for action! Ring up Air Pollution Control Division Director Brad Beckham at 303-331-8500 and Governor Roy Romer at 866-2471 and tell them what you think of L—P. Are you willing to allow this slimy corporation to continue to destroy the air as it destroys the land??? CALL!!!

—MIKE STABLER

## Wao Kele O Puna — Rainforest Action Request

Further destruction of Hawaii's last lowland rainforest is imminent! Permits are about to be issued for the bulldozing of additional wellpads in the Wao Kele O Puna rainforest. Big Island Rainforest Action Group and Pele Defense Fund will be presenting the following statement to Hawaii Governor John Waihe'e: "We are calling for a halt to all geothermal activity in Hawaii until completion of: 1) an Environmental Impact Statement, and 2) the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) process (now in progress) both of which properly address concerns for protection of rainforest, native Hawaiian rights and community health and safety."

Source: Big Island Rainforest Action Group, Pele Defense Fund, Greenpeace Hawaii and others. If you want to lend your support to this message, sign on by fax to Pele Defense Fund (808-935-3551).

—MALAMA I KA WAO KELE: Protect the rainforest!

## Walden Pond Assaulted by Greedy Developer

BY JOE CARMICHEL

*"What an ample share of the light of heaven each pond and lake on the surface of the globe enjoys" — Henry David Thoreau, Walden*

Henry David Thoreau, the New England naturalist and defender of the simple, ecologically-sound life, is spinning with spastic intensity in his grave.

Walden Pond and the surrounding woods, where Thoreau lived and was inspired to write *Walden*, is facing a dire threat to its existence as an undeveloped parcel of land. Walden Woods, which lies only thirty minutes from Boston, is at the center of a debate between publisher and developer Morton Zuckerman and a coalition of environmentalists.

Zuckerman, owner of *US News and World Report* and *The Atlantic* magazine, plans to build an office park on the 18.5 parcel of Walden Woods he owns.

The Walden Woods Project—a group of local conservationists and celebrities headed by singer Don Henly, is attempting to preserve the 40% of Walden Woods which remains unprotected.

The 2,680 acres encompassing Walden Woods is a combination of protected state lands and private development interests. Owners of many of the smaller private inholdings have indicated that they will restrict development on their sites if Zuckerman's project is stopped. The conservationists have already halted a condominium development in another area of the woods by buying 25 acres from owner Philip DeNormandie for \$3.5 million.

The Walden Woods Project has offered to buy Zuckerman's land for its appraised value—estimated at between \$1 million and 3 million. But Zuckerman has steadfastly refused to sell for anything less than the purchase price of the land

plus incurred legal, architectural, planning and tax costs: a total of \$7.4 million.

Members of the Walden Woods Project assert that Zuckerman's price is "laughably high." They claim he is trying to force the charity to "bail him out of a bad business deal," according to project director Kathi Anderson.

Walden Woods has already been blighted by a trailer park, a landfill and a major highway, which border the woods on three sides. However, the trailer park is being phased out as tenants leave and the landfill is slated to be replaced within a decade. The hope is that "one hundred years from now, Route 2 won't be there either," said Thomas Blanding, founder of the Walden Pond conservation efforts.

The value of Walden Woods lies in its symbolic importance, say local environmental activists. "If Walden Pond is lost to development, we can safely say that the forces of greed and short-sightedness have nailed one of the final spikes into the coffin of Eastern Wilderness," said a recent Boston-area Conservation Coalition statement.

"They can make whatever argument they want, but this is a free country...I prefer to concentrate on what I call 'the built environment'" said Zuckerman.

**What You Can Do:** If you would like to see Thoreau's wilderness inspiration remain undeveloped, let Mortimer Zuckerman know how you feel. Offer to cancel your subscription to *US News and World Report* and *The Atlantic* until he honors the wilderness and Thoreau's memory by selling his Walden Woods landholdings to the Walden Woods Project for its appraised value or, better yet, donating it. Write today: Mortimer Zuckerman, c/o Ed Linde, Boston Properties, 8 Arlington St, Boston, MA 02116

# Happy Anniversary, Exxon

BY LJ EVANS

The captain steered the boat out to the reef and anchored, then we waited for midnight. More specifically, we waited for 12:04 am, when we could commemorate the second anniversary of the grounding of the *Exxon Valdez* on Bligh Reef in Prince William Sound, Alaska.

Twelve people, all of them in some way deeply involved in the response to America's largest oil spill, came together on the afternoon of March 23, 1991, in Valdez to recognize the second anniversary of the spill. It grew from conversations about "We gotta do something to celebrate the anniversary!" into a boat trip out to the very spot the tanker ran aground. The gathering grew out of our need to remember, and to acknowledge that we must not forget.

The group consisted mainly of people who work for the State of Alaska or who worked for the state during the cleanup, though none had worked for the state before the spill. There was a chemist working on the secret natural resource damage assessment studies, a couple of state beach monitors (the people who went toe to toe with Exxon and Coast Guard reps to insist the beaches get cleaned right), the director of a local conservation group who conducted beach surveys for the state during the early days, along with his wife, who also briefly worked for the state, a pilot who flew out into Prince William Sound to pick up live oiled birds so they could be washed, a woman who met the pilots when they came back to Valdez, another woman who washed otters, and a fisherman from Cordova with a woman who got laid off from a summer cannery job because the fishermen couldn't fish.

We were a motley crew, and we wanted to have a party. It's not that there was anything to celebrate exactly, but the spill had changed each of our lives so dramatically it seemed fitting and important to commemorate it somehow. We had all been in the trenches, one way or another, and a strong bond developed. The woman who worked at the cannery found out about the boat trip on Friday afternoon and drove hard all Saturday morning to get to Valdez on time. I found out about it on Friday afternoon also and made a plane reservation for the next morning. There was no way I was going to miss this boat ride.

A couple of people who ended up on the trip had to be persuaded. I called up one of them from the docks and said "You've just got to come. This is going to be a historic cruise. There are times in your life when things are big and important and you have to grab hold, and let the little things take care of themselves for awhile."

In fact, that's the way most of us have lived quite a bit of the last two years.

Everybody brought booze. It was amazing. We lined it all up and took pictures. Seemed like everyone brought some beer or wine, and there was even a bottle of mescal. I don't know why, but we all seemed to think the booze was appropriate, though very little of it was actually consumed. The mescal stayed unopened.

We got out to the reef about 6:30 pm. We drove the boat around, the captain watched his depth gauge, and we tried to figure out exactly

where the ship made the first of its two impacts. There's a Coast Guard marker now where the *Exxon Valdez* hit the second time, impaled on a pinnacle of the reef, more than half of her cargo holds gouged open and bleeding black crude oil.

We told lots of jokes and there was lots of laughter and lots of war stories, too. That's what it's been like — a war. We talked about serious things, talked about other people who have gone on to other things. We all gathered on the back deck after the captain put the anchor down, and we made a toast or two. I'd had a couple glasses of wine and don't remember exactly what was said, but it was a mixture of funny and sad. We weren't celebrating, we were commemorating.

I took pictures of the new marker, and I could clearly see the old one, the buoy that has been there for years and years. It marks the outer edge of the reef, the point a ship with a draft as deep as a fully loaded tanker doesn't ever, ever want to go beyond.

As the afternoon became evening and it got dark, I could see the lights on both the buoy and the marker. They blink in asyncopated rhythm. The new marker is a fixed tower attached underwater to the rock. It rises maybe 15 feet above the highest tide line. The Coast Guard didn't really think it was needed, and I agree. In all the newspaper stories they called it a well-marked reef, and now it is even more well-marked. The Coast Guard put the new one there in 1990 because the public wanted it, not because it was needed. The crew of the *Exxon Valdez* could see the old buoy just fine.

The weather was calm, just like it was two years ago. During the 7 hours we were anchored there, two loaded outbound tankers, one empty inbound tanker and a state ferry went by in the tanker traffic lanes, about a mile and a half away. The tankers were all escorted by a pilot boat in front and two spill response vessels in back. Too bad those guys weren't there two years ago.

Some people pooped out as the evening went on, but everyone was up again and we all went back out on the deck as the hour approached midnight. One person read a short poem he'd just written about why we were there. I tried to take pictures, but I had forgotten my flash and knew I was wasting film. We turned out all the lights except the running lights and looked up at the sky. Sure enough, as if on cue, the *Aurora Borealis* appeared. Sheets of pale green shimmered and writhed across the sky. Towards the east, a streak of red appeared. Red is a rare color for northern lights, and we talked about what it could portend.

Finally, it seemed like we'd finished whatever it was we came to do. We were satisfied, the evening had unfolded itself from the barest and most sketchy of plans. We had remembered together the pain and the laughter. We all grieved, and there was really no comfort.

All we can do is work together, in all our widely disparate roles and walks of life, to try to make sure it doesn't happen again.

The odds are against us.

# Reflections on Oily Waters

BY MICHAEL LEWIS

It's been two long, dark winters since the day Exxon killed the waters. I would've thought I'd get over it by now, but I haven't.

I didn't go to Bligh Reef; I didn't go to Alyeska and shout the obscenities I felt welling up inside me. I didn't go to Exxon and splash oil on their pretty corporate sign. Other folks expressed their continuing outrage in those ways, but I didn't.

The Native people who live around Prince William Sound still cry over their loss. The shellfish, the seals, the kelp, the birds, the living things large and small that used to share their world are still there, some, but not in the uncountable numbers there used to be, before Exxon killed the water.

The people feel the loss, deep inside. It comes to the surface in salt water, through the eyes that saw the death, two long, dark winters ago, of the salt water that bathes their world. They survive, sort of, like the wolf who paces the fence that bounds his once unlimited world.

When is a wolf, deprived of his ability to hunt free, no longer a wolf?

I remember the day the black death covered the waters of Prince William Sound, when the sea otters, the cormorants, the murres, the seagulls, seals and sea lions fled the waters that gave them life, fled in pain and fear and died terrible, long deaths, in agony. I remember the murre who could no longer stand upright and toppled face forward into a pool of oil. I remember the loon, covered in black slime, who stood on the rocks taking deep labored breaths, and cried, and cried. Their bodies covered the shores in twisted, black caricatures of living beings, each one of the millions a curse on the lives of those who had killed them.

The victors, now, smirk in their towers of glass. Not satisfied with the deaths of millions of mere animals, they put on a war for the amusement and edification of the cheering masses, a war that killed thousands of human beings and that continues to kill, women and children, as their world chokes them in swirls of oily clouds.

In the papers today, the smiling fat cats in their three-piece suits say it's over now, we gotta put it behind us and look to the future. Wally and Larry and the Feds made a deal, and don't you worry about it, little people, we'll take good care of you and make sure your Dividend Check arrives on time. Check's in the mail. Check your fingers after you pick it up.

They check their maps and draw their Xs in the Chukchi Sea, the Beaufort Sea and Bristol Bay. And beneath those Xs the seals, the walruses and the whales draw out their lives in crystal patterns of ice and water, green and white.

Wally and his band of Old White Men chuckle over the deal they made for themselves. Larry sits in his black tower and counts his billions, piling it in heaps and heaping it in piles. George sits quietly in his ivory tomb, stacking the bones in neat red rows, polishing his toys for the next round of play.

In Prince William Sound, we who take note of this day feel the breath of the millions who died two long, dark winters ago. We are weak, mortal humans, but our task is clear. We are few, but we are very, very angry. EARTH FIRST!



# Big Bend National Park is Fer Shit

BY DAVID TEAGUE

Cow shit, and lots of it. On Thursday, March 28, 1991, three EFlers cleverly disguised as ill-smelling, drunken, under-equipped campers observed what appeared to be moo-cows relieving themselves on the Santa Elena Canyon road in Big Bend National Park. The three Earth First!ers, on leave from their duties at the University of Virginia Earth First!, know that these were in fact *not* bovines, because cows are not allowed inside the park. They figured this was just a desert mirage, complicated by dirty Land Cruiser windows. Cows, you see, have a knack for destroying fragile, pristine desert ecosystems by eating up all the plants, pissing in the water, and cutting trails all over easily-eroded hillsides, and so are not welcome in desert preserves.

After cleaning the windows of their car with the backwash of several Hamm's beer cans they happened to find on the floorboard, the three were able to ascertain that these were indeed cattle. They had pointy horns and said "Moo!" when hit in the head with rocks. Erik, David, and James, as the three campers called themselves, then proceeded to chase the cows through the creosote bushes (for these were the only plants left in that part of the park) in an effort to give them heat stroke or to cause them to run off a cliff. But neither thing happened. So the Earth First!ers drank tequila and plotted to fill the cows and the Park Service with hot lead the next day.

Instead of doing that, though, they just went to the Park Headquarters to ask some hard questions. "Why the fuck are there cattle on our desert out there?" they asked the Rangers while offering as evidence two brown and crumbly cow patties and one soft green one.

The Rangers explained "Get that shit off our desk."

The Earth First!ers said "Can we please see a naturalist capable of explaining why we found fecal matter like this over a ten-mile stretch of the damn park?"

The Rangers said "Well which naturalist would you like to see?" and Erik, James, and David said, "The goddamned doo-doo naturalist, which one did you think, you stupid lazy-assed, park-killing, job-falling-down-on, cattle-ignoring, kickback-from-rancher-taking-slimy-sacks-of-turds." Then the EFlers were put out of doors along with their cardboard box full of cowshit.

Later, Ranger Smith came out there and told them a few things. It was sort of like question and answer time. Here is how it went:

EFlers: Why are there at least thirty cows in the park and why do they appear to have been for years and how have they managed to cut hundreds of trails and leave tons of cow shit around here without your noticing them and why do they have a brand that looks like this and why...

RS: Whoa there, you stinking, drunken bums, let me get a word or two in edgewise. Now we *have* noticed those cows around here. In fact, there's one cute little blonde and red one I've had my eye on. But



Photo: James Barnes

Erik submits evidence of bovine inhabitation in Big Bend NP to the delight of incredulous tourists.

they will just have to *stay* around here. There is not enough money in our three million dollar budget to get rid of them. Up until about six months ago, the USDA had a man in the park who rounded them up, put them on a truck, and took them to Presidio where their owners paid a fine to get them back. But now the guy has quit his job, and the cows stay.

EFlers: Well, he was doing a pretty sorry job to begin with if he has only been gone six months. Those cows have been here for years to judge by the system of trails they have trod out for themselves, not to mention the amazing abundance of cow-patties all over the Rio Grande bottom. What the hell do you have to say to that?

RS: Well, actually maybe he didn't do such a good job. But so what? It's pretty hard to keep cows out of here what with all that unguarded border between Big Bend and Mexico. It's just not fair to expect us to spend all our time keeping a bunch of illegal alien cows out of the park, especially when the whole Border Patrol can't even keep illegal alien *people* out. It's just too hard, and it costs too much money and the budget is tight and we have all those parking lots to pave for RVs to park on and oh, my... (Here the transcript shows a series of deep sobs followed by moans and vaguely coherent blubbers involving various unsavory acts of love committed upon barnyard animals.)

EFlers: Stop crying and get your hands out of your pants, Ranger Smith. If you can't afford to get rid of them, then why don't you just shoot them? Bullets are pretty cheap, the cows are clearly trespassing, and once you shoot ten or twenty, it's pretty likely that their owners will take more care to keep them where they are supposed to be. Or haven't you thought of that, you stupidly complicit advocate of the destruction of the desert ecosystem?

RS: Actually, we've thought of that. In fact, I suggested it myself, personally, to the Park Director while I was massaging his buttocks a while back. But in light of our country's present interest in keep-

ing relationships with Mexico friendly and warm, we just can't shoot any Mexican cows right now.

EFlers: So in order to keep alive our national chances of appropriating the country of Mexico and its natural resources wholesale, we've got to keep a bunch of Mexican ranchers happy by allowing their cows to destroy the last best Chihuahuan desert in the world? To keep George Bush and his shiny dome-head on the path to imperialist glory we've got to camp in cow shit when we escape to the wilderness? Fuck that, we're going out to shoot some cows ourselves. But first, can you tell us why there is raw sewage running out of a pipe into the Chisos Basin pour-off?

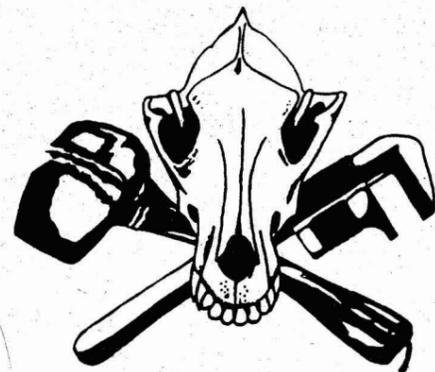
RS: Ah, yes, well, no, that is not actually running out of a pipe, you see. The pipe is there to bring water up to the basin out of the desert floor, so they can wash the milkshake maker at the Hotel and Restaurant up there. Also water the horses at the remuda, water thirsty campers like yourselves, and carry away nasty camper dookie from the several bathrooms around the basin. That's what that pipe and valve you see on the window trail are for. To draw water out of the desert so people can utilize it. Now as for the sewage in the creek, well, that comes from a leak in one of the cesspools we've built down below the campground. Nobody knows why the thing leaks — maybe because there is a hole in it — but the State of Texas came out and looked at it and said that it's OK. So that there is an approved sewage leak. Nothing wrong with it a-tall. The increased diversity of wildlife downstream from it is just an added bonus. You get all kinds of flies, and a whole lot of slime in the creek to

look at that never would have been there otherwise. Green algae, red algae, and funny smells, too. So stop bitching and get the hell out of the park. And take your box of cow shit with you. Be thankful you came in 1991 instead of 2001, by which time we will have paved the entire 10,000 square miles and installed RV hookups every ten feet, as far as the eye can see. Relax, go on over to McDonald's for a burger, and forget about the cows.

EFlers: Wait! You damned idiot! We're not finished yet! Have any of you noticed that there are thousands of hikers going around the desert here drinking up all the water from the springs that the wildlife used to drink from? Did it ever occur to any of you to tell people to bring their own water instead of stealing it from the Colima Warbler, which nests only in one small canyon here in Big Bend? Did it? Huh, did it?

RS: Well, now, you know that the Colima Warbler is *not* endangered. So why the hell are you so worried about it? What I always say is, if it ain't broke, don't fix it. And anyway, even as we speak, the Park Director has some of his favorite Rangers at work making a slide show which will vaguely encourage people not to litter so much, not to use so much water, and not to drive their four-wheel-drive vehicles through Peregrine Falcon nesting areas unless they *really* think it would be a lot of fun and they would be sad if they didn't get to. So you see that we're doing everything humanly possible to address the problems you've brought up today. Now leave.

So the Earth First!ers, James, Erik, and David, set him on fire and went to Burger King to eat.



# Greater Yellowstone Bison Update

In order to relieve the pressure and tainted image Montana currently "suffers" due to the killing of wild bison, the State of Montana's Department of Commerce, along with the urging of sportsmen's groups and cattle industry pews, effectively forced the issue of population control upon Yellowstone National Park by persuading the Montana State Legislature to end the sport hunting of bison in Montana. Think they're safe in the national park? "Under the auspices of a National Park Service research project, Yellowstone National Park will remove, through shooting, 25 bison (cows, most pregnant with nearly full-term calves) from the Yellowstone Bison population," quoted the Executive Briefing Statements of Operations Plan.

The Fund For Animals (FFA) brought a lawsuit against the research project four days before the killing was planned, obtained a temporary restraining order at noon the day the killings began (Three pregnant cow bison were killed) and three days later, April 11, the Park announced it would drop plans to kill bison for brucellosis research. Looks like the bison in the park are relatively "safe" for at least this spring and summer, largely due to the efforts of bison activists in Montana, the EF!BI (Earth First! Bison Intervention), the Hunt Saboteurs, and the FFA's legal challenges. Billy, Babette, and little Bam-bam Bison extend their not-shot-through-the-heart thanks to you all! Y'all come baaack soon, ya hear? Let us not forget the two activists who still face sentences for intervening, harassing, and "insulting and provoking" during the hunt in March, 1990. (see *Bison* article in *Brigid '91* for background information)

The bison situation continues to be a public lands grazing issue. A fundamental problem in Montana is that bison are viewed as just another kind of cow, and management agencies try to use techniques that work with cattle on bison. But bison are a Pleistocene mammal and an anachronism from that world and time, and cattle management doesn't apply! Besides, Gaia's "management tool" — natural selection — and predation (wolves), are the only "management" the bison need inside the park! Outside the park, the whole western US is a badly-overused cow pasture with antiquated laws designed to maintain an obsolete frontier tradition. Cows are exotic aliens to the Greater Yellowstone, a mere

commodity, a cash crop. Like the slaveholders in the South, the cowboys of the West must give up their traditions and immediately change their lifestyles!

The Park must immediately recognize a complete ecosystem rather than a political boundary. The Park must phase out the winter operation with complete closure of all groomed trails by winter 1993. Not only are crotch rockets a loud and obnoxious infringement upon the winter sanctuary and serenity of Yellowstone, the groomed roads they run on provide unnaturally easy migration routes out of the deep snow-bound park interior. The bison's summer range has expanded because of the fires of '88, but adequate winter range has never been "available." If the snow-covered roads were not groomed, the snow would effectively eliminate the easy energy-saving routes out of the park. Predators and natural winter kill would keep the herds healthy, eliminating the perceived need for human management and control.

The federal government, or someone with lotsa greenbacks, should buy up all state and private lands necessary to provide bison with winter range outside the park. They did this for elk in the '20s — the park used to be square in the northwest corner — why not now for the bison? The Forest Circus should cancel all grazing leases which conflict with the winter migration needs of the bison. This will benefit both the bison and the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem as a whole. If the cattle people are really so concerned about the bison busting fences, trampling shrubbery, knocking over hay stacks, and robbing their pastures of grass, they would simply move their kowz out of the ecosystem! CATTLE FREE

IN '93! BUFFALO PIES, NOT COW PIES! Write Yellowstone National Park and demand that it shut down its winter operations: Stupor-intendent Barbee, POB 168, YNP, WY 82190. Phone: 307-344-3781 ext. 2303 or 2209.

For more info, please write: Yellowstone Bison Watch!, POB 1733, Bozeman, MT 59771.

—FIRE GRIZZLY



## I DREAMT OF BUFFALO LAST NIGHT

*shelled and naked they litter the plains,  
our hearts, our minds.*

*splatter-shot holy mounds glowing blood-red and moon white  
like moon children shot down from a summer sky,  
bloating sour on an empty earth.*

*we step over them on our way to school  
drink in the stench and spit in their empty eyes.  
we don't hear the wailing.*

*one buffalo two buffalo three buffalo four...  
knock'm up, shoot'm down  
take'm down, boys, take'm down.  
line'm up cross-hatch just north of the medicine wheel  
gun fuck bang precious prizes for empty souls.*

*black slick buffalo beneath the ground  
take'm down, boys, take'm down.  
just show us the spots that aren't sacred and we will  
drill the buffalo anyway.  
all we want is the skin off your back  
it says so here in the contract.*

*precious prizes for empty souls.*

*a new buffalo robe for you, my sweet.  
let's hang them on necklaces in the galleria  
or wrap them ion plastic for later on.*

*sand—swept mounds of rot in the desert  
the amazon wilts in the stench.  
jungle buffalo weaving intricate patterns in red and gold and blue  
take'm down, boys, take'm down*

*precious prizes for empty souls.*

*empty eyes search the midnight sun  
ghost white horns point north  
we step over them on our way to school  
the undulating echoes through their bloated bellies  
and into the backs of our dreams.*

*the wind, she caresses their bare bloodied bodies and slips, wailing, between their  
moon-white horns.*

*why, she wails  
why oh why?*

—MARTHA SCANLAN



## Mexican Wolf Recovery

The Mexican Wolf Recovery Team wants — no, needs to hear from YOU! The issue of wolf reintroduction in the Southwest is "on the front burner," and the USFWS is preparing an Environmental Assessment on the proposed experimental release of the Mexican wolf into New Mexico and Arizona. The catch word is "experimental," and it refers to the designation of "experimental population" that would curse those wolves.

A 1982 amendment to the ESA allows for this designation, and even allows wildlife managers to deem the wolves essential or non-essential to the species' existence. The amendment states that such a designation can be authorized only (a word wildlife managers tend to forget) if that designation will "further the conservation of the species." This designation is considered necessary, because it will allow for greater flexibility in managing the four-leggeds (read, wolves to be killed for a myriad of reasons). The proposal being discussed in the EA is that of an "experimental, non-essential" population.

**Wolf recovery is Not and Experiment.** It's a federal program that is needed for ecological and ethical reasons, and is backed up by the Endangered Species Act. Nor are these wolves non-essential. If you don't believe me, ask the wolves! The non-essential, ecological experiment is the livestock industry, for whom the 1982 amendment and this particular designation was established to protect. We need to tell the USFWS, which has the responsibility to recover the Mexican wolf, that the experimental, non-essential population would be a political designation that has nothing to do with the conservation of the species. Earth First!ers in Arizona told the USFWS at a Tucson public meeting that they support wolf reintroduction under the full protection of the ESA. **Please write to the Regional Director of the USFWS (POB 1306 Albuquerque, NM, 87103) by May 15.** If you want to see a copy of the "Proposed and General Plan for the Experimental Release of the Mexican Wolf" upon which this EA is being based, call Dave Parsons at 505-766-2914.

—THE PREDATOR PROJECT

# Chipping at The Heart of the Tennessee Valley

The TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority) and the US Army Corps of Engineers, long-time culprits of ecosystem destruction, are gearing up plans to rape, ruin, and export the heart of the Tennessee Valley further. Plans calling for the installation of six chipper mills along the TVA waterways (formerly known as the Tennessee River) are in the process of being reviewed and implemented. The mills planned for construction will each consume a minimum of 10,000 acres of forest annually to support their habits of "economic stability." But these are only the most local chipping mills. Over the last twelve months TVA has received requests for assistance in siting seventeen such mills, some southwest of Chattanooga, in Alabama, and in Georgia. TVA states that if the four mills in its part of the region are constructed, they will consume 1.353 million acres of forest within a 75 mile radius of Bridgeport, Tennessee, over the next twenty years.

According to TVA Division of Forestry, the forests can be put on 20 year cutting cycles because trees of any size can be utilized by chipping mills. (Fucking Wonderful!) Clearcutting would be the primary method of harvest (of course). Officials state that over 25% of wood chips would be exported to Asia, mainly Japan and Korea. Realistic figures will be much higher.

Edward Abbey once wrote that a dammed river is a dead river. While this is more true in the desert climate of Glen Canyon, there is a slower, more tortuous death occurring here in the Southeast. These rivers are not dead, only extremely constipated, plagued with respiratory problems and succumbing to cancer. TVA recently installed an electric aerator in a reservoir to prevent it from becoming a stagnating sediment trap. (Sounds natural to me.) Watts Bar Lake "Home of Nukelier Fishin" is home for many cancer and tumor-ridden fish as well as being a site for a chipper. These rivers are calling out for some holistic cure, a flooding enema to cleanse their bowels. Heh! Heh! Heh!

A little background on the "Valley Authority" (what a posture of arrogance!) might show the roots of its bad habits (such as damming the river for nine different reservoirs). TVA was conceived in the 1930s to help a recovering economy protect its interest from flooding as well as to provide employment. Later with the assistance of the Army Corps of Engineers, measures were taken to milk the river for hydro-power. Lake Fontana was made to provide energy for the little town of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, at a time when a massive project (later known as the Manhattan Project) was underway. Yes, the Little Tennessee and Nantahala Rivers were dammed to build "The Bomb."

Now TVA spends its time writing piddley Environmental Assessments (EAs) of generic quality and no depth, considering long term regional and global effects. A section of one EA discusses effects on wildlife:

*The most immediate and perhaps most obvious impacts to faunal resources will be the loss of individual smaller, less mobile species during the felling, skidding, and loading operations associated with harvesting. These losses will undoubtedly produce some short term adverse effects on local populations. Larger more mobile species will likely be able to escape the impacts of initial operations and seek shelter in adjacent areas of suitable habitat. However, studies have shown that in the wake of such displacements, there follows a time of intense intraspecific competition, usually resulting in increased mortality and subsequent loss of approximately the same number of individuals as were originally displaced.*

In common English, it is stating that small slow critters will be killed off directly by this project. However, larger, faster critters can run away, but they're toast as well.

Tennessee Wildlife and Resources Association and the US Department of the Interior and the Fish and Wildlife Service recognize 20 endangered (including the white warty back pearly mussel), four threatened, two proposed endan-

gered, and two proposed threatened species as well as 25 other species on the waiting list as candidate species in an area impacted by one mill alone. This is the Parker Towing Facility which would be situated on Lake Nickajack. It is the mill that is in the current state of appeals and processing. Letters and phone calls should be sent out to all involved officials to stop this process in its early stages. One mill is already under construction near Linden, Tennessee, on Lake Kentucky; other mills are in earlier states of development.

Public hearings have drawn crowds of over 700 people against mill construction plans. Folks are waking up to threats to biodiversity. Some folks recognize that the major impacts of this project (which are unaddressed in the EA) are massive soil erosion, increased flooding, destruction of entire watersheds, river, lake and reservoir sedimentation, massive fragmentation and destruction of habitat, perhaps even alterations in future weather patterns. Tennessee Valley is already heavily impacted by agriculture, industry, development, and too many greedhounds in general. I hope folks recognize the extent of destruction that this project will wreak if realized. Losing 1.353 million acres to four chippers alone in 20 years. That is well over the total acreage on the entire National Forests in western North Carolina. Think about that. This will undoubtedly be an ongoing SouthPAW project. So write all these cheeseball officials and tell them to stop this outrage.

Travis Claud, Regulatory USACE, POB 1070, Nashville, TN 37202; Senators Albert Gore & Jim Sasser, US Senate, Washington, DC, 20510; Rep. Jim Cooper, 125 Cannon HOB, Washington, DC, 20515; J.W. Luna, Dept. Health & Environment, 344 Corrdell Hall Bldg., Nashville, TN, 37219; Marvin Runyon, Chairman TVA Board, 400 West Summit Hill Dr., Knoxville, TN, 37902; and Governor Ned McWheter, State Capitol, Nashville, TN, 37219.

—THE DRAGON

## Cheoah Update

The SouthPAW Appeal of proposed timber sales on Cheoah Bald has been denied at the regional level. Chief F. Dale Robertson can still decide against these timber plans. Most folks are already aware of the fight to protect Cheoah and of what will be lost if the timber plans are realized. But in case not, here's an overview:

At over 21,000 acres, Cheoah Bald was the largest area considered for wilderness by the Forest Service in the RARE II study. Roadbuilding has occurred since then. Still the area contains native old growth and is prime black bear habitat. It is home to four listed endangered species, eleven species listed by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission as state sensitive, threatened, or endangered, and eighteen species up for review as endangered or threatened. Cheoah Bald serves as a watershed for the Nantahala River, which is up for designation as a Wild and Scenic River. Cheoah Bald is a key migratory path (especially for bear) between the Smokey Mountains National Park and the southern National Forests. Cheoah would be key habitat for future reintroduction of extirpated species which require large expanses of unfragmented forest. It also contains twelve miles of the Appalachian Trail.

**What we gotta do:** Write Chief F. Dale Robertson, USDA, US Forest Service, PO Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090. You might ask the Chief to uphold the SouthPAW appeal on Cheoah Bald, cancel the timbering plans on Cheoah, close all roads constructed since RARE II, manage Cheoah for native diversity that requires large expanses of contiguous forest and old growth, and leave Cheoah alone. Mention the reasons given above, all of which will be compromised if the heavy logging planned for Cheoah occurs.

—THE DRAGON



The now-legendary **SNAIL DARTER** (*Percina tanasi*) is the 3-inch-long fish that delayed construction of Tennessee's Tellico Dam, which eliminated its primary habitat. Populations survive in a few other rivers. Snail darters are important in their ecosystem: they transport embryonic mussels, which clean the water by straining it through their gills.

## Wilderness Bill for Virginia ?

Congressmen Jim Olin, Rick Boucher, and L.F. Payne are in the process of co-authoring a Virginia Wilderness Bill to be introduced in this year's congressional session. The Virginia Wilderness Committee, a coalition of activists and environmental groups in Virginia, has done the legwork for our politicians and have proposed areas totalling in excess of 90,000 acres, which would double the existing state wilderness total. Public response has been generally positive but misinformation, perpetrated in no small part by paranoid private interests, has caused opposition in some areas.

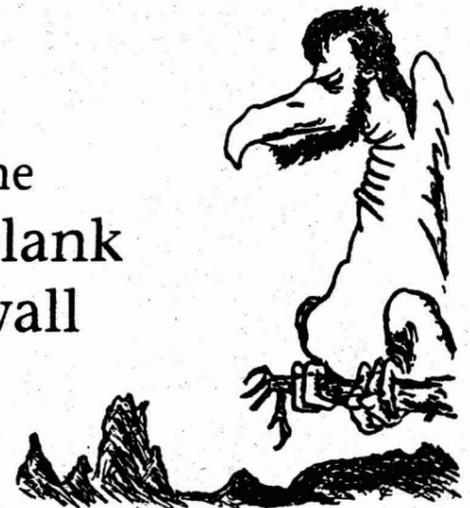
All of the areas located within the boundaries of the George Washington National Forest are specified in the current Roadless Evaluation done by the GWNF staff in conjunction with the Land and Resources Management Planning Process. Areas were recommended on the basis of biological, environmental, and (ugh) political suitability, and were based on the long-term Virginians for Wilderness and Preserve Appalachian Wilderness proposals for "big" wilderness in the Central Appalachians.

All of Virginia's roadless areas need to remain roadless. The Forest Service will not protect these biotic communities unless it is mandated to do so. Now that the bill is in the drafting stages, it is important that your congressperson and senators know of your support for a broad and extensive wilderness plan for the Central Appalachians. Write and/or call your elected representatives *now* and tell them to cosponsor and support the bill aggressively.

Write: Your Representative, House Office Building, Washington, DC, 20515; Your Senator, Senate Office Building, Washington, DC, 20510.

—ERNE REED

the  
blank  
wall



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# The Texas Oasis

The Texas Earth First! Bulletin



Spring 1991

## The Barton Creek Revolution

by Christl Stevens

Of all the places we have fought for, Barton Creek is my personal totem. It is kind of a cosmic reference point, like Ayers Rock must be to the Aborigines of Australia. I learned the names and habits of rare and common Hill Country plants, watched Golden-cheeked Warblers sparring over habitat, and spent contorted hours squirming through Airman's Cave. Then there's the primo swimming holes, and the magic climbs up any of the fern-covered drainages of honeycomb limestone.

Many people share these experiences, and others. But even folks who don't hike the trails love Barton Creek for the gift it bears near its confluence with the Colorado River — Barton Springs. For the last five miles of its course, Barton Creek runs over a very faulted creekbottom. The water runs underground, is purified by the limestone, and joins waters that other creeks — Slaughter, Bear, Onion, Williamson — contribute to the Barton Springs portion of the Edwards Aquifer. Those waters surface as Barton Springs in Zilker Park, into a swimming pool that is used by hundreds of Austinites and visitors every day in the summer (and even a few in the winter).

Enter the villain: Barton Creek Properties Inc., a subsidiary of Freeport McMoRan and Club Corporation of America, Inc. Freeport is known as the nation's number one water polluter for its fertilizer plant in New Orleans. Freeport's other big contribution to humanity is its massively destructive mining operation in Papua New Guinea. (See Freeport Indonesia article by the Rainforest Action Network.) The sweet guy at the helm of Freeport McMoRan is Jim Bob Moffett, a University of Texas alumnus and a good friend of University of Texas president Bill Cunningham (also board member of Freeport along with Henry Kissinger), which maybe explains why he wants to pick on Barton Creek.

Club Corp. is involved with the development and operation of hundreds of exclusive club resorts. The

CEO of ClubCorp is one of the top ten richest men in Texas, the biggest landowner in Austin, the owner of Franklin Federal Bank Corp. (the largest financial institution in Austin), and the chair of the Texas Highway Commission, our own Robert De[a]dman. Dedman acquired Franklin Federal from the feds through a highly subsidized deal involving three failed S&L's and a lot of your tax money. Franklin is accused of "redlining" east Austin — turning down loan applications in Black and Hispanic communities. The Texas Highway Department, chaired by Dedman, has contracted for South African steel to build a bridge over the Houston ship channel, has the poorest record among Texas state agencies for hiring women and minorities, and, of course, has a contemptible environmental record. Community concerns, endangered species, trees, and aquifers pose no ethical hurdles for the Highway Department.

Put these two illustrious individuals together, and of course you have an environmental disaster planned for Barton Creek. Barton Creek Properties owns 4,000 acres about eight creek miles upstream of Barton Springs. In early 1990, the whole tract was presented to the Austin City Council as a Planned Unit Development (PUD) including 2,538 estate houses, 1,900 apartments, 3.3 million square feet of commercial and industrial development, and four golf courses (to be watered with treated sewage from the rest of the development). The PUD concept was created by a bill pushed through the 1989 Texas legislature by PUD lawyer David Armbrust and State Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos. That law permits developers to incorporate their developments as separate cities if the Austin City Council does not approve their plans. If Barton Creek PUD incorporated, none of Austin's environmental or development regulations would apply, and no doubt the laws of this new city — let's call it McMoRan, TX — would be written to Moffett and Dedman's specifications.

Despite this threat, Austin rose to the occasion. Earth First!, Save Barton Creek Association (SBCA), the *Austin Chronicle*, and the *Polemicist* joined forces in an un-choreographed ballet. EF! printed and distributed thousands of fliers, EF! and SBCA did mailouts, and Jim Hill of SBCA secured radio spots. Tim Jones of EF! gathered particularly damning evidence against the PUD, spending hundreds of "creek hours" doing water quality tests and photo-documentation of pollution being generated by an existing golf course on the PUD. Darryl Slusher & Robert Bryce of the *Chronicle*, and Scott Henson, Kathy Mitchell, and Tom Philpott Jr. of the *Polemicist* did excellent and compelling investigative research on the PUD and its promoters, enraging Austinites from all walks of life.

All of these efforts were rewarded at the June 7-8 City Council hearing. Literally a thousand people showed up to protest the PUD project! Over 800 citizens signed up to speak on the project, only 10-15 of whom spoke in favor of it. For 14 hours straight (!) we kept the City Council awake listening to our testimony. This was truly the most momentous environmental Waterloo in Austin's history. Although the PUD boys had lined up their votes when the City Council walked into the hearing at 4:00 pm, by 6:00 in the morning we had won a unanimous vote against the PUD.

From that point, the developers had several avenues of recourse. First, they could just give up, and donate the land to The Nature Conservancy for a wildlife preserve as just compensation for their evil deeds. (Okay, we really expect them to do that.) They could also attempt to incorporate the property as McMoRan, Texas, or subdivide it; and bring each portion to the City as a separate development. Hedging their bets, they moved in both of these directions.

Meanwhile, environmentalists were not sitting idle. A boycott campaign against Bob Dedman's bank, Franklin Federal, was launched. After a well-attended demonstra-



Mr. Jim Bob Moffett: Sixth highest-paid CEO in the U.S. (\$13 million a year), Barton Creek developer, rainforest rapist, butthead. Graduated from UT "with the highest grades of any football player."

tion in front of their main office, it was estimated that up to a half million dollars of large, money market-type accounts were withdrawn, not including smaller checking accounts.

Various short-lived affiliations, such as the Drop Deadman Alliance (DDA) or the Off Moffett Society (OMS), held rowdy and creative protests against these illustrious individuals. UT Prez Bill Cunningham, trying to improve his pals' public image, honored Bob Dedman with a "Distinguished Alumnus Award." The DDA threw a "Night of the Living Deadman" party at the ceremony, with 20 or so undead-type zombies wearing Bob Dedman masks. Cunningham also got Jim Bob Moffett inducted into the Longhorn Hall of Honor for his unnotable football career. The OMS held a "Longhorn Hall of Dishonor" reception for Jim Bob, chanting "Third String Loser" and "Block that PUD" into the building every time another tuxedo'd participant entered with his fur-bearing pet. At another occasion where Jim Bob attended a reception for a concert he was sponsoring, he was embarrassed by the fact that all of the ushers just happened to be wearing Save Barton Creek t-shirts.

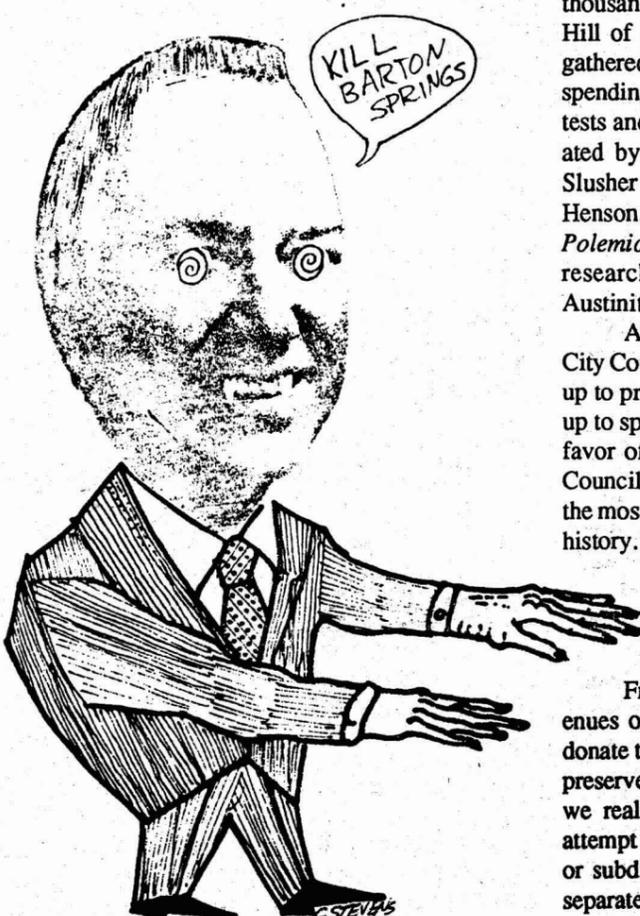
Earth First! also began a petition drive, calling for complete preservation of all undeveloped land in the Barton Creek Watershed. To date, over 14,000 signatures have been collected. At appropriate intervals, these petitions are publicly presented to elected officials as a reminder of the strength of the Barton Creek Revolution.

Perhaps more substantively, environmentalists began pushing for a moratorium on development in the Barton Creek Watershed. At the famous June 7-8 hearing, City staff admitted that the City's Comprehensive Watershed Ordinance (CWO) regulating development was not sufficient to protect Barton Creek and Barton Springs. Later when a "Zero Degradation Resolution" was passed, City staff was directed to draft a new CWO that would achieve non-degradation of Barton Creek and Barton Springs.

Meanwhile we feared that the PUD developers would re-submit portions of the PUD as subdivisions

continued on page 4...

### NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEADMAN



Mr. Robert Dedman: Barton Creek developer, CEO & owner of Club Corp., owner of Franklin Federal Bancorp, Texas Highway Commissioner, zombie.

# Naked Vegetarian Environmentalists

by Michael Fabrizio

People are becoming increasingly aware that many of the activist issues we work on are interconnected. This is important because we may have no hope for success in the long run if we keep attacking the smaller issues (the effects of a larger problem) rather than addressing the cause (the larger problems themselves).

This broadening of perspective has perhaps seen the most action in the area of vegetarianism. A couple of years ago, Carol Adams wrote *The Sexual Politics of Meat: A Feminist-Vegetarian Critical Theory*, which examines women are oppressed by men for the same larger reasons that animals are oppressed by men and by their patriarchal-determined society. And a short while ago, Marjorie Spiegel wrote *The Dreaded Comparison*, which relates the oppression of animals to the oppression of Blacks.

Seeing yet another area in which the base of vegetarian thinking could be broadened, I started a small journal called NAVEL — Naturists Advocating Vegetarian & Environmental Lifestyles. I'd like to give you a brief sampling of some of the ideas behind it here.

NAVEL suggests that environmentalists should be vegetarians, and should accept nudity (even if they don't "practice" it themselves). NAVEL also suggests that naturists (clothing-optional minded people) should be vegetarian environmentalists. Since I'm addressing environmentalists, I'll briefly explain the vegetarian mandate.

Environmentalists should be vegetarians for at least one simple reason: raising animals for food is the single most environmentally destructive practice in the United States. Most true environmentalists are aware that meat is bad for the planet, but are unaware of the staggering degree to which this is true.

The primary reason why animal agriculture is so bad is this: meat production is incredibly inefficient. A steer, for example, consumes 16 times as much grain as it produces as meat. This wastes an enormous amount of land — 260 million acres of forest have been cleared in the U.S. alone to graze cattle or to grow their feed. (That's two and a half times the size of California.) Meat production wastes a staggering amount of water as well — the average American's diet for one day requires 4,000

gallons of water to produce, while a pure vegetarian's uses only 300. You can save 3,700 gallons of water every day just by avoiding animal foods. Since a shower uses about 25 gallons, you save as much water by not eating animal foods for one day as you would save by not showering for five months.

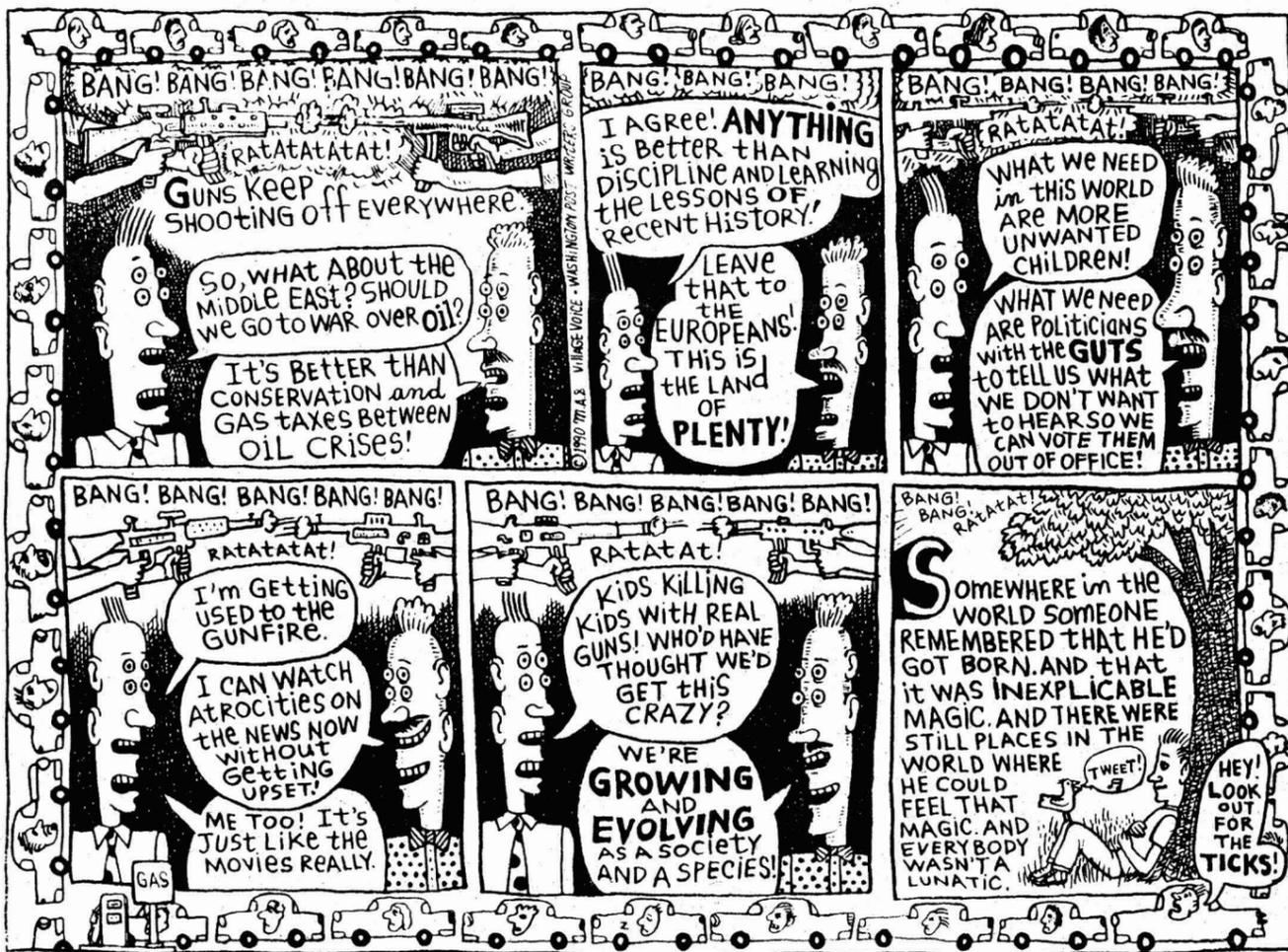
Keep in mind also that there are plenty of other good reasons to avoid meat. First and foremost, eating meat is eating death. Other animals kill because they have to, but humans kill because we want to. Second, you will be much healthier by giving up meat. People argue with me about this, but the best they can come up with is abstract theory. The evidence that vegetarianism is healthier comes from several large studies from all over the world that examined what people actually ate and what their health was actually like.

To get NAVEL, send \$2 for one copy or \$8 for four to:

NAVEL  
PO Box 7382  
Austin, TX 78713-7382  
(512) 453-3424

## WASHINGTON

BY MARK ALAN STAMATY



## Bruce Fox springs Outer Loop group

When nine of us Earth First!ers were arrested last year for locking ourselves to roadbuilding equipment to stop the construction of the Outer Loop, we expected them to throw the book at us. However, we had attorney Bruce Fox on our side. He represented us, *pro bono*, and got all of our charges dropped. Of course, he can't afford to take everyone's cases for free, but if you're going to hire an attorney, then you definitely want someone on your side. Support the lawyers who support Earth First!

Bruce S. Fox  
Attorney at Law

Dowling & Wilson  
2003 North Lamar  
Austin, TX 78705  
(512) 444-4FOX  
(512) 444-4369  
24 hours

# Wilderness Bayou

One of the most botanically diverse areas in North America needs your help. Winters Bayou Scenic Area in the Sam Houston National Forest of Texas is a 710-acre region which contains habitat for rare species such as crane-fly and yellow-fringed orchids, and pileated and red-cockaded woodpeckers. It also contains mature stands of loblolly pine, gigantic cabbage palmetto, a Heron rookery, and resident alligators. The species in this area are too numerous to list. The great variety of vegetation is almost unmatched in any U.S. national forest.

Unfortunately, the official boundaries of this area are too small to properly maintain such genetic diversity. With the acquisition of 130 acres of private land, the closing of one dirt road, and the addition and rehabilitation of some of the Forest Service's pine plantations, you can help expand the Scenic Area into a true Winters Bayou Wilderness. In addition to helping to preserve the area, you will find many ways to have fun in the region, such as bird-watching, camping, photography, hiking, nature study, and canoeing. All these activities, and more, can be enjoyed without having any negative impact on the wilderness. Aspects which can be explored on the private land that needs to be acquired include Indian sites, the world's largest Laurel Oak tree, early white settler sites, and historic buildings.

Saving Winters Bayou from becoming trailer parks or clear-cuts will require YOUR help. Here are some ideas for WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Donate money for land purchases to: Wilderness Club Rt. 3, Box 114 Cleveland, TX 77327
- Write the Forest Service Supervisor to outlaw hunting in Scenic Areas and to end clear-cutting: National Forests in Texas 701 N. First Street Lufkin, TX 75901
- Lobby your senators and representatives for Wilderness designation of Winters Bayou, and to support the Clear-cut Restraint Bill HR 2406.
- Visit the area to hike, camp, carry away trash, etc. Check with the caretakers at (713) 592-7664 to schedule your visit during a time of low-impact.
- Work on displays for a Museum/Nature Center being created.
- Schedule the Winters Bayou slide show to be shown to your civic club, conservation organization, etc. Contact the Wilderness Club at the address above.

## The Texas Oasis

is published every so often when we can afford it by Texas Earth First!, POB 7292, Austin, TX 78713-7292, (512) 478-7666. We're very poor and donations are always welcome. This issue doubles as an insert to the national Earth First! journal. Extreme, slobbery thanks to the *Journal* for printing and distributing this dirt cheap. Thanks to the contributors for writing it. Thanks to Neal & Christl for organizing it. Thanks to Vikki for proofreading. Thanks to Roger Baker for providing an extra computer. Thanks to Michael Fabrizio for typing and typesetting. Thanks to other EF! groups for doing their thing. Thanks to Mother Earth for her encouragement. No thanks to George Bush, Manuel Lujan, Robert Dedman, and others too numerous to mention.

# The Llano Estacado Georegion

## by Llano Estacado Earth First!

As a newly formed Earth First! circle headquartered here in the Texas panhandle, we think it important to share a little about our unique tribal territory and the environmental situation out here, primarily because it has not been addressed before. We are located immediately on the Eastern edge of an immense plateau (around 80,000 square miles) known as the Llano Estacado, a Spanish phrase meaning staked plains. About 100,000 years ago the Canadian and Pecos rivers to the west, by the process of headwater erosion, ate through the short-grass prairie of the Southern High Plains, isolating the Llano Estacado as a distinctive georegion. Other rivers, such as the Washita, the Red, the Pease, the Brazos, the Colorado, and the Concho, which all originate on the Plains, had a similar effect on the east side as they formed a complex of beautiful and dramatic canyons comparable, but much less known than those found on the Colorado Plateau.

This massive drainage system which serves as a vital habitat for the majority of our remaining wildlife, historically maintained exceptional biodiversity. At one time they supported bison, pronghorns, black bears, cougars, wolves, wild mustangs, and eagles alongside the many species which remain. Of course, that was before the rancher-herder-farmer-succession that mechanically overgrazed the prairie, stripped off the vegetation, broke up the ground, and destroyed the topsoil. Before our "venerable" pioneers arrived, there existed a fascinating myriad of life dependent on what this fragile ecosystem had to offer, most of which has since been destroyed. Of course, the story of subjugation doesn't stop with agricultural domination. Since the "conquest" of the Llano Estacado, it has been subsequently threatened with oil retrieval, gravel mining, excessive pesticide use, and development. To supplement its demise, we also manifest and celebrate all the "admirable" human institutions that spell out DEATH to nature: Christianity (we're in the bible belt), capitalism, materialism, and, of course, greed and ignorance.

The most prevalent and singular problem, though, is excessive privatization. Despite efforts in the 1930's to incorporate a million acres of scenic and biologically important canyonlands into a national park, public lands remain despairingly scarce. Although there are many millions of acres of these vital habitat areas still in wilderness condition, a measly 30,400 have been "protected" as state parks. We have no substantial national parks, preserves, or the like (save several tiny and scattered wildlife refuges and a token National Grassland — utilized primarily for grazing and recreation), mainly because people don't know the canyonlands exist. Due to the fact that they are below the horizon they are seldom seen and are drastically under-appreciated even when they are. Few realize the ecological significance or the biological value of canyons. And an uncomfortable number of the locals still seem to foster an archaic dislike of wilderness, here in

our semi-desert environment, and tend to vacation in Rocky Mountain condominiums rather than attempt to appreciate their own bioregion.

There is some hope though — agriculture is failing. Studies indicate that the agrarian attempt on the Plains has been nothing short of an environmental disaster. Though the folks here don't want to accept their titanic failure and realize the true negligence of our revered pioneers, time will reveal their mistake. While farmers are pumping our Ogallala Aquifer dry and poisoning our soil with pesticides, ranchers are over-grazing the land and seriously disturbing the ecosystems by killing the natural predators. And of course, this kind of practice won't last because it isn't ecologically sustainable. Luckily, more and more land parasites seem to be leaving the industry due to the economic instability inherent in Plains farming and ranching. Eventually this may mean the prospect of additional public land or at least more ecologically viable utilization.

In an effort to reverse these catastrophes, Llano

Estacado Earth First! intends to promote a more bioregionalistic attitude by encouraging people to appreciate the land, and making people realize that we have treated it unfairly. Fortunately these unhealthy attitudes are changing somewhat — mainly with the help of a couple of recent books intended for that purpose. But never fast enough. We also hope to draw public attention to the environmental problems plaguing the area, and to play a part in enforcing existing laws which protect our prairie and canyon ecosystems and the life that abounds in them. In fact, one of our current areas of focus is the federal open oil-pit law that mandates netting and can save hundreds of thousands of waterfowl every year, but which is grossly under-enforced. In addition, we intend to produce an extended National Park proposal that would encompass some of the more biologically important wilderness areas. Ultimately though, we will give the canyons and grasslands the voice they deserve, and fight for their freedom always. LONG LIVE THE CANYONS!

## Llano Estacado Earth First!

Llano Estacado Earth First! is a newly formed Earth First! circle headquartered in Lubbock and dedicated to the preservation of our Plains and Canyon wilderness. We embrace the No Compromise stance and biocentric beliefs of the national movement, but assert our autonomy and individuality by not being limited by other Earth First! group ideals or objectives. We are ultimately united in our belief that the Earth comes first. As a local tribe with our own objectives, we will:

1. Work toward biodiversity, stress the primacy of wilderness, and promote bioregionalism.
2. Remain at the cutting edge of radical environmentalism — visionary, but not limited by conventional practicality.
3. Continue to be emotional, passionate, and retain a sense of humor.

Llano Estacado Earth First! represents the viewpoints and goals of its participants but does not embrace any particular religion or political philosophy. We appreciate each other's varying beliefs. We are unapologetic advocates for the natural world and all that is wild and aim to defend it in all cases.

The tribal boundaries for Llano Estacado Earth First! will roughly extend north to the area immediately south of Amarillo and south to the area immedi-

ately north of Midland-Odessa. Our boundaries will extend west to the Canadian escarpment and east to the Caprock escarpment. We will also take actions beyond these limits as appropriate. These boundaries will be in effect until another local EF! tribe emerges, at which time we will re-define our respective territories.

We need the support of like thinkers. If you would like to join us, make a donation, be on our mail/phone list for actions, receive our newsletter ("The Canyon Echo"), or if you can help in any way, please contact us. *All names and addresses will be kept confidential, unconditionally. Pseudonyms are welcome.*

Llano Estacado Earth First!  
POB 4733-TTU • Lubbock, TX 79409  
(806) 747-3552

— For all that is Wild and that which should be  
Llano Estacado Earth First!

### To all area EF! groups:

Please include us on any future mailings and keep us up to date on any actions, rendezvous, workshops, concerts, etc. We will be sure to do the same for you.

If you are ever in the Lubbock area, be sure to let us know and we will make sure that you have a place to stay.

## Texas EF! Groups & Contacts

### AUSTIN

Austin EF!  
POB 7292  
Austin, TX 78713-7292  
(512) 478-7666

San Marcos EF!  
1000 Umland Road  
San Marcos, TX 78666

### SAN ANTONIO

William Larson  
9122 Oak Downs Road  
San Antonio, TX 78230  
(512) 342-2520

Kathy Porter  
POB 311712  
New Braunfels, TX 78131

### TEXAS A&M

EF! Out There  
POB 1214  
College Station, TX 77841

### PANHANDLE

Llano Estacado EF!  
POB 4733-TTU  
Lubbock, TX 79409  
(806) 747-3552

### EAST TEXAS

Larry Shelton  
Rt. 4, Box 9450  
Nacogdoches, TX 75961

### East Texas EF!

Rt. 3, Box 113  
Cleveland, TX 77327  
(713) 592-7664

### NATIONAL JOURNAL

To get the national Earth First! journal, send \$20 to:  
Earth First! journal  
POB 5176  
Missoula, MT 59806

## Rattlesnake Roundups

by Michael Fabrizio

Rattlesnake roundups are public festivals held every spring in small towns in Texas, Oklahoma, and now New Mexico. The roundups consist of macho cowboys doing "tricks" with the snakes (such as kissing them, getting out of a sleeping bag full of them, kicking them out of the way with bare feet, and seeing how many stomps it takes to kill one) while announcers provide plenty of disinformation. Rattlesnake meat is usually for sale, and there are craft shows which sell rattlesnake hats, belts, earrings, toilet seat covers, and everything else you could possibly think of. At some shows, spectators can pay to have their picture taken with a snake (whose mouth has been sewn shut so it cannot bite), and at some roundups children can pay for the privilege of cutting a snake's head off with an axe. The roundups are usually held by community groups such as the Chamber of Commerce or the Jaycees, and the money collected is given to charities as an excuse to continue holding the event.

Environmental problems include that gasoline is sprayed into the ground to catch the snakes, and other ripple effects throughout the ecosystem (e.g., unrestrained rodent populations). Ethical problems include that roundups teach that it is killing is

honorable, and that snakes are often caught months before a roundup and imprisoned in cages without food or water.

Roundup participants are not quite so tough when you consider that the snakes are half-asleep from hibernation and half-dead from being gassed. The roundups are held in spring because the snakes are still hibernating and are not as dangerous because they are groggy. They are also suffering the stress of having been hunted out of their dens with gasoline. Many are also weakened from being stored in cages without concern for temperature, bedding, food, or water.

Austin Earth First! joined with herpetologists and animal rights activists in first-ever protests of the Taylor and Sweetwater rattlesnake roundups. The protest in Sweetwater this year saw nearly 100 protesters.

To voice your opinion about rattlesnake roundups, write to the Executive Director and Commissioners of the Texas Parks and Wildlife.

Texas Parks & Wildlife  
4200 Smith School Road  
Austin, Texas 78744

The author would like to thank Jim Seippel for providing much of the information for this article and for being a pioneer rattlesnake roundup fighter.

# The Fight for

## Barton Creek Revolution

...continued from page 1

under the old CWO, thus avoiding new regulations under the improved CWO. To end-run this situation, we sought a temporary moratorium on development applications in the Watershed. After a full five months of pushing and shoving at City Council, we finally got a three-month moratorium, beginning in December 1990, and ending March 1, 1991. However, proving once again that "just because you're paranoid doesn't mean they're not really out to get you," the PUD developers submitted two portions of the PUD, "pod" 9 and "pod" 11, just before the moratorium. These pods, both creekside segments consisting of the best Golden-cheeked Warbler habitat on the property, are now "grandfathered" from the new improved CWO. The road leading to pod 9 was named "Warbler Way (Private Drive)."

By the end of February 1991, the new CWO had been drafted. However, the City Manager, at the Chamber of Concrete's behest, pointed out at the last minute that an Economic Impact (Impasse?) Study had to be prepared for the ordinance before it could be enacted. On the other hand, the developers were threatening, not idly, to sue the City's pants off if we extended the moratorium. They would have all the support they needed from the Austin-bashing bubbas at the Texas legislature. It looked like we were in checkmate. It looked like we would have to let the moratorium lapse, and watch the development applications start rolling in. It looked like another long night at City Council.

Fortunately, someone crafty down at the City found an elegant way out of the checkmate. Turns out, even if the permanent ordinance is still tied wrists and ankles to the bureaucracy, it's okay to pass an interim ordinance. And that's what we did. No, it's not "complete preservation of all undeveloped portions of the watershed", but the developers hate it, so it must be good. Also, at that Council hearing, City staff asked a thorny question: Was the new ordinance to apply to the Barton Creek Watershed or the Barton Springs Watershed? Under the watchful eye of a water-loving citizenry, the Council voted for the Springs. This was no minor technicality. Since Barton Springs is fed by the portion of the Edwards Aquifer supplied by Barton Creek, Slaughter Creek, Onion Creek, Williamson Creek, Bear Creek, and Little Bear Creek, this new ordinance applies to all of these watersheds!

To quickly bring events up to the present, I'll mention that the PUD's attempt to incorporate "McMoRan, Texas" has failed. In order to get enough votes on the incorporation petition to make it valid, the developers had to include Barton Creek

Estates, an already developed neighborhood surrounded by, but separate from, the PUD proposal. Also, the boundaries of "McMoRan, Texas" excluded some parts of the PUD property. Travis County Judge Bill Aleshire ruled that the petition was invalid because the PUD law (House Bill 4) clearly states that in order for the PUD to incorporate as "McMoRan, Texas", the boundaries have to be the same as the original PUD proposal! You have to wonder how the PUD boys could fuck this up so badly. Not only are they paid well enough to think of details like this, but the PUD lobbyist, David Armbrust, was the author of House Bill 4!

Now the Texas legislature is back in session, ready to go to bat for the PUD boys again. At the time of this writing I estimate there must a dozen bills introduced which are written specifically to benefit the PUD developers. A few examples: a bill that opens a loophole in HB4 to allow the PUD to incorporate, a bill that puts a moratorium on moratoriums, a bill that allows a subdivision to be approved by the City's Planning Department with no review by citizens or elected officials, and numerous bills to limit the power of the City's CWO. To name a few names, we're talking about PUD lobbyists Dick Brown, Stan Schleuter, and David Armbrust; Senators Ken Armbrister and Bill Simms; and Representatives Robert Saunders and Mark Stiles, who are principal Austin-bashers. Our local state senator, Gonzalo Barrientos, has been a demagogue for Barton Creek ever since the PUD's historic defeat. He's made a lot of promises regarding legislation he has now introduced titled the "Barton Springs Protection Act". Nearly all those in the eco-community who have reviewed this bill feel it doesn't live up to its name; it actually appears to threaten the little protection the creek is afforded under current law. Cynics such as myself can still remember the last time ol' Gonzo interceded for us at the capitol, regarding the city's Endangered Species Ordinance. His "compromise" made the ESO illegal. How likely is it that any deal

he negotiates will favor the creek? (That was a rhetorical question.)

What about the Habitat Conservation Plan? At this point all I can tell you is that it was recently re-drafted to preserve more of the lower Barton Creek Watershed, including pods 9 & 11 of the PUD, as well as some other properties which are prime Warbler Habitat. This is some pricey habitat to acquire, so we're not expecting miracles since taxpayers are expected to pick up the bill. The acreage added in Barton Creek does not, as yet, total up as a viable Warbler preserve. One twist is the Barton Springs Salamander, which lives only in Barton Springs and is as yet *undescribed to science!* When a taxonomic study now underway is released, we will immediately petition Fish & Wildlife for its protection. Even if the Warbler habitat on Barton Creek is not preserved under the HCP, we may get a second chance to protect it and other watersheds for the sake of the salamanders.

I must point out that Barton Creek PUD is another threat to this ecosystem. I estimate 70-80,000 acres of undeveloped state. Over 4,000 acres of a 125,000-acre watershed is out of the City of Austin as well as out of Austin Ecology. Right now, the Texas Hill Country is losing Barton Springs to their widening of Highway 121. Environmental laws, and the

Barton Creek is the environmentalists. We've fight for it, by the dozen day morning I heard the Warbler of the season Sculptured Falls. In Bar for Mother Earth.

## Barton Springs Salamander

**Description:** Pinkish-brown aquatic salamander generally less than 3" long with reddish external gills, reduced eyes, thin elongated limbs and translucent skin.

**Status:** The Barton Springs salamander is an undescribed species, belonging to the genus *Eurycea*. Its existence has been known for many years, but its status as a distinct species has only recently been established. When it is introduced into the scientific literature and given a full scientific name, it will undoubtedly be a candidate for listing as an endangered species. Dr. David Hillis, a zoologist at UT Austin, is close to completing a taxonomic study of describing the Barton Springs salamander and other related *Eurycea* salamanders of the springs of the Hill Country. The study, delayed several times, is due to be released this summer.

**Neoteny:** The Barton Springs salamander is a neotenic salamander, which means that it becomes sexually mature in the larval stage of its development. Unlike other amphibians, the Barton Springs salamander does not metamorphose into a land-dwelling organism but rather remains in the aqueous environment of the springs and aquifer.

**Habitat:** The Barton Springs salamander is an aquifer-dwelling salamander and has been found only at Barton Springs in Zilker Park. The springs flow from a small limestone aquifer known as the "Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer" because its primary outflow is at Barton Springs.

**Threats:** Pollution of the aquifer and springs due to development in the aquifer's recharge zone is the primary threat to the survival of the Barton Springs salamander. Some say "the

solution to pollution is dilution. Bodies of water, this may be the case, but the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer is small and therefore has much



## Give 'em enough rope...

"I keep thinking about that guy on the cross. I tell myself, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

— Jim Bob Moffett comparing himself to Jesus, and pitying the misguided Austinites who opposed his development. *Texas Monthly*, August 1990

"We're more conscientious on the environment than anyone in that room [City Council]. We have to be. We're in environmentally sensitive businesses all over the world."

— Jim Bob comparing himself to environmentalists *Ibid.*

"The 'fertigation' technique, which supplies various liquid products [i.e., sewage] through the sprinkler system is effective because it gets more of the desired product to the turf by virtue of the water-based application process."

— "The Facts About...the Barton Creek Project" by ClubCorp subsidiary, Barton Creek Properties

"An inspector for the Texas Water Commission recently found sprinkler heads at the Lost Creek Country Club [also owned by Club Corp & adjacent to the PUD] that were spraying sewage effluent into Barton Creek for a week or six months. We just don't know."

— *Austin Chronicle*, Oct. 26, 1990

Dedman said that a heavy rain could sweep a significant amount of the 200 tons of loam that has been spread on the new golf course but not yet covered with grass. A heavy rain "could cause some discoloration, but I couldn't imagine it causing discoloration as far away as Barton Springs," Dedman said. "It's kind of like a little pain for a big gain."

— Robert Dedman *Austin American-Statesman*, July 14, 1990

"It's going to be very difficult to get responsible companies to come into Austin. You would only have kooks attracting kooks."

— Robert Dedman again *Austin American-Statesman*, July 1, 1990

"It hurts a little bit for environmental Johnny-come-latelies to criticize people who have been in the movement for 40 years and are doing something about it."

— Robert Dedman yet again *Austin Business Journal*, July 1990

Lee Biggart does admit that he and his wife get together every Halloween and "come up with a list of enemies of the family we'd like to bury ... I use it for the kids to teach them about friends and enemies." Biggart has three children, ages 6, 12, and 15.

— Barton Creek PUD attorney explaining the tombstones in his front yard bearing environmentalists' names. *Austin American-Statesman*, Oct. 31, 1990

University of Texas [co-conspirator in the Barton Creek and Barton Springs] said the natural science, and government environmental problem with a worldwide environmental movement demands sharp changes to live at all."



# Barton Creek

that all this emphasis on the not to say that there is no ecosystem. The PUD is only 10-acre watershed, of which acres are in a more or less over two-thirds of the watershed of Austin's jurisdiction, as Earth First!'s "jurisdiction". Highway Department is pollution via Gaines Creek through highway 290. The Texas Highway subject to Austin's envy they make the most of it. the long haul for Austin have shown we are willing to forsake the hundreds. Yesterday my first Golden-cheeked warbler on Barton Creek above Barton Springs we drink hope

## U.S. mining threatens Indonesian forest University of Texas may also profit

*Editors' Note: The following article is reprinted from the Nov. 1990 Rainforest Action Network Action Alert #54. It documents crimes committed by Freeport McMoRan, one of the Barton Creek Developers, in another part of the world.*

The Rainforest Action Network (RAN) recently learned that Freeport-McMoRan, Inc., a U.S.-based corporation with a history of gross environmental and human rights abuses in Indonesia, has received permission to expand its gold and copper mining operations in Irian Jaya, the easternmost province of Indonesia and the site of what is generally regarded as one of the largest rainforests on the planet.

The new land Freeport recently gained permission to explore totals some 6.1 million acres, or roughly one-fifteenth of Irian Jaya, and encompasses the traditional homelands of many indigenous rainforest dwellers, including the Dani, Yali, Hupla, and Moni peoples. Many of these people have had little contact with the outside world.

Freeport's record in dealing with such people is chilling. George Monbiot, a BBC reporter, went undercover to report from Irian Jaya in 1987. In his book, *Poisoned Arrows*, Monbiot discusses an existing Freeport mine in Irian Jaya, which was developed on the homelands of the Amungme people. The Amungme lost their hunting grounds and gardens yet were offered no compensation, nor even jobs at the mine. According to Monbiot:

"...the [Amungme] people rebelled, and with stolen dynamite blew up the pipeline carrying the copper ore to the coast. [Their] villages were then strafed by the Indonesian army from helicopter gunships and bombed by [US-made] Broncos; to intimidate the population girls were raped, then killed, slowly, by having sticks thrust up their backsides; soldiers took photographs of each other posing with their feet on the heads of the villagers they shot. American employees at the mine were well aware of what was happening, and seemed to regard it as entertainment."

Later, the Indonesian government forcibly resettled the Amungme to an area contaminated by Freeport mine tailings.

Freeport has long benefitted from a close relationship with the Indonesian government of General Suharto, one of the world's most brutal dictators. Suharto's administration is unambiguous regarding the future of Irian Jaya's indigenous people: It has vowed that "the different ethnic groups will in the long run disappear." The governor of Irian Jaya promises "a new generation of people without curly hair."

Freeport is expected to invest over \$2 billion in expanding its Irian Jaya operations, which is virtually a state unto itself, entirely shielded from outside

monitoring.

### What you can do

It appears that one profiteer in the Freeport venture will be the University of Texas. According to the Indonesian Human Rights Campaign, the university's president, William Cunningham, is also a Freeport director. The university recently entered into an agreement with Indonesia's Bandung Institute of Technology to conduct a geological survey of mineral resources in Irian Jaya. The survey's principal financial sponsor is Freeport-McMoRan, who presumably will be in a prime position to capitalize on the university's research.

Please write letters to the University of Texas and to Freeport McMoRan.

### Editors' Other Note:

Although Freeport has not produced a scrap of evidence that any of the above information is false, they are threatening to sue RAN for printing the article. People who have written to Mr. Moffett or who do so in the future are warned by RAN, "Don't be fooled by Moffett's clever attempt to discredit the information in the Alert. We have met with a team of Freeport executives, and we remain convinced that the tribal people and rainforest ecosystem are indeed threatened by Freeport." RAN describes Moffett's response as "a textbook example of corporate obfuscation." For example, Moffett says that the Freeport mine is above the treeline. He does not say that it affects everything in the watershed below it, with roads, mine tailings, etc. This kind of obfuscation is identical in style to propaganda encountered by Austin environmentalists regarding the Barton Creek PUD. RAN continues, "one line [of Moffett's response] in particular left me awe-struck: 'We find General Suharto to be a compassionate man...' President Suharto murdered more than half a million people to gain control of Indonesia in 1965; the CIA, hardly given to overstating the bloodlust of an American ally, called it 'one of the worst mass murders of the twentieth century.'"

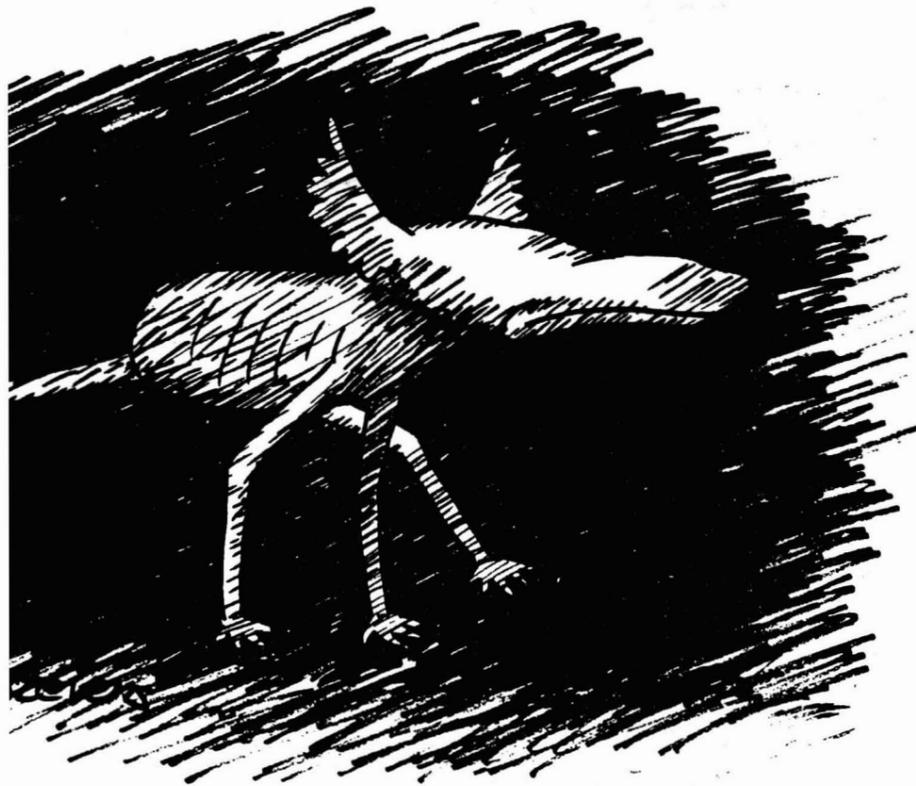
When RAN wrote the above article, they did not have the benefit of having seen the contract governing the research being conducted for Freeport by UT. When RAN says that Freeport will "presumably" be in a prime position to capitalize on the university's research, they are making a profound understatement. The contract governing the research stipulates, "Regardless of any patent, copyright, or other type of intellectual property protection obtained by the University thereon, Freeport Indonesia will have a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free right to use any and all such Project Data..." Furthermore, the research proposal states that the project "will serve as a basis for regional exploration in Irian Jaya and similar settings in the rest of Southeast Asia by Freeport Indonesia, Inc."

Jim Bob Moffett has a very selective understanding of the truth. His tactic is to present a portion of a fact in just the right place to obscure the bloody truth behind it. Anyone who can see behind this smokescreen, and has the guts to say anything, will be harassed with spurious lawsuits, or simply bought. Or, if you are a tribesman protesting the destruction of your native rainforest, you could be imprisoned for months in a steel container from Freeport's mine, as reported by Amnesty International.

## nder

ution", and for many large e true. The problem with this Edwards Aquifer is relatively uch less "dilution" potential

than a larger aquifer such as the San Antonio Edwards Aquifer. Indeed, the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer has been named by the Texas Water Commission as the aquifer in Texas most vulnerable to pollution. With its external gills and thin skin, the Barton Springs salamander cannot tolerate pollution in its water supply. Its survival depends on a clean, clear water supply in the aquifer and hence, in the springs.



President Bill Cunningham has planned destruction of board member of Freeport] sciences, engineering, geogra[ departments can help with oblems. "We are confronted nvironmental crisis that des in the way we live, if we are

Daily Texan, October 17, 1990

## Barton Creek Properties slams EF!

reprinted without permission from "The Facts About Freeport-McMoRan, ClubCorp International and the Barton Creek Project," by Barton Creek Properties

All across the country, people are becoming more concerned about our environment — with our air, how our land is used, global warming, and clean water.

This is good.

However, radical groups have taken advantage of this positive sentiment among well intentioned people to promote their own interests of stopping all progress. They are willing to do and say anything to get their way. They obscure the real story and don't let the facts get in their way.

We urge you to scrutinize these radical groups who have been at the root of this false propaganda about our companies in this project. Scrutinize them as you scrutinize us. Look at their record; the national articles attached speak themselves. Compare our records as responsible companies and their record of violence. Ask yourselves — who deserves your support?

Look at these articles:

[They then run an article from *The Wall Street Journal* titled, "Earth First! Group Manages to Offend Nearly Everybody," which goes to great length to imply that Cherny and Bari blew themselves up, and Alston Chase's article, "Earth First! exhibiting a disturbing paradox."]

# Habitat Conflagration Plan

by Christi Stevens

The federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) mandates that endangered and threatened species be protected. The Constitution guarantees private property rights. A clash between these two legal mandates is occurring in the Hill Country west of Austin. The rugged land at the eastern edge of the Edwards Plateau, dubbed the Balcones Canyonlands, supports the largest assemblage of endangered species of any metropolitan area in the United States. So far two songbirds, the Black-capped Vireo and the Golden-cheeked Warbler, and seven rare cave-dwelling invertebrates in the area have been listed as endangered.



Real estate development during the "boom" of the early 1980's encroached deeply on the habitat of these species. By 1987, the black-capped vireo had been listed as endangered by the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). The cave bugs were granted protection in 1988, the warblers in 1990. Despite the listings, development projects planned in endangered species habitat proceeded until environmental groups filed lawsuits under the ESA. These lawsuits, as well as media coverage of civil disobedience actions by Earth First! focused the attention of the community on the plight of the endangered species.

It seemed that the only peaceful (and non-litigious) solution was to develop a regional habitat conservation plan (HCP), as prescribed under section 10 of the ESA. Although "taking" — harming, hunting, habitat destruction, etc. — of an endangered species is illegal under the act, a 10a permit, or "incidental take" permit, may be granted by the FWS if a landowner prepares an HCP which mitigates against the loss of the species in question. If the plan is accepted by the FWS, and if it is determined that the taking is "incidental to an otherwise legal activity," the 10a permit is issued, and the bulldozers can legally begin destruction of the habitat. In the case of the Balcones Canyonlands, the permit will apply regionally, and all landowners and government agencies that participate in the plan will be covered by the permit.

The planning for the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan (BCCP) has been under way for over two

years now. The executive committee, consisting of 16 representatives chosen from government agencies, environmentalists, and developers, is the guiding force. A Biological Advisory Team (BAT), the best biological experts in the area, was put together to perform the background biological research. With this information and the direction of the executive committee, a hired consultant is finalizing a document that delineates potential preserve boundaries and explains how they will be funded and managed. Obviously this is a ponderous effort, considering the numerous governmental jurisdictions involved, all the biological variables, and the virtual war between developers and environmentalists.

And the money: The BCCP proposes to purchase some 63,000 acres of preserves. The total cost of the plan, estimated to be \$112 million, is to be split up among federal, state, and local governments, developers, and conservation groups. The FWS will purchase 30,000 acres for a federal wildlife refuge in the Post Oak Ridge in northwest Travis County. A habitat mitigation fee will be levied on development projects that occur outside the preserve boundaries. Bonds will be required to cover most of the rest of the cost. Much of the land west of Austin has fallen into federal receivership subsequent to the ongoing S&L and banking debacle. It has been suggested that this land, controlled by the Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC) could be purchased at less than market value. Preserve management and monitoring of species will be ongoing expenses.

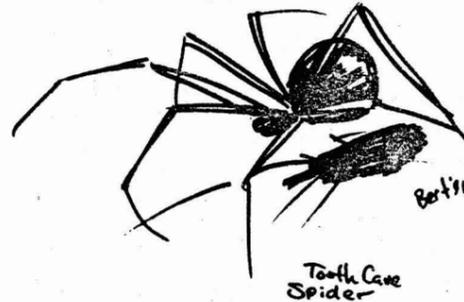
Challenges from all sides await the final plan. Developers will try to wiggle out of any financial obligations required by the plan. Enabling legislation will need to be passed by the Texas legislature, known for its "Austin-bashing" anti-environmental tendencies. Bond

issues must be approved by taxpayers who know little about the plan and hate taxes. And the RTC and the FDIC have sold several tracts targeted for preserves without informing the BCCP.

Environmentalists are concerned whether the plan is likely to insure the survival of the species it was created for. Some have called it "a \$112 million developer bailout scheme." Some of the executive committee members are more concerned with getting a feather in their hat than with the well-being of the species. Developers on the executive committee have used inside information regarding the location of habitat to direct their bulldozers.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will need to be prepared to review the plan. The same consultants drafting the plan will be drafting the EIS, presenting something of a conflict of interest problem. Also, FWS has agreed that the EIS does not need to address biological factors. In other words, there will be no independent biological review. As currently drafted, the plan states that HCP's do not have to provide for viable populations of the species that they "protect." And certainly this plan doesn't attempt to do so: after 30 years of habitat enhancement, we will end up preserving only about 70% of the warbler habitat we have now.

If the plan does not succeed, a regional 10a permit will not be issued, and landowners will have to apply for individual permits (and several already have). Probably all but the richest landowners would be denied permits because they could not afford to prepare their own HCP's or provide large enough preserves to satisfy FWS. On the other hand, without the plan, development



can legally occur right up to endangered species habitat, furthering fragmentation.

If a plan is to be approved by FWS, it will need the support of environmental groups. Earth First! will have to hold the line to make certain that the plan is for birds and bugs, not permits and promotions. We will settle for nothing less than a plan that will realistically provide not just for stable populations, but for recovering, flourishing populations.

## Effort to Pave Over Austin Collapses in the Face of Economic Reality

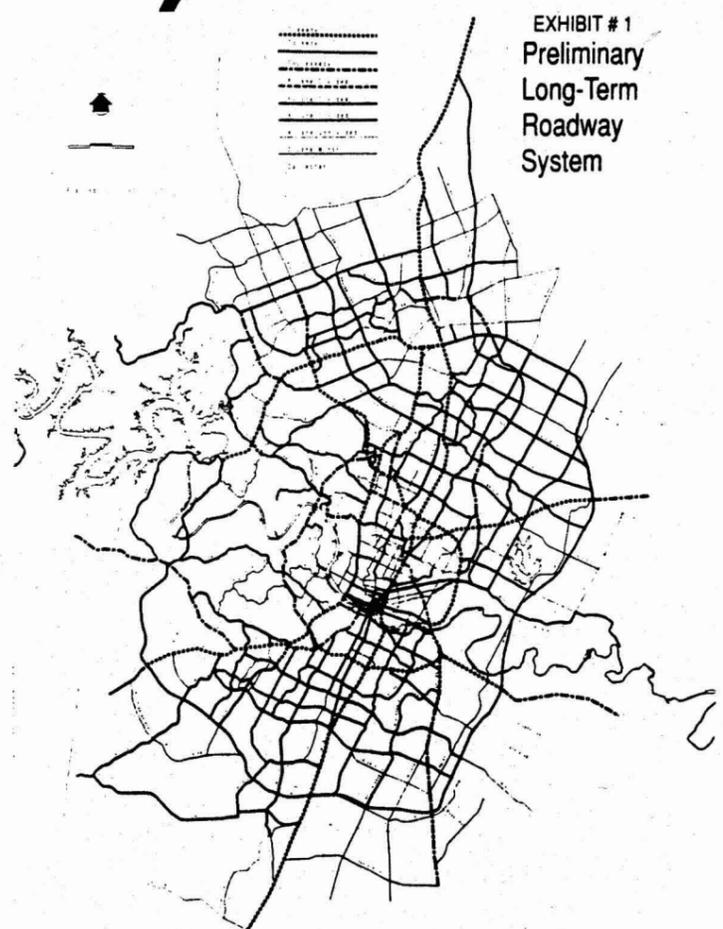
by Roger Baker

As most readers probably know, Texas is a state in which political corruption and influence peddling come into constant conflict with environmental preservation. Over the past decade in particular, the Texas Highway Department has planned in cahoots with the bankers, developers, and land speculators to build roads that would increase the value of private real estate. In particular, Robert Dedman, a near-billionaire member of the all-powerful Texas Highway Commission, controls about \$700 million of real estate in the Austin area alone. The Texas highway lobby, the Texas Good Roads Association, has enough control over the Texas legislature that it can buy off most attempts at reform. The Highway Department can then exert influence over the urban planning groups sanctioned by the federal government to allocate federal funds in the urban areas. These groups exist nationwide and are termed Metropolitan Planning Organizations, or MPO's.

Austin's MPO is called the Austin Transportation Study, or ATS. Around 1985, the land speculators had massive S&L loan funds on hand and projected the need for \$5 billion worth of roads that would pave over Austin, destroy water quality, and kill off many endangered species. There are many progressive federal laws on the books, stemming from the 1970's, that are supposed to ensure environmental considerations during federal roadway planning. Under Reagan and Bush these highway funding laws have been almost totally ignored in Texas and probably most other places. The end result is that the Texas Highway Department has federal approval to largely destroy Austin, Texas.

The only problem is that the money to destroy Austin no longer exists. The feds shut down the S&L gambling casino, leaving Austin, Travis County, and the State of Texas all broke. It is in this context that the ATS and the City of Austin planners appear to have surrendered their efforts to implement the \$5 billion Austin-area roadway plan and have begun to redo the planning on a comparatively sensible scale.

The wild card remains the Texas Highway Department which is slyly resuming efforts to build an \$800 million "Outer Loop" around Austin. This highway was literally stopped in its tracks a year ago, partly by Earth First!ers who chained themselves to bulldozers. These actions played a key role in triggering bold new demands for reform. Others sued to stop construction in federal court. The struggle continues with a newly-aware spectrum of environmental groups now demanding reform of a hopelessly corrupt Texas state highway bureaucracy.



The Texas Highway Department's vision for Austin

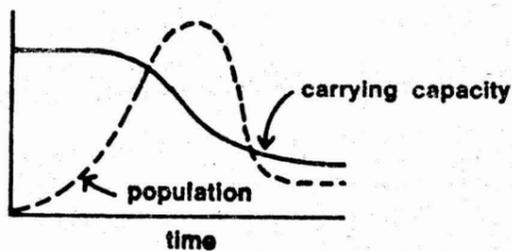
# What goes up must come down

by Christi Stevens

Global warming. Ozone depletion. Loss of rainforests. Air pollution. Water contamination. Pesticide poisoning. Nuclear radiation. Loss of endangered species. Why us? Our great grandparents would never have dreamed of these environmental bogeys. All these problems are just symptoms of the real problem: HUMAN OVERPOPULATION.

In 1900 the global population was about 1.7 billion. It has now tripled to about 5.3 billion. All these people mean that there are fewer jobs, less food, less energy, less material wealth for each of us — even if the Earth's gifts were divided equally, which they are not. The problem is even worse than a tripling of the number of hungry mouths, because of the increase in polluting technologies.

If you look at a graph of the human population increase you see that the growth is exponential. A projection of the growth curve seems hell-bent on reaching infinity! However, Nature shows us that this is not possible on a finite planet. There is an ultimate carrying capacity of the Earth. The carrying capacity is the number of people that can be supported over a long period of time without degrading the environment. It's now becoming obvious that the global population has surpassed the carrying capacity, and that we are supporting our burgeoning population by cashing in our Earth's finite resources: fossil fuels, arable topsoils, and potable waters. When these resources run out, our population must inevitably crash, by way of famine and disease. Besides this being a horrible fate for the human species, when a population overshoots its carrying capacity, the carrying capacity itself is lowered. The more the population overshoots, the greater the degree of environmental degradation and the greater the ultimate reduction in carrying capacity, for our own species as well as others.

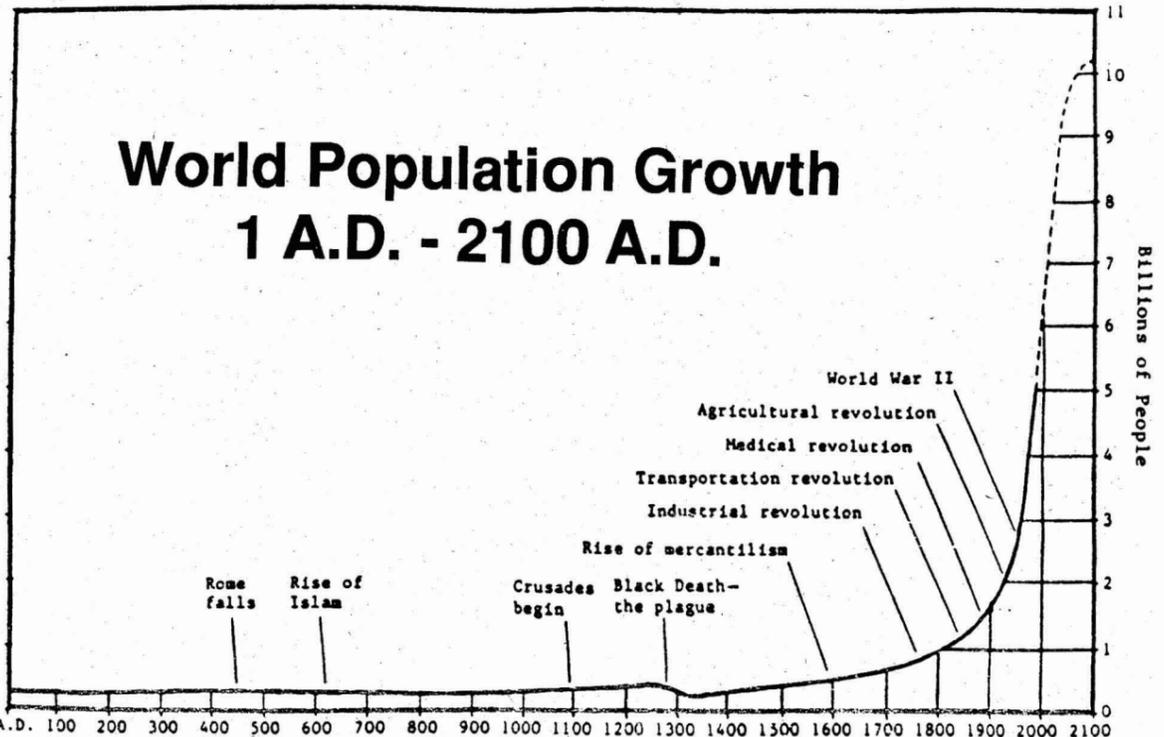


Let's look at some of the causes and effects of overpopulation in the world today. Generally speaking, a low population growth rate is associated with: high literacy rates, availability of health care (including birth control), relatively high status of women, industrialized society, and high per capita income. This is what we call the "First World." High population growth rates in the "Third World" are associated with low literacy rates, absence or remoteness of health care, civil unrest, low status of women, "developing economies," and low per capita income. Causality is difficult to prove. Does poverty cause overpopulation or does overpopulation cause poverty? Do women in the Third World have more babies because they don't have access to birth control, or because childbearing is the only way to increase their social status? Is a high crime rate caused by high population density, or are criminals attracted to areas where they have more victims to exploit?

Even the most indirect and circular relationships cannot be discounted when there are over 5 billion people contributing to them. Any successful program to alleviate population pressures will include a mixed bag of approaches that affect both sides of the population equation.

## Observations, Solutions, and Conclusions

Most countries in the First World are approaching population stability — birth rates close to or equal to the death rate. It is easy to blame less developed countries for the population crisis, to call these people ignorant and irresponsible. This attitude smacks of racism and denies First World culpability. Although Americans and Europeans don't have as many babies, they still have too many, and their level of gross overconsumption degrades the global ecosystem and perpetuates the poverty of the Third World which in turn causes overpopulation. A holistic approach to population control will require an end to the exploitation of Filipino textile workers, the South African steel and diamond miners, the farm workers from Mexico, and the workers in the maquiladores on



the border. We must end the military oppression of less developed countries that prevents them from achieving the economic stability that would allow them to provide education and health care to their citizens. Most Third World countries are heavily indebted to the developed countries. Rather than caring for their people, Third World countries must turn to growing export crops and extractive industries to pay off — not the principle of the debt — but just part of the interest. Governments of the First World must alleviate the Third World debt or forgive it altogether to allow them to achieve political, economic, and ultimately population stability.

It is widely thought that the population increase in the U.S. is due to immigration, mostly from Mexico and Central America, and that the solution is to close the borders to immigrants. This ignores the fact that both legal and illegal immigrants account for only about a third of our population increase. And it denies our role in causing both the overpopulation and motivation for leaving their countries. Through military persecution and colonial exploitation, the U.S. is causing misery, poverty, and hence, overpopulation. The U.S. is therefore directly responsible for the immigration problem. If you put a fire under a pot of water, be prepared to deal with the steam. Some population-control groups advocate closing the borders to immigration (putting a lid on the pot). I am advocating that we go to the root of the problem by putting out the fire under the pot. (It will take a lot of water.)

It has also been said that Blacks and Hispanic Americans are driving the population increase in the U.S. and are "outbreeding" white citizens. Some advocates of population control overtly direct their message toward minority groups. However, racism must be eliminated as a motive for population control. Not only will any campaign be rejected if it is tainted by racism, but racism must be recognized as both a cause and an effect of overpopulation. In terms of "population politics," racism is an attempt to eliminate a segment of the population from the competition for the Earth's finite resources and to enslave that population in the extraction of those resources — witness Southern slavery, apartheid, and migrant farmworkers. As population pressures increase

and the Earth's resources diminish, it is easy to predict that the motivations for racism will increase.

Rather than criticizing other cultures for problems we have largely caused, the First World should be funding family planning, literacy, health care, and women's programs throughout the world. Just when the leaders of the world were coming to a broad consensus that population control is necessary to alleviate world hunger, human suffering, degradation of the environment, and the potential for widespread civil unrest, the Reagan administration drastically cut funding for family planning programs. Fortunately, there is a movement in Congress to re-establish these programs. Please urge your Senators and Representatives to support HR 1179, a repeal of Reagan's Mexico City Policy which cut off funding to family planning groups if they perform, counsel, or even mention abortion to women. Another important bill to support is HR 1110, which allocates \$570 million for the U.S. Agency for International Development population programs, and the U.N. Fund for Population Activities.

More important perhaps is that the First World people demonstrate reproductive responsibility by having one or no children or adopting. Remember, although the average Kenyan woman bears eight children in her lifetime, since the average American uses over 100 times the earth's resources as a Third World citizen, one American baby is more costly to the Earth than the Kenyan woman and all her babies. We can express our nurturing abilities more fruitfully by caring for the Earth and restoring her health. Reducing our level of consumption to sustainable levels will help ensure that today's children will have a future worth living in.

We have the future in our hands. We can choose a birth control solution to overpopulation, or face famines (such as in Ethiopia) and diseases (like AIDS, or worse) — the death control solution. To argue that overpopulation is just not a problem, or that the solution is too expensive, is to argue for death. Please choose life.



## Bush Dynasty of Scam Artists Revealed!

by Roger Baker

From Texas comes fresh ammunition for those who believe that a lack of moral principles is an inherited characteristic. A first-class investigative reporter for the *Houston Post*, Pete Brewton, has uncovered a network of connections linking the S&L loan scandal, the CIA, the Mafia, and two of President George Bush's sons, Neil and George, Jr.

President Bush's connections with the CIA are well known, and his Son Neil's non-repayable loans from Silverado S&L have also gotten wide publicity.

But now we find out about about George Bush Jr.'s \$120,000-a-year directorship of a company with exclusive petroleum exploration rights in Bahrain in the Persian Gulf, his stock deals, and much more — all the sleazy details the mainstream press hasn't had the guts to cover. The April 5, 1991 issue of the *Texas Observer* ran a great nine-page interview with Brewton which covers all this. To order a reprint, send \$1.00 to:

**BREWTON REPRINT**  
The Texas Observer  
307 W. 7th St., Austin, Texas 78701

# Stillhouse Hollow

by Tim Jones

Stillhouse Hollow is an ecological microcosm. For eons, meteoric waters carving tributaries to the Colorado River have cut through geological formations capped by the Edwards limestone, forming sweetwater springs, wooded canyons, and secret hollows below semi-arid scrub oak and juniper-cloaked ridges which reach toward the river like fingers. The contrast is amazing.

For millennia Native American tribes camped on these finger ridges beside the perennial springs, leaving burned rock middens and scattered stone artifacts as the only trace of their passing. And because of a unique combination of geological conditions and vegetative regimes, island bioregions have arisen comprised of organisms from bugs to birds so rare they are federally listed as endangered, if they are even described by science at all.

Stillhouse Hollow is west of Austin proper at the top of a canyon cut by a tributary of Bull Creek. A forest enclave of very old to ancestral walnuts, basswood, and huge sycamore trees stands amidst the spicebush, surrounding fern-laced springs, and travertine terraces.

Here, the endangered Golden-cheeked Warbler nests and fledges its young in spring. Here, in the honeycomblimestone caprock permeated by sinkholes and caves, lives the endangered harvestman (Genus *Texella*, new species), a tiny blind white daddy long legs, as well as other rare and undescribed cave obligate invertebrates.

And here, in the perennial spring lives a salamander in the genus *Eurycia* that has not yet been described by science.

Most everyone who comes here loves this ancient paradise. Some come here to war on the planet. Or perhaps just to practice stupidity and greed. Somehow spared until now from all but the transient ravages of civilization, the 45-acre Egbert Smith tract, surrounded by the curbs and gutters of suburban houses and yards and stores and office buildings and condos and apartments, is now finally slated to succumb to the 'dozers.

The Caprock Planned Unit Development (PUD) is a real sweet deal for developer Larry Peele — three-hundred twenty-six condo units in twenty-eight buildings and their ancillary parking lots and infrastructure, a clubhouse with swimming pools, and forty-three thousand square feet of office buildings. Paul Linehan of Land Strategies Inc. gets the credit for figuring out how to fit all that on only 33 buildable acres.

The major selling point for these condos (and the insult) is that they will overlook the canyon from as close to the slope break as the law will allow.

And all the while what sensitive souls there are in officialdom are crying that they can't do anything to stop it. And so taking what appears to be the lesser part of destruction, another shabby Sierra Club-sanctified compromise is the official order of the day.

The idea?!@ is to trade off unde-

veloped city parkland on one side of the canyon to mitigate the taking on the other. As if they believed the refuse and effluent dumped on one side would only pollute half the canyon waters. Councilman Bob Larson is pushing this eight-for-fourteen acre parkland trade through a bond referendum tied to city council elections on May 4th. Parks ain't nature preserves. Fourteen acres of picnic tables and litter bins and hordes of trampers is only worse!

So, the plan is to build above and on one side of Stillhouse Hollow. Egbert Smith tried to sell the whole 45-acre tract to the city back in the 1970's to no avail. Now the heirs, his daughters, are caught with what appears to be an IRS estate tax lien coupled to an opportunity to make a financial killing by selling off what should become a national treasure called the Barrow Preserve.

The machinations of the developer and the counter moves by EFi and the NIMBY's (Not In My Back Yard neighborhood groups) are so convoluted and intricate it's beginning to seem like a year-long multi-dimensional chess game, where acres are squares on the board. I have filed a Notice of Intent to sue under the citizens' enforcement provision of the Endangered Species Act to assure that our hand is in until the last bet is called.

Since I filed the lawsuit, I have been receiving what amounts to hundreds of pounds of magazine subscriptions, boxes of merchandise, and books I never ordered. Most of these have borne obscene addressee labels (Timmy Lickass Jones, Nature Phag Inc., etc.). It's going to get interesting during the discovery phase of litigation when we find out just whose handwriting is on the business reply forms I've gotten back...

The neighborhood surrounding Stillhouse Hollow produced a Valid Petition opposing the development. What that means is that Larry Peele would have to sway six of the seven City Councilmembers (rather than a simple majority) to win approval of his plan. This petition was circumvented three times by the land planners' adjustment of the margins of the development to exclude the opposition from the jurisdiction of the statute that regulates Valid Petitions.

In the meantime, EFlers allied with neighborhoods got most of the powers that be, including the mayor and the chairman of the Texas Nature Conservancy, to walk over the tract. The upshot of this is that the area is included as an acquisition to the Balcones Canyon Land Conservation Plan. This move may counter-balance the zoning approval by the City of Austin. (UPDATE: The 33 "developable" acres have just been taken off the acquisition map for the BCCP.)

Texas Earth First! can use all the help it can get on this. Unbiased scientific entomological and hydrological information is crucial. Watchdogs are critical. The potential for having to finance a federal court injunction is very real. Ultimately it may be our bodies in front of the bulldozers. The developers don't call us "Nature Nazi Eco-Phreaks" for nothing 'round here.

# Help Earth First! without giving us any money!

Okay, here's the scoop: We've made this deal with a long distance telephone company called NTC. We get them customers, and they give us 5% of those customers' long distance bills each month. So this is what we want you to do: Fill out the one of the coupons on the left and send it in to NTC. Then, magically, in a few weeks your long distance calls will be carried by NTC instead of by whoever you're using now. Incidentally, NTC saves you up to 24% over AT&T's standard rates and quite a bit over MCI. Your local phone company (not NTC) will hit you with a switchover fee of about \$5, but you'll make that back with NTC's low rates. Most important, if you don't like NTC for any reason, just notify NTC within your first 90 days on the service, and they'll pay to switch you back to your old carrier.

Now, you may wonder why we got into something so obviously capitalist and so obviously high-tech. Well, we got our reasons. First and foremost, whenever anyone tries to give us money, we usually let them. Second, this is a re-distribution of wealth. Every customer that tiny lil' ol' NTC gets is a customer taken away from you-know-who. And if NTC wants to give their advertising budget to us rather than to the corporate advertising media, that's okay with us, too. Finally, we're not push-

ing a new product: most people already use long distance anyway.

By the way, DO NOT fill out the coupon for somebody else without their permission — if you do, we get bounced from the program.

about any of this at all, call Michael at (512) 453-2274. This is an Earth First!er and not a corporate office, so that's why it's not an 800 number.

Okay, so fill out the coupon right now and send it in. Thanks!



If you have any questions

## SERVICE REQUEST

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### Customer Information please print clearly

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Additional Number ( )	Additional Number (use back if needed) ( )
Phone # For 800 Line Termination ( )	Your Monthly Estimated Usage \$
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...NTC to inform my local telephone company to transfer my above Equal Access telephone lines to National Telephone & Communications. I also agree to pay NTC within 21 days of invoice date for any long distance billed. NTC carries your long-distance calls on a 100% digital fiber optic network. NTC charges no set-up or monthly fees for NTC Dial-1 Service. NTC Dial-1 Service will apply only to the number(s) you have indicated on this ballot. Your local telephone company may bill you a small fee for changing carriers. Thank you for selecting NTC as your primary long-distance carrier.

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Return this completed form to

**National Telephone & Communications**  
**18 Corporate Plaza**  
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**(714) 640-7100**

**ORGANIZATION:**  
**Austin Earth First! • ID# 305-000205**

**Texas Earth First!**  
**POB 7292**  
**Austin, TX 78713-7292**  
**(512) 478-7666**

# Highway Destruction, Exemplified by Folly Mills Case in VA

BY R.F. MUELLER & GUS MUELLER

Highway construction and reconstruction are destroying agricultural lands, natural areas and critical wildlife habitat at unprecedented rates. They are encouraging the most wasteful form of transportation, the private automobile, and are themselves the sources of enormous waste of resources — petroleum, gravel, cement, steel etc. — and emit a great variety of pollutants into soil, air and water. One effect, only now beginning to be appreciated, is the restriction on the free movement of genetic material through the fragmentation of habitat (see *In Defense of Wildlife, Preserving Communities and Corridors*, publication of Defenders of Wildlife, March 1989). Another is the diversion of subsurface water flows that feed springs and wetlands to wasteful and damaging surface flows. In many cases projects are grossly overbuilt, even to the violation of sound engineering, and are unsuited to the terrain. Finally, not the least result of this "road madness" is its direct link to global warming and to our international oil and mineral dependence with attendant difficulties such as the current Middle East crisis.

All in all highway construction and reconstruction, even taken by itself, without the vehicles it encourages, adds up to one of the major environmental problems of the planet. To a degree this is due to the enormous scale of many projects which may literally chop up mountains or clog off seas, but in other cases the major effect is cumulative: the relentless tallying of many small and medium-sized road "improvements" that impact wild nature each day in a way similar to the cumulative effect of many small-scale slash and burn farmers on the Amazon. We believe it is essential that the problem of road construction be forcefully brought to the attention of all environmentalists so they may judge how it affects their particular areas of concern.

Here we document the impact of reconstruction of a secondary highway, Route 693, in an ecologically sensitive area in Augusta County, Virginia, in the heart of the historic Shenandoah Valley. We believe that this project epitomizes what is happening wherever the road builders are given free rein.

## ECOSYSTEMS AND IMPACTS

The segment of highway in question is a 0.34 mile section of gravel road through the narrow, picturesque valley of Folly Mills Stream, a branch of the Shenandoah River. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has proposed to widen and pave this road to a width of 20 feet with a four foot shoulder and a four foot ditch on each side. In some cases extensive excavation of steep terrain would require a 100 foot right of way. VDOT estimates the 0.34 mile section would cost \$440,155. Previous reconstruction on the other segments of this road have already cost millions, sundered habitat and destroyed numerous fine old trees, all this to accommodate vehicle counts of less than a hundred per day.

Although the Folly Mills Valley is very constricted, at this point there is a narrow floodplain bordering the route to the northwest. Within this floodplain, but independent of its hydrology, lies a wetland of several acres which contains one of only two known colonies in Virginia of the boreal plant Buckbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*). It also contains other disjunct northern species such as Pussy Willow (*Salix discolor*) and Marsh Marigold (*Caltha palustris*) as well as rare calcareous fen species such as Swamp Lousewort (*Pedicularis lanceolata*) and Prairie Loosestrife (*Lysimachia quadriflora*). South of the glaciation boundary such wetlands are generally interpreted as ice-age refugia for plants driven south by the last stage of glaciation 18,000 years ago. Since this plant community was discovered by the writers less than ten years ago it has received little scientific documentation and its potential for more rare floral and faunal species is unknown. The same lack of data characterizes Folly Mills Stream.

The Folly Mills wetland has its source in artesian springs which apparently are little influenced by drought conditions. These springs appear to be fed by an aquifer in the underlying fractured limestone bedrock which extends under the surrounding uplands of the valley sides. Because upward-extending water-filled fractures leading from this aquifer could be near the surface, they might be breached by the extensive leasing and excavation proposed in the roadcuts. At the existing relatively modest roadcut in this area wet weather already activates copious springs which discharge into the roadside ditch indicating existing diversion of shallow subsurface flows. If breaching of the aquifer were extensive enough, it could diminish the water flow to the wetland plant community. Since such springs, seeps and wetlands are usually concentrated in valleys, which are also the favored routes of roadbuilders, such breaching must occur with some frequency and represent a wide spread phenomenon in highway construction.

In addition to its threat to the wetland, the proposed construction would degrade the entire Folly Mills Valley at this point. Most obvious would be the removal of trees, some, like the "Folly Mills Oak," of great beauty, and landmarks. The project would also encroach on the stream itself since it entails shifting a fence ten feet closer to the stream on the floodplain and so would obstruct debris flow during the frequent floods and imperil the fence itself to the expense and inconvenience of landowners. This fence shifting also has an element of fraudulence in it.

Because of the constricted terrain, habitat diversity and rich riparian zone this part of the valley is one of the most heavily utilized wildlife movement corridors in the valley. The increased road width and the resultant increased traffic flow and speed would present an increased barrier to the movement of upland wildlife to foraging sites along the stream and wetlands. The effects of this type of habitat degradation have been well documented (see "Roads Primer," *Earth First! Journal*, May 1, 1990; Mueller, R.F., "How roads Fragment and Infect Nature," *Earth First! Journal*, August 1, 1990; Also note the extensive bibliography referred to in the "Roads Primer"). It is clear that the planned reconstruction here clashes disastrously with the terrain and ecosystems of this Valley.

## THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Since this project involves three stream crossings, approval had to be given by the US Army Corps of Engineers. Unfortunately approval was by a regional permit, which was not brought to the attention of citizens and so did not allow public involvement at this stage. Also characteristically, land owners were never advised by either State or Federal authorities as to their rights under the permitting process. Instead the project was approved by merely consulting with State and Federal agencies. Only after all was decided was there a brief hearing. According to the State and Federal authorities "an adequate evaluation of potential impacts to the ecology of Folly Mills Creek was performed" (Letter from US Army Corps of Engineers, June 14, 1989). However it is clear from our subsequent review that neither the stream nor other parts of the project received adequate study to define ecological problems.

In response to a Freedom of Information Act request (Letter from VDOT, Sept. 5, 1990), it was conceded that possible impacts of the proposed roadcuts on the wetlands aquifer were not considered. Also, there were no studies of subsurface flows associated with Folly Mills Stream.

The writers have made exhaustive inquiries regarding any studies that might have been done to characterize the biology of Folly Mills Stream and the riparian zone. According to the State Division of Natural Heritage (Letter, Oct. 23, 1990) "although there are two state rare plant species in the area no populations of rare, threatened and endangered animals are known from Folly Mills stream according to information presently in our files." The writers were referred to the Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) for information on the fauna of Folly Mills. However the data base of DGIF in Richmond could provide only a general list of species for Augusta County and only four species of fish (White Sucker, Blacknose Dace, Chub and Fantail Darter) specifically for Folly Mills Stream (Letter from DGIF, Aug. 12, 1990). They were advised to contact the local Staunton office of DGIF. This office confirmed the presence of four species of fish which had been identified by electroshocking in 1978 (Letter from Staunton Office DGIF, Oct. 5, 1990). No information was given and presumably none was available for molluscs, crustaceans, amphibians and reptiles for this stream beyond the general tabulations for Augusta County referred to earlier. However it is well known that Folly Mills possesses additional fish species such as Rock Bass (*Ambloplites rupestris*) as well as an occasional alien introduction such as Rainbow Trout (*Salmo gairdneri*).

The only biological study of the area done specifically for this project was a survey dated "8-88." It was done by a geologist with a BS degree and a short course and on the job training in "tree, plant" and benthic invertebrate identification and sampling techniques." The report (attached to letter from D.L. Camp of VDOT, Sept. 14, 1990) consists of a single fill-in-the-blanks sheet with only cursory identification of stream invertebrate and trees by common names at the two stream crossings. At crossing D676, only Black Willow, Mockernut Hickory and White Oak were listed. However the most prominent tree located directly at the crossing is a White Ash (misidentified as a Mockernut?) while Coralberry, Osage Orange, Black Walnut, and other trees also occur. The site is uncharacteristic for Mockernut and none was observed by the writers. These determinations are easily established from existing photographs. It is clear that the biologic studies

of both the stream and riparian zone are deplorably incomplete and even erroneous. Consequently issued permits are based on inadequate information and should have never been issued.

It should be mentioned at this point that all State and Federal agencies including the supposedly environmentally-sensitive Natural Heritage Program close ranks behind the "highwaymen" on environmental matters. Since no environmental review of highway projects is required in Virginia, unless they have federal impacts, anything goes. However even when federal laws such as those involved in stream crossings are in effect all agencies still apply their rubber stamps in defiance of the law. For example VDOT attempted to conceal the fact that they plan a raised road across the Folly Mills floodplain which would present as much as a four foot high barrier and so would raise flood levels. When this was called to the attention of the Corps of Engineers they pleaded that this and other issues raised were of too small significance in comparison with larger projects they had to pass on. The Corps even refused to answer our Freedom of Information requests in clear defiance of federal law. Under this philosophy no perpetrator of assault would be arrested while murderers roamed free. Yet think of the cumulative effects of all these small assaults on nature!

## OTHER DEFICIENCIES AND DECEPTIONS

The environmental deficiencies documented here have their parallels in serious legal and accounting problems. During right of way acquisition, reluctant landowners are presented with fraudulent options and other legal documents for signature that show the cynical abuse of power by an unchallenged agency. In these documents the term "existing right of way" refers simultaneously to two different rights of way, one owned by the State, the other owned by landowner. Landowners are asked to affirm that all has been explained to them when this is far from the case. VDOT literature states that all land value appraisals done by it are subject to "independent review." However it turns out that the "independent" appraiser is just another VDOT employee down the hall! Again, in the Folly Mills case 75% of the right-of-way acquisition budget was attributed to "administrative costs" and only 24% for land. Maps and plats are treated in a cavalier fashion and are merely more instruments of fraud. Folly Mills Stream was at one point "moved" 50 feet on a plat so that a slice of coveted right of way could be grabbed without thrusting a boundary fence into the stream bed as mentioned earlier. When this deception was uncovered, VDOT only partially corrected it. The most current plat is thus a cross between truth and fraudulence. But fraudulence is a dominant gene.

## CONCLUSION

The Folly Mills project points to the choice before us, whether we continue to accommodate a wasteful and destructive mode of transportation or heed its destructive effects. In this case, as well as in many others, the accommodation goes beyond any perceived "need," given the light use of the existing road, to the effective encouragement of increased automobile traffic in an ecologically sensitive zone. In design also, the project is overbuilt to the extent of being in violation of good engineering practices by intruding into a highly flood prone area, and by its excessive roadcuts which will almost certainly divert subsurface waters to surface flows with possible unknown consequences to a rare plant community.

Although the foregoing technical matters of detail are serious, even more serious is the perfunctory approval of the project based on flimsy and even erroneous data, and blatant deceptions and illegalities. Clearly the regional permits issued without adequate overview by the US Army Corps of Engineers violate at least the spirit of the mandate to protect streams by foreclosing input from an affected but uninformed public, as well as independent scientific analysis. Their failure to honor Freedom of Information requests and assume responsibility when clear violation of the law occurred are in themselves violations. The Folly Mills Case is thus a striking instance of an increment of environmental degradation of a type contributing to enormous cumulative impacts. We urge readers to look closely at the activities of their own "highwaymen" as well as their State and Federal accomplices in crime!

R.F. Mueller has studied the environmental impact of highways for the last 20 years. Recently he has directed the Forest Ecology Project of Virginians for Wilderness. He is also a Science adviser for the Alliance for a Paving Moratorium.

Gus Mueller works with Virginians for Wilderness and the Alliance. He does much of his work at night.

# Coastkill

BY RON HUBER

Discouraging news from the National Symposium on Coastal Habitat Conservation: every coastal aquatic ecosystem in North America is either on the ropes or headed there fast. From San Francisco Bay to Chesapeake Bay, Penobscot Bay to the Gulf of Mexico, the same human predation, pollution and destruction of spawning and living areas is pushing wild populations down at an unprecedented rate. Some examples:

## NEW ENGLAND

Victims of overkill by both sport and commercial fisheries, Atlantic Salmon may well possess damaged or deformed reproductive organs from exposure to the toxic stew in Narragansett Bay, Boston Harbor, Casco Bay, Salem Harbor and Penobscot Bay. Many spawning areas have vanished behind dams. Fish that negotiate fish ladders arrive in a currentless reservoir, with no clue to the direction of "upstream." Eggs that survive toxic shock from pesticides, herbicides and other agro-pollutants hatch larvae into heated, abrasively silted water devoid of prey/food.

## SAN FRANCISCO BAY

Diversions of water to feed agribusiness in the Central Valley of California has upset the brackish water balance of the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary, the most vital and important estuary on the west coast of North and South America. Sixty percent of its fresh water supply has been rerouted via the federal Central Valley Project and the State Water Project, despite well-known scientific proof that diversion of more than 30% of any estuary's fresh water flow has disastrous effects on the estuary. The brackish waters of Grizzly Bay, Honker Bay and Suisun Bay, deprived of enough fresh water to maintain a balance of fresh and salt water, will no longer support estuarine life. Sixteen species are known to be threatened as a result. The great runs of hundreds of thousands of Chinook Salmon up the San Joaquin River have been destroyed utterly by damming and water diversion. Those of the Sacramento River are barely existent: fewer than 500 salmon made the run in 1990, down from 120,000 in 1970. The US Secretary of Commerce has been forced to list the Sacramento winter-run chinook as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Attempts to force governments to abide by the Clean Water Act or the National Environmental Policy Act are being consistently thwarted by agribusiness.

The Bureau of Wrecklamation is draining Shasta Dam as well as water from Trinity and Whiskeytown Reservoirs to supply agricultural water contractors in the Central Valley, many of whom are using the water to grow surplus crops of rice and cotton to get their federal subsidies! This despite an outcry that the Sacramento River will be heated to 75°F by August, destroying whatever remnants of the surviving winter run chinook.

## GULF OF MEXICO

The next 20 years are expected to bring a human population increase of 46% on the Gulf Coast. Destroying and filling salt marshes and mangrove swamps has eliminated nursery habitat for shrimp, crabs, fish, birds and other organisms.

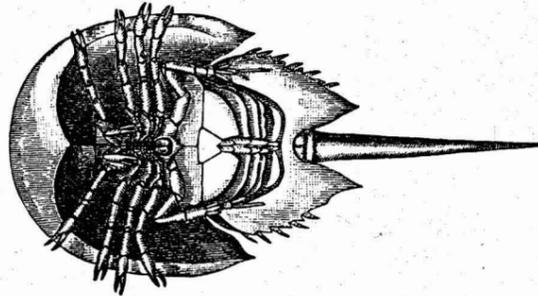
Diversion, pollution, and channelling of the Mississippi River is changing the Delta, bringing salt water into fresh water habitats and drowning and killing marshes. There is a proposal being bandied about by the Bureau of Wrecklamation to divert "some" of the Mississippi to Southern California!

A Navy project to enlarge a Corps of Engineers-created disposal site in Galveston Bay had to be abandoned for fear of releasing the huge amounts of toxics buried there!

Overkill of shrimp and "incidental take" of turtles and fish by shrimp trawlers is emptying the Gulf of much of its marine life. Estimates are that ten pounds of fish are killed for every pound of shrimp caught. This adds up to about 2.5 billion juvenile red snapper, croaker, spot, sea

trout, sharks, king and Spanish mackerel and red drum per year.

Also being exterminated at record speeds by the fatal embrace of the shrimp nets are rays, sponges and crabs. Excluder devices to allow the escape of turtles and fish from shrimp nets have been mandated for use but the US Government cannot enforce its own laws, thanks to the meddling of Senator John Breaux of Louisiana, who tossed an amendment into the re-upped Magnuson Fisheries Conservation and Management Act that prohibits regulation of shrimp "bycatch" until 1994. In the meantime, the shrimp boats have gotten bigger, the number of nets have quadrupled, and altered marshlands along the Gulf coasts are not providing spawning habitat for penaeid shrimp (the commercially desirable species) and other organisms.



## CHESAPEAKE BAY

The largest estuary in North America is falling victim to the same assaults as other bays: colonization of critical wildlife habitat areas by homo shiticus, siltation of spawning areas, damming of habitat, release of toxic chemicals into the water, abusive fisheries, and acid rain.

"Waterfront" properties have transformed much of the Chesapeake's shorelines into impassable bulwarks of stone, wood and metal. Construction projects within the watershed destroy tree cover, warming streams to intolerable levels. Silt runoff not only abrades the gills of fish and other organisms, it allows the release of sulfuric acid from naturally acid-bearing subsoils. This, in conjunction with aluminum and other metals dissolved from the soil by the acid, has been killing fish eggs and larvae, many of which are already stressed by acid rain (locally, rains have been as low as 3.23 pH). Since 1970 there have been no strong year classes (fish surviving from a single year's spawn) of striped bass. Drift netters, charter boats and "sport" fishermen all are demanding from an acquiescent MD Dept. of Natural Resources a "fair share" of the remaining schools of striped bass. The DNR will allow the killing of "trophy" striped bass in May of '91, oblivious to the danger of killing broodstocks.

## FLORIDA

"Sport" spearfishermen are, like all human hunters, interfering with natural selection by killing the biggest and healthiest of fish, unconcerned with the fact that the largest fish are the brood fish, the possessors of most of the eggs and milt. Collectors are picking reefs clean of angelfish, butterfly fish and sea urchins to satisfy demands from saltwater aquariums and suppliers. The Florida state government recently created so-called "restrictions," limiting angelfish hunters to "only" 75 angelfish/day or 150/boat and butterfly fish hunters to 75/day/boat. Collector's anchors have been tearing up the reefs as well.

Seagrass meadows, unprotected by the Clean Water Act (claims the Army Corps of Engineers) consist of flowering land plants that have returned to the sea. There are millions of acres of seagrass which support very large populations of crabs, shrimp, scallops and clams. These are being ripped to shreds by pleasure boaters and jet-ski riders, and silted over by waterfront development. Despite the amount of seagrass meadows and their incredible vitality and importance in maintaining the coastal ecosystems, they are not listed in wetlands habitat inventories. Seagrasses grow VERY slowly. Far better to

preserve them than destroy now and try to replace later. Mitigation and "enhancement," as replacing wild habitats with human designed ones is known, is a failure, as it only promises to replace thousands of species with a handful of cloned ones.

## WHAT'S TO BE DONE?

The federal government doesn't take its coastal zone agencies seriously. The budget for agencies' work relative to coastal zone protection is smaller than that for the military's marching bands! There is a communications gap between politicians and government scientists, who fear loss of job security if they rock the boat. Private biologists too, relying year to year on government grants, end up moderating their statements to stay on the gravy train.

Scientists after scientists have well-researched horror stories about their particular element of the coastal habitat. But when it came down to solutions, there is uncertainty, confusion, anger and disbelief at how things have gotten so bad, so quickly, especially since 1980.

Money! is the universal lament: More research! There is some truth in this, but more importantly they call for translators: persons capable of taking their dry findings and rewriting them down to a layman's level.

These persons must then publicize this info through all media outlets. Press releases, talk shows, articles, documentaries, stories for the morning AM Radio patter. Make it clear, graphic and simple, but do it now!

One biologist said publicizing the plight of well-known species may get the point across better than ecosystem warnings: "Save the Littoral Zone" does not play as well as "Save the Sea Turtles."

## ACTION!

Get on your Corps of Engineers mailing list and find out where coastal wetlands destruction is being planned. Demand public hearings, savage the developers in the press, stop dozers from trashing wetlands, do night work. Get out there on the coast, at the docks, in the water, along the beaches. See for yourself what is actually going on. Don't let this problem become just another "issue," another page-turner-with-shrugs problem "out there."

There is a huge reservoir of anger and upset among the general public about the destruction of coastal habitat. This resentment is dammed up by ignorance, timidity, and automatic respect for authority. Earth First!ers must take it upon themselves to blow that dam, to send a torrent of public rage smashing aside the bribes and threats of Big Devo and his cohorts in the Resource Execution business.

Armed with vision, courage, knowledge, monkeywrenches and photographs of dying coasts, we must aggressively defend Mother Nature if we are to succeed. NO MORE COMPROMISE!!



## Florida "Goes to Bat" for Soldier Key: Interior Dept backs NPS against Developers

BY MARIA QUINTANA

The battle to save Soldier Key isn't finished, but it's going well! Since early February, Everglades EF! has been leafletting marinas in Dade County. The leaflets urge a boycott of Blockbuster Video and Blockbuster Cruises/Florida Princess Cruise Line in protest of the plan to develop Soldier Key. Soldier Key is a 3.5 acre island in the middle of Biscayne National Park (Biscayne Bay). Robert Lambert of Florida Princess Cruise Lines and H. Wayne Huizenga of Blockbuster Entertainment (jointly, "Blockbuster Cruises") want to make the island into a stopover for 500 tourists a day.

Any type of intense human activity on Soldier Key will disturb the endangered Hawksbill Turtles who nest on the island's tiny beach. Of the twelve known Hawksbill Turtle nestings in Florida since 1959, three occurred at Soldier Key, the most recent in November, 1990. Because it has been privately owned as a fishing retreat, Soldier Key is near-pristine; humans are kept away by Dobermans and a caretaker.

The local National Park Service informed us that the leafletting actions obtained a good response. Many state representatives responded to constituents' calls and letters by contacting Biscayne National Park to ask where Soldier Key is and what the fuss is about. The heat generated by these inquiries persuaded Manuel "Like Father, Like Son" Lujan to resist pressure from Huizenga, a big Republican Party campaign contributor.

In early February, Biscayne National Park Supervisor Jim Sanders had denied the developers' request for permits to bring construction materials through the national park waters, and had taken a strong position against development on the island. Huizenga then commanded State Representative Clay Shaw (R-Broward Co., a close personal friend of Lambert and recipient of a \$1000 campaign contribution from Huizenga in 1989) to approach the Interior Dept. in order to circumvent the Park Service. On March 21st Assistant Secretary of the Interior Constance Harriman answered Clay Shaw that the department would back the Park Service. Clay Shaw then panicked and issued a statement saying he had no idea that the issue was so controversial, that he would have done the same thing for any of his constituents (hah!), and that he would do nothing further to promote the project.

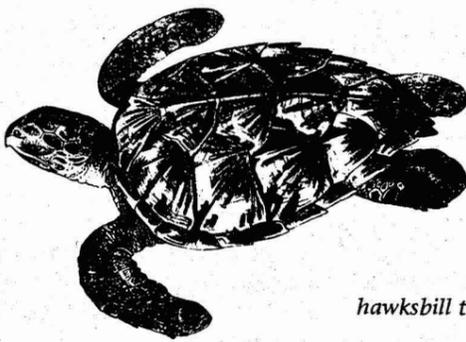
For people accustomed to reading about conservation issues involving thousands of acres of land, 3.5 acres may not seem worth fighting for. But in Florida the devastation of land proceeds on a piecemeal basis. Biscayne Bay contains three major, interdependent ecosystems: mangrove swamps, inland coastal habitats, and tropical coral reefs. The northern part of Biscayne Bay is totally trashed, and it got that way piece by small piece; today virtually no trace remains of the original mangrove fringes. We can't allow the southern part of Biscayne bay to suffer the same fate.

H. Wayne Huizenga is a man with a very checkered past and he has had his finger in a lot of different pies in South Florida. He made his fortune with Waste Management Inc., and he has recently received approval of plans for a \$300 million "downtown redevelopment" project in Fort Lauderdale. Wayne is trying to bring major league baseball to South Florida (he wants to call the team the "Florida Panthers"). To that end, he is promoting himself as a real "Godfather" to the community.

On Sunday, March 31st, almost 60,000 fans attended an exhibition game at Joe Robbie Stadium (which Wayne now also owns a big chunk of, along with a piece of the Miami Dolphins). The National League has to choose one of six cities competing for the franchise, so all the baseball honchos were there too. Blockbuster and Miami *Herald* advertisements lined the sides of the stadium. A few minutes into the first inning, EF! activists hung two banners from the mezzanine railing across from the press box: SAVE SOLDIER KEY!, BOYCOTT BLOCKBUSTER. A few minutes later, hundreds of flyers urging the

boycott rained down on spectators. The banners were taken down after about twenty minutes, but later in the game another group of activists got onto the field with a banner that read: SAVE SOLDIER KEY, BISCAYNE NATIONAL PARK, NO BLOCKBUSTER CRUISES! Wayne must have blown a gasket. We truly hope we didn't spoil his party.

At present, we are continuing our efforts to mobilize the grassroots, tailoring our actions to be press-independent and to reach people within the boating community (who are most likely to know and care about Soldier Key). Now that the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service have both turned down the development, the wanna-be rapists have only one more permit recourse: Dade County. We must continue to apply pressure to Blockbuster and Florida Princess Cruise Lines. We are contacting stock brokerage houses in both New York and South Florida to inform them of the boycott. We are also contacting Blockbuster Video franchises, the innocent parties who will suffer financial losses when their patrons refuse to get their video-fix at Blockbuster outlets. Street theatre-type actions are also in the planning stage.



hawksbill turtle

### Dolphin update

Flipper's not off the hook yet, but things are looking up for dolphins, thanks to Earth Island's hard work. According to Earth Island, it's ok to eat the dolphin safe tuna of Starkist, Chicken of the Sea, and (as of the last week of February) Bumblebee.

Mexican tuna is under embargo by the US and other countries that import Mexican tuna will also be embargoed. Embargoes work, according to Earth Island. They are also a pain in the ass to establish due to our government's reluctance to piss any other government off. Our own Department of Commerce was supposed to be enforcing the embargo against Mexico, Venezuela, and Vanawatu, but they weren't. They have falsified kill rates for these countries, ergo Earth Island has filed suit.

Earth Island is currently working on establishing monitors in other countries, and targeting smaller tuna companies and supermarket chains, specifically Safeway. The goal is to get the stores to carry only dolphin safe tuna and to make sure their labelling is honest. The tuna labelling law goes into effect in May so after that false labelling can be prosecuted.

Representative Barbara Boxer has introduced a new bill that would phase out setting nets on dolphins. Write your congresspeople and tell them to support HR 261.

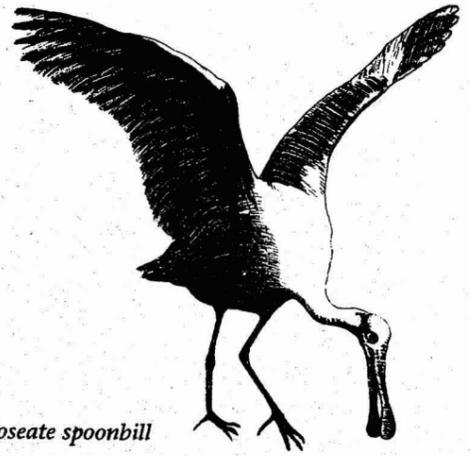
Letters appear to be having a good effect on Safeway so keep them coming. Write to Peter Magowan, CEO, Safeway Stores Inc., 201 4th St., Oakland, CA 94660 and ask him to carry only dolphin safe tuna.

You can call 1-900-468-0200 and ask for operator 25. Three letters will then be sent to your local three largest supermarkets, telling them to sell only dolphin safe tuna. All this for only \$5.95, courtesy of Earth Island.

Educational stickering on tuna cans that aren't dolphin safe is encouraged as well!

For more info call the dolphin hotline at 1-800-DOLPHIN.

—KAREN DEBRAAL



roseate spoonbill

### Elegy for a Florida Panther

Shortly before Christmas word came  
The Panthers will be captured  
by radio, dogs and darts  
treed and dispatched  
to the final solution  
Miami Metrozoo

Headed to extinction  
without dignity or mercy  
will the Panthers wonder?  
Instinct stupefy them?  
Will hormones rush  
to still the milk flow?  
Silence in mewling cubs  
their mother's memory?

At White Oaks  
Big Guy spurns  
the mating season  
withholding semen

I hope the Panthers  
cannot forget  
the shady hammocks  
taste of wild boar  
mating calls and messages  
scented on Cabbage Palms  
as the stinking beings  
in golf carts  
patrol the place that is not home

At White Oaks Big Guy  
with his notched tail  
tattoos a drumbeat  
that will be sensed  
in chainlink cages  
far to the south  
saying  
REFUSE TO BREED  
no wilderness awaits your young!  
They will die innocent  
of venison  
of lightning sprints  
through Sawgrass prairies  
cool noonday naps  
under Palmettos  
The feared-most smell  
of humans  
owns us now

But not for long

The hammock is silent  
no bird cries  
light dapples sinkholes  
coons rot on roadsides

The ancient oak is dying  
One limb defiant  
thrusts forth new life  
Silvered deadwood harbors  
a Strangler Fig  
The air is still but for the chatter  
of escaped parrots  
And the Panthers  
alone in their cages  
will have to endure

—MARIA QUINTANA  
DEC. 26, 1990



Good Humor

## Fucking With Mother Nature: a critique of humor, art and eco-pornography

BY SIMON "DE BEAULIVAR" ZAPOTES

Those feminists have no sense of humor. Those environmentalists are so goddamn grim. Those anarchists just can't take a joke.

It's easy to laugh off criticism. But the world is in deep shit, no joke, and if the planet is going to get through it we will need to question everything seriously, even if it tickles. With a good sense of humor and a ruthless critique we might survive.

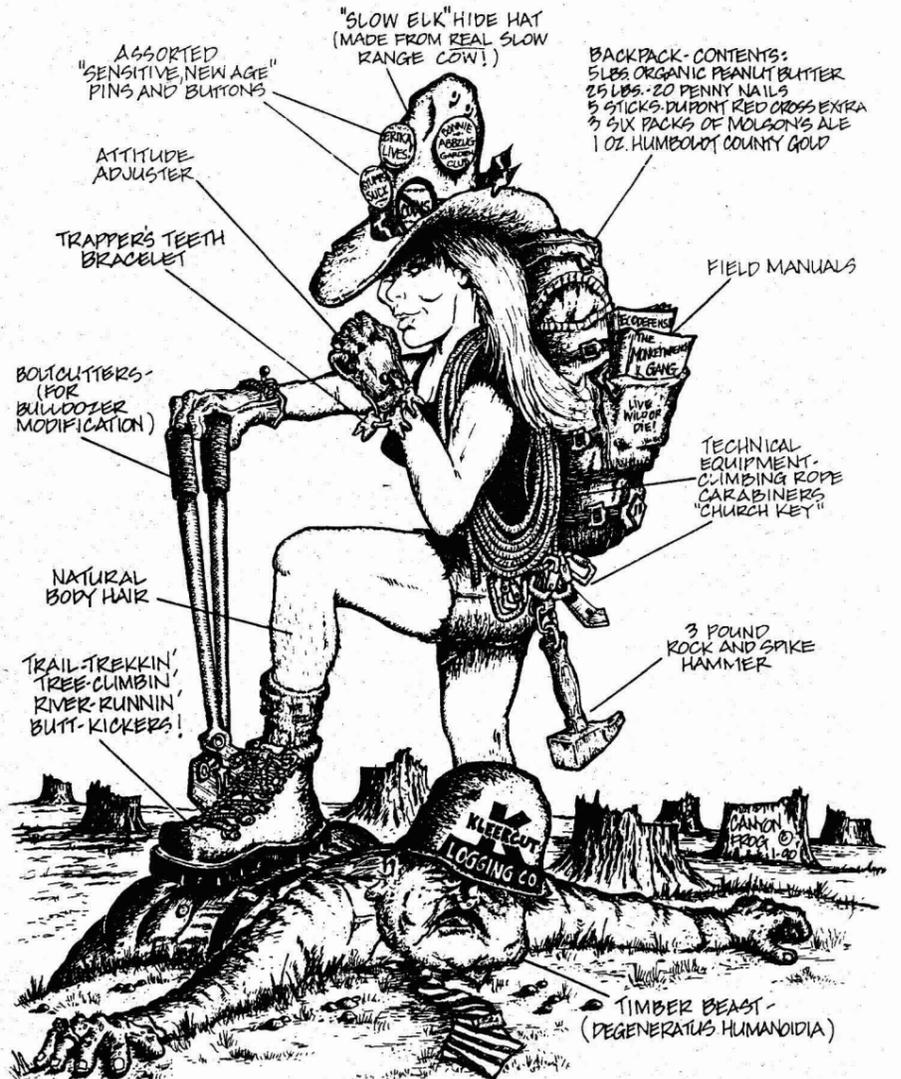
We often ridicule those who challenge the way of the world in order to avoid serious consideration of the issues they raise. Then we vilify them for that worst of social failings: not laughing at themselves, which is indeed dangerous, to the extent that it is dangerous not to be able to see one's own faults. Yet this involves taking humor seriously, and in this culture jokes are more often used to brush people off.

Humor is sacred, a language of peace. We use it to discuss taboo subjects and to resolve delicate situations. It is one of the few languages, besides car talk, in which men in this culture can comfortably express their emotions. Because of this, we use it to express a lot of unreasonable anxieties that would otherwise be difficult to articulate. A lot of hatred is revealed in racist, sexist, and sectarian jokes. Humor also reveals fantasies of power — joking about something being a

way of having control over it — which can be disclaimed by saying, "Just kidding." Because humor is one of the few free modes of expression in this repressed society, it is filled with examples of fear, hatred, and avarice, all genially expressed, and it has thus come to be used as a means of attack, derision, and ingratiation. If humor is sacred, then surely these are forms of sacrilege.

So we should not take humor too lightly. We don't need to get grim or somber, but we can respond to it seriously without diminishing our enjoyment. This is the usual response in healthy cultures, which have sacred clowns, fools, tricksters, mudhead kachinas. The clown does not dispel social tensions by making light of them, but rather articulates the tensions in a safe way, so that people can see and resolve them. Even when our humor raises issues unintentionally, we should respond to them seriously. To fail to do so only adds to the problems by ignoring them. On the whole we do fail, and the ills that are destroying the world fester and grow. We are generally unskilled in facing challenges and criticism, and we have lost track of the distinction between being serious and being grim, and we reject all but the most superficial response to humor. Aw, c'mon now, honey, it's only a joke.

## THE COMPLEET RADICAL WOMAN ENVIRONMENTALIST



Maybe I overreacted to the cover of the Yule EF! journal, right? I don't think so. The cover, which showed "The Compleet Woman Radical Environmentalist," expressed lightly and well the sexism which is prevalent in our movement and the world. I want to criticize it and other pieces of art not for their appearance but for what they reveal. We need to address the sexism itself, not to find ways of expressing it yet more subtly. While sexist humor and art do not consciously raise issues for critique, they nevertheless show us the problems we have. They are in this way useful if we respond seriously and self-critically to them; otherwise, unchallenged expressions of sexism only serve to reinforce it.

Some people have said that they do not even think the drawing of "The Compleet Woman Radical Environmentalist" is sexist. In the 90s we call this "denial." Compare it with Canyon Frog's earlier drawing of "The Compleet Radical Environmentalist." The titles alone are a

clue. "The Compleet Radical Environmentalist" is a man; that is assumed and hence it doesn't need to say "The Compleet Man Radical Environmentalist," which sounds kind of stupid, doesn't it? So does "The Compleet Woman Radical Environmentalist." Why add "Woman" as a qualifier? Because the truly compleet radical environmentalist has balls. Not that they show in the drawing.

Our compleet man is rather homely and ill proportioned. We are given information about his body in the key. His belly button, clearly visible, is labeled. Why not similar help in the drawing of the compleet woman, a label for instance to direct us toward "tit" which the artist has taken such pains to extend past her arm into view? Nor are we given her waist measurement as we are his. Maybe hers doesn't matter so much, huh? Hah.

The artist draws attention to the man's physique precisely to show that it doesn't matter; he avoids remarking explicitly on hers so as not to admit that hers does. The main difference between the two drawings is that she's a sexpot and he's a schlub. The effect of the drawings would be very different otherwise. Picture "The Compleet Radical Environmentalist" as a dumpy, ill-groomed, leering woman with an old truck, and "The Compleet Man Radical Environmentalist" as a gorgeous athletic hunk smiling at us coyly, and see how that might change things. Picturing "The Compleet Radical Environmentalist" (male) as imperfect and homely allows any man in the movement to identify with him; what's important is his attitude and paraphernalia, not physical beauty. But idealizing the physique of "The Compleet Woman Radical Environmentalist" (by the warped standards of our commodity culture) makes it an alienating image to women in the movement. Men can



The Virgin...



...and the Whore

see themselves as the subject of "The Compleet Radical Environmentalist" drawing, but women generally cannot do the same with "The Compleet Woman Radical Environmentalist," which is thus an objectification of women, an objectification, needless to say, primarily for men, like the glamour or advertising photos it resembles.

Objectification turns things into resources. By objectifying things, presenting them as whole but without their autonomy or inherent worth, those with power (to objectify) deny self-expression and self-definition. We can see examples of this in the management of wildlife and wilderness "resources". Objectification of the natural world leads to its exploitation. Objectification of women's, or men's, bodies is pornography.

When the earth is pictured as a woman, then the objectification of it as her body is likewise pornographic. This is apparent in many of the images of "Mother Earth" that male artists give us. The graphics saying "Don't Fool with Mother Earth" and "Don't Fuck with Mother Nature" are clearly inviting the viewer to imagine doing otherwise. Many of Lone Wolf Circle's images of "the Goddess" are equally pornographic, offering at once the availability of the earth's abundance and the availability of young women equally to the viewer.

To some extent objectification is inherent in art, certainly in the Western tradition of art that underlies most of our images. Wealthy collectors commission paintings of their possessions, "their" land, "their" women, etc. and amass other objects in absentia through art. Some other traditions offer a

different perspective. Islam forbids representational art because it detracts from Allah's glory. There is a similar passage in an obscure Jewish text called "the ten commandments": Thou shalt worship no graven images before me.

before. Of course, these people were mercantile Europeans, and their new understanding was very useful to them. The geographic image we have of the earth was developed specifically to aid in the exploitation of its resources. The earth

planet. But law protects the planet in exactly the same way that a pimp protects a woman he considers "his" whore. Even the best environmental law protects the wild as an object, for the most beneficial use for humans, as a resource for future generations. The whole thing is about possession and control. The Earth Police would make the earth safe by making it theirs. Daddy's little blue-green sweetheart.

I am surely taking this too seriously. It's only a joke, right?

But precisely because of this,

I think we have to realize how serious it is. The

Earth Police badge is a

pornographic joke, and

if we laugh it off without

questioning what lies

under it then we only

reinforce the obscenity

of our culture and of our

relationship to the planet.

If we use this dirty joke to

find out something of our

personal involvement in

planetary exploitation, then

we may find some direction

toward alternatives and it

may have been worthwhile

for someone to make up all

those ugly little nylon

badges.

I love looking at maps, at

images of the earth. I pin

them up on my walls. I

imagine travelling; I know

that from this technological

culture I can get to anywhere

on the globe; I fantasize

about what different places

might be like. I suspect



The World on a Platter

Because they were forbidden from making images of the sacred, Judeo-Christians had to separate the natural world from the sacred in order to depict it. By desecrating nature they have been able to objectify and consequently to exploit it, visually and otherwise.

Some will argue that art, like the media, has its uses too. It lets us see the world in new ways. Art is extremely useful for this. Look at the way we picture the earth. By imagining it as a globe, some people were able to get a much different understanding of it than they had had

has never actually been seen

that way except by aliens and

astronauts. The view of earth

from space is an alien view, a

view from outside, and it

allows the viewer to see the

earth as an object of which s/he

is not a part. This view is

useful for exploiting the planet,

whether or not the viewer imagines

running off to others once this

one is finally laid waste. Seen

thus, as an objectification

created to aid exploitation, the

image of the little blue-green

ball hanging in space is

essentially pornographic. All

the earth's secrets are laid

bare to the satellite camera

eye; turn as she might, she

cannot turn away, and these

images taken without her

consent (but she didn't say

no) and to her great harm

(the environmental cost of the

space program, and of the

culture that achieved it) are

uplicated by the millions

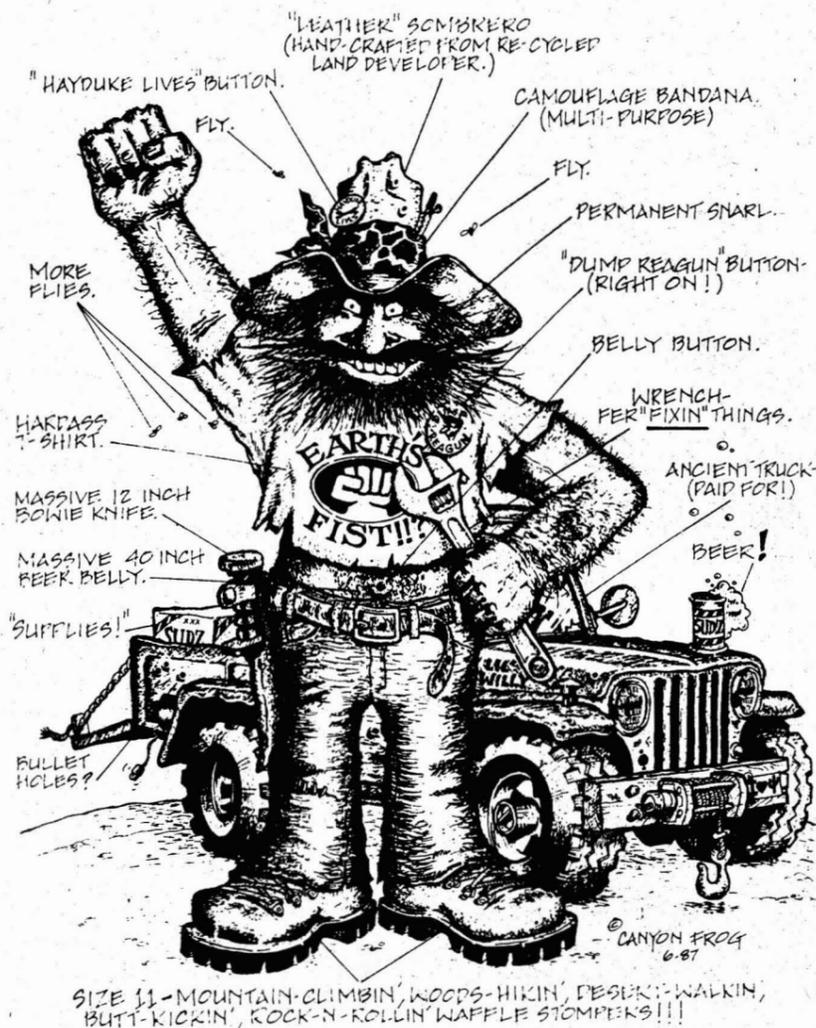
and sold in the streets, accessible

to all, obscene.

We reinforce this

objectification of the earth

## THE COMPLEET RADICAL ENVIRONMENTALIST



SIZE 11 - MOUNTAIN CLIMBIN', WOODS-HIKIN', DESERT-WALKIN', BUTT-KICKIN', ROCK-N-ROLLIN' WAFFLE STOMPERS!!!



that this is not all that different

from what users of pornography

do. So, knowing the poverty of

pornography in relation to what

it alludes, knowing the

deception of the image and

the confines of the ideal, why

do I not give up my maps and

my airplanes for the richer

relationship with the earth I

know is possible? It is possible

to know the land deeply, on

foot, within the compass of

the horizon. It is possible to

picture the earth as we in fact

see it, as part of it. It is

possible to live together

without objectification, and

to laugh without reason. It

is analogous to love, but it

is more than love, for the

earth is more than our lover,

more than our mother; it is

simply everything we really

know.



## Kennecott Mine NOT a Forgone Conclusion

There is a widespread perception that Kennecott/Rio Tinto Zinc's proposed open pit copper mine on the banks of the Flambeau River in Wisconsin is a forgone conclusion. Larry Mercado, RTZ's mine project manager for the Ladysmith Flambeau project, has predicted the beginning of mine construction by the spring of 1991. The necessary permits were issued in mid-January.

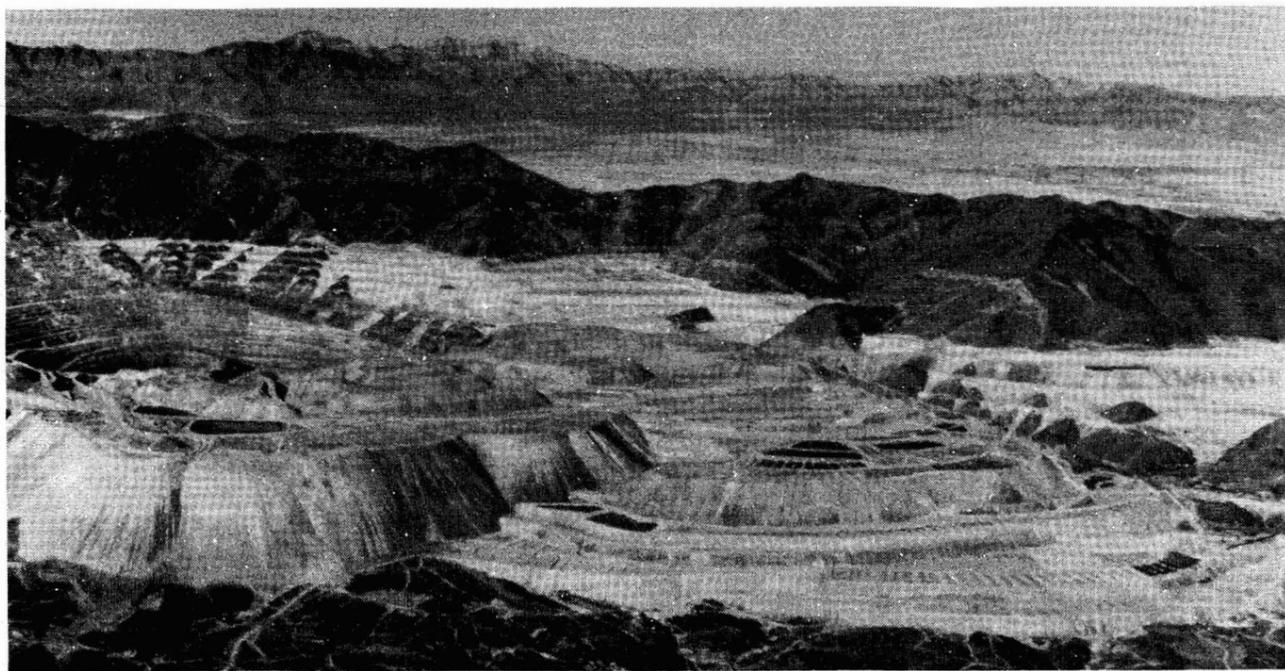
Overlooked in this scenario is the existence of a significant and widespread opposition movement determined to prevent the opening of the mine. Even David Schwartz had to admit that he had never presided over such a dramatic outpouring of public opposition to a project. That opposition included the state's six Chippewa bands, treaty rights support groups, environmental organizations, a sportfishing group, and local citizens. This is the same citizen, environmentalist and Indian coalition that was successful in stopping Exxon's proposed Crandon mine after a decade-long battle. Now this coalition stands opposed to an ecologically destructive mine project being promoted by the world's largest mining corporation and one of the most pro-mining governors in recent history.

Despite Kennecott/RTZ's attempts to promote a "psychology of inevitability" about this project, local citizens have mounted a sophisticated opposition using a variety of legal, media and direct action tactics that have continually caught Kennecott/RTZ off guard. After Kennecott hired a public relations firm to publish *The Flambeau News* as an insert to the *Ladysmith News*, the Rusk County Citizens Action Group (RCCAG) started publishing *The Real Flambeau News* as an insert to the town shopper. As more people in surrounding towns and counties became informed about the issue, the opposition grew larger. Last October, hundreds of mine opponents showed up at a Rusk County board meeting ready to testify in favor of a resolution asking the county to withdraw from the local mining agreement with the company. The resolution was narrowly defeated after Kennecott let it be known that the county could be sued for its action to withdraw from the contract. Local citizens have filed a legal challenge on the grounds that it deprives them of their First Amendment rights to oppose the mine. The Lac Courte Oreilles Chippewa are challenging the mine based on the infringement of their treaty rights.

If all legal avenues become exhausted, the Wisconsin Greens and Earth First! have pledged to engage in non-violent civil disobedience at the mine site. This project is rightly seen by both the mining industry and the opposition as a precedent for the opening up of larger-scale and ecologically-devastating mining activity all across northern Wisconsin. The state approval of the Kennecott/RTZ mining permit has signalled the escalation of environmental resistance to new and unprecedented levels.

—MIDWEST HEADWATERS EARTH FIRST!

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## Cyanide-Heap Leaching: The New Gold Rush

BY REBEKAH LEDWITH AND  
ANDREW WOLF

Just when you thought that the Earth was a complete fucking mess and things couldn't possibly get any worse, Cyanide Heap Leach Mining reared its ugly head. This method of mining was first used in the gold fields of South Africa and is now actively obliterating fragile wilderness here in the good old USA. This fine new technology is being brought to you by none other than multi-national Earth rapers such as DuPont and Chevron (surprise, surprise).

The process makes previously insignificant deposits of gold cost-effective to mine. It involves strip-mining millions of tons of earth, crushing it, and "heaping" it onto a polyethylene liner. The unearthed mountains are then sprayed with a highly alkaline cyanide solution which leaches out the gold. The gold-laden solution is then drained into a holding pond (fondly called a "pregnant pond" by the mining industry). From this point it is pumped to a processing plant. Then, using a combination of coconut shells, caustic soda, anti-freeze, steel wool and electrolysis, the gold is distilled from the cyanide, ready to be used by jewelers, dentists and the aerospace industry. The cyanide is then either re-used or detoxified and pumped with waste ore to a tailings pond. The end results are mountains of toxic rubble, vast gaping pits half a mile across and a quarter of a mile deep, and a wildlife habitat that wouldn't support a sandflea.

For every 100 tons, the "reward" is a TEASPOON AND A HALF OF gold. Because the gold is scarce, entire mountains and thousands of acres of land must be pillaged before the companies can break even. The average operation consumes 4.5 square miles. It costs them about \$200 an ounce to extract the gold; however, because the market price ranges from \$300 to \$800 an ounce, it's still profitable for them to mine it. A typical operation stands to make \$200 million.

Mining access to federal lands is "regulated" by the antiquated 1872 Mining Act. This frontier statute treats land as valuable only to the extent that it can be made into money. Under this law any miner who discovers a "valuable deposit" can withdraw the minerals from public land with no royalty or reclamation requirements, paying between \$2.50 and \$5.00 an acre. The

federal agencies have no choice about making the sale. Miners can override land management practices for protection of wildlife habitat, stream quality, and wilderness. In fact, in many wilderness areas, old claims linger while prospectors wait for the ore's price to rise to a profitable level. The miner may establish a "claim" on public land and tie up the mineral rights indefinitely with only \$100 of work being done yearly in order to retain the claim. The miner pays no rent and may lease the claim and keep a royalty for him/herself. Over 1.2 million Mining Law claims extend over 25 million acres with more than 2,000 claims in National Parks.

This bullshit law is being protected and maintained by self-serving politicians sucking up to an aggressive and wealthy mining lobby. In addition, thousands of petty hobbyists and speculators encourage the continuation of the Act. These people armed with pickaxe and shovel are digging up creek beds throughout the West. What nightmare would be complete without mentioning the Bureau of Livestock and Mining? These sleazeballs are at it again aiding and abetting the Mining Industry. For example, the BLM has drafted a proposal to "promote" the 1872 Mining Act. The ideas it presents include selling the law to kids through posters and videos in the schools. It is also encouraging BLM employees to join environmental groups to influence support of the law (eek! run for your lives... see article, *Ostara '91*).

Since virtually no legal protection is provided by federal laws, it is up to individual states and counties to pass environmental legislation to mitigate mining damage. Individual counties can control the process through citing and zoning processes, but rural counties that lack strong economies perceive these mines as sources of increasing employment and tax revenue. The average life of these mines is only six or seven years, yet most communities consider the boom and not the bust.

As host to 50% of U.S. gold production, Nevada is at the heart of the gold rush. The impacts are massive in California, Montana, and Colorado. Utah, Washington, Maine and South Carolina are also active. Recently, mining companies have cast a beady eye on potentially lucrative areas in the Eastern Oregon wilderness. Within the last few years, well over 65,000 claims have been filed on the Southeastern

Oregon desert.

The list of negative biological impacts from Cyanide Heap-Leach Mining is overwhelming. Impacts occur in all phases beginning with the marking of each mining claim with six or seven white plastic PVC pipes. There is no law requiring their removal and everywhere you look they are littering the desert (hint—hint). Roads switchback up mountains, cross streams and create channels for erosion. The earth is dug and piled onto liners leaving enormous pits. For comparison, the Empire State Building could fit into one of these pits. The companies are not required to fill them in. Toxic heavy metals such as arsenic, mercury, lead, and cadmium are often exposed as a result of the digging, and these pits eventually fill with rain and groundwater, creating toxic soup.

Speaking of toxic, these idiots are spraying cyanide with little or no protection against accidents. The polyethylene liners that the piles of earth sit on ALWAYS leak. The question is not "if" they leak, but "how much." From the point of leakage, the cyanide enters the ground and underlying aquifers, streams, lakes and reservoirs. Releases also occur when heavy rains flood holding ponds or when piping systems leak or are improperly operated. Heavy cyanide releases have occurred in Nevada where one accident was responsible for nine million gallons being dumped into the ecosystem. Estimates rate spills in Nevada at one every week.

Cyanide degrades in sunlight but studies show that it can last at least 40 years in groundwater. A typical operation can use at least three million pounds of cyanide a year.

The gold-laden holding ponds are not required by law to be covered or even netted. Some companies use netting or colored flags to scare off wildlife with limited success. For some reason those pesky animals neglect to heed the DANGER CYANIDE warning signs that are posted around the pools of death. Due to scarce desert water supplies, thirsty animals are drawn to their demise in these ponds. Because state funds are limited, inspectors visit these mines an average of once a year with no surprise visits. Therefore the companies are on a sort of honor system to report wildlife deaths.

In Nevada alone more than 6400 migratory waterfowl are known to have been killed after contact with the ponds. Keep in mind that these

are only the deaths the companies chose to report. One reliable source tells of Golden Sunlight Mine employees in Montana being told to shoot the floating birds to make them sink in order to avoid a public relations problem. Great Horned Owls, Snowy Egrets, Teal, Mallards, Ruddy Ducks, Whistling Swans, Songbirds, Shorebirds, Badgers, Kit Foxes, Deer, Coyote, Big Horned Sheep... the list of deaths goes on and on. In an attempt to scare off wildlife some companies use propane cannons set up around the ponds that are set to go off at any hint of intrusion. (This practice has the whole-hearted support of the Audubon Society).

Another drastic problem caused by this mining is the heavy drain on scarce desert water. The average operation consumes 1,000 to 1,500 gallons of water per MINUTE (that's roughly two million gallons a day). Mining companies have even been allowed to draw water from local reservoirs when their lust for water has run their own sources dry.

The mining companies are not required to restore the land to its original state. They normally re-plant with non-native species; for example, crested wheatgrass is often planted (which is a tasty treat for cows.)

The first hurdle to cross when researching this issue is stark disbelief. The mining interests are getting away with murder and are laughing all the way to the bank. The real clincher however, is that 57% of the gold mined is used for jewelry. Yes, you read that correctly.

DuPont Industrial Chemicals is making all kinds of money supplying the cyanide for heap-leach mining. Sodium cyanide is one of the most lethal poisons known. The public may remember it in connection with the Jonestown Massacre or the Tylenol/Sudafed deaths. The people at DuPont assure us that they ship their cyanide in solid form as opposed to liquid. They say that as a solid it can be "easily cleaned up with minimal risk to human safety or the environment." Now, don't you feel comforted knowing that DuPont employees cares about protecting the planet?

Besides DuPont, lots of big, ugly, multinational corporations are involved. Chevron has joined with Horizon Gold Corporation and is nearing completion of its exploration of Hope Butte near Vale in southeastern Oregon. Hope Butte is an old mercury mine near farmland and above a reservoir. The operation is slated to begin in two or three months. Chevron has also joined with Pegasus Gold Inc. to slaughter Quartz Mountain near Dry Creek Butte Wilderness Study Area (WSA) in Oregon. Fred Beck, a Chevron Environmental Consultant, said that there is very little overburden at Quartz Mountain "so they will take the whole mountain and put it on a heap leach pad." Overburden is the top 100 to 300 feet of soil and rock that is considered worthless waste by the industry. This project is close to beginning operations.

The Atlas Mining Corporation is working feverishly to be the first to start a heap leach mine at Grassy Mountain, four miles west of the Owyee reservoir in Malheur

County, Oregon. This is the biggest operation yet proposed for Oregon's high desert. It will feature a pit 800 feet deep and 2200 feet across, consume 7.5 megawatts of electricity and use 500 to 800 gallons of water per minute. While Atlas is expected to make about \$200 million from this mine, it has refused to invest in measures necessary to prevent wildlife deaths and/or cyanide releases. It will have no leak detection system under the ore heap; however, it will of course have one under the gold laden solution. The BLM is doing an Environmental Impact Statement on the Grassy Mountain mine that will be completed in August, 1991. Atlas hopes to begin digging next spring.

The race is on here in Oregon. The history of these mines in other states is gruesome. Federal protection for these lands is basically nonexistent, and the miners practically steal the land under the protection of the 1872 Mining Act. We can't let these petty thieves and a rogue agency like the BLM chisel away at the last wild places of Oregon. We need to, in the words of Andrew, who was in a bad mood, "stomp their greedy asses back into the hole they crawled from."

The opportunity is available to the Oregon legislature to set a legal precedent and demand that these companies see the "environmental light" and get the hell out of Oregon. ODEQ isn't exactly headed in the right direction; it offers mining conglomerates state tax credits to make up half the cost of the minimal pollution controls required by state and federal laws. What the ODEQ needs is a reality check and a swift kick in the butt.

**What you can do: DON'T BUY GOLD JEWELRY.** Consider that many precious metals and stones are obtained through Earth destruction. 57% of the gold that's mined is used to make baubles and bangles.

In Oregon the Atlas mine at Grassy Mountain is being used by the industry as a test case to see how Oregon "takes" to Cyanide Heap-Leach Mining. There's a big list of state legislators, congresspeople and government slaves you can write to if you have a problem with allowing these mining companies into Oregon. Encouraging strict environmental standards and regulation may actually deter companies from mining. Ivan Urnovitz, from the Northwest Mining Association, said recently that "a law requiring backfilling [filling in the pits] would effectively keep the industry out of Oregon."

Some environmental groups are working to push the Oregon legislature to enact comprehensive rules and regulations controlling cyanide heap leach mining. If this fails, a voter initiative is being considered. However, seeking to simply mitigate the damage these companies do is not enough, and more voices call for NO CYANIDE MINING need to be heard.

Reformation of the 1872 Mining Act is looking hopeful in Congress this year. Senator Dale Bumpers has introduced S433 which is aimed at reform of the Act. The bill is inadequate in some areas but it would require some semblance of reclamation, require a bond, provide for enforcement of the law and allow for citizen suit.

To express your support of the

reformation of the 1872 Mining Act write to your congresspeople. Include your demand that the reform measures are strengthened: Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510; House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515.

To voice you concerns about Cyanide Mining in Oregon write: Gov. Barbara Roberts, State Capitol Bldg., Salem, OR 97310; Senator Mark Hatfield, 475 Cottage, N.E. Salem, OR 97310; Senator Bob Packwood, 101 S.W. Main, Portland, OR 97208. Also write Dean Bibles, BLM state director and shmuck, 1300 N.E. 44th Ave., Portland, OR 97208.

If you're an Oregonian, find out who the state representatives are in your district and look up their addresses in the phone book. Letters to them are particularly important.

OK, here comes the fun part.

Organize a demonstration, or whatever seems appropriate, at one of the following locations: Atlas Mining Corporation, 370 17th St., Denver, CO. 80202-5631, R.R. Weaver-pres. and CEO, tel: 208-788-4116; Quartz Mountain God Corporation, 950,789 W. Pender St., Vancouver V6C 1H2, D.S. Jennings -pres. and CEO: 604-662-7557; Pegasus Gold Inc., 400 North 9 Post St., Spokane, WA. 99201, J.M. Wilson-pres. and CEO: 509-624-4653; Horizon Gold Shares, 1536 Cole Blvd. Suite 140, Golden, CO. 80401, John Watson-pres., tel: 303-239-8701; Micky Driver, Manager, Public Relations, Chevron Resources, 400 Executive Pkwy., Suite 400, San Ramon, CA. 94583; Ralph Ficht, Mgr. Chevron Resources, 350 South Rock Blvd. Suite C, Reno, NV 89502; Jerry Barlow, Chevron USA Inc., Box 1392, Bakersfield, CA 93302.



View toward proposed Kaiparowits Mine

## Kaiparowits Plateau Slated For Coal Mining

The Kaiparowits Plateau, one of the few remaining remote and wild places on the Colorado Plateau, is under attack by Andalex Resources Inc., a Kentucky based mining company. Andalex's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lease is directly north and across the lake from Page, Arizona (23 miles NE of Big Water, Utah), in Smokey Hollow Canyon (alias Missing Canyon). This area is next to a Wilderness Study Area and is within Congressman Wayne Owens proposed wilderness bill, HR 1500.

If Andalex goes through with its plans, the Kaiparowits Plateau will undergo considerable development including a circuitous road through and around Smokey Hollow Canyon. This road would be large enough to accommodate as many as 150 ninety-two foot long trucks on a daily basis. Additional impacts include disruption and destruction of sacred and archaeological sites (Kaiparowits means "mountain home of the people" in Pah Ute), possible lowering of the water table, and widespread environmental decline resulting from the large-scale operation(s) in this undisturbed sensitive habitat. Most critically, Andalex would open up the entire Kaiparowits Plateau to other mining companies, making this issue larger than a single lease development.

Andalex plans to send the coal to the Pacific Rim. Project manager David Shaver has approached the city of Flagstaff, Arizona, with the proposition of locating the coal loading facility there. This would entail hauling the coal in trucks 50% above state limits on truck tonnage, 145 miles down Highway 89 (a small two lane highway), at a rate of one every ten minutes every day and night of the year. The coal would be dumped in Flagstaff, loaded into trains bound for Los Angeles, CA, and then shipped to Japan, Korea, or Taiwan. At a heated city council meeting, safety concerns caused Flagstaff residents to be 3 to 1 against Andalex coming to Flagstaff. Rather than sending coal from our public land to Japan, at severe environmental cost, some feel it should be saved for future U<sup>c</sup> need, or better yet left intact as alternative energy replaces this need.

The BLM has already called for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) before Andalex can begin development.

### What You Can Do:

1. Write the BLM and let them know you are opposed to coal mining on the Kaiparowits Plateau and why. James Parker, State Director, BLM, 324 S. State St., Salt Lake City, UT 84111-2303 and Verlin Smith, Area Manager, BLM, 318 N. 100 E., Kanab, UT 84741.
2. Ask the BLM to put you on its mailing list to receive information regarding this issue, comment on EIS's, and speak at hearings.
3. Write Rep. Owens in support of HR 1500 and encourage him to preserve Smokey Hollow Canyon and other areas that contain mining leases: 1728 Longworth Bldg., Washington, DC 20515

—FAITH WALKER

# Auburn Dam Back From the Dead: Army Corpse Plots Murder of the American River

BY DANIEL BOONE

The dam-building zombies are back with yet another proposal to kill the American River in the Sierra foothills east of Sacramento, California. This time it's the Army Corpse of Engineers, with its flood control scam that throws billions of federal tax dollars into giant cement structures, so developers can build in flood plains, now that the feds will no longer pay mega-dam dreamers.

Their dream and our nightmare may become reality as soon as October. The Army Corpse has just released its latest proposal, a single-purpose flood control dam, a so-called dry dam, which when filled to capacity would create a very wet reservoir, drowning 40 miles of the North and Middle Forks of the American River. Typically, a dry dam has a bypass tunnel which allows a predetermined maximum flow of water, so that nothing is actually stored above the dam unless the maximum flow is exceeded. In the event of a flood, water backs up above the dam and then is gradually released through the tunnel when the flood stage is over.

Instead of a bypass tunnel, however, the Army Corpse proposal includes gates, which could be closed at the discretion of the operator to store water for an indefinite period. The dam could easily be upgraded to a multi-purpose dam for storing water and generating hydroelectric power. The Corpse in effect is saying "Trust us." And if you believe them, I've got a bridge to sell you.

The North and Middle Forks of the American are among the last free-flowing rivers in California. Their canyons provide habitat for osprey, peregrin, red tailed hawks, deer, bear, bobcats, mountain lions, and many others. Despite almost 150 years of mining activity, there are few roads and much of their canyons remains inaccessible and untouched by humans. Hikers, equestrians, and mountain bikers do penetrate a small portion, while kayakers and rafters enjoy the spectacular whitewater with little impact.

The BLM recently did a study of the potential for National Recreation Area status for the American River canyons, and it found the area met all the criteria for an excellent NRA. Problem: the study is held up inside the gears of the Department of Interior, and may never be officially released. A little pressure from us and our

Congressional Reps could force it out and add ammunition to the arguments against damming the canyons.

The feds have been trying to flood the canyons for decades, and they actually managed to begin dam construction 25 years ago, until someone discovered that the dam site is on top of an earthquake fault. Construction was held up pending further geological study. Then a 5.7 magnitude quake shook along the same fault system, putting the project on hold indefinitely. The Army Corpse now claims it can build a dam to withstand an 8.0 quake. No problem: they'll just pour more cement.

For those who care about the people living in Sacramento's flood plain, which is most of Sacramento, or if you're wondering how the Corpse is justifying this dam, read on. The federal government guarantees flood insurance only if an area is protected against the 100 year flood. Sacramento used to meet the 100 year flood standard until a few wet winters changed the weather statistics, and the city plunged to 63 year flood protection. Aren't statistics wonderful? So now there's tremendous pressure from powers that be, particularly politicians, developers and frustrated civil engineers, to achieve the new 100 year flood standard, before the feds rescind their guarantee of flood insurance and place a moratorium on development in Sacramento. (Sounds good to me, where do I sign?)

Alas, a moratorium on development won't be tolerated by the growth-at-all-costs system, or even by the voters, so without alternative flood control, a dam is unstoppable. Incidentally, the Army Corpse proposal would give a small (*sic*) margin of safety beyond the 100 year requirement, overshooting by a mere 300% to achieve protection against the 400 year flood. A gold plated dam, perhaps? The Corpse doesn't even have to get money allocated by Congress; it's got a slush fund saved up just for this dam. Alternatives include improving levees along the American and Sacramento Rivers, and revamping Folsom Dam, downstream of the proposed dam at Auburn, to include flood control, instead of just water storage. These could meet the 100 year flood standard and save the North and Middle Forks from concrete doom.

# Act Now To Stop The Auburn Dam!

## What You Can Do:

1) The American River Coalition will be providing a synopsis and response guidelines to the Army Corpse dam feasibility study. Call or write them at: ARC, 909 12th St. Suite 207, Sacramento, CA, 916-448-1045.

2) Write or call the Army Corpse of Engineers to get the feasibility study on the Auburn Dam. **The public comment period began April 5 and ends June 15.** Tell them the project is too expensive and unacceptable in any form for its benefits. Contact Colonel Laurence R. Sadoff, District Engineer, 650 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916-551-3244.

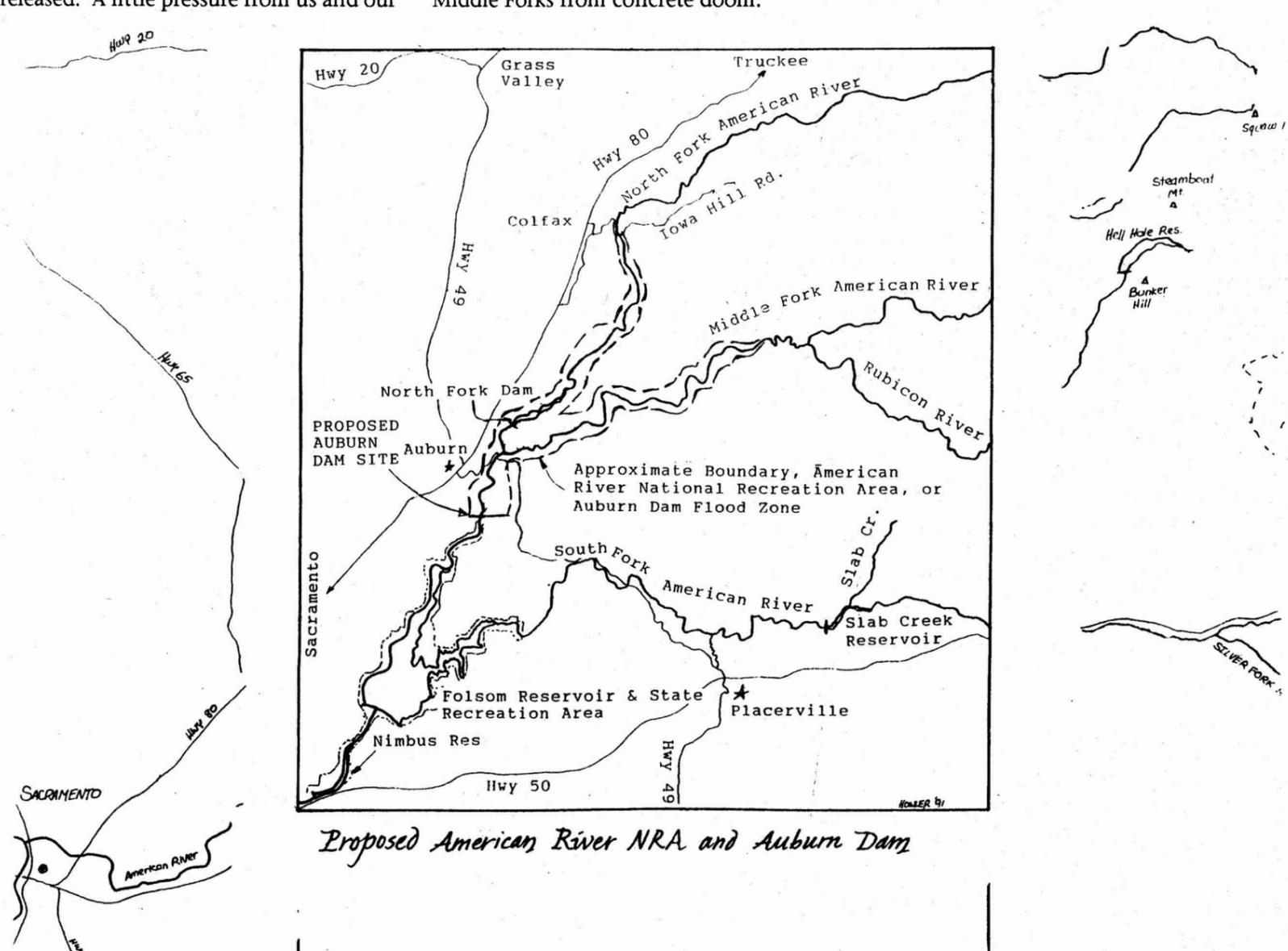
3) Write Senator John Seymour, US Senate, Washington, DC 20510 AND Congressperson Vic Fazio, House of Representatives, Washington, DC, 20515, to tell them that a multipurpose dam is unnecessary and that any dam that drowns the American River is unacceptable. Tell them to deauthorize the dam, to support the National Recreation designation, and to release the BLM American River NRA feasibility study. Urge them to prevent floodplain development and restore a meander belt and riparian zone along the lower American River as an economical and natural means of flood control. Request a reply!

4) Write the BLM to demand the release of the American River NRA Feasibility Study. \$300,000 of federal tax money was spent on this report: Dave Harris, BLM — Folsom Resource Area, 63 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA, 95630.

5) Call or pay a visit to the offices of floodplain developers Angelo Tsakopoulos at 7700 College Town Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826, 916-383-2500, to let him know what you think of a dam. He contributed \$100,000 (out of \$280,000 spent) to a campaign on last November's advisory measure directing the Sacramento County Supervisors to support a dam.

6) Attend the public hearings: May 14, 7 pm, CA Dept. Natural Resources Auditorium; May 16, 1 pm, Sacramento County Bd. of Supers. Chambers; May 22, 7 pm, Placer County Bd. of Supers. Chambers.

—MIKE HOWELL



*Proposed American River NRA and Auburn Dam*

# The Technology of Torture

BY ROBERT MARTEN

The fate of large carnivores is a common concern to us all. We know that strong herds of deer, elk and pronghorn antelope are necessary to the success of such priceless predators as the grizzly, wolf and cougar. It is axiomatic that such prey must outnumber predators in large proportions. The common factor in preventing the success of the largest carnivores has been the domestic cow and its attendant catastrophes: overgrazing, loss of habitat and "predator control."

But what about small carnivores? There isn't much written about their plight. Much of this is due to their mysterious nature. How many of the following animals are you familiar with or have you seen: the least weasel, long-tailed weasel, ermine, mink, otter, fisher, marten, wolverine, ringtail, ocelot, bobcat, lynx, or the arctic fox? They are secretive and retiring by nature, and without them the wilds would be overrun by rodents, rabbits and even porcupines. To catch a glimpse of one is a rare treat, for sadly, they are all in desperate straights.

Thirteen years ago my home was in a rather remote location. After some months I noticed that a particular pickup was parked near a stream by a dirt road two or three days a week in the late afternoons. Noting the days and times I set up surveillance by arriving before the truck did. The view through my binoculars presented a man with a racoon-skin hat hiking a set trail after parking his truck in the same familiar spot. It was initially unclear to me what was happening. I maintained the surveillance for two weeks, braving weather as cold as 10 above. After he left one frigid autumn evening, I decided to follow the trail. Hiking the first half mile produced no evidence of anything out of the ordinary. Just then I spotted a deer carcass. Investigation revealed it was staked to the ground. Suddenly something snapped sidelong onto my boot...a leghold trap. It took some doing to get free of the contraption. Thoroughly startled and slightly wounded, I realized I'd just had my first encounter with trapping. The trap was anchored into the frozen soil by a ground stake and I could not remove it. Darkness was setting in, so I resolved to come another day.

Two days later I walked the circuit again and made a morbid discovery: a nearly-dead mink lay shivering in a trap by the stream. The trap had not closed on one of his legs, but rather snapped together on top of his lower abdomen. Internal hemorrhage was killing him as I watched in horror. Seeing no other recourse, I found a heavy rock and crushed his skull with it. After removing his destroyed body from the trap, I buried him as best I could, intent on depriving the trapper of his pelt. I trudged home and pondered the situation somberly—for I had never killed before. This beautiful but unfortunate animal was to be the first of many.

Considerable research since then has clarified a number of mysteries about trapping for me. Library books and trade journals yield a wealth of information. Target animals are called "fur-bearers." This is a chauvinistic term reducing the intrinsic value of nature to its usable parts. It is not unlike men and women referring to one another by their genitals. Non-target animals such as squirrels, birds, badgers, cats and dogs who are inadvertently trapped are termed "trash." Easy come, easy go. One trapper's wife created a full-sized living room rug out of domestic tabby cats.

Trappers themselves are very unique. They have a traditional image of being independent mountain men, unfettered by society and totally free. To read the magazine *Fur-Fish-Game*, one is likely to be left with the impression that trappers are decent, benign, humane, saintly living legends. This flowery representation bears little resemblance to the facts. A long-term computer operator at NCIC (National Crime Investigation Center) remarked once that he had never run the name of a trapper through the system that didn't have a yellow sheet. A startlingly large proportion of trappers are felons. What this ostensibly suggests is that trappers are simply criminals with a license to practice one form of economically acceptable criminality. There is no Dachau or Bergen-Belsen available, so trapping licenses are issued to fill the need.

Trappers, you should know, always carry a gun and a club, either a short carbine or a .22 caliber pistol. This is so they can pummel or shoot their quarry in the head and prevent damage to the pelt. This is somewhat inconsistent with Federal law since ex-felons may not bear firearms. I know of several cases when this didn't pose any obstacle to the trapper/felon. So if you imagine direct confrontation is a viable remedy to trapping, you now know the high character and potential of your adversary.

In nearly all states, each trap must bear a metal tag with the name, address and telephone number of the owner affixed, unless the trap is placed on private land. Most trapping in the west is part of the "multiple use" doctrine on public land. One anti-trapping enthusiast informed me that after repossessing well over three hundred traps, she found only one that was legally tagged! So not only are these morons criminals, they don't even bother to follow the laws which govern

their licensure! They are unanimously trapping illegally! Incidentally, that lone tagged trap was destroyed by a sledgehammer and tossed through the addressee's large living room picture window during a thirty below cold snap.

In trapping journals, lost traps are universally attributed to theft by other trappers, proving perhaps that trappers know full well what kind of miscreants their lot are. They are a macho bunch and cannot imagine that a tree-hugger would dare infringe upon their God-given rights. Only another macho slob would venture to attempt that!

Now then, it's countermeasure time! You will need some basic equipment when you run traplines. First, a good quality camouflage from head to toe. Second, a gunny sack. This will serve several purposes: collecting garbage, collecting traps and covering and restraining trapped animals while you free them. Trapped animals don't know the good guys from the bad guys, and unless they are very weak, are not to be trifled with. Once you collect your first traps, practice opening them with your feet, or one hand and one foot, so you'll be prepared to juggle a wild animal with your remaining appendages when the day arrives for you to liberate the real thing. Third, a pair of heavy gauntlets. Fourth, a light-duty set of boltcutters. Fifth, two large vise grips or "C" clamps to compress trap springs. Sixth, dark canvas shoe covers that can be laced at the ankles to obfuscate your footprints. Launder these thoroughly after every use. Seventh, you will need a sidearm, for the heartbreaking fact is, eventually you'll discover an animal beyond help where death will be an act of kindness. And eighth, you will need to acquire a metal detector since traps are dark or rusty and concealed by light brush or dead grass. Traps and wire snares are difficult to find otherwise.

The metal detector need not be expensive, unless you're moderately anal-retentive and like to collect old coins (Old coins may in fact help pay for the equipment!). Radio Shack's #60-3003 at \$19.95 or #63-3001 at \$39.95 should be adequate. I bought my \$100 model for thirty dollars at a pawn shop which guaranteed my money back if it didn't work. Detectors are often available at rock shops and coin shops. Buy one and use it! Fancy features are unnecessary since the metal you will be seeking will be on the surface of the earth. If you work in a swampy area where most trapping is done in shallow water or near the shore, Radio Shack's #63-3003 at \$89.95 has a waterproof search coil and will be very effective. One feature is essential... an earphone. The detectors "bleep" when they find metal above or below the sensing coil, and you won't want to "bleep" on a mission like this. Get a roll of camouflage duct-tape and olive drab paint and make the instrument appear invisible. There is no one who look quite as dorky as some Bozo sweeping the ground with a metal detector!

As for a sidearm, a .22 caliber revolver will do. I realize many people are uncomfortable around guns, but in America they attract less attention than metal detectors. If you are going to own a firearm, then a trapline is the time and place for it. There are firearms training courses specifically for self-defense, but the cost of a one day training session can equal the price of a handgun alone. Since men have regularly been requisitioned to become paid assassins for the state, perhaps you could ask around for a veteran to assist you and instruct you. Certainly someone will sympathize and volunteer to help.

The logistics of running a trapline are somewhat complex. The major difficulty is finding the trapline, since every trapper's special area is quite sacred to him and he keeps it a well-guarded secret. The first clue is that trappers always begin by a road that is reasonably accessible, even with snow on the ground. The days of trappers hiking fifty mile traplines are over, only the slob remain. There is almost always a stream, pond or lake nearby, since these areas produce the highest yields for the trapper. He will exploit tiny animal trails that weave in and out of the brush near the water in setting his traps and snares. Other favored sets are by culverts and inside road drainage pipes. Often the big

giveaway is the presence of bait. A carcass staked to the ground is intended to attract wolves, coyote and cougar. Bits of cut-up fur, fish, rabbit, muskrat or entrails are an invitation to foxes, racoons and the weasel family. Feathers suspended from a tree branch lure foxes and wildcats. Nearby you will find traps carefully camouflaged in shallow depressions. The key to success lies in surveillance and perseverance. By law, trappers must check their traps at least every 48 hours for humane reasons. Not that they do, but eventually they will return. If you hike, bike or drive a particular back-country road quite often, begin to take mental notes of any recurring visitors to a specific area. Get dates, times, vehicle descriptions, license numbers and profiles of people you observe to correlate with other observations. Lists of licensed trappers are also available from many state Fish and Game offices.

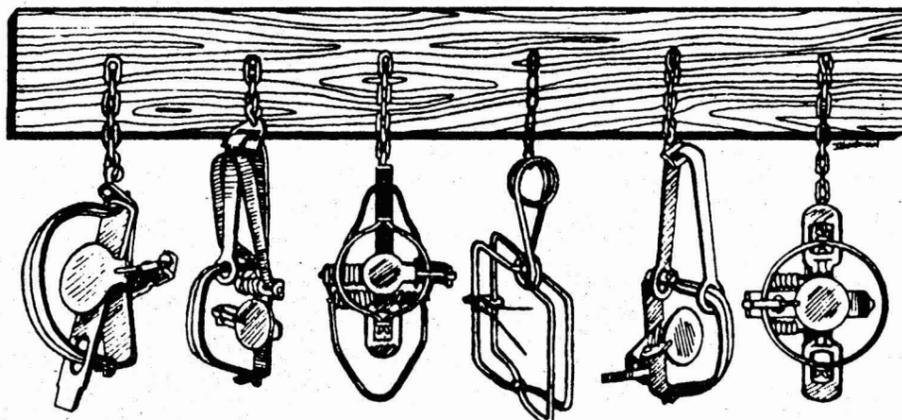
Once a line has been found, things get pretty tense. As a staunch advocate of working alone, here I find an exception. If you have a trusted colleague or two, one of you should keep some discreet distance parallel to the trap-removal worker simply to stand watch. This ultimately will reduce the chance of homicide, because a trapper, I feel, is capable of just about anything. Your colleague/s could also be of great aid to you if a larger carnivore like a wolf is to be released. Otherwise, simply yank the traps out of the ground stake and all. If the stake doesn't budge, the boltcutters will come in handy. Once the traps are collected, transport them to some secure, neutral territory and destroy them one by one with a sledgehammer. Depending upon how thorough or obsessive you are, you may be wise to bury them or drop them down an old mine shaft or well.

*Ecodefense*, published by Ned Ludd Books, has several excellent chapters dealing with trapping. Included are plans for an effective animal restraining noose. Read it, study it, and construct it! However, should you ever encounter a trapped cougar, wolverine or bear, all your best preparations are for naught. Extreme injury or death may be the consequence of attempting to restrain these species. There is only one awkward solution to this problem I am aware of, and it involves the destruction of the trap's retaining rings with a high-powered rifle. Armor-piercing bullets are commonly available at gun shows for .30 06, .308, .303 British, 8mm Mauser and a number of other old military calibers and are perfect for the job. Find an aiming angle likely to be least injurious to the ensnared mammal and fire slightly high at the retaining spring to allow for the parallax of the rifle's open sights or scope. Repeat from another angle to destroy the other spring. The entrapped animal's leg will be sharply jarred or possibly even fractured by the impacts, but once both springs have been rendered useless, the trap will open on its own. This solution is far from ideal but has worked at least once on a bear trap.

This then is your pre-season primer. Generally trapping season begins late autumn. There is nothing quite as satisfying as watching a freed animal disappear into its environment again!

You have a number of assignments: Visit your local library and read everything they carry on trapping. One particularly fine book is *Animal Traps and Trapping*, by James A. Bateman, which discusses virtually every trap ever invented by sapient man. Find or buy a copy of *Ecodefense* and read and reread the chapters on trapping and security. Procure a metal detector and collect the other items listed above. Also go to Radio Shack and purchase "Getting Started in Electronics," #276-5003, for a paltry \$2.49. Read it, even if you were a music, pottery or drama major! Read it until you understand the basics. Within a year, all this crap I'm throwing at you will begin to make sense and will revolutionize your ability to contribute to the welfare of planet Earth in safety and security.

One final note for the philosophical purists among you: the leghold trap was originally invented to capture poachers during the Middle Ages. The result of medieval humanism, no doubt, this device protected the Feudal Lord's supply of wild game from overhunting. My, how times have changed!



## direct action for technology...

cars. Instead, the sacrifices Bush and Sununu want us to make for big oil and big energy are the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and our coastal ecologies. They want us to send more of our income directly to Big Oil by reinstating the oil depletion allowance. They want us to sacrifice precious land and scarce water to a polluting synthetic fuels industry. They want us to sacrifice our very bodies by submitting to radioactive and toxic emissions from nuclear plants and waste incinerators. Finally, the White House energy policy mandates an interventionist foreign policy. We know the price we are paying for that.

Why is the government pursuing its insane, seemingly suicidal energy policy? I believe it is a policy of energy brinkmanship. By delaying conservation and solar power options, they are trying to make the nuclear option inevitable. They will give us the choice of freezing in the dark or swallowing nuclear waste and they are confident that we are such hopeless energy addicts that we'll choose their way. But we know about addiction. Remember what Ron and Nancy told us? They told us to just say NO!

If we as a species have a future, it is a solar future. The solar future will not, however, be just like today only quieter and cleaner.

Solar energy is renewable but not free. If we were plants we could just spread out our leaves and collect as much as we needed, but we aren't plants. We can build photovoltaic solar panels, which convert sunlight to electricity at about 15% efficiency but at some cost. Solar panels are made of silica doped with poisonous chemicals like gallium arsenide. Crystals are grown from the silica by heating it to molten through electric induction heating in a vacuum chamber. Then the crystals are sawed into wafers to make the panels. The industry estimates that the finished panel will yield the amount of energy it took to fabricate it after about 5 years of use. Panels last maybe 20 years. So far there are no manufacturers who use solar generated electricity to make panels, so we are investing some of our fossil fuels capital in solar technology. And we'll need to invest an unknown amount of energy in cleaning up pollution from the manufacturing process. The net energy is the energy yield of a technology minus the energy invested in recovering it. To have a chance of developing a renewable solar economy, we would need to use much of the remaining fossil fuel to create a solar infrastructure, fuel we are now squandering in the Persian Gulf.

Besides photovoltaics, other potentially sustainable solar technologies include solar heating and cooling, wind and small hydro, solar produced hydrogen and biofuels. I say potentially sustainable, because if they are not implemented correctly, they can be ecologically disastrous too.

For example, it has been proposed to make fuels out of crop residues or to grow crops for fuel on agriculturally marginal land. Crop residues usually need to be returned to the land to provide nutrients. The alternative is to use artificial fertilizer at a greater energy cost than the residues would yield. Marginal land is wildlife habitat and usually steep and erosion prone and should not be cultivated. That doesn't mean there are no possibilities for biofuels. Human and animal sewage can be digested to make methane gas. The byproduct is an excellent fertilizer. About 80% of US grain production is now fed to livestock. If we gave up eating meat, we could make more than enough alcohol fuel to keep us driving around. On the other hand, there are a lot of starving people in the world who would also like that grain.

Solar energy can generate some net concentrated energy in the form of food, fibre and electricity, but the amount per area is small because most of the solar energy is consumed by the various structures that have to be maintained and operated to collect and concentrate the energy.

Luckily, there are many ways to cut our energy consumption. Amory Lovins of the Rocky Mountain Institute maintains that the US can cut its energy use to 1/4 of its current consumption. Vastly more efficient light bulbs, cars and electric motors are where the big savings can be had, but as Lovins says, "saving electricity is like eating a lobster: if you extract only the large chunks of meat from the tail and claws and throw away the rest, you will miss a comparable amount of tasty morsels tucked in the crevices." Electricity, like lobster, is a luxury. If we carefully redesign our engineered industrial systems to live on our solar income, we'll be able to afford some. And if we have less energy, perhaps we'll value it more. But there is no room in this energy equation for growth. Especially population growth. There is no slack in this scheme.

John Holdrun, head of the energy and resources program at UC Berkeley says that, "As hard as controlling population growth may be, it is likely to be easier than providing increasing numbers of people with energy. Supplying 5.3 billion people in 1990 with an average of 2.6 kW per capita, is severely straining the planet's technological, managerial and environmental resources, and crucial human needs are going unmet. Supposing optimistically that tremendous

progress in energy efficiency makes it possible to provide an acceptable standard of living at an average of 3 kW per person (that's half the figure for W. Germany today). Then 14 billion people would use three times today's energy. Without a major effort to limit its growth, population will probably stabilize at around 14 billion."

We can't do it. We can't provide the world's population with the current first world standard of living with alternative technology. We can't even do it today with fossil fuel technology. Nor can we even continue to keep the first world living in the style to which it has become accustomed. We are living in a fairy land! You know the stories where a mortal is abducted to fairyland. There he becomes so addicted to fairy food and drink and music, that he cannot leave. Centuries go by in the real world. When the fairies finally boot him out, everything he once loved is dead and gone.

### POPULATION

Well, how do we get out of fairyland before it's too late? Changing the way we live means pulling a U-turn on energy consumption and population growth. These are very hard concepts for humans to accept. Especially the idea of population reduction. Earth Firsters have taken a lot of criticism for our uncompromising stand on overpopulation. Most often we are accused of being Malthusians. Well I'll say it now, Malthus was right. About some things. He was also wrong about a lot of things.

Malthus' theory goes like this: population increases geometrically while food supply increases only



arithmetically. Since food supply will never keep up with demand, when populations exceed this carrying capacity, starvation will occur. Darwin's theory of natural selection was based in part on Malthus' ideas. Animals have tremendous reproductive capacity, far in excess of what is needed for mere replacement. More animals are born than survive, and it is this excess that allows natural selection to take place. Humanists reject Malthus because they see that technology can actually increase food supply at a higher than arithmetic rate. It's true, food production rates have been characterized by gains due to new technology; phenomenal ones in the past century; yet they are soon eaten up by growing populations. Malthus was correct in seeing that there are limits to population growth.

Malthus was somewhat of an ecological visionary, but he was a social reactionary. He was against birth control as well as relief for the poor. Opposition to birth control is yet another pathology of civilization. Only civilized people and people colonized by civilized people threaten the biosphere with overpopulation. Primal people and wild animals keep their numbers within the limits of their ecosystems.

Contrary to Malthus' starvation theory, population self regulation mechanisms are found throughout nature. A species which constantly exhausted its food supply to the point where all members were weakened by starvation, would quickly be eliminated by predators. All animal populations which have been the subject of observation have been found to suffer periodic declines in numbers which are not the result of starvation. The fluctuating populations of snowshoe hares are a classic study in ecology. When snowshoe hare populations crash, it is not because their food supply is depleted or because predation is taking its toll. Rather, cyclical fluctuations occur because fewer

young are born and of those born, fewer survive to adulthood. Feeling crowded? Eat your young. That's nature's way.

Let me give you a human example. The Tapirape of central Brazil value small families. They believe that a woman should not have more than three living children. When excess births occur, the infants are immediately buried in the ground. The Tapirape say they do this because they "do not want thin children." They say it is difficult for a father to supply a large family with meat through hunting. Though there is plenty of manioc root to feed a growing population, when Tapirape say "I am hungry" they mean "I am hungry for meat." They choose to live within the bounds of their environment so that they can have the quality of life they value.

Anthropological studies are showing that most primal gatherer hunter people needed to work only a few hours a day to provide themselves with a healthful, high protein diet. Life expectancy, once past childhood, ranged from middle aged to quite old. Ceremonial and artistic pursuits filled the abundant leisure hours. I think that what a lot of us are discovering now is that compared to our present miserable urban lives as wage slaves, the life of primal people and even animals looks very good to us. Life "nasty, brutish and short" seems more applicable to the crime-filled concrete jungles than the tropical rainforest. The gatherer hunter way of life was only possible, however, if population density remained within the limits of the ecosystem to provide.

According to anthropologist Marvin Harris, the most widely used method of population control during much of human history was probably some form of female infanticide. Limiting the number of females for obvious reason, would control population more effectively than limiting males. Many peoples also used prolonged nursing and sexual taboos to delay conception. Poisonous herbal abortifacients were sometimes used, but abortion was often done by purely mechanical techniques. Tight bands around the stomach, blows to the abdomen and jumping up and down on a plank placed across the woman's belly until blood spurts out of the vagina. The attempt to terminate pregnancy often terminated the life of the pregnant woman. Infanticide was the less dangerous option.

We who are civilized look upon these practices with horror. But it is interesting to compare the morality of a gatherer hunter woman faced with the need to destroy her infant and the morality of the modern anti-choice fundamentalist busy breeding new souls for her god. The "primitive" woman is the one who has my respect. She is doing her part to preserve all the forms of life in her environment. The modern, fundamentalist woman is doing her part to hasten Armageddon and the destruction of all life.

Yet I can see how we got from there to here. Certainly the trauma and stress caused by primitive population control must have been impetus for the development of agriculture and other technologies that expanded food production. Agriculture and technology in turn made civilization and modern morality possible. This is the real meaning of population pressure. Humans were driven to develop agriculture and technology because of their humanist sensibilities, not because they were starving but because they wanted all their babies to live. But having all your babies live is not a natural process. What is natural is having enough of your babies live to perpetuate your species within the limits of your environment.

We have already surpassed our limits. Our numbers are tearing down the biological support systems of the planet. The good news, though, is that we now have humane forms of birth control, not death control, but birth control available to us. Safe, surgical sterilization, effective barrier methods and increasingly safer hormonal methods. Perhaps the whole reason for humanity's long dalliance with technology has been so that we could develop the capability of non-stressful population control. Now that we have it, let's use it!

I think I've made my point about the urgency of birth control, but it's important to remember that it's not purely a numbers game. Anne and Paul Ehrlich say that "Even a world population of 2 billion people, less than half of the size of today's, could easily pop enough rivets to destroy civilization if everyone tried to live like Americans." The Ehrlichs have an equation that attempts to balance the effects of population and consumption. It's simple:  $Impact = Population \times Consumption$ . Since the average American consumes 531 times what a typical Ethiopian consumes, its clear that any population control efforts should start here.

What is an optimum population and technology level? That is a very hard question to answer, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't ask it. As an exercise, I like to ask people to make a list of what they would keep from our high tech society. For me at least, this list is much shorter than the list of what I would reject. My

*continued next page*

# EARTH NIGHT 1991



list includes telephones but not television. Buses and trains but no private cars. Birth control, of course. And no petrochemicals or fossil fuels. I want to see a population small enough that there are huge expanses of wilderness. I like Paul Shepard's concept. Let people live in towns along the coasts, since that's where they mostly seem to like to live anyway. Limit the population to that which can be supported by regional, organic agriculture. Then leave the interiors of continents as wilderness. Humans who wanted to live as gatherer hunters would be free to live in the wilderness too. There would be no need to extract mineral resources from the interior since there are already enough of these materials in our dumps and cities. Mine the landfills of Chicago, compost the rest and turn it back to wilderness!

## ACTION

Well I'm sure you are all getting tired of the theory part of my talk here and want to know what kind of action we can take to solve some of these problems. Direct action for appropriate technology is somewhat problematic. We could protest in front of oil companies and demand that they go out of business. We could protest against nukes, we've done that. We could protest against the war for oil, we're doing that. One thing we could do more of is educating people about energy conservation and population growth. There is an astounding level of ignorance about technological and ecological realities. People want to believe experts with easy answers. If you don't have a techno fix — get outta here! We must convince humanity that they ignore the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics at their own peril!

Direct action for appropriate technology has to

start with challenging the idea of growth and especially the incursion into wilderness and wildlife habitat. Protect ancient forests. Civilization and deforestation have always gone hand in hand. Wood was the oil of the pre-industrial world. Londoners complained bitterly when wood shortages forced them to burn coal which blackened the city. Defending forests is fundamental.

It's important to stand up for population control. 20 years ago, activists were not afraid to speak up. Here's what Martin Luther King had to say: "We spend billions to create engines and strategies for war, but we spend only paltry sums for population planning, even though its spontaneous growth is an urgent threat to life on our planet."

Since the religious right has been on the offensive in this country, it seems progressives have been afraid to touch the issue of population growth. Somehow the notion has gotten out that population control is genocide. What isn't being discussed is the urgent reality that uncontrolled population growth is ecocide. The world needs a rational, fair population policy, and I've got one: a Ten Year, Voluntary Moratorium on Human Reproduction. Look what we could accomplish with a decade of reproductive restraint:

1) If we started now, instead of growing from 5.3 billion to 6.3 billion by the year 2000, we could reduce population to 4.7 billion, just above what it was in 1980. We'd be able to house the homeless, feed the hungry and employ the jobless.

2) In that ten years, we would change our attitudes toward children. All children would become precious beings and those who are unwanted and neglected today would be sought out by adults with love and attention to give.

3) We'd change our attitudes toward reproduction. Many people would realize that they only wanted children because of social pressures. Those who truly wanted children would have the ten years to think about it and get ready to give a child their absolute best.

The real reason for promoting the 10 Year Moratorium is to do something to counteract our culture's rampant pro-natalism and to illustrate the direness of our situation.

Actually there's another population campaign that makes the Ten-Year Moratorium look mild. It's called the Voluntary Human Extinction Movement. Its founders view it as a very positive campaign, they say that "Once we accept that humans are hopeless as a species, there is renewed hope for the survival of the planet as a life form."

Here's another really great campaign: a mass vasectomy action. Say a group of you politically correct, feminist men decide its time to take all the muss and fuss out of your sex life. Don't get snipped alone! Go to the clinic as a group and hold a press conference to let the world know why you did it.

Let's talk about the other part of the environmental impact equation, consumption. A few years ago, Earth First! Women's Action Group had a No Shopping As Usual campaign at christmas time. We did demos at shopping malls to tell people their shopping was wiping out the planet. One group even staged a puke-in at a mall. Their signs said "The World Is

Dying While You're Out Shopping" and "Shopping Makes Me Sick." Well that's a bit gross and didn't make them many friends, but you might try something like setting up a booth for shopaholics at your local mall and handing out a twelve-step program for consumer addicts. I thought of that as kind of a joke, but when I told the Yuppie women in my aerobics class about it one day, they responded very sincerely and wanted to sign up for the program. These women truly felt they needed to be cured of consumeritis.

Here's another really fun thing you can do — it's modern day Luddism, where we directly attack the high tech consumer gadgets that are destroying our planet. Have a TV smashing! It's become a spring tradition at UC Berkeley, and it would be great to see it happen on campuses nationwide. All you do is gather up a bunch of TV's, start with the one in your living room, but you can get more at second hand stores and garbage dumps. Take them all to a public place and go after them with sledgehammers. And while you're at it, do in some other energy wasting, frivolous appliances. They're everywhere: hair dryers, electric pencil sharpeners, microwave ovens, electric blankets, electric nail polish dryers! My favorite are those phallic-looking electric curling irons. Throw 'em in a pile, smash 'em to smithereens!

After your appliance smashing, then it's time to take the campaign directly to the corporations responsible for manufacturing and advertising this stuff: The pushers. Go to your local CFC manufacturer, oil refinery or useless electronic gadget factory and demand that they either shut down or start making ecologically sound products. Demand Earth Jobs First! for workers. People who work for wages should have the right to do work that does not kill the earth.

Wherever you can, take your issues directly to the corporate sources of the problem. Most of the time government agencies function merely as the public whipping boys of our shadow, corporate government. If you have a problem with the Forest Service, don't forget that G-P and Weyerhaeuser are behind it. If you're fighting a development, don't just fight the city council, go after the development corporation and the bank that funds it! Following Redwood Summer, we initiated Corporate Fall. Corporate Fall took demonstrations to the homes of top timber execs on the North Coast, occupying their front lawns and even their hot tubs. These rich men who control our world think they have isolated themselves. They think they are safe. Well they are not safe from the drought, from the greenhouse effect, from ozone depletion, from nuclear radiation, and they are not safe from us!

I'd like to close with one final thought. So you want to save the planet. You know about the 50 simple things, and you're doing them. Then there's the 10 difficult things like giving up your car, not having children, never buying another piece of plastic again... You're working on those. And there's the dozen or so fun things I just told you about. But there's one more thing, the one imperative thing. We must learn to live wild, in harmony with the planet's rhythms and cycles just as the untamed creatures of nature. Because we have come to the realization that if we don't do this, we will die. Live Wild!

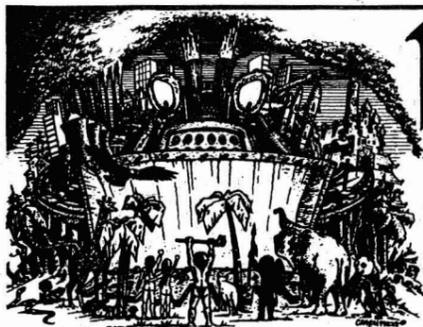
## PREDATOR PROJECT FUND RAISER



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L or XL  
rush \$20 ea. to: Jackie Taylor  
PO box 2193  
avi. nc 28602  
profits go to PAAW and South PAAW

(don't be caught without one)



# International News

## Nagara Gawa Day

April 29, 1991 is Nagara River Day. Events will go on all day. Demonstrate in your own creative style, but whatever you do, plan to assemble near the damsite at 2pm for a mass action. We are expecting 10,000 plus.

From 10am to 4pm there will be music and performances on the stage at the event ground on the Kuwana side of the Ibi River below the Ise Ohashi Bridge, and a bazaar and food and drinks available. The best place to camp is the pine grove on the dike between the Kiso and Nagara Rivers.

### Help Stop The Nagara River Estuary Dam

Save Japan's last undammed river!

- Of Japan's 109 major rivers, the Nagara is the last undammed main stream.
- The Nagara River supports Japan's richest and healthiest fresh water ecosystem, with 36 species of fish, numerous varieties of shellfish, and abundant bird and animal life.
- The *satsuki-masu* is a unique warm-water salmon that breeds only in the Nagara River. The dam will mean its extinction.
- Japan's largest population of natural (non-hatchery) *ayu* (*Plecoglossus altivelis altivelis*) fish breeds in the Nagara, and is seriously threatened by the dam.
- Commercially important *Yamato shijimi*, shellfish used in miso soup, are already being devastated by dam construction.
- The plan for the dam is thirty years out of date.
- There has never been an environmental impact assessment.
- The Ministry of Construction has consistently refused to make public the survey data on which they claim the dam's plan is based.
- Three former Environmental Agency directors have spoken out strongly against the dam. The last director, Kitahgawa Ishimatsu, lost his job in the cabinet because of his courageous opposition to the dam.
- Forty members of the Diet, from across party lines, are strongly opposed to the dam.
- The Big Four major Japanese daily newspapers have all editorialized against the dam.
- All major concerned academic associations and Japanese nature conservation groups are totally opposed to the dam.
- Although the dam is ostensibly being built for flood control, independent river management experts agree that the dam will actually increase flood danger by bottleneaking the river near its mouth, putting more pressure on the already extremely high surrounding dikes.
- Even local officials who support the dam admit that no one needs or wants the water that will be stored

(and deteriorate in quality) in what will become Japan's second largest reservoir.

- In petition drives, independent polls, and numerous demonstrations, local residents have expressed opposition to the dam and demanded either outright abandoning of the project or a freeze on construction while a thorough and public environmental and engineering assessment is carried out. The Ministry of Construction has totally refused.
  - Japanese citizens, from Hokkaido to Kyushu, concerned about Japan's fast-disappearing natural legacy, have seized on the Nagara River as an important symbol and gathered in teach-in symposia around the country and in colorful mass demonstrations both on the Nagara and in Tokyo, making the Nagara River Dam a household word nationwide.
  - The Nagara Dam is the best-known and most blatant example of the kind of big-money policies, unnecessary development, and irresponsible environmental destruction that the Ministry of Construction is involved in throughout Japan and trying to export to the developing world.
  - If the Nagara River Estuary Dam is completed it will not only be a major, irreversible environmental disaster, but also a failure of democracy and citizen power in Japan. The broad-based, truly grassroots movement to stop the dam is growing daily, but the dam is now under construction and *time is running out!!*
- JAPAN ENVIRONMENT MONITOR

## The Roof of Europe

*The countryside without water is not real countryside. It is only fossilized scenery, eyes without light. This wondrous miracle that sets everything in motion is water!*

—Miroslav Martis

We are the roof of Europe. Water, which falls down to this roof, fills our water sources or flows away. This is the only water we can use. Water is flowing away more quickly with the straightening of our rivers and with the decreasing of our forests.

The forest with its soil is a gigantic reservoir that we are not able to replace with expensively built water storage facilities. This reservoir slows drainage into the slow moving one below. Exact figures are not important, but anybody can see that an entire lack of water in our rivers is connected with the decrease of the storage ability of the forests by thoughtless production.

—FOREST PROTECTION GROUP, VLK Presov, Czechoslovakia

## Attention Nissan Owners!

By owning a Nissan you are in a special position to help save the world's rainforests! Nissan is a member of the Marubeni Corporation group of companies which is the largest importer of logs from Sarawak, Malaysia, the home of the Penan and other forest tribes. Marubeni is also the largest importer of tropical timber in the world — 1,058,000 m<sup>3</sup> in 1989! By sending a letter you can pressure Nissan and Marubeni to cease their involvement in rainforest destruction.

Marubeni has been involved in the illegal clearfelling of tropical mangroves in Indonesia, which has recently incurred the temporary suspension of their logging license by the Indonesian government. This logging is destroying the most pristine area of mangroves left in Asia to produce computer paper for the Japanese market. This area is the habitat of 45 protected animals. The traditional landowners, the Iraratu tribe, are losing their home and livelihood and in many cases they have received no compensation at all for the use of their land by the logging companies.

Marubeni is also logging the last remaining temperate rainforests in Chile. In Malaysia, Marubeni is producing the lethal and highly unstable defoliant, 2,4-D, which breaks down into Dioxin, the most poisonous substance known.

Write to Yataka Kume and tell him you will not buy any of his products until he ends his involvement in Rainforest destruction. Yataka Kume, pres. Nissan Motor Co. Ltd., 17-1, Ginza 6-Chome, Chuo-Ku, Tokyo 104-23, Japan. Japanese companies and their affiliates who are heavily involved in

rainforest destruction:  
**Marubeni and affiliated Companies**  
 Nissan Cars and Trucks  
 Canon Office Machines & Cameras  
 Hitachi

**Mitsubishi Corporation and affiliated Companies:** Mitsubishi Cars and Trucks, Mitsubishi Electric and electronic products  
 Nissan Corporation cameras and related goods

**Nissho Iwai Corporation and affiliated Companies**  
 Sharp Corporation, Electronics  
 Daihatsu Cars and Trucks

**C. Itoh and affiliated Companies**  
 Shiseido Cosmetics  
 Pentax Lenses  
 Fujitso Computers & Fax machines  
 Fuji Electric products  
 Isuzu Utes, Van and Trucks

**Sumitomo Forestry Co. Ltd. and affiliated Companies**  
 NEC Corporation, Electronics  
 Mazda

Please do not buy any rainforest timbers such as meranti, merbau, ramin, teak, Phillipine mahogany or any products from the above companies until they cease their involvement in Rainforest logging.

Mustafa Tolbe, Director General of the United Nations Environment Program has stated, "Unless we change course we face, by the turn of the century, an environmental catastrophe as complete and irreversible as any nuclear holocaust."  
 —MELBOURNE RAINFOREST ACTION GROUP

JUVENILE DA-fuckin'-LINKWHINCE

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ATAMMY SAYS NEVER TALK TO PUCKY OPS!

EAT THE KICKS

# 1991 Round River Rendezvous: Green Mountains, Vermont

Greetings from the RRR '91 Committee. The planning for this year's gala event is going along pretty smoothly. We'll have kegs of Catamount and Long Trail, and the Port-a-potties are taken care of, so we can all rest easy.

The date that we have picked is August 5-12 — when things are relatively dry and after the black fly season (a very key detail). Come prepared anyway. Black flies don't bite; they suck.

The site will be in the Robb Ford Area of Green Mountain National Forest outside of Granville, Vermont. It is accessible from The Long Trail via Clark Brook Trail to Forest Service Road 55. A rough map will be printed in the next *Earth First!* journal. For a more detailed map send \$20 (or what you can) to POB 653, Greenfield, MA 01302.

All cans, bottles, milk jugs, tin and aluminum will be recycled.

## WORKSHOPS

I am currently in the throes of inviting people to lead workshops. So far I have invited Todd Nachowitz, Marc Chenier and Suzanne (James Bay); Cindy Hill and Jasper Carlton (legal shit); Jim O'Connor and Buck Young (spirituality and paganism); Jeff Elliot (PAW and the PAW proposal); Anne Stewart (writing grants); Jeff

Debonis (AFSEEE and the FS); David Orton (pesticides); The Save America's Forests crew (NFFA); Andrew (mapping); Jamie Sayen (Northern Forests).

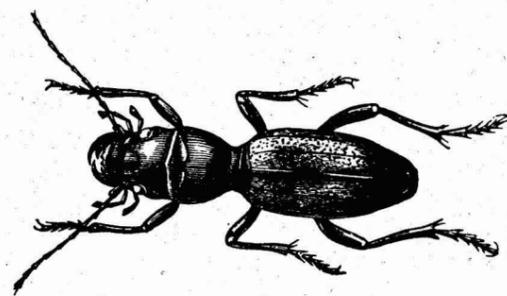
As you can see the list is somewhat lacking in a few key areas, namely **women doing workshops, western-based workshops** and whatever else you notice. **If you have suggestions as to more workshop ideas and people to run them please let me know ASAP!** Anne E. Peterman, PO Box 174, Burlington, VT 05402-0174, (802) 860-6053

## RIDES

Humpfrog is acting as ride coordinator for the West. Please let him know what you are doing ASAP, especially if you have a ride to offer. He won't get back to you until he's back West the first of June, but he would appreciate early correspondence. Anyone willing to coordinate rides in the Midwest should get in touch with him. Humpfrog, POB 4381, North Hollywood, CA 91617.

Other ride coordinators will be announced later.

Remember it is your responsibility to get in touch with the ride coordinators and find yourself a ride. Do it early.



cobbleson tiger beetle  
(Vermont's first officially protected insect)

## First Annual Black Swamp Rony

The rendezvous will be held in the Buckeye Basin, an area of marshes, forests and wetlands in Toledo, Ohio. The Buckeye Basin is a rare remnant of the Great Black Swamp which covered much of what is now northwestern Ohio. Buckeye Basin is even more unusual because it is located five minutes from downtown Toledo. The pseudo-pristine wilderness areas in the basin contain a diversity of wildlife including deer, hawks, a blue-spotted salamander hybrid (endangered), snails, snakes, groundhogs, and many other flora and fauna.

The city of Toledo, Ohio Dept of Transportation, and several developers have their greedy eyes on the basin. Their evil plan is to build a four-lane highway through it. They claim that some minor dumping near the edges of some of the marshes has made the whole basin worthless for wildlife. The reality is that it is a jewel in a concrete jungle, and cannot be appreciated by driving by on a street.

During the rendezvous there will be protests, a workshop, cleanups, and opportunities for direct action. What to bring: standard light camping gear (prepare for rain), full water containers (there is no water available), and food. Of course we ask that no illegal substances be brought. Bring canoes if you have them. For the protest bring posterboard, markers, and animal costumes. Bring a camera to record any dumping, conflicts, etc.

For site information call Greg or Diana at (419) 475-8890 and leave a message.

## Northwest Regional Rendezvous

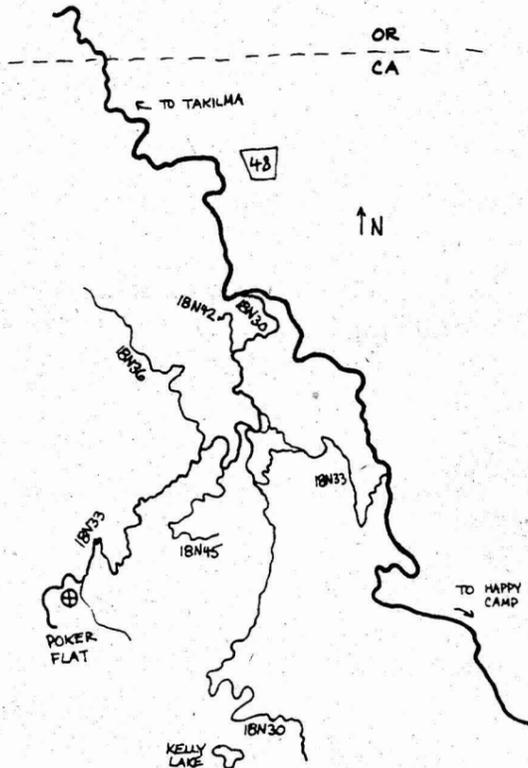
When: June 26 — July 1 in the Siskiyou Mountains on the Oregon/California border

Directions: From Grants Pass, OR or Crescent City, CA, take Hwy. 199 to Cave Junction, OR. About 1/2 mile South of Cave Junction, Or, take Rockydale Rd. (Rd. 5560) east until it ends at Waldo Rd. (Rd. 48). Go left about 1/4 mile to stop sign. This is "Takilma 4 corners". Continue on Rd. 48 towards Happy Camp, CA, for 15.6 miles. Turn right on Forest Service 18N30 which is marked with a sign saying "Kelly Lake." Turn right on FS 18N33 (see map) and proceed to Poker Flat.

The site is a meadow at about 5000 ft. elevation adjacent to the Siskiyou Wilderness. Rain and even snow are possible. There will probably be water on site, but a filter is recommended. Bet you last minute food supplies at Hammer's Market in Cave Junction. Be prepared for wilderness camping.

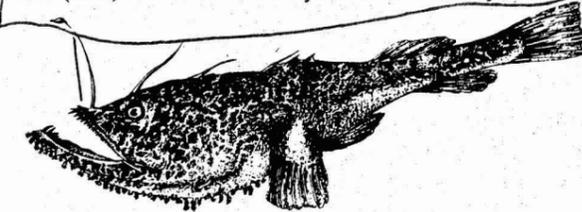
Workshops scheduled to date: Semipermanent ecological cooperative housing, Natural History of Siskiyou/Klamath Bioregion, Monitoring and appealing timber sales, Visions of Ecotopia, EF! Journal, Forest Service New Perspectives roadless area invasion, Endangered Species Act, Homebrewing for fun and biodiversity.

For more information, write to Southern Willamette EF!, PO Box 10384, Eugene OR 97440. Call (503) 343-7305. See you in the Siskiyou!



## Greater Adirondacks Bioregional EF! Gathering

MAY 10-12, Horseshoe Lake, Adirondack Mountains. Contact Anne Peterman at PO Box 174, Burlington, VT 05402-0174, (802) 860-6053



## Shame On Montana: Mining Video Available

The Cabinet Mountains Wilderness of Northwest Montana is set aside by Congress as protected public land under the Wilderness Act. However, mining industry geologists estimate \$9 billion worth of silver/copper ore lie beneath the peaks.

Two mining industry conglomerates, ASARCO and Noranda, with indisputable records of habitat destruction, wildlife endangerment, air, water and visual contamination, labor exploitation, community impoverishment and windfall profits, have hatched plans to excavate the ore body beneath the wilderness.

Collectively, the mining companies will remove 30,000 tons of wilderness every day for up to 30 years. The ASARCO and Noranda mining claims in the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness have been approved by the US Forest Service.

A new video, SHAME ON MONTANA, takes a grassroots look at the mining and airs views of local citizens and groups, including labor and conservation. Graphic close-ups of horrendous mining devastation in Montana are interspersed with breathtaking flyovers of the Cabinets.

SHAME ON MONTANA is a proactive work of advocacy for the wild and presents strong opposition to irresponsible mineral extraction. The 21 minute video is innovative and moving. Broadcast quality VHS videocassettes are available at cost for \$12.00 each from: World Wide Film Expedition, Box 7391, Missoula, MT 59807. Several copies of the video are also available free on loan. Please request video loans from the nonprofit World Wide Film Expedition.

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# BOOK REVIEWS

## POPULATION MATTERS

by Julian Simon, Transaction Publishers, New Brunswick, NJ

REVIEWED BY BILL McCORMICK

I just finished Julian Simon's new book on the many positive effects of unrestrained population growth, almost 600 pages of it, and I feel numb. Not because Simon raises any new or important arguments—as we will see in a minute—but because ten years ago this book would have received the dismissal it so richly deserves. Today, however, at least in some circles, Simon is seen as an innovative and important thinker on population matters. In recent years a variety of periodicals have published articles about Simon, including the *Whole Earth Review*, *Discovery*, *New York Times Magazine*, the *Progressive* and others.

It's not that Julian Simon doesn't have the right to be heard; of course he does. What I find most dismaying is how he skillfully paints himself as the underdog, valiantly and almost single-handedly doing battle with the ever-odious, anti-life "Population Control Establishment."

Simon was a key contributor to the US position paper at the UN Population Conference in Mexico City in 1984, which reversed the earlier, relatively sane US position on overpopulation to the 'full speed ahead on population growth for a more prosperous world' platform that still stands today. Simon, along with his fellow pro-natalist Ben Wattenberg (author of *The Birth Dearth*, 1987), became the ideological darlings of the the Reagan White House, and, along with the 'pro-life' constituency which they represent, helped influence the cutoff of US aid to international family planning efforts in 1985. This was all very much in keeping with the presidency of a man who thinks Native Americans live on "preservations" and made jokes about starting a nuclear war. Also a pretty slick accomplishment for such a beleaguered underdog as Simon, wouldn't you say?

If you think I have been a little harsh on Julian in these first few paragraphs, what do you say we let him speak for himself, so we can see exactly what all the fuss is about. One of the most innovative chapters in this book is entitled "Dump On Us, Baby, We Need It" (pg. 458), which smartly summarizes how "population growth that increases the volume of trash...bestows benefits on future generations":

"What is a waste to one community at one time is usually a valuable resource to a later community...Consider the "borrow pits" by the side of turnpikes, from which earth is taken for road-building. At first the pits seem a despoilation of nature, a scar on the land. But after the road is finished the borrow pits turn out to be useful for fishing lakes and reservoirs, and the land they occupy is likely more valuable than if the pits had never been dug.

"Even a pumped-out oil well—that is, the empty hole—probably has more value to subsequent generations than a similar spot without

a hole. The hole may be used as a storage place for oil or other fluids, or for some as-yet-unknown purpose...

"Human activities tend to increase the order and decrease the randomness of nature. One can see this from the air if one looks for signs of human habitation. Where there are people there will be straight lines and smooth curves; otherwise, the face of nature is not ordered."

Simon concludes this section: "Do I have a solution to the used-diaper problem? ...as with other wastes created in the past, human ingenuity will find a way to convert them to a valuable resource rather than a costly nuisance. The same is true of nuclear waste, of course." (p. 459-60)

But of course. Shoot, I'm starting to feel better already. Here we start to pick up Simon's *raison d'être*: population growth plus technological growth; a virtual panacea for all problems. In a humorous section on a ride down the New Jersey Turnpike (Simon is an enthusiastic supporter of more highways everywhere, even in the Third World—p. 176) Julian tells us how the automotive age has spared us the "horrors of horse pollution" (!) and how all the development, shopping malls and the like have covered "mosquito-infested marshes", "nauseating pig farms" and such. Spared such "revolting" sights, "Here we were breezing down the New Jersey Turnpike in an air-conditioned van on a safe, comfortable highway, at a speed discreetly above the 55 mile-per-hour limit, having a ball." (p. 20) Note the rhetoric employed here; man-made highways are "safe and comfortable", undeveloped land is "infested", "revolting", "full of horrors." Cotton Mather and the puritan fathers couldn't have said it better.

Briefly, to summarize some of Simon's other claims and statements:

On the environment: "...species extinction, the ozone layer, etc...there has not yet been time to confront or to understand. But experience suggests that most or all of these threats will also prove to be overblown or nonexistent." (p. 10)

"...the Amazon, which can be continuously used and improved at the same time, has hardly been tapped." (p. 156)

On agriculture: "...a greater population seems to diminish the chance of famine." (p. 98) "Further, when farmers need more land, they make more land." (p. 101) "Of course there is plenty of room in space for spaceships carrying hydroponic farms, a possibility for which the technology is already available without waiting for further developments." (p. 477)

On China: "...just a portion of the area of Beijing, would be enough for the entire population of China to stand upon." One of the most curious aspects of this book is that ultra-free enterpriser Simon goes on record several times supporting Marx and Engels' view on 'the myth of overpopulation.' Since several



leftist periodicals have now begun to voice cautious approval for Simon's theories, could this mean the pro-natalist left and the pro-natalist right are trying to consolidate their power? "Help yourself, China, by throwing away the West's intellectual trash about population control." (p. 202)

Even more curious, Simon, after going on and on relentlessly about the salutary effects of growthism, when questioned directly about the matter, answered thus:

Interviewer: "In keeping with your view on numbers, would you say we should reverse policy for India and urge them to have more children, to increase their birthrate so that they will have more people to solve their problems faster?"

Simon: "Not at all."

I: "Then you would encourage them to have fewer people?"

S: "No, I wouldn't encourage them at all... I consider that it is neither my place for the place of my country to recommend policies about these issues." (p. 394)

This is of course blatantly inaccurate, as Simon himself admits on page 531 that he helped write the Reagan position paper on population in 1984. In keeping with the 1984 motif, we see a world emerging where the Real is the Imaginary, Ecological Devastation is Ecological Gain, and where people who write government policy are poor, maligned underdogs. Paul Wachtel referred to this as "Growthpeak."

Simon ends his opus with the usual and obligatory comparisons of those of us interested in longterm population reduction to "racists", that we would lead to "death camp experiments" such as those "under Hitler" (p. 559) and so forth. He casts the debate in terms of the "pro-freedomists" (that's him) against the "pro-controllers." And then, this incredible conclusion: "...the pro-freedomists are also against war and pollution—who isn't—but we are also in favor of increasing life." You will recall I earlier quoted extensively from Simon's chapter on the multifarious benefits of pollution.

And so I close *Populations Matters*, exhausted and depressed. If the stakes of Mr. Simon's little game were not so high, his book would be a veritable repository of humor and mirth. The unavoidable fact is that everything in his book was meant to be taken entirely seriously, and its theories have won the applause of two presidents now, as well as a growing number of other pundits. And that's not funny, that's sick.

## LIVESTOCK PILLAGE OF OUR WESTERN PUBLIC LANDS

Edwin G. Dimick

©1990 by Edwin G. Dimick, P.O. Box 265, Caldwell, ID 83606  
\$14, plus \$1 postage and handling  
293 pages, 17 photos and 14 tables

REVIEWED BY LYNN JACOBS

I have been writing a book on public lands ranching for four years, but had no idea anyone else was. So I was surprised and glad to see *Livestock Pillage of Our Western Public Lands* appear out of the blue last week (I'd never heard of Edwin Dimick). Along with Denzel and Nancy Ferguson's *Sacred Cows* and my *Waste of the West*, There will be three — count 'em three — books on public lands ranching available.

Edwin Dimick writes from the perspective of a well educated, rural Western old-timer with a passion to protect the environment. He grew up on a homestead in eastern Utah in the 1920s and 1930s. Ranching in the area was, of course, omnipresent and omnipotent, and he learned early how it affected the land and the society. Later, twenty eight years with the Forest Service, SCS, and BLM in Utah, Nevada, Oregon, and Idaho gave him extensive first-hand knowledge of the stock raising business and taught him "how not to conserve and protect public lands."

Dimick wants to educate the public, which he says is generally ignorant about public lands ranching, and environmentalists, who he claims have mostly failed to recognize the problem or do much about it.

His book is self-published and, by his own admission, still "encumbered with errors" that he hopes to work out in the second printing. Regardless, it contains much of use and interest and is, I think, well worth reading.

*Livestock Pillage* explains Dimick's concerns about the deterioration of the West due to ranching. It recounts childhood memories and later experiences with the land managing agencies and provides many vivid personal observations of ranching abuse (perhaps the most effective aspect of the book). It offers much on range/ranching ecology, politics, administration, and economics, though much I found irrelevant to the theme is also scattered about. Dimick writes aggressively, but the book is loosely organized, gets fuzzy at times, and tends to wander onto tangents (most of which, however, prove interesting if you go with the flow).

The message is what's important, and Dimick has a lot to say. If the title doesn't clarify for you where he stands on public lands ranching, this will: "Livestock grazing abuse has and is scarring most of the public lands in the west that I have seen.... Livestock grazing should be eliminated from all public lands in the United States."





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## Earth First! Directory

The Earth First! Directory lists the contact points for the international Earth First! movement. It is divided into four sections: 1) Continent-wide EF! offices, 2) International contacts, 3) Active EF! Chapters or Groups, and 4) Contact persons where there is as yet no active EF! group. If you are interested in becoming active with the Earth First! movement, reach the folks listed for your area.

*Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal* provides a forum for Earth First!ers around the world. This directory is provided as a service to independent EF! groups. If you would like to be listed as a contact or as a group, or have address changes or corrections, contact Earth First!, Box 5176, Missoula, MT 59806. 406-728-8114.

**LOCAL NEWSLETTERS:** Addresses marked with a "\*" or that have a newsletter title produce either an Earth First! newsletter or regular mailings for their area or issue. Contact them directly to receive their newsletter or otherwise be on their mailing list.

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- \*Earth First! Foundation, POB 1683 Corvallis, OR 97339 (contributions to the Foundation are tax-deductible)
- \*Arizona Earth First!, POB 3412, Tucson, AZ 85722
- \*Bay Area Earth First!, POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516
- \*Big Bend Earth First!, POB 20582, Tallahassee, FL 32316
- \*Colorado Earth First!, Box 1166, Boulder, CO 80306
- \*EF! Biodiversity Project, POB 3132, Boulder, CO 80307-3132 (Contributions to the EF! Foundation earmarked for the Biodiversity Project are tax-deductible.)
- \*EF! Ocean-Dolphin Task Force, POB 77062, SF, CA 94107-7062
- \*Ecotopia Earth First!, POB 34, Garberville, CA 95440
- \*Everglades Earth First!, POB 557735, Miami, FL 33255
- \*Florida Earth First!, POB 13864, Gainesville, FL 32604
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Priest River, ID 83856  
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AUSTRALIA  
phone: 066-21-85-05

**Marianne Heynemann**  
PO Box 256  
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AUSTRALIA

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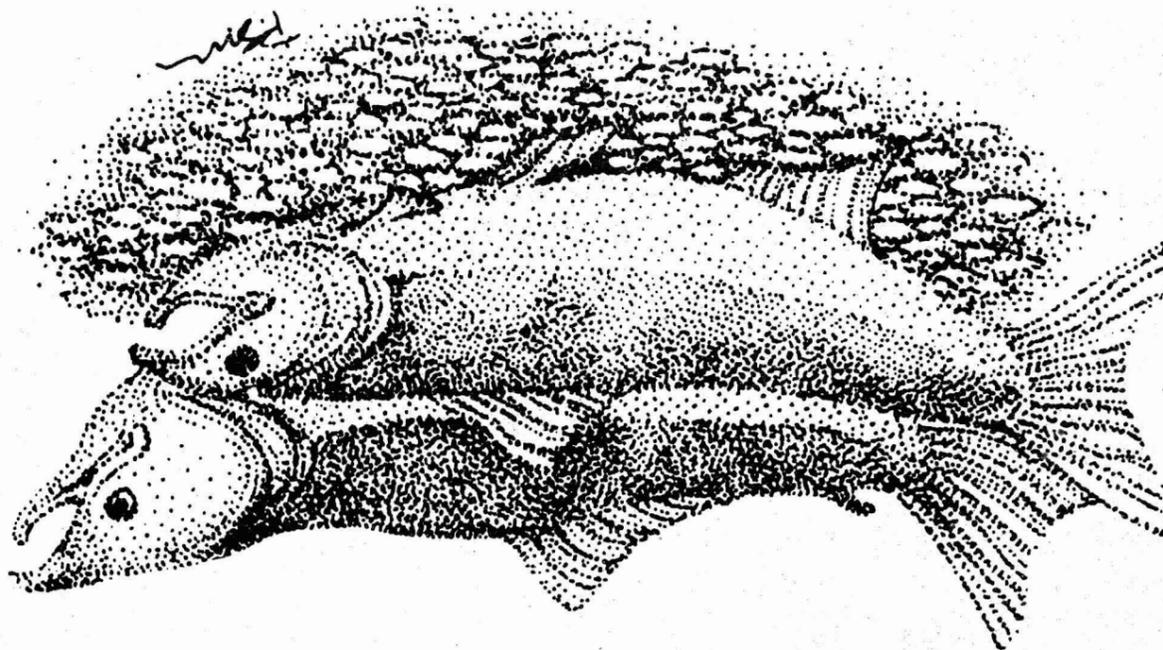
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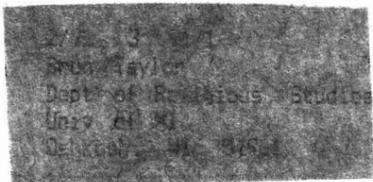
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